

Holiday Parade Category Descriptions

Please see the parade application to select the appropriate category. The City of Harrisburg reserves the right to make final assignments of entries to appropriate parade categories based on the nature of the entry and type of presentation.

A) **Marching Bands** - This category includes High School, Jr. High School or Elementary School related marching bands, jazz ensembles, brass ensemble, Drum & Bugle Corps, etc. These units must be mobile and must perform while on Parade. All marching bands must be in professional uniforms. Any float in this category may not display the name, logo or other identification of any corporation or business. All banners and signs must be approved by the City of Harrisburg. All units in this category must adhere to the parade theme.

B) **Specialty Units** - The following are examples of Non-Commercial Units that should be placed in this category: Color guards, costumed groups, clown clubs, musical non-band marching units such as pompom groups and baton groups, novelty units, animal units, auxiliary Units, etc. These units will be judged on their adherence to the Parade Theme; however adherence to the theme is not mandatory. These units should be creative, unique and visually exciting. Any float in this category may not display the name, logo or other identification of any corporation or business unless the appropriate Commercial Unit Fee has been submitted. All banners and signs must be approved by the City of Harrisburg. All units must adhere to the theme.

C) **Non-Profit Units** - Non-Profit organizations include churches, schools, community organizations, non-profit agencies, hospitals, scouts, neighborhood groups, and government agencies. Proof of non-profit status must be provided. Any float in this category may not display the name, logo or other identification of any corporation or business unless the appropriate Commercial Unit Fee has been submitted. All banners and signs must be approved by the City of Harrisburg. All units must adhere to the theme.

D) **Commercial Sponsored Units** – (Entry Fee: \$750) - Commercial Sponsored Units and Floats are entered by businesses and corporations, or any entry that is sponsored/ underwritten by a business or corporation. Due to the uncontrollable nature of TV we cannot guarantee TV coverage for any unit. All units in this category must adhere to the Parade Theme.

E) **Dance, Step & Drill Team Units** (Entry Fee \$50) - This category includes any type of choreographed dance, step & drill teams. These units will be judged on their adherence to the Parade theme; however adherence to the theme is not mandatory. These units should be choreographed, costumed, creative, unique and visually exciting. *Any float in this category may not display the name, logo or other identification of any corporation or business unless the appropriate Commercial Unit Fee has been submitted. All banners and signs must be approved by the Parade Committee.

F) **Miscellaneous** - This category includes but is not limited to the following: Vintage Vehicles, Walking Units and Special Feature Units. Units in this category will be judged according to their adherence to the Parade Theme, which is mandatory.

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1. Animal Units including horses, wagon/carriage units, dogs, camels, mule teams, llamas, or any other unusual animal. You must provide a costumed clean-up crew with each animal unit and remove ALL animal waste in the staging/de-staging areas and throughout the parade.
2. Unique/Vintage Vehicle units include motorized or self-propelled “vintage,” “antique,” or “funny cars.” A maximum of 6 vehicles consistent in theme may be submitted. Cars must travel the parade route at least two cars wide. Vehicles must be mechanically sound and able to drive the entire Parade route and manage frequent delays.
3. Walking Units consist of 25 to over 100 choreographed and costumed participants. Sweatshirts or t-shirts with logos, and jeans are not allowed as costuming. Special consideration will be given only if these are part of a well-thought-out, integrated costume design.
4. Special Feature Units are made up of one or more push units, other non-float pieces or mini motorized floats under 8’ wide by 10’ long. For example: a forest of 2’ x 10’ tall trees weaving in and out of performers dressed as Little Red Riding Hood.

G) Fire Departments - This category includes all community and professional fire fighting personnel and equipment: Fire engines, hook and ladder trucks, ambulances and support vehicles both modern and antique. Fire departments are encouraged to enter the parade to show community spirit. This is not a prize category, consequently, costuming and theme presentation is not mandatory, however it is encouraged and is greatly appreciated by the public. No more than 2 vehicles will be accepted from each Fire Department. *Any float, vehicle or banner in this category may not display the name, logo or other identification of any corporation or business unless the appropriate Commercial Unit Fee has been submitted. All banners and signs must be approved by the City of Harrisburg. All units must adhere to the theme.

H) Military - This category includes all branches of military service: active duty personnel, veteran’s organizations and all military equipment. The purpose of this category is to recognize and honor military service; consequently any themes presented in this category may diverge from the overall holiday parade theme. This is not a prize category, however floats and presentations by military personnel, veterans and their families is encouraged.

*Any float, vehicle or banner in this category may not display the name, logo or other identification of any corporation or business unless the appropriate Commercial Unit Fee has been submitted. All banners and signs must be approved by the City of Harrisburg.

IMPORTANT NOTE

On the Parade Application, applicants are asked to identify the category in which they wish to be included. When applying please be aware that the City of Harrisburg reserves the right to make final assignments of entries to appropriate parade categories based upon the nature of the entry and type of presentation.