



## 26th ANNUAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

Portsmouth Historical Society is pleased to announce another year of a sweet local tradition. Homemade gingerbread creations will be on display daily for the public throughout December at Discover Portsmouth. Get your family, friends and co-workers together and craft your own beautiful creation!

### RULES

Eligibility: The contest is open to all entrants in four categories:

ADULT (*open to individuals or groups 18 and over*)

FAMILY (*children under 18 working with adults*)

YOUTH or YOUTH GROUP (*child or children under 18 working without adult*)

BUSINESS / NON-PROFIT

To register, visit <http://portsmouthhistory.org/26th-annual-gingerbread-house-contest/> Entries must be registered *no later* than Saturday, November 19, 2016 and, delivered to Discover Portsmouth from Monday, November 21st to Monday the 28th between 10-4. We are closed Thanksgiving Day.

- Entries must be built on a sturdy base approximately 15" x 15". Please be sure base is durable and can be moved. Plywood, cutting boards, and cookie sheets make good bases. *No cardboard, please.*
- Electric lighting is permitted (no battery lighting). Please be sure power cord extends at least 4' from base to reach power supply.
- Entries must be made of edible materials, excluding base and any lighting.
- Name your entry prior to arrival.
- By entering the contest, you authorize the Portsmouth Historical Society to use images of you and your completed work in promotional materials.
- One prize will be awarded in each category. A panel of community volunteers will judge. Winners will be announced on Friday, December 2, at the Kick-Off Party for Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth and the Art 'Round Town reception. The People's Choice Awards will be announced on Friday, Dec. 16 at 6:30.
- Entries must be picked up by noon on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Any houses unclaimed after that day will be disposed of.

### HELPFUL HINTS

- ❖ Consider a unique theme for your house. Past favorites have depicted farms, houses from books or fairy tales, lighthouses, historic and local landmarks. Surprise us!
- ❖ Some houses look beautiful with a little interior lighting. Think about incorporating small bulb fixtures or string lights. Do not use battery-powered lights; batteries cannot power the houses long enough for the display. There will be power available but you must note that you need power when registering your entry.
- ❖ Be creative! Browse in the grocery store or candy shop for sweet inspiration. Look for unusual colors and shapes of candy, and don't rule out other foods such as cereals, mints, dried fruits, and cookies.
- ❖ Is baking from scratch too much trouble? Make the project less fussy by purchasing a ready-made gingerbread house kit, easily found in craft, grocery, and party stores. No, it isn't cheating! Ready-made houses are simple, but you can put extra creativity into the decorating. **Questions? Please email: [info@portsmouthhistory.org](mailto:info@portsmouthhistory.org)**

Good Luck and Have Fun!