STEUBENVILLE
CULTURAL TRUST

4TH STREET CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING COMPETITION

CONTEST RULES:

1. The Christmas Tree Decorating Contest is limited to 1 entry per family, group, non-profit organization or business.
2. The submission of the Official Entry Form is required, no later than **November 10th by midnight.** Incomplete or illegible entry forms will not be accepted. You will receive an email of acceptance into the competition and further instructions from steubenvillenutcrackervillage@gmail.com.
3. You must provide all decorations for your tree. You are free to express your creativity and originality, but we ask that your tree represent your business, organization or family and be in good taste, suitable for display at a family event. Decorations should hang on the tree, not sit alongside the tree or be held up by any means other than the tree itself. The Steubenville Cultural Trust reserves the right to remove any decorations not meeting this criterion.
4. Any decorations can be used as long as they will withstand winter weather for 6 weeks and do not include electric parts.
5. The Steubenville Cultural Trust will provide a sign identifying the group or organization who decorated the tree. This sign will be suspended from the decorated tree.
6. Most importantly... HAVE FUN!

DECORATING PROCEDURES:

1. Trees will be available for decoration on **Friday, November 20 - Tuesday, November 24, 2026,** any time of day. All participants MUST decorate their tree within the given time frame. Each tree will have the name of the decorators as well as the Charitable organization they have chosen to donate their award to should they be chosen as one of the top three trees by public opinion prominently displayed, so simply look for your name and begin decorating! If assistance is needed, please see a staff member at Drosselmeyer's Nutcracker Shoppe (155 N. 4th Street, Steubenville, OH 43952) or call 740.632.8909.
2. All Trees will remain on display through the end of the Steubenville Nutcracker Village, January 8th, 2027. Decorations must be removed from all trees by the contestants between **January 9 and January 18, 2027**, or they will be disposed of with the trees and participants will not be invited back in future years.

JUDGING:

1. The public is invited to cast their vote for Best of Show throughout the Steubenville Nutcracker Village Season via an online $1/vote system. THE FINAL DAY OF VOTING WILL BE DECEMBER 31, 2026. Awards are given for the following categories at a ceremony to be held at Drosselmeyer's Nutcracker Shoppe on Saturday January 2, 2027:

    1. **Sponsor's Choice:** a $500 Award will be given to a decorated tree chosen by the Steubenville Cultural Trust and Tri-State Financial (2026 Tree Competition Sponsor)
    2. **People's Choice:** a $250 Award will be given to a decorated tree chosen by popular vote via the online voting system.
    3. **Individual Awards:** Since we will offer voting this year using a $1/vote system, each decorated tree will be awarded their vote money at the end of the competition (an entry must receive at least 10 votes to be eligible)

2. The winners will be announced after the conclusion of voting (December 31, 2026), on **January 1st, 2027**. Winners will also be notified by phone, text or email. Winners, participants and/or images from the contest may be posted on the Steubenville Nutcracker Village website or otherwise used in publicity or promotional materials concerning the Steubenville Nutcracker Village festival and/or the Steubenville Cultural Trust.