



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 8, 2022

NOTICE

Call for Contestants OFM's 2nd Annual Gingerbread Diplomacy Contest December 2, 2022

Globally significant for thousands of years, ginger, in its many forms is important to cultures around the world. Gingerbread cakes and cookies have been a staple in European cooking for hundreds of years and the creation and construction of gingerbread houses is among the most memorable of holiday traditions for many Americans.

Following on the success of the Office of Foreign Missions' first Gingerbread Diplomacy Contest, OFM is inviting each foreign mission to construct and display a gingerbread structure depicting its chancery or a culturally significant building in their country. **If your mission is interested in submitting a gingerbread structure for the competition, please complete the attached document and return it via e-mail to OFM-RSVP@state.gov by November 18, 2022.**

Missions participating in the contest will be expected to bring their gingerbread structure to "The Chapel" located at the Foreign Missions Center, 1441 Dahlia Street NW, Washington, DC the afternoon of December 2, 2022. Please note that invitations to the actual contest event will be sent separately.

All contest entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges to determine which gingerbread structure offers the best representation of a chancery or culturally significant building. In addition to the judges' prize, all attendees will be able to vote on a people's choice award for the most popular entry.

The contest will be held amidst a festive atmosphere with holiday decorations, music, and a selection of food and beverages.

Please do not hesitate to contact OFM if you have any questions about this event. We can be reached at (202) 647-3417 or at OFMAssistants@state.gov.



OFFICE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2022 OFM - Gingerbread Diplomacy Contest Rules

- Gingerbread Chanceries (or culturally significant building) must be placed on a plywood board base or cardboard. The plywood base must be completely concealed with an edible product; however, the sides of the base do not have to be concealed.
- The exterior of all Gingerbread Chanceries (or culturally significant building) must be 100% edible candy/embellishments/materials except for lights ‘inside/outside’ the house.
- The Gingerbread Chancery must be original - no gingerbread kits allowed.
- The Gingerbread Chancery must have MAJOR components, such as a roof & walls, made of gingerbread.
- The Gingerbread Chancery must be constructed in 2022.
- This is a solicitation for contest participants **only**, invitations to the event will follow separately.



*The winning entry at OFM's First Gingerbread Diplomacy Contest:
"Swallows Nest" submitted by the Embassy of Ukraine.*



OFFICE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2022 OFM - Gingerbread Diplomacy Contestant Registration Form

Thank you for entering the 2022 OFM Gingerbread Diplomacy Contest!
Registration deadline is Friday, November 18, 2022. If you have any questions regarding the contest entry or rules, please email OFM-RSVP@state.gov.

Embassy:

Point of Contact:

Phone Number:

Email:

Short Description of Planned Submission:

Send Registration forms to: OFM-RSVP@state.gov



OFFICE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NEW EVENT: On-The-Spot Gingerbread House Making Contest

In addition to the Gingerbread Diplomacy contest, the Office of Foreign Missions will add a new event to this year's festivities! We are looking for **10 contestants** who are willing to put their Gingerbread House building skills to the test by creating a Gingerbread House in front of the watchful eyes of all attendees!

Rules:

- Contestants can work in teams of two persons or solo.
- Contestants will be provided a Gingerbread House building kit containing all you need to create a gingerbread house covered with colorful sweets. There will also be a selection of decorative items that may be used to customize your Gingerbread House.
- All contestants will be provided with a base for their Gingerbread House
- Contestants will have one hour to complete their Gingerbread House.
- Contestants may bring specific, additional tools that may be useful for building their Gingerbread house, such as spatula, knife, scissors, etc., but these tools are optional.
- Contestants may bring decorations to personalize their creation but may not add "walls," "windows," "doors," or other elements that deviate from the kit's structure.
- Contestants will be judged on the neatness and precision of the final structure, and the uniqueness and creativity of the decoration.

If you would like to showcase your crafty skills in our hour-long on-the-spot Gingerbread House contest on December 2, 2022, at the Gingerbread Diplomacy event, please send an email to OFM-RSVP@state.gov by **Friday, November 18, 2022.**