



BRECKENRIDGE
TOURISM OFFICE

DMMO
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Team Republic of Korea, “Beauty Beyond Difference: Harmony of Coexistence,” Wins Gold at 2026 Breckenridge International Snow Sculpture Championships Presented by Toyota

- SILVER: Team Mongolia, “*Lassoing Time*”
- BRONZE: Team India, “*Corn: The Ultimate Domesticator*”
- Lothar Luboschik Artists’ Choice Award: Team Lithuania, “*Raise Your Flags!*”
- People’s Choice voting remains open until Thursday, Jan. 29, at 2:00 p.m. via GoBreck.com/vote and will be announced at 7:00 pm.

Winners Photos: <https://gobreck.box.com/s/6xkfnjy4p3ayvk4bfxz0mtys42d4otd6> credit: Breckenridge Tourism Office

Media Room: <https://gobreck.box.com/s/dk3kxco98fim7n9def7orhj9u7zgq0ps> photos & video credit: Breckenridge Tourism Office

BRECKENRIDGE, Colo. – Jan. 28, 2026 – Artists from around the world worked through the night in sub-zero temperatures to complete their monumental snow sculptures by 9:00 a.m. The last 5 days brought extreme weather conditions - from a blizzard on Sunday to deep freezes and a surprise warm-up on Tuesday. Sculptures remain on display through February 3, showcasing some of the most structurally daring, artistically powerful, and story-driven works in the event’s history. But only one can be deemed the gold medal winner: Team Republic of Korea!

Team Republic of Korea was awarded the gold medal for their sculpture, “*Beauty Beyond Difference: Harmony of Coexistence*”, depicting evolving orbs symbolizing life, diversity and coexistence. “Everything worked well - the interior, the exterior, close-up and at a distance,” noted Judge George Lundein, “The piece morphs and changes shape as you walk around it,” he said. The Republic of Korea was the **only team in the competition led by a female captain**, Mi Kyoung Kim, along with members Hwan Min Jung, Wonyong Lee and Jino Bok.

Team Mongolia took home the silver medal with their sculpture, “*Lassoing Time*.” Judges noted the conceptually challenging design, combining the cultures of their country and the United States, inviting engagement between the two nations.

Team India and their sculpture “*Corn: The Ultimate Domesticator*” brought home the bronze, with judges noting the skilled attention to detail and different textures - the kernels of corn, skree at the base, the animated face and ice eyeballs.

The panel of judges includes five professionals with backgrounds in art, curation and sculpture. Their deliberations consider creativity, expressive impact, technical skill and continuity to the original design. The panel had a tough decision this year, noting they were impressed and moved by the talent, the challenges of limited time and varying temperatures.

In the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie, the teams also vote for one another to win the Lothar Luboschik Artist's Choice award, which was awarded to Team Lithuania for their sculpture, "Raise Your Flags!" Team Lithuania used a set of newly created hand tools to complete their sculpture, including a **man-powered chainsaw**.

People's Choice voting remains open through 2:00 p.m. January 29, and the winner will be announced on social media @GoBreck and GoBreck.com/ISSC.

The artists do not win cash prizes; they compete only for the glory of a win in this renowned competition, known for producing some of the world's best snow sculptures. Breckenridge is proud to showcase this ephemeral artwork for visitors to view through February 3.

The International Snow Sculpture Championships official awards ceremony will be held outside of the Riverwalk Center Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 6:30 p.m. MST. The event is free and open to the public, welcoming visitors to meet the talented teams from Argentina, Italy, Finland, India, Germany, Lithuania, Mongolia, Ukraine, South Korea, Malta, Vermont and Breckenridge.

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About Snow Sculpting in Breckenridge

Snow carving in Breckenridge began as a pastime during the town's winter carnival in the late 1960s. The competition officially began in 1990 when the town collaborated with the ski resort to host teams from around the globe for the inaugural International Snow Sculpture Championships. Successive competitions brought new languages and friends to the historic mining town, and the founders of the annual championships are still involved in the event today.

About the Breckenridge Tourism Office (BTO)

The Breckenridge Tourism Office is the destination marketing and management organization (DMMO) for the Town of Breckenridge, Colo. Join us at GoBreck.com for local insight and travel inspiration. Stay connected all year long at @GoBreck on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and [Instagram](#).

About Breckenridge

In the 1800s, prospectors flooded what was to become Breckenridge, Colorado with the hopes of striking gold (and they found it). Today, travelers discover an adventurous mountain community that feels historic yet timeless. Breckenridge is where old-school charm and new-school modern amenities merge with 200 shops, restaurants and tap houses showcasing

endless character. As one of the nation's premier year-round destinations, Breckenridge visitors feel welcome and, when here, feel local.