

The First Taste of Spring **Maple Syrup Festival**

John R. Park Homestead – Boast-Worthy Beard & Moustache Contest

Boast-Worthy Beard and Moustache Contest Details

The Homestead's Boast-Worthy Beard and Moustache Competition is a fun and friendly contest, inspired by trends in facial hair past and present. The John R. Park Homestead's time period, the mid-19th century, was a grand era for facial hair. With this year's Weekend One - Lumberjack theme, and the modern fascination with fabulous facial hair, we are proud to continue the popular annual, local beard and moustache contest!

There will be six categories. For the sake of this competition "styling aids" is defined as any substance or item which contributes to the shape, colour, style, etc. of the facial hair. This can include moustache wax, hair spray, hair cream, styling foam, hair gel, hair pins, rubber bands, hair ties, etc.

The six categories for competition are as follows:

1. Best Moustache - As it grows! No styling aids; the more natural the better. Contestants with other facial hair may enter but will be judged on the moustache alone.
2. Best Full Beard - As it grows! No styling aids. The full beard includes all facial hair, with allowance for minor "cleaning" of areas of low growth. Faces with shaved portions (i.e. upper lip, space between moustache and beard, lower-half of face) will be considered Other Facial Hair
3. Other Facial Hair - Facial hair as it grows such as chinstraps, sideburns, face-shelves, etc which doesn't fit into categories 1 or 2. Natural (no styling aids, no props).
4. Best Historical Facial Hair - Napoleon's moustache; Lincoln's beard; Show us your historical look. Styling aids welcome.
5. Best Waxed Creation - Styling aids and props are welcome. Judges will consider creativity and originality as well as hair.
6. Best Faux Facial Hair - Build on existing or create from scratch! Judges will consider creativity and originality. Open to facial hair enthusiasts of all ages!

Contest Details

- Judges will be asked to determine which contestant's facial hair is most impressive in relation to the contestants' overall appearance, style, and personality. In category 5 – Faux Facial Hair as well as the categories which allow for styling aids and props, judges will be asked to consider originality and creativity as well as hair.
- Judging will take place on Saturday, March 9th, 2024. The competition will start at 12:30pm in front of the large white barn. Competitors must arrive at the Homestead by no later than 12:00pm on the day of the competition. Regular event admission applies to contestants.
- The competition will take place in 6 categories. Competitors will specify the category or categories in which they wish to compete when they register. Competitors may compete in more than one category, as long as they meet the requirements for all categories in which they enter.
- On the day of the competition, competitors who do not meet the qualifications for the category in which they have registered may be redirected by Homestead staff into the correct category. The correct category for each competitor will be decided by competition organizers.
- By entering the competition, all competitors give their permission for a photo release. Photo, video, or other images may be obtained by event organizers, their designees, local media, or visitors may be used in future promotional materials.
- There will be two judges for each category. Each judge will individually choose who they consider to be the top competitors in each category and will rank their place accordingly.
- The categories will be judged in the order listed above.
- Judging will take place in a designated area. Any competitor not in the designated area at the time of judging may be disqualified.
- All decisions of the judges and organizers are final.
- Discourteous or unsportsmanlike behaviour by a contestant may lead to disqualification at the organizers' discretion.
- Artificial facial beards and moustaches are only permitted in category 6 – Faux Facial Hair.
- There will be prizes! Besides, notoriety and bragging rights, the winner of each category will win a \$25 gift certificate for the Festival's 'Maple Market' and a special prize will be awarded for the Most Boast-Worthy Beard and Moustache Overall Winner!

(Thank you to our friends at Upper Canada Village for the inspiration and guidance for this contest!)