



Dear Bakers,

We are thrilled to have you participate in Island Connections' 1st Annual Sugar Showdown. To ensure that we have a successful and fun event we've put together some guidelines for all bakers to follow. If at any point you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email or call Sydnie White, Events & Volunteer Coordinator at sydnie@islconnections.org or 207-288-4457. Thank you!

1. Competition Details:

- Date: Saturday, February 10, 2024
- Event Time: 5:00-7:00 pm
 - Bakers please arrive by 4:00 pm and check in with Sydnie White
- Venue: Atlantic Oceanside Hotel & Event Center located at 119 Eden St, Bar Harbor
- All registrants must attend the event in person to serve their dessert(s).
- There is no fee for those competing in the event. Please encourage community members to attend as paying guests.

2. Baking Categories:

- **Whoopie Pie Category:** Showcase your best take on this classic treat, where traditional chocolate cakes with creamy fillings steal the spotlight. Whether inspired by family recipes or infused with your personal twist, reveal the essence of the perfect Whoopie Pie.
- **Sweet Surprise Category:** Our no holds barred category where the only limit is your imagination! Have fun baking anything your heart desires — from whimsical cupcakes to creative cookies. This category is all about expressing your baking passion with no restrictions.
- **Showstopper Cake Category:** Contestants are asked to unveil their culinary masterpieces in the Showstopper category. For this cake, bakers are encouraged to let their creativity run wild, crafting stunning cakes that not

only mesmerize the eyes but also tantalize the taste buds. The Showstopper challenge beckons participants to break free from the ordinary, pushing the limits of baking with breathtaking creations.

When submitting within the 'Showstopper' category, please take note that your decorated cake will be raffled off at the event. In order for judges and attendees to taste your submission, contestants within this category must submit an accompanying sheet cake.

3. The Day of the Event Bakers Checklist:

- ☐ Please arrive with your completed, visually appealing entry/entries by 4:00pm

When submitting in the Showstopper Cake Category you are required to arrive with two cakes: **1)** Your finished, exquisite Showstopper cake, which is going to be raffled off and then **2)** an accompanying sheet cake that is meant entirely for tasting purposes. The sheet cake will then be cut up into small bite sized pieces for tasting. (See below for further instruction).

When submitting in the Whoopie Pie Category and Sweet Surprise Category you are also asked to provide, for display purposes, a set amount of completed (not cut samples) baked goods.



- ☐ In order to ensure that attendees and judges can try a variety of goods and make an informed decision before voting, please bring enough of your finished baked goods to be able to serve 150 small bites to be served on toothpicks. Toothpicks will be provided by Island Connections.

- ☐ Please provide your own presentation plates/platters for both your finished display as well as your sample tasting pieces.

- ☐ Please bring your own knife for the cutting of sample pieces.
- ☐ Please provide an ingredient list printed on an 8.5 x 11" sheet of paper (if you prefer to email this document prior to the event please email directly to sydnie@islconnections.org)

4. Judging Criteria from Judges Panel

Bakers will be judged on the taste, presentation, technique, creativity as well as overall impression by a panel of esteemed local judges.

5. Judging from the general public - the "Community Favorite Award"

Attendees will be given the opportunity to cast votes for their favorite treats. Each attendee will be given a set number of bingo chips to be allocated to their favorite baker(s).

6. Medals Will Be Given To:

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place within the Whoopie Pie Category
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place within the Sweet Surprise Category
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd place within the Showstopper Category
- The coveted "Community Favorite Award"

Additional Prizes will also be awarded from an assortment of fabulous area businesses, including but not limited to A&B Naturals, Windowpanes, Hannaford and Lisa Hall Jewelry.

7. Sales of Individual Baked Goods from the Sweet Surprise and Whoopie Pie Categories

Many of you have inquired about the possibility of making extra of your baked goods, to potentially sell to the general public at the event. If you're feeling inspired and would like to bring additional baked goods for this purpose, we welcome and greatly appreciate your extra contribution. This is entirely optional, and we understand that everyone has different schedules and commitments. Your generosity, in any form, adds to the overall success of the evening. Island Connections will provide containers for attendees to hold their purchased treats.



Thank you to each of you for your incredible commitment and generosity in making our 1st Annual Sugar Showdown a success. Your dedication to making this evening special does not go unnoticed, and we are truly fortunate to have you as a valued member of our baking community. Your talent and enthusiasm are the secret ingredients that will undoubtedly make this event unforgettable.