

# The Cake

By Bekah Brunstetter

Directed by Rebecca Gossett

Assistant Directed by Lauren Alexandra

## The Great American Baking Show

### Directly from the application:

“We are looking for people with a real passion for baking so please tell us about yourself. Do not worry if you’re not a great writer, just try and tell us as much as you can about you and your baking. Photos of your baking are always useful.

While we want to hear about what you’re good at, we also want to know about the areas that you’re not so good at or have no experience in and why. This is purely to get a clearer idea of what kind of baker you are.

Please remember to attach a photo of yourself as well as pictures of your bakes. Please also remember to upload a short 1-2 minute video describing you and your passion for baking and why you would be a great candidate for the show.”

### **Questions Asked on the application include:**

- How long have you been baking for?
- Who taught you how to bake? And what got you started?
- What do you personally get from baking?
- How often do you bake?
- How would you describe your experience level?
- Can you describe how wide/varied your baking repertoire is?
- Please give an example of the most difficult thing you have baked?
- How do you improve/develop your baking? Any examples?
- Please describe a typical day/week in terms of your baking - How big a part of your life is baking and why?
- How good do you think you are at baking? How good would your husband / wife / parents / friends say you are?
- Why do you bake and who do you bake for?
- How would you describe your experience level and how often do you bake each of the following?
  - Cakes
  - Cookies
  - Bread
  - Pies
  - Tarts
  - Custards & Meringues
  - Pastries

- Please give an example of the most difficult thing you have baked in each discipline below and describe how it went/what it was for i.e. a birthday, family celebration etc.?
  - Cakes
  - Cookies
  - Bread
  - Pies
  - Tarts
  - Custards & Meringues
  - Pastries
- Do you have a signature bake?
- If so, why is it special? How did it become your signature bake? Are there any background/stories connected with it?
- Do you have any family stories about baking? E.g. memories, family favorites, recipes handed down the generations, baking anecdotes etc.
- Have you ever had any baking disasters?! If so, please describe.
- Do you belong to any cookery related groups/clubs? Please give details.
- Have you ever studied any aspect of food / cooking / bakery at any level? If so, please give details and dates and any applicable degree or certification
- Have you ever acquired any formal culinary, pastry and/or bakery training or other professional catering qualifications (i.e. degrees or certifications)?
- What other hobbies besides baking do you have?
- What is your greatest ambition in life?
- What do you think has been your greatest achievement in life so far?
- Have you been on TV before? If so, please give details of program, dates, role etc.
- Have you ever applied to another food or competition show? If so, please give details of program, dates, and how far into casting process you went or the status if currently being considered for another program.

Link to personalized application: <https://forms.gle/D7ZrN9NjqCtzv9qi8>

## Winston-Salem, NC

**Population estimate (as of July 1, 2021): 250,320**

- 14.3% of population is 65 years or older
- 52.9% of the population is female
- It's the 5th largest city in North Carolina
  
- This city is known for being one of the most religious in the state. Over 54% of residents are affiliated with a religion. The largest religious group is Baptists, which make up almost 16% of the total religious population.



## News Stories

### In Narrow Decision, Supreme Court Sides with Baker who Turned Away Gay Couple

By Adam Liptak

June 4, 2018

The Supreme Court on Monday ruled in favor of a Colorado baker who had refused to create a wedding cake for a gay couple. The court's decision was narrow, and it left open the larger question of whether a business can discriminate against gay men and lesbians based on rights protected by the First Amendment.

The case, *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, No. 16-111, arose from a brief encounter in 2012, when David Mullins and Charlie Craig visited Mr. Phillips's bakery, Masterpiece Cakeshop, in Lakewood, Colo. The two men were going to be married in Massachusetts, and they were looking for a wedding cake for a reception in Colorado.

Mr. Phillips turned them down, saying he would not use his talents to convey a message of support for same-sex marriage at odds with his religious faith. Mr. Mullins and Mr. Craig said they were humiliated by Mr. Phillips's refusal to serve them, and they filed a complaint with Colorado's Civil Rights Commission, saying that Mr. Phillips had violated a state law barring discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Mr. Mullins and Mr. Craig won before the commission and in the state courts.

The Colorado Court of Appeals ruled that Mr. Phillips's free speech rights had not been violated, noting that the couple had not discussed the cake's design before Mr. Phillips turned them down. The court added that people seeing the cake would not understand Mr. Phillips to be making a statement and that he remained free to say what he liked about same-sex marriage in other settings.

## Judge Rules for California Baker Over Same-Sex Wedding Cake

By Associated Press

Oct. 23, 2022

A California judge has ruled in favor of a bakery owner who refused to make wedding cakes for a same-sex couple because it violated her Christian beliefs.

The state Department of Fair Housing and Employment had sued Tastries Bakery in Bakersfield, arguing owner Cathy Miller intentionally discriminated against the couple in violation of California's Unruh Civil Rights Act.

Miller's attorneys argued her right to free speech and free expression of religion trumped the argument that she violated the anti-discrimination law. Kern County Superior Court Judge Eric Bradshaw ruled Friday that Miller acted lawfully while upholding her beliefs about what the Bible teaches regarding marriage.

A spokesperson said the fair housing department was aware of the ruling but had not determined what to do next. The couple, Eileen and Mireya Rodriguez-Del Rio, said they expect an appeal. "Of course we're disappointed, but not surprised," Eileen told the newspaper. "We anticipate that our appeal will have a different result."

The decision comes as a Colorado baker is challenging a ruling he violated that state's anti-discrimination law by refusing to make a cake celebrating a gender transition. That baker, Jack Phillips, separately won a partial U.S. Supreme Court victory after refusing on religious grounds to make a gay couple's wedding cake a decade ago.

## Resources

### **The Great American Baking Show:**

- <https://thegreatamericanbakingshow.castingcrane.com/>

### **Winston-Salem, NC:**

- <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/winstonsalemcitynorthcarolina>
- <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/winston--salem-nc-population>

### **News Stories:**

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/04/us/politics/supreme-court-sides-with-baker-who-turned-away-gay-couple.html>
- <https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2022-10-23/judge-sides-with-california-baker-over-same-sex-wedding-cake>