



Great American Cake Show

Shipley Arena at the Carroll County Agriculture Center
Westminster, MD
May 5th & 6th, 2012

Divisional Show Rules/Regulations and Information

Important Dates and Information

Pre-Registration date:	April 25, 2012
Entry Fee:	\$10.00 / \$5.00 each additional entry (no fee for Division P)
Entry Fee for Divisions A, B & C:	\$4.00 per child/student (Multiple entries still pay just one fee)
On-site Registration Fee:	\$15.00 per entry
Make checks payable to:	Great American Cake Show (\$25.00 charge for returned checks)
Registration times:	Friday May 4 th , 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Saturday May 5 th , 7:00 am – 9:30 am
Show Opens:	Saturday, May 5 th , 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Sunday, May 6 th , 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
General Admission:	\$8.00 - Ages 12 and up (2-day pass \$14.00) \$7.00 – Seniors (60 and over) \$5.00 - Ages 4 – 11 (per day) Children 3 and under are free Price includes access to view cakes, vendors, live competitions, youth activities and demonstrations. Persons entering the cake competition do not have to pay general admission fees (this does not include anyone helping a contestant set up a display).
Mail registration to:	Pat Ditmore 812 Long Drive, Unit G Aberdeen, MD 21001 (410-272-5316)
For more information contact:	Jo Puhak 410- 987-0561 jo.puhak@verizon.net Diane Gibbs 410- 799-4420 dgg8@verizon.net

The members of the Maryland Chapter of the International Cake Exploration Soci  t   (ICES) welcome you to the Great American Cake Show and Wedding Cake Competition, held at the Shipley Arena at the Carroll County Agriculture Center in Westminster, Maryland. The contest is open to everyone. In addition to providing an opportunity to showcase your cake decorating skills, we have planned many exciting demonstrations, live competitions and classes throughout the weekend, and have arranged for numerous prizes to be awarded.

Registration and Entry Fees

All entrants must sign a registration and release form. Forms must be received by the pre-registration date above. On-site registrations will be accepted. Entry fees will be charged per the scale above and are non-refundable. **Entries must remain on display until 5:00 pm on the last day of the show.** They may be picked up from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Sunday evening. Any displays not picked up by 6:00 pm become the property of the Great American Cake Show and will be disposed of according to the wishes of the organizers.

Please honestly decide for yourself in which Division you belong, based on how long you have been decorating and how far you have gone with it. Whether you are self-taught or have had classes. The degree of knowledge is the most important factor. Individuals may enter as many categories within their one skill level division as desired. However, only one entry per category is allowed. In addition to the one skill level division, individuals may enter any or all of the remaining Divisions K through P. (For example, if you enter the Beginner Division, you may enter one display in each of the four categories. You may **also** enter one display in Divisions K through O if desired.) There is no limit to the number of displays that may be entered in the Winner's Circle. Displays in the Winner's Circle division will not be judged, and there is no fee for these entries, but we would like to have them registered so that we know how much space is needed. People who are bringing only displays for the Winner's Circle will have to pay admission fee since there is no charge to register these displays.

All work must be the sole work of the participant. Displays done by more than one person will not be accepted. This includes "Wee Ones" and "Youth" entries, with the following exceptions. For all youth 12 years of age and under, note the following additional rules:

- 1). Parents are allowed to bake cakes and prepare icing only.
- 2). Youth must color icing and complete all decorations.
- 3). A parent must sign the entry forms for the youth signifying that they have read these rules and will abide by them.

Decorating Guidelines and Tips

Please note that electrical outlets are not available for your display. Real cakes or cake dummies are acceptable. Cake dummies must be able to be reproduced in cake form. Sculptured cakes must be made of real cake; submission of at least three in-progress photos is required for sculptured cakes.

Table dressing (fabrics and mirrors only) is encouraged, but not required, in order to make a better presentation. See-through cake covers to protect the cakes are welcome, but the judges must be able to remove the cover if necessary to view the cake. Edible decorations are preferred. Plastic decorations (doll picks, pillars, etc.) and commercially purchased sugar flowers may be used, but will be judged accordingly. Use of cold porcelain is not permitted. We encourage the use of sugar and other edible mediums throughout your display.

Judging

The show committee and/or the judges reserve the right to reclassify any display to another category or division, or to disqualify displays that, at their sole discretion, are in poor taste. Entries will be judged on originality, smoothness or texture of icing, degree of difficulty, technique, artistic expression, use of color and overall appearance.

Judging will be done by highly qualified judges, and their decisions will be final. First, second and third place prizes may be awarded. Ribbons may or may not be awarded in all categories at the discretion of the judges. Entries from previous shows are acceptable, as long as they are not more than 3 months old. If the entry won first place in a show in any prior competition, it must be entered in the Winners' Circle category. Winners' Circle entries will not be judged. Judges will provide comments on all entries judged.

Awards/Prizes

All entrants, except those in the Winner's Circle Division, are eligible for special prizes to be drawn. Each entrant will be given a ballot to cast a vote for the Decorator's Choice award. Members of the general public will be provided with ballots for the People's Choice award. All entries in both the Wedding Cake competition and the Divisional Competition will be considered together for these two awards.

Anyone winning the Grand Prize in the Divisional Show 2 years in a row, must sit out the following year, but is welcome to enter the Wedding Cake Competition. After a "Best of Division" win in the same division (Beginner through Professional), the entrant must move up to at least the next Division.

All taxes on any prize(s) won are the sole responsibility of each winner, including, without limitation, any federal, state, or local taxes which may be deemed applicable in such winner's jurisdiction of residence.

Advertising

No advertising of any kind is allowed on or near display tables. Entries must be made in the name of the individual who completed the entry, NOT A BUSINESS NAME. Advertising is available at the Hospitality/Information table. Contact show organizers for more information. The organizers reserve the right to refuse any advertising, at their sole discretion.

Photography

Please allow time to have your display(s) photographed. Divisional cakes should be taken to the "photo studio" for photos after you have checked in at Registration, so that clear, uncluttered photos of each entry can be taken. Wedding Cake Competition photos will be taken of each of the cake/table displays. Only photographs taken in the photo studio will be available for posting on the GACS website. All photographs will be submitted to American Cake Decorating magazine for publication. Photos chosen for publication will be the choice of the editor of the magazine. If you like, you may purchase an 8x10 print of the professional photo to be mailed to you after the show. The cost of each print is \$30, including mailing costs. You are not obligated to purchase a print if your cake is photographed

2012 Great American Cake Show Divisions and Categories



Division A – Wee Ones – Ages 8 and Under

Categories: A1. Any cake you like A2. Cupcakes (mimimum of 6)

Division B – Youth – Ages 9-12

Categories: B1. Any cake you like B2. Cupcakes (mimimum of 6)

Division C – Teen – Ages 13-17

Categories: C1. **Ages 13-15** C1.a. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered C1.b. Any occasion / novelty – tiered
C2. **Ages 16-17** C2.a. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered C2.b. Any occasion / novelty – tiered

Division D – Beginner

One who has been decorating for two years or less, and has had no more than two courses of cake decorating lessons.

Categories: D1. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered D2. Any occasion / novelty – tiered
D3. Special Techniques D4. Sculpted Cakes D5. “Cinco de Mayo”

Division E – Intermediate

One who has been decorating at least two years, decorates solely as a hobby or one who has completed at least three cake decorating courses.

Categories: E1. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered E2. Any occasion / novelty – tiered
E3. Special Techniques E4. Sculpted Cakes E5. “Cinco de Mayo”

Division F – Advanced

One who has been decorating for several years, decorates primarily as a hobby or one who has completed at least five cake decorating courses. Must not meet any of the qualifications under the semi-professional division.

Categories: F1. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered F2. Any occasion / novelty – tiered
F3. International / Special Techniques F4. Sculpted Cakes F5. “Cinco de Mayo”

Division G – Semi-Professional

One who has been decorating for several years and sells cakes, may teach cake decorating classes, must not meet any of the qualifications under the professional division.

Categories: G1. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered G2. Any occasion / novelty – tiered
G3. International / Special Techniques G4. Sculpted Cakes G5. “Cinco de Mayo”

Division H – Professional

One who has been decorating for at least five years and who qualifies under at least one of the following; derives at least 10% of earned income from the sale of cakes, works in a commercial bakery, teaches (or has taught) classes in advanced cake decorating techniques, or has taken the equivalent of a total of at least 35 hours of instruction from recognized professional instructors.

Categories: H1. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered H2. Any occasion / novelty – tiered
H3. International / Special Techniques H4. Sculpted Cakes H5. “Cinco de Mayo”

Division J – Masters

One who has been decorating for ten years or more and who qualifies under at least one of the following: has had the equivalent of 140 hours of professional classes or hands-on seminars, is an author, or is a teacher of special techniques.

Categories: J1. Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered J2. Any occasion / novelty – tiered
J3. International / Special Techniques J4. Sculpted Cakes J5. “Cinco de Mayo”

Division K – Chocolate

Entries must be primarily or exclusively chocolate, including tempered chocolate, confectionery coating, modeling chocolate (candy clay), etc. Accents in mediums other than chocolate (i.e. royal icing) will be accepted at the judges’ discretion.

Categories: K1. Ages 17 and under K2. Ages 18 and older

Division L – Gingerbread

Entries must be constructed of gingerbread and decorated with any medium. All decorations must be edible.

Categories: L1. Ages 17 and under L2. Ages 18 and older

Division M – Decorated Cookies

Entries must be actual cookies decorated with any medium. Must display a minimum of 6 cookies.

Categories: M1. Ages 17 and under M2. Ages 18 and older

Division N – Cupcakes

Must display a minimum of 6 decorated cupcakes (**must be real cupcakes, not dummies**), decorated with any medium

Categories: O1. Ages 13 - 17 O2. Ages 18 and older

Division O - Specialty Division: “Hats” (See description sheet)

P1. Ages 13 - 17 P2. Ages 18 and older

Division P - Winner’s Circle

First place winners from other cake shows - Not Judged – No entry fee but must pay admission fee.

Categories: P1. Winner’s circle

Description of Categories



Any occasion / novelty – non-tiered: Cakes in this category may be made using any medium (buttercream, royal icing, rolled fondant, candy clay, piping gel, etc.) or method (airbrushing, color flow, piped flowers, molding, drop stringwork, etc.). Cutout cakes or unusually shaped cakes can be made of Styrofoam so long as they can be easily made of cake (there must be a pan in the shape of the Styrofoam such as a ball or star). Anything else would be considered a sculpted cake.

Any occasion / novelty – tiered: Same as above, with at least two tiers, either stacked or separated.

Special Techniques: Cakes entered in this category should highlight one or more special techniques. Examples would be needlework, cocoa or food color painting, bas relief, appliqué, crimping, lace points, collars, bridge/extension work, gum paste dolls, etc. Typical mediums include rolled fondant, royal icing, gum paste, pastillage, pulled/blown sugar, and marzipan. Note that some special techniques may be incorporated in other categories as well.

International/Special Techniques: In addition to the Special Techniques listed above, cakes identifiable as following a particular foreign style such as Lambeth, Nirvana, South African, Australian, etc. should be classified here.

Sculpted cakes: Any cake that has been cut or carved to form a particular 3-dimensional shape that cannot be obtained from a cake pan alone. Internal supports will be allowed and is encouraged. A minimum of three (3), in-progress, step-by-step photos showing the actual carving of the cake is required. Rice cereal treats are allowable, but cannot be more than 10% of the display. This is a cake *sculpting* division.

Specialty Division: The theme of this division will change each year. You must create a display to fit the chosen theme. This year's theme is "Hats". You can make one large hat or a display of a minimum of 3 miniature hats. If it is a carved or sculpted shape, you must submit three (3) in-progress, step-by-step photos showing the actual carving of the cake. Any icing medium is allowed (fondant, buttercream, etc.). Display board should be a minimum of 8", but not be larger than 16".

Directions and Accommodations

The Carroll County Agriculture Center is located at 706 Agriculture Center Dr., Westminster, Maryland 21157.

From the North: (directions from Hanover, PA) Take Rt. 94 south (becomes MD Rt. 30 at the state line). Follow Rt. 30 to Manchester and turn right on Rt. 27. Follow Rt. 27 to Rt. 140 east in Westminster. Turn left onto the ramp to 140 each and travel to the first traffic light. Turn right onto Center St. Take Center St. through to Gist Road (you will go through two traffic lights and drive past the Farm Museum and Carroll County General Hospital before you get to Gist Road). Turn right on to Gist Rd. and follow to the entrance for the Agriculture Center and Arena. Turn right into the center.

Directions from Gettysburg, PA area: From Rt. 15, exit off onto Rt. 97. Take Rt. 97 down to Westminster and exit off onto Rt. 140 east. Turn right onto Center St. and follow directions above.

From the South: Take Interstate 270 north to Rt. 27 to Kate Wagner Rd. (Kate Wagner Road intersects Rt. 27 before you reach the city of Westminster). Make a right onto Kate Wagner Rd. (which intersects Rt. 27 at a traffic light) and follow approximately 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Gist Rd. (You will see an elementary school to your left once on Gist Rd. and a housing development on your right). Continue on Gist Road until you reach the entrance to the Carroll County Agricultural Center. Turn right into the center and the Arena will be on the far right hand end of the buildings.

From the East: From Baltimore Beltway Rt. 695, take Interstate 795 north toward Westminster. Follow the signs onto MD 140 and take 140 into Westminster. Turn left onto Center Street. Take Center St. through to Gist Road (you will go through two traffic lights and drive past the Farm Museum and Carroll County General Hospital before you get to Gist Rd.). Turn right on to Gist Road and follow to the entrance for the Agriculture Center. Turn right into the center.

Alternate from the East: From Baltimore Beltway, exit off onto Rt. 70 west towards Frederick. Exit off onto Rt. 32 north. Go approximately 7-8 miles and turn left at the traffic light onto Rt. 27 west in Eldersburg. Go approximately 3-4 miles and exit off onto Rt. 97 north. Drive approximately 8-10 miles and turn left onto Washington St. (You can travel on Rt. 32 through Eldersburg and Sykesville and eventually go to this same intersection but it is a little farther distance). Turn left onto Smith Avenue and turn right onto Gist Rd. Turn left into the Ag Center entrance. Follow road around to Shipley Arena at the far right of the complex.

From BWI Airport: When you leave the airport you will be on Rt. 195. Exit off onto Baltimore/Washington Pkwy north. Exit off onto the Baltimore Beltway, Rt. 695 going toward Towson. Exit off onto Rt. 70 west and follow the directions above.

From the West: Take I-70 east to the Mt. Airy/Rt. 27 exit. Head north on Rt. 27 toward Westminster for approximately 15 miles. Make a right onto Kate Wagner Rd. (which intersects Rt. 27 at a traffic light) and follow approximately 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Gist Rd. (You will see an elementary school to your left once on Gist Rd. and a housing development on your right). Continue on Gist Road until you reach a stop sign. At the stop sign, turn left onto Smith Ave. Smith Ave. will dead end at the Carroll county Agricultural Center and the Arena will be on the far right hand end of the buildings.

For Hotel Reservations, please contact the Best Western Catering and Conference Center at 410-857-1900. Mention the Great American Cake Show, and you will get a special group rate of \$89.99/night for the evenings of May 4th and 5th, 2011, and \$79.99 for May 6th. To get the special rate, make your reservation before March 30th, 2012. Other hotels are Days Inn (410-857-0500) and Boston Inn (410-848-9095). For a list of other nearby hotels, see the information page at www.greatamericancakeshow.com.

2012 Great American Cake Show Registration and Release Form

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION



Name (individual only): _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number (include area code) _____ Email _____

Entry fees are non-refundable. See schedule of fees and deadline on the first pages of the rules. Entrants do not have to pay the general admission fee, however, this does not include anyone helping you set up your cake. They must pay the admission fee. If you are bringing a display(s) for the Winner's Circle, there is no charge for registration, but you must pay an admission fee.

Please circle the Divisions and Categories you are entering (The show Committee and the judges reserve the right to reclassify any display to another category or division, or to disqualify displays that, at their sole discretion, are in poor taste).

<i>Divisions</i>	<i>Categories</i>				
A. Wee Ones	A1	A2			
B. Youth	B1	B2			
C. Teen	C 1.a.	C 1.b.	C 2.a.	C2.b.	
D. Beginner	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
E. Intermediate	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5
F. Advanced	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5
G. Semi-Professional	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5
H. Professional	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5
J. Masters	J1	J2	J3	J4	J5
K. Chocolate	K1	K2			
L. Gingerbread	L1	L2			
M. Decorated Cookies	M1	M2			
N. Cupcakes	N1	N2			
O. Specialty Division	O1	O2			
P. Winner's Circle	P1				

Number of cakes in category P1 _____

Release:

By signing this form, I hereby give permission for my entry/entries to be photographed and to the International Cake Exploration Societé (ICES), the Maryland Chapter of ICES and the Great American Cake Show to reprint any such photos for the promotion of ICES and the Great American Cake Show and Wedding Cake Competition. I have received and read a copy of the Show Rules and Regulations and hereby agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the show. I understand that neither ICES, nor the event organizers, nor the Carroll County Agriculture Center assumes any responsibility for loss, theft or damage to displays or personal items at the show. I agree that I indemnify and hold harmless ICES, the event organizers, and the Carroll County Ag Center from and against all claims, demands, costs, loss, damage, expense, attorney's fees and liabilities growing out of, or arising from, caused or occasioned by my activities on the Agriculture Center premises. I will abide by the decisions of the judges. I understand that failure to comply with any rule will result in my entry being disqualified. All taxes on any prize(s) won are the sole responsibility of each winner, including, without limitation, any federal, state, or local taxes which may be deemed applicable in such winner's jurisdiction of residence. (Parent/Guardian should sign for youths under the age of 18).

Signature: _____ **Date** _____

Send completed form to: Pat Ditmore 812 Long Dr., Unit G, Aberdeen, MD 21001. Enclose check for entry fees payable to "Great American Cake Show".