



# National Capital Area Cake Show

Fairfax High School 3501 Rebel Run

Fairfax, VA 22030

March 17-18, 2018

## 2018 Cupcake Challenge Rules, Regulations and Information

The members of the Virginia Chapter of the International Cake Exploration Soci   (ICES) welcome you to the National Capital Area Cake Show Cupcake Challenge, held at the Fairfax High School in Fairfax, VA.

### Important Dates and Information

Cupcake Challenge Theme "Ice Cream Shoppe"  
Categories  
1. Traditional  
2. Modern Combos  
3. Sherbet and Sorbet

Entry fees (except divisions specified below): \$10.00 / category entered

Registration ends: 11:59 pm EST March 9, 2018. No registration of entries will be accepted after this time. There will be NO onsite registration.

To register: Visit [www.cakeshow.org](http://www.cakeshow.org)

Event timeline: Saturday March 17th  
7:00 am Baker check-in opens  
9:45 am Cut off for check-in  
11:00 am General admission opens  
1:00 pm Event ends / Baker tear-down

Judging begins: Saturday March 17, 2018, 11:00 am

Please note that failure to comply with the rules/regulations and deadlines set forth in this document will result in disqualification.

### *Registration and Entry Fees*

All entrants must sign a registration and release form. Entrants will sign the form when they arrive on site to set up their display(s). All registrations must be completed online through the [www.cakeshow.org](http://www.cakeshow.org) website and must be received by the end of registration as stated above. No registrations will be accepted onsite.

If you are paid for your baked goods, then you are categorized as a Professional for this event. When you register as a business or with a website/blog that includes sales information, the committee reserves the right to reclassify your entry.

Entry fees are non-refundable.

### *Challenge Rules*

You are required to bring 9 dozen MINI cupcakes of each flavor entered. This allows a good sample size for our guests. You are welcome to bring additional minis of the same flavor if you would like to share your creation with more attendees. The event will be attended by over 600 cupcake aficionados.

You may enter cakepops (chocolate covered cake bites on sticks) or cake pushpops in the competition, but the 9 dozen minimum still applies. Full-sized cupcakes will not be judged or distributed during the event.

Displays may be set up during the times indicated on the first page. Judging will commence promptly on time. Any entry not checked in and set up by the time judging starts may participate in the public tasting but will not be judged.

Exact recipes are not required, but you must submit 2 copies of a list of ingredients when you check in your entry. We collect this information simply for allergy concerns for the judges and attendees. One will be submitted with your judging sample; the other must be visible on your table display. You may bring these with you (Please do not include your name or identifying information on the judge's list) or use the cards provided at check-in.

All work must be the sole work of the participant. Bakers of all ages are encouraged to participate. Bakers under the age of 18 will receive a second admission ticket for a chaperone.

You may enter more than once; however, you may only have one entry per category. Each baker will receive ONE admission ticket to the cupcake event. You will receive an additional admission band for a helper for each additional flavor entry. Table spaces are not pre-assigned, and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. We will endeavor to make sure that table spaces for entrants with multiple entries will be located together, but we cannot guarantee it.

You will have one half of a 6-foot table per entry. If you are entering one flavor, you will most likely be sharing a table with another baker. If you have two entries, you will have a table to yourself. Most tables are free-standing in the room and do not have walls behind them. Electric outlets for power/refrigeration are NOT available at table locations.

We encourage table decoration and many bakers provide theme displays that celebrate their work and attract taster attention. You are encouraged to place promotional materials for your business/blog on your tables. Additional opportunities for weekend-long display tables, program ads, and bridal event advertisement are available through the main NCACS show.

Please note that admission sells out VERY quickly. We certainly want you to have all of your family and friends at the event to cheer you on, but we DO NOT guarantee admission for your guests/helpers/children. Review the "helper" ticket information carefully and purchase any necessary additional tickets EARLY if you feel that you require additional assistance at the event.

Attendees will be able to wander from table to table to try each cupcake flavor. Cupcake display materials (stands, decorations, or other props) are encouraged for your presentation area, but not required. These elements will not be judged. Cupcakes and display items must remain available to attendees and judges through the end of the event.

Cupcakes submitted for judging must be equivalent to/representative of the cupcakes that are being made available to the public.

You will be expected to stay at your table during the event, within reason. Please collect tasting tickets, refill your displays, and interact with the guests. The atmosphere is very festive, and it is a great chance to exchange recipes or promote your business/blog. NCACS is not responsible for unattended display materials.

If you are attending the cake show during the day, we can keep your cupcakes in a cool, dry, secure area. NCACS is not responsible for cupcakes or display items located in the “cupcake day care” area, but will do our best to limit access to other cupcake bakers and event staff. A limited amount of refrigeration space is available by prior arrangement. You are welcome to pick up your registration materials at any time during the day on Saturday, but tables will not be made available until cupcake check-in officially opens.

While every precaution will be taken to ensure that your display is not touched and/or damaged, Fairfax High School, the International Cake Exploration Societé (ICES) and the Virginia Chapter of ICES will not be liable for any loss or damage during the time of the show. Use expensive or irreplaceable table decorations at your own risk.

Photos taken at the event may be used for the NCACS websites and for promotion of future events.

### *Judging*

Initial round judging will be done by committee members, past-challenge winners, bloggers, and cupcake aficionados. Final round judging will be done by highly qualified industry professionals, and their decisions will be final. Judges will provide comments on all entries judged.

At check-in you will receive a paper plate with your entry number. Once you set up your table, please place three cupcakes on the plate and bring it to the judging room along with the judges’ copy of your ingredients list.

Entries will be judged on overall taste, texture, originality, technique, artistic expression, and overall appearance. All flavors must reflect the theme to be eligible.

We are always looking for interested parties to participate as initial round judges. Please send requests (or nominations) to [info@cupcakechallenge.org](mailto:info@cupcakechallenge.org).

### *Awards/Prizes*

Awards and prizes will be distributed during the Awards Ceremony on Sunday afternoon. When you check-in you will be receiving both a cupcake event and general cake show admission band that will allow you to come and go all weekend. If you are not able to attend the show on Sunday, we will post results and photos on the website shortly after the completion of the show.

If you are not able to attend the Awards Ceremony, please arrange to have someone collect any prizes you may win. Prizes will not be mailed.

We will award prizes to the winner of each category for professionals, amateurs, and juniors (age 17 and under). Each category winner will be awarded a display ribbon, certificate, and a prize basket of goodies and baking products. In addition, one overall winner will receive the Cupcake Challenge Grand Prize. The flavor category winner with the highest score from the judges will be the Grand Prize Winner.

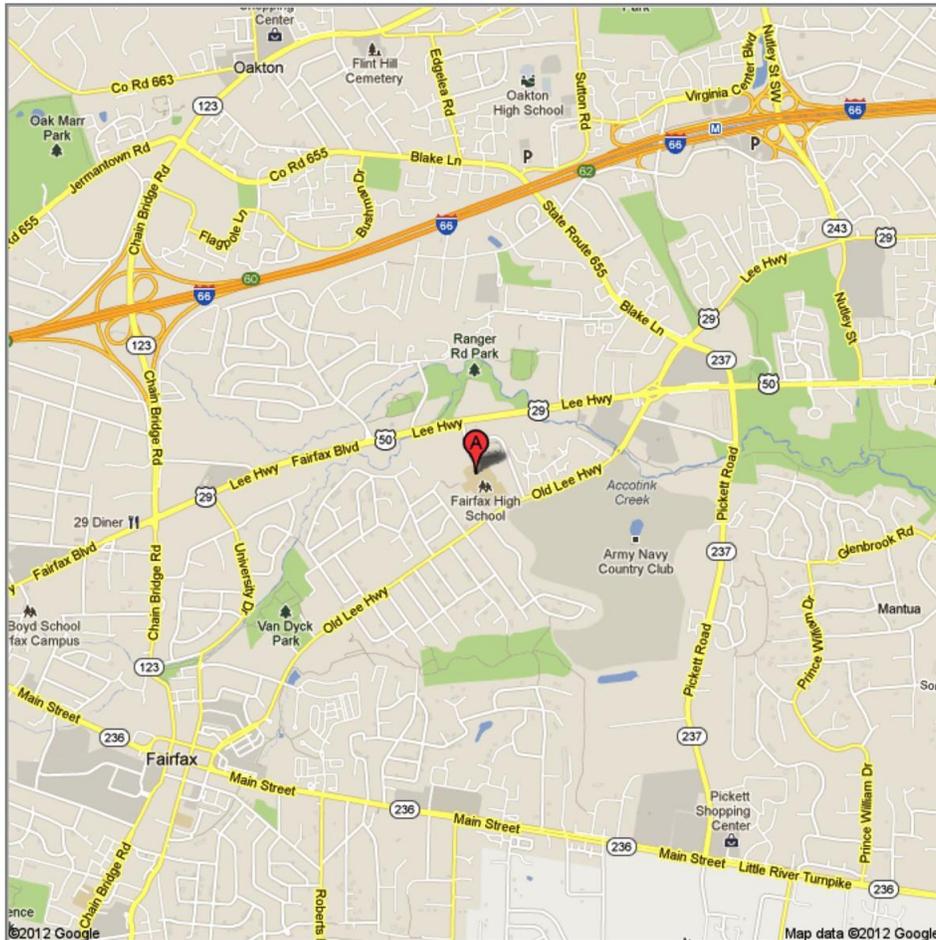
## Directions and Accommodations

Fairfax High School is located at the 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA, 22030.

From the DC Beltway (I-495) in Virginia:

Take exit 50 for Rte 50 West (Arlington Blvd). After about 3 miles, you will pass through a small traffic circle. Continue straight ahead to stay on Rte 50. After another .6 miles, turn left onto Rebel Run. Follow to 3501 Rebel Run. The main entrance for the show will be the main entrance (#1) of the school. Entrants setting up displays should enter through entrance #21 (to the right as you're facing the front of the school)

For other directions, please visit [mapquest.com](http://mapquest.com) or [maps.google.com](http://maps.google.com).



## Hotel

We have arranged a special rate with **Residence Inn**, located at 3565 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax VA 22030. To get the special rate of \$109 per night, call 1-877-399-6027 or visit the link on our website at [www.cakeshow.org/hotels.html](http://www.cakeshow.org/hotels.html). Be sure to mention "International Cake Convention Room Block at the Residence Inn" and make your reservation by February 15, 2018.