



## 2017 SoCal Veg Fest Vegan Cupcake Competition

### Official Rules

1. All cupcakes must be **VEGAN** (no dairy, no eggs, no honey, no meat, no poultry, no seafood or animal products of any kind).
2. Online entry deadline is **Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 11:55pm**.
3. Cupcake turn-in is **Saturday, October 28, 2017 between 11am and 12:30pm** at the **Cooking Demo Booth** at the SoCal VegFest (OC Fair and Event Center, Costa Mesa, CA, USA).
4. Entry Fee is US \$5.00 per entrant. All entrants must pre-register and pay entry fee online at [www.bigtentvegan.com/cupcake](http://www.bigtentvegan.com/cupcake).
5. Two Separate Divisions:
  - a. General Division: Includes all recreational bakers, cupcake enthusiasts, and anyone not competing in the Elite/Professional Division.
  - b. Elite/Professional Division: Includes any entrant who either:
    - i. currently works or has ever worked as a pastry chef, chef, baker, or decorator at a restaurant, bakery or other food establishment;
    - ii. has graduated from culinary/pastry school;
    - iii. is an advanced-level student currently attending culinary/pastry school;
    - iv. has ever won a 1<sup>st</sup> Place award at the SoCal VegFest Cupcake Competition (either in the General or Elite/Professional), the Orange County Fair, or any major baking competition; -OR-
    - v. has been a serious home baker/cook for 10+ years.

Please note that the criteria for the General and Elite/Professional Divisions are guidelines only, and each contestant should enter the category they feel best describes their level. Judges and organizers may move entrants into another Division if they deem appropriate.

6. For the General Division, limit one entry per person.
7. For the Elite/Professional Division, two entries per competitor are allowed.

8. First 15 entries accepted for each Division (all others may be put on a waitlist). Organizers may at their discretion, accept more entries, and/or separate cupcakes into categories if they deem it appropriate.
9. All cupcakes and frosting must be made from scratch by the entrant. No box mixes or packaged frostings. Standard-sized cupcakes only; no jumbos or minis.
10. **Deliver six (6) baked and decorated cupcakes to the Cupcake Competition Check-In Table at the Cooking Demo Booth between 11:00am and 12:30pm on Saturday, October 28, 2017.** Cupcakes will be transferred into official competition containers, which will be the same for everyone. Each container will be identified with a contestant number only; no names.
11. Entries become the property of SoCal VegFest and will not be returned.
12. All entrants agree to have their names and photos published online and in print by SoCal VegFest and Big Tent Vegan.
13. **Submit a completed Ingredients List Form to [cupcake@bigtentvegan.com](mailto:cupcake@bigtentvegan.com) by Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 11:55pm.** Do not put your name or any other identifying marks on the form itself. Use the template provided on the website.
14. No refrigeration will be available, so cupcakes must not require refrigeration (no cream fillings, etc.).
15. Judging will be closed and not accessible to the public.
16. Themes celebrating World Vegan Day, Halloween, Dia De Los Muertos/Day of the Dead are welcome!
17. **Awards Ceremony will begin at approximately 4:00 pm at the Cooking Demo Booth (final time to be announced).** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place ribbons plus gift bags will be awarded. Approximate gift bag values: \$50 for 1<sup>st</sup>, \$35 for 2<sup>nd</sup>, \$25 for 3<sup>rd</sup>. Winners need not be present to win.
18. See Judging Criteria for weighted breakdown. All judges' decisions are final.
19. For questions email: [cupcake@bigtentvegan.com](mailto:cupcake@bigtentvegan.com)