2021 VIRGINIA GINGERBREAD CHRISTMAS

GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Charlottesville (“RMHC-C”) invites you to join in a wonderful Charlottesville holiday tradition - Virginia Gingerbread Christmas! This year’s theme is “All Together Again!” This is what we want to be! We want participants to use their creativity to depict how much joy we feel when we are together with friends and loved ones during the holidays. All entries will be featured on a very special on-line platform we will be creating for the event. The general public will also have the opportunity to vote for their favorite entry as they have done in the past.

The Gingerbread House Competition is open to anyone, anywhere who would like to enter. To be eligible for the competition a completed and signed Entry Form must be received by RMHC-C no later than Friday, December 3, 2021. Entry Forms may be mailed to RMH (300 9th St., SW, Charlottesville, VA 22903), faxed (434.295.7735), emailed (info@rmhcharlottesville.org), or dropped off at the House. If you do not mail or deliver your entry fee along with the form, your entry fee will be due at the time you submit your photos/video for upload to the on-line platform. We must receive the video and pictures for your entry no later than Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at midnight. Gingerbread entries that are not pre-registered will not be uploaded for display. Videos/pictures for your entry will be uploaded to the Contest site through Dec. 11. The site will go live and be open to the public starting on Sunday, December 12, at 4:00 pm Eastern. (Note: We do have a limited number of scholarships to cover the cost of the entry fee if needed. Please indicate on the Entry Form if you feel a scholarship is necessary.

CATEGORIES
Due to the on-going challenges presented by COVID-19 all entries will be virtual this year. But, as in past years, there will be two major divisions: Individual and Team. There will be categories within each division. Categories for the Individual Division are: Amateur Adult (age 18+), Teen (ages 13-17), Youth (ages 9-12), and Child (ages 4-8) Categories for the Team Division are: Professional Chef/Baker, Business Team, Family, and Group/Organization (i.e. Scout Troops, school/church groups). A Team is defined as two or more individuals working on a single entry.

ENTRY FEES
$10 per entry for all divisions and categories!

CONSTRUCTION and DISPLAY GUIDELINES:
• Each structure must be made of gingerbread.
• Since there will be no need to transport your entry or display it in a small space you may design it to be any size!
• Structures must be made entirely of edible products with the exception of the base and battery-operated lights.
• No artificial display materials such as Styrofoam, cardboard, or plastic are allowed for construction or display without the specific permission of RMHC-C Ex. Dir. Rita Ralston. However, structures may be illuminated with battery operated lights (no electricity).
• Entries are not limited to a “house” structure only. Other unique structures are welcomed – castles, office buildings, cages, campers, boats, etc. – and the more animals the merrier!
• Please provide a title for your creation on the entry form.
• Entrants must submit via email several items. First, we need a “best and final” picture of your creation – one that really shows it off at its best. Second, we also ask that you submit a short video of your entry (phone videos are perfect) showing it from all sides, and discussing the various materials used, and the inspiration for the entry. We would also love it if you include a brief message of support for all of the families who stay at the Ronald McDonald House! We ask you to be protective on the video of any personal identifying information beyond your first name and city/state or city/country of residence. Additional photos taken along the creative path would be greatly appreciated, as well. Please note: the entry form contains a Limited A/V Release that must be signed by an adult so we can post the picture/video on-line.

JUDGING PROCESS and CRITERIA
Judging will be held by Thursday, Dec. 16. Winning entries will be identified by Friday evening, Dec. 17, at 7 pm. Entries will be judged on the basis of appearance, originality, creativity, difficulty, and precision. Each of these qualities will be graded on a scale from 1-5 by the judges. The entry in each category with the highest points will win first place for that category. Voting for the People’s Choice Award will take place on-line from Dec. 12 to Dec. 16 at midnight, with the winner also identified on-line by Dec. 17 at 7 pm.

ON-LINE PRESENCE
Perhaps one of the best parts of holding the contest in a virtual format this year is that we will be able to leave the videos and pictures on-line for folks to view and enjoy through the end of December. This will be a wonderful way to share your enthusiasm for the holidays and your talent with on-line world! Tell your extended family, friends, and neighbors about the contest – ANYONE from any state or country can enter!
To enter the Virginia Gingerbread Christmas House Competition, submit this Entry Form and Fee to: RMHC-C, 300 9th St. SW, Charlottesville, VA 22903 by Friday, December 3, 2021. The video and pictures for your gingerbread entry must be received no later than Dec. 8th at midnight. These should be emailed to info@rmhcharlottesville.org. No late entries accepted. One Entry Form per submission. Please make checks payable to RMHC of Charlottesville; credit card payments may be made through rmhcharlottesville.org by clicking on the Donate tab. Please write “Gingerbread” in the comments line for the payment.

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

City: __________________ State: _______ Zip: __________

Phone Number: ______________ Email Address (required): ______________

DIVISION/CATEGORY (Select One)

Individual Division: ($10):  ○ Adult Amateur (18 years+)  ○ Teen (13-17)  ○ Youth (9-12)  ○ Child (4-8)

Team Division ($10):  ○ Professional Chef/Baker  ○ Business  ○ Family  ○ Group/Organization

Scholarship consideration requested:  ○

Name of Business/Organization and/or Participants, including ages if under 18 (Team Entries Only):

______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________

Gingerbread Creation Title: ____________________________

Limited A/V Release: I give permission for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Charlottesville (“RMHC-C”) to use the likenesses, images, and audio of the materials provided for the entry listed above for the purposes of promoting and conducting an on-line Gingerbread Contest during December, 2021.

______________________________________________ Adult Individual entry, 18 years of age or above

______________________________________________ guardian of a child under 18 years of age entering an Individual category

______________________________________________ appointed representative of a group or team entry