2026 Gingerbread House Competition

Official Rules & Guidelines

1. There are five divisions: Kids 5-8 and 9-12, Teen 13-17, Adult 18+, and Professional division. One winner will be selected from each division.

2. Design and decorate a gingerbread creation. All work must have major components including, but not limited to, a roof and walls.

3. Participants can bake from scratch or use pre-made kits.

4. Entire gingerbread house must be constructed of only edible materials except for the base and accessories around the structure. Entries must be constructed of mainly gingerbread or graham crackers and icing, unwrapped candy, cookies, crackers or other edible items. Non-perishable food may not be used on the gingerbread house.

5. All creations must be submitted on a sturdy base, no larger than 18" X 18" with the entrant's name and phone number attached to the bottom of the base.

6. Please give your house a special "Holiday Name".

7. Your name, the house name and the age division will be displayed next to each entry.

8. Gingerbread houses will be on display in the Convention Center hallway of MeadowView beginning Friday, November 13th. Voting will take place from the 13th through the 29th. The highest public vote count will determine the winner for each division.

9.Voting will take place in-person by scanning the qr code on the event displays at MeadowView.

10. Winners for each division will be contacted and announced on Tuesday, December 1st.

11. Participants are allowed to pick up their house after Sunday, December 13th. Participants are asked to pick up their gingerbread houses no later than Tuesday, December 29th. Entries not picked up will be discarded.

12. Permission is granted to the City of Kingsport to print or otherwise duplicate a picture or likeness of all entries and contestants with their entries for all press releases and promotions.

13. The City of Kingsport cannot guarantee the safety or security of entries and cannot be held responsible for any damages incurred during the display period.

Delivery Instructions

Deliver your completed gingerbread creation to MeadowView on Thursday, November 12th between 9am and 4pm.