

THE BENSON

PORTLAND

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH THE BENSON HOTEL'S 50 ANNUAL GINGERBREAD MASTERPIECE

*The Historic Portland Hotel Presents the 2021 Theme "Polar Express"
Now Open to the Public Through December 26, 2021*



Portland, OR (December 2, 2021) – The Benson Portland, Curio Collection by Hilton, is pleased to invite the public back once again to see the 2021 Gingerbread Masterpiece on the 50th anniversary of the event. The Gingerbread Masterpiece is a beloved annual holiday tradition and this year's theme is "Polar Express." The unveiling took place yesterday, December 1, in the grand lobby, surrounded by festive trimmings. The masterpiece will be on display now through December 26.

The Benson invites visitors to imagine embarking on a magical adventure when viewing the 2021 Polar Express and North Pole replica, which is made of over 100 pounds of gingerbread, 50 pounds of white chocolate, 25 pounds of sculpting chocolate and 5 pounds of rice-marshmallow treats. It features a woodland area with edible trees, a poured-sugar frozen pond with ice skaters and a 3D gingerbread tree with lights and decorations. Kids will especially enjoy Santa's Village, made from an assortment of gingerbread, royal icing, chocolate and pastillage. The Northern Lights sky sets the backdrop for the design.

“With this special holiday tradition 50 years in the making, we are delighted to bring tidings of comfort and joy to generations of guests and locals throughout December,” said George Schweitzer, managing director of The Benson Portland.

Creating the gingerbread masterpiece sculpture this year is Baker Robert Bragdon, owner of Next Dimension Bakery in Portland. His passion for edible art has led him to work with The Benson Portland for many years. In fact, Robert has assisted legendary Chef Diffendorfer with the masterpieces over the past five years, which have ranged from iconic Christmas landscapes to European castles.

While visiting The Benson Portland, Curio Collection by Hilton, and the gingerbread masterpiece on display, guests are invited to bring a donation of a new, unwrapped toy to support the annual Fox 12 Les Schwab Tire Centers Toy Drive. Toy donations will be accepted through December 17.

For more information on the 2021 Gingerbread Masterpiece and The Benson Portland, please visit www.bensonhotel.com.

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About The Benson Portland, Curio Collection by Hilton

Established in 1913, the historic Benson Hotel is the city’s only premier hotel that unites the charm and civility of the Old World with the elegance of contemporary design and mindful service. In homage to the hotel’s namesake, Simon Benson, guests are invited to experience legendary service, European design, opulently sized guest rooms and suites, five-star dining and an acclaimed lobby bar. The Benson seeks to cultivate the best in all of us. For more information, visit www.bensonhotel.com. If you would like to stay in touch, please like [The Benson Hotel](#) on Facebook or follow [@TheBensonHotel](#) on Twitter and Instagram.

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