Gingerbread Competition For
Middle School Students
Whittier School
Everett, Massachusetts

Event: ASCE Student Chapter of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering with Professor M. K. Yegian organized an event for 32 middle school students from the Whittier School in Everett Massachusetts. Students in groups built gingerbread houses and competed for esthetic and structural strength as tested on a shaking table.

Purpose: Outreach activity aimed at exciting middle and high school students about engineering in general and civil engineering at Northeastern University in particular.

Photo: Professor Yegian with Ph.D. and ASCE Chapter Students in front of the shaking table with gingerbread houses built by the middle school students.
Selected comments from 31 thank you notes written by the middle school students.

The best part of the field trip was when we stood on the earthquake table. It helped me understand how someone feels when there is an earthquake. Also, Doctor Yeigan is the funniest and smartest person, he made everyone laugh by hitting the gingerbread house with his stick and breaking it. The last thing is that Northeastern University is the best college that I have seen, you have everything that someone needs.

In closing, thank you for an unforgettable experience. Northeastern University inspired me to learn more about engineering.

In closing, thank you for an unforgettable experience. I had a lot of fun times at the college. Even if I don't go to that college in the future, I'll never forget the memory with you guys and Professor Yeigan.
I enjoyed taking the tour around campus and getting to meet your mascot. Most of all I strongly enjoyed building the gingerbread house and going to the shake table. Professor Yeagan made the experiment indescribable. It certainly encouraged me to become a Civil Engineer and create amazing things, and have incredible adventures.

My favorite memory was when Professor Yeagan put us on the earthquake simulator. This was my favorite memory because it was fun and scary at the same time. You all inspired me to want to come to Northeastern University.

My favorite part of the field trip was when we went to the lab where the earthquake table was at. I enjoyed watching our gingerbread houses get destroyed. I also enjoyed going on the tour. Going on the tour and hearing about science and civil engineering made me want to learn more about it.
I took back so many memories when I left. But, my absolute favorite would have to be going to the lab and putting my group's finished gingerbread house on the shake table. This particular memory is my favorite because it was cool seeing our finished product being tested.

In conclusion, I thank everyone that provided me with an unforgettable and superb time at Northeastern University. Pursuing Engineering and attending this school is definitely something I will consider.

I was really happy going on the field trip. It really inspired me to be a Civil Engineer when I grow up. The really funny moment was when the kids were on the shake table. When I was on the shake table it was so funny. All my friends were laughing at me.

My favorite memory was building the gingerbread house because we all communicated well and found a way to make it stand. We also used teamwork and enjoyed the activity. Also another memory was about Professor Morgan, he kept smacking the gingerbread houses so they could fall off the earthquake shake table. You all inspired us to work together more and to follow what you love to do. I really appreciate it and thank you for the great memories we had at NorthEastern University.
One of my favorite parts of the trip was when we made our graham cracker houses. It was a very fun to think like a civil engineer even if it was to make a tiny gingerbread house. Another one of my favorite parts of the trip was when we got to see the houses be destroyed. This experience made me want to be a civil engineer.

My favorite part is when Mr. Yeigan told us to get on the "earthquake table" and when I was on it I was afraid and happy at the same time, I will never forget that.

In closing, thank you for an unforgettable experience. Thank you so much. That field trip made me like science more, and made me think that science is interesting. I will never forget that field trip.

In closing thank you for an unforgettable experience, you guys made my hopes up for going to college. I'm really looking forward to college now.
My favorite part of the trip probably had to be building my Ginger bread house because we thought we would have lost. But by your amazing students they gave us confidence to keep going on we came and place (Grand Mar). But tired with that memory was you Professor Yeigan with the Snake table and breaking the stick on Tyler’s Ginger bread house, Plus getting on top the Snake table.

In conclusion thank you for an unforgettable experience. I know where I'm going for College