



JULIA M. USHER'S
COOKIE ART COMPETITION™
4TH VIRTUAL EDITION

NATURE'S SYMPHONY 2025



2-D Cookie Submission Requirements

Entry Deadline: May 31, 5 pm CDT
Registration Opens: February 28, 9 am CST

Before submitting your entry, please be sure to review the [Competition Overview post on Cookie Connection](#) for general rules that apply to both 2-D and 3-D cookies, and remind yourself of the 2-D Cookie definition and theme, below. Then read on for the specific submission materials for this category. It's best to have these required materials organized and all in one place before you start the upload process to *Cookie Connection*, as everything must be uploaded in one session. (If you should have internet troubles and lose your connection mid-entering, no worries. Just start the upload process again. However, once you hit "Publish", you cannot alter your entry.) Again, a link to upload your required materials will automatically be sent to you after you've paid the non-refundable \$15 USD entry fee and filled out the competition registration form on Eventbrite. **To register, simply click on one of the big teal "REGISTER HERE" links in this document to be taken to Eventbrite.**

Important: Record the name, email address, and phone number that you use to register on Eventbrite; you must use the exact same ones on your entry form on *Cookie Connection* so that we know you have paid a registration fee. Entries without paid registration fees will be eliminated.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



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2-D Cookie Definition

A single large flat decorated cookie or a collection of flat decorated cookies (no maximum cookie count) arranged laying down, artistically, and also minimally overlapping, so that the decorative details on each cookie can be seen. (By “flat”, we mean the cookies themselves must be flat; they can be decorated with icing and other media to create added dimension.) The entire entry must be no smaller than 1 x 1 foot (30 x 30 cm) and no bigger than 3 x 3 feet (91 x 91 cm). These measurements relate to the cookie or cookie composition and exclude any inedible baseboard. The cookie(s) must be arranged, photographed, and videotaped on a solid single-color backdrop with no additional photo styling or staging.

2-D Cookie Theme: Nature’s Symphony

The theme is the same for both skill level classifications.

2-D Submission Materials

Again, all 2-D entries must conform to the general rules in the [Competition Overview post on Cookie Connection](#) to qualify for judging. All of the following items/materials are also required (unless noted as optional) and must be uploaded to the entry form on *Cookie Connection*. **Submission materials are the same for both skill level classifications.** Remember: Videos should not be professionally produced. A simple video taken on your mobile device will suffice as long as it shows the entirety of your entry. With the exception of minor exposure adjustments, the photos and video you upload cannot be digitally altered in any way. **In total, you will be required to submit 1 video, 10 photos, short theme and technique/media descriptions, and a few other details. You will also have the option to upload 3 additional photos of your choice.** Have these items completed and well organized before starting the entry process on *Cookie Connection*.

Important: Video and photos cannot exceed 100 MB each.

1. Entry title (Enter a short name for your entry that sums it up.)
2. Entrant’s first and last name (Be sure to use the exact same name you used to register on Eventbrite. You may also need to add your name to the “Author” field in the entry area.)



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3. Entrant's email address (Be sure to use the same email address you used to register on Eventbrite.)
4. Phone number (Be sure to use the same phone number you used to register on Eventbrite.)
5. Entry size (Indicate – in inches – the length and width of your completed entry, excluding any inedible baseboard; if the baseboard is made of cookies, include it in your measurements. These measurements should correspond to what's shown in "Hero photo with measures" in Item #9, below.)
6. Number and size of cookies (Please indicate the total number of cookies in the entry, and the minimum and maximum sizes in inches.)
7. Video (This video should show judges the entirety of your entry, as if they were viewing it in person. Be sure to zoom in on any especially important or impressive details. Again, no filters or digital alterations are allowed.)
8. Hero photo (This photo should be your best one, showing the entirety of the entry.)
9. Hero photo with measures (This photo should be the same as the photo in Item #8, above, except that you should include rulers/tape measures alongside it to verify the size you noted in Item #5. Please use rulers/tape measures in inches.)
10. Detail photo #1 (This photo should be a closeup of a particular cookie or area of your entry that you want the judges to see.)
11. Detail photo #2 (Again, use this photo to spotlight cookies or areas of your entry that you want judges to see. Be sure it presents something that you haven't yet shown to the judges.)
12. Detail photo #3 (As above.)
13. Detail photo #4 (As above.)
14. Detail photo #5 (As above.)
15. Work-in-process photo #1 (Use this photo to show the number and size of cookies in your entry; it should correspond to the information you provided in Item #6. Again, to help judges verify sizes, include rulers/tape measures, in inches, in the photo.)
16. Work-in-process photo #2 (Use this photo to show your work at an intermediate stage of completion, and to highlight any unique techniques or media used.)
17. Work-in-process photo #3 (As above.)
18. OPTIONAL photo #1 (Your choice to upload, or not. If you upload a photo, be sure it presents something about your entry that you haven't yet shown to the judges.)
19. OPTIONAL photo #2 (Again, your choice to upload, or not.)
20. OPTIONAL photo #3 (Again, your choice to upload, or not.)



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21. Description of theme interpretation (**No more than 300 words**. Please explain how you interpreted the theme and how it manifested itself in your cookies.)
22. Description of techniques and media used (**No more than 500 words**. List all key decorating techniques and media used on the various cookies in your entry. Be sure to highlight how cookie surfaces were covered, i.e., with royal icing, fondant, modeling chocolate, gumpaste, or another medium. **Remember:** Any items that could be construed by judges as inedible - including, but not limited to, pencil, luster dusts, and glitters - should either not be used or be clearly identified by brand name in this area of the entry form so that judges can verify their edibility. Remember, "nontoxic" does not equate to "edible".)

Best of luck! We look forward to seeing your entry! And don't forget:
[REGISTER HERE](#)

