

2009 West Alabama Christmas Parade

RULES and INFORMATION

IMPORTANT DATES & INFO

- November 13 – all judged and non-judged parade entries with fees are due to PARA by 5 p.m. A limit of 200 entries will be accepted.
- November 30, 5:30 p.m. Belk Center located in Bowers Park
Parade entry representative meeting to review rules, decoration requirements and answer any questions about line up, location assignments, etc.
- December 7 – West Alabama Christmas Parade
 - 5:15 p.m. – Tree lighting ceremony at the County Courthouse
 - 6:30 p.m. – Parade begins in downtown Tuscaloosa



ROUTE & PARADE LINE UP

- The route for the 2009 West Alabama Christmas Parade will begin at 11th Street and Greensboro Avenue. The route will continue down Greensboro Avenue and turn onto University Avenue, ending at 19th Street.
- It is imperative that your group arrives on time and in the correct designated location. You will receive specific line up instructions after registering for the parade.
- No entry fees will be accepted after the deadline. Any entries arriving at the parade route that are not on the paid entry roster will not be allowed to participate in the parade.
- If you arrive late, do not panic! If you are not able to reach your assigned position in the line up, please fall in behind the last entry.

DECORATIONS

- All parade entries must be generously decorated, preferably to coordinate with the parade theme “Tinsel in T’own.” Walking entries should be in costumes. Floats and vehicle entries must be well decorated on at least 3 sides with holiday decorations such as garland, tinsel, wreaths, lights, and other festive trimmings.
- Parade staff will be reviewing entries on the parade route and have authority to remove any entry from the parade that does not meet decoration standards. If you have questions about whether your decorations meet standards, please contact PARA to discuss your plans with a parade committee member.

SANTA

- The only Santa Claus to appear in the parade will be PARA’s float at the end of the parade.

ENTRY SIZES/REQUIREMENTS

- Floats may not exceed 16’ in height and must be at least 6’ in length
- Floats and vehicles must be pulled by a moving object and may not be self-propelled.
- Each entry is limited to no more than 3 vehicles.

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COMPETITION/JUDGING

- Entries that choose to participate in the competition will be judged according to the category selected on the entry form. Entries may be judged in only one category.
- Entries are judged on overall appearance, originality, music presentation, workmanship, use of theme, costumes. Trophies will be awarded in each category; a best of show will also be awarded.
- Pre-manufactured costumes will not be judged in the competition.
- Judging will take place during the parade from the PARA Administrative Building. Judges decisions are final. Awards will be announced immediately following the parade at the 2nd floor conference room in the PARA building at the corner of 6th Street and Greensboro Avenue.

BANDS/MARCHING GROUPS

- Bands are requested to play Christmas music.
- Large groups and marching groups are encouraged to meet at a pre-determined location both before and after the parade to eliminate confusion and line-up congestion.
- As groups stop to perform on the parade route the procession can slow down and/or come to a standstill. Please be aware of gaps in front and behind your group to help us keep the parade moving.

SAFETY

- Throwing candy or other items is prohibited. This can be extremely dangerous to riders and spectators. Any violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification of entry and you will be asked to leave the parade procession.
- Any parade entries deemed to be unsafe to spectators by parade officials will be removed from the parade line up.
- All riders of vehicles such as motorcycles, quads, etc. must wear helmets and abide by Alabama state laws.
- Lost and Found will be located at the Bama Theatre Greensboro Room at the corner of 6th Street and Greensboro Avenue.

FEES/CANCELLATIONS

- Parade entry fees are \$25 per non-judged entry and \$30 per judged entry. All checks must be made payable to PARA and must accompany the entry form.
- If you need to cancel your entry, notify PARA at 562-3220 as soon as possible. No refunds on cancelled entries.

*If you have questions, contact Parade Chairman
Gary Minor at (205) 562-3220.*