

Gingerbread House Contest 2023 Rules & Regulations

Thank you for registering to participate in the 2023 Gingerbread House Contest to be held in the offices of Newton Cultural Development at 1294 Centre St. in Newton Center (the old Newton Centre branch library). Please read the requirements below carefully. Make sure you understand our materials requirements, and check your calendar to make sure you can comply with our timeline before completing your registration.

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS:

- Builders must sign up for the appropriate category (must be under age 15 to enter in the Youth category).
- Houses must be constructed on a sturdy base of board (plywood or thick, stiff cardboard recommended)
- The base must be no larger than 15" x 15"; larger entries will not be accepted.
- **All materials must be edible**, including the "glue" that holds pieces together (except for the base, and string or fairy lights if you choose to use them).
- Any lights used should be LED battery-powered. We cannot supply electricity for lights or re-power any battery-charged lights should they lose their charge (though you're welcome to check on them periodically if you choose).
- Houses must be delivered to 1294 Centre St. **Monday November 27 through Wednesday November 29**. We will be open from 9am-4pm Monday through Wednesday and 6-8pm Monday evening.
- You will be asked to provide a name for your house at drop-off.
- Houses must be picked up from our office on **Friday December 15**. Your house is likely to make a lovely holiday centerpiece so we encourage you to claim it. If you do not come to pick up your house, we will assume you don't want it and will dispose of it.
- If you are a contest winner, we will keep your house through Thursday December 21. We hope to display the winning houses at Newton City Hall (stability permitting). Winning houses must be picked up from City Hall on **Friday December 22 by 12pm**.
- Contest entrants must agree to have themselves and/or their houses photographed and shared with the public for promotional purposes.
- If you are unable to make any of the drop-off or pickup dates, you must arrange for someone to do this for you as we cannot make exceptions to this timeline.

TIPS:

- Craftsmanship can make or break your project. Check to make sure everything has set and nothing is wet before you deliver your house.
- Your creation will be on display for several weeks. Make sure everything is secure and there is proper weight distribution to prevent toppling.
- If you have any questions regarding contest requirements, email culture@newtonma.gov.

TIMELINE FOR PARTICIPANTS:

October 30	Registration Opens
November 17	Registration Closes
November 17	Participants respond to House Name survey
November 27-29	Houses are delivered to 1294 Centre St.
December 4-14	Exhibit open for public viewing and voting
December 15	All houses removed except contest winners
December 18-December 21	Winning houses displayed at City Hall (stability permitting)
December 22	Winning houses removed from City Hall by 12pm.