



26th Annual Christmas Parade of Lights “A STAR SPANGLED CHRISTMAS”

Coordinated by the City of Humble Beautification Committee

The Annual Christmas Parade of Lights has grown into one of the largest “small town” parades in the Houston area. There is no better way to advertise your company, organization, or to support your community. Kids, parents, and grandparents love the parade and look forward to this event every year!

After the parade Santa Claus always visits Uptown Park to take the “wish lists” of children of all ages. With any luck at all, Santa will be able to join us again for this great tradition. Local performers will entertain the crowd at Uptown Park prior to the parade.

The parade is scheduled for Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 6:30pm and will once again be held on historic Main Street. This year’s theme is “A STAR SPANGLED CHRISTMAS”. ****NOTE: THE THEME IS NOT RESTRICTED TO RED, WHITE & BLUE JUST ANYTHING TO DO WITH STARS. ****

To enter the parade, just fill out the attached application and return it with your **\$20.00 application fee**. **Also we are asking you to provide one new toy valued at \$5.00 or more for needy families.** Toys will be collected the night of the parade at the staging area. **The deadline to register is November 27, 2017.** Any applications received after this date will be charged **\$35.00 plus the new toy.** **No applications will be accepted after December 1, 2017.**

You can register as a float entry or as a walking entry. Each category is broken down into different classifications and will be judged and awarded as such.

PLEASE NOTE CHECK IN AREA & LINE UP AREA FOR 2017.

Float Categories:

1. Corporate / Franchise Business Float
(Professional Floats and large businesses)
2. Locally Owned Business Float
(Small businesses, employee built floats)
3. Motor Vehicles (cars, fire trucks, etc.)
4. Adult Community Organization Float
5. Children’s Community Organization Float
6. School Float

Walking Categories:

1. Marching Bands
2. School Groups (drill team, cheerleaders, etc.)
3. Children’s Group (dance groups, twirlers, scout groups, etc.)
4. Adult groups

Judging will occur as the parade passes the Judges Reviewing Stand located in the 300 block of Main Street in front of Uptown Park. Judging will be based on adherence to the theme and use of lights. In the past, participants have been given thirty seconds to perform in front of the Judges Stand. ***This will no longer be the case***; each entry must perform any skits, dances, maneuvers, or other actions as they **move** past the Judges Stand. Performances on the move will also be a major part of the judging this year. The winners will be notified within 72 hours after completion of the parade.

If you have a group with walkers and a float, you will be judged as a float unless you file two entries along with two application fees – **NO EXCEPTIONS.** **THE PARADE WILL GO ON RAIN, SHINE, SLEET, OR SNOW.**

It is because of companies and organizations like you that this parade continues to be a success each year. We are excited about this year’s parade and hope to see you there as a participant. Thank you for your interest!

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Regulations and Rules

Our staff of volunteers is limited and will have their hands full on the night of the parade, so please read these rules very carefully and decide on your arrival, parking, departure, etc. before the night of the parade. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and participation!

****NOTE CHECK IN AREA LOCATED ON THE MAIN STREET SIDE OF THE LAKE HOUSTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL THE PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH YOUR FLOAT OR WALKING GROUP KNOW IN ADVANCE WHERE THE CHECK IN AREA IS, THE LINE UP AREA IS AND WHERE TO MEET YOUR GROUP.

- **All floats must be lighted, preferably with white lights**
- Floats must not exceed 12 feet in height
- All floats must have a legible sign with their business or organization name on each side of the float. This is important for judging purposes. Numbers will be distributed the night of the parade and must be mounted on floats or carried by walkers on the **right side near the front** of the vehicle or group. This number is for identification purposes only and in no way marks your position in the parade.
- **No live Santa's or likenesses are allowed.** There is only one Santa, and he arrives at the end of the parade.
- Music is optional, but it must be Christmas music. This includes music for dance groups. Loud speakers used for any purpose other than to provide music is strictly prohibited. Music must be kept to a low level or off in the staging area so that communication is possible prior to the start of the parade. Once the float has entered Main Street the volume can be turned up.
- **Candy may be handed out to the side of the parade route by walking adults only. *Anyone throwing candy from a moving vehicle or float will be disqualified from judging.***
- **No animals such as horses or dogs are allowed to participate in the parade or be part of a float.**
- The parade lineup will be designated by the parade committee and all participants will abide by their decision. If you have multiple cars or floats that you would like to have follow each other during the parade route, those cars or floats need to arrive at the staging area together or risk being separated.
- Motorized floats and walking groups will not be separated in the parade lineup so it is imperative to maintain a slow smooth pace. The approximate speed will be two (2) miles per hour, which most vehicles can do by idling and riding the brake. Please be careful of pedestrians along the parade route and within the parade itself. Children will run into the route to gather candy that is tossed out and that is the main reason **you must not throw candy**. The streets are dark and children do not see the danger of darting in front of a car or float.
- All floats and groups will continue moving throughout the parade route. **In the past participants were allowed a thirty second time for performance in front of the Judging Stand. This will NO LONGER be the case so please make plans for any performances, skits, maneuvers, or actions as a moving performance. There will be no stopping along the parade route for any reason, you may perform as many times as you like but you must keep moving.** Judges will be instructed to grade your float or group on any performances and if you

stop, points will be deducted. Be creative with your moving performances and come up with something different!

- Advertising is restricted to your name on banners and floats. **HANDOUTS ARE NOT ALLOWED.** You will be disqualified from judging if your litter is found on the street. **Absolutely no solicitation is allowed.**
- **All floats and groups MUST meet in the staging area which will be located on Main Street west of the railroad tracks. The main staging area will be on Main Street from Bender Ave. (next to the police station) to the railroad tracks. A secondary area will be located on Main Street from the feeder road to Bender Ave**
- **Once you are in the staging area you will need to prepare your float or group before the start of the parade.**
- **You will need to check in and receive your float number at the “Parade Check-in and Information Booth” located on the Higgins Ave side of the Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce. It is imperative that someone from your group check in and get your float number. This number should be placed on the right side of your float or carried by someone on the right side so that the judges can see it as you approach the judging stand.**
- **IT IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHECK-IN WORKERS TO LOCATE YOUR GROUP.**
- **NO on-site registration will be allowed.**
- **A map of the staging area and of the parade route is included in this package for you to review, make copies, and distribute if necessary.**
All floats, vehicles, trailers, and other large moving items need to be in the staging area by **5:00pm**. All persons, participants, groups, etc. should all be at the staging area no later than **5:30pm**. Someone with the parade committee will be at the staging area by **4:00pm** on the day of the parade.

If you are dropping off children or participants you will not be allowed into the staging area with your vehicle. You will have to find a parking area close to the staging location and walk your participants to your group or float location. Parking can be found on side streets off of Main Street and at businesses that are closed for the evening. If you are dropping off participants who will be walking you may want to move your vehicle closer to the end of the parade route in order to pick them up so that they do not have to walk all the way back to the beginning. Parking may be available at the City of Humble, Charles Bender Performing Arts Center located on Higgins Street.

- **Teachers, leaders, and parents are responsible for seeing that all persons involved in their group are made aware of all the regulations, rules, and parking limitations.**
- Large groups such as school bands must understand that there will be no room in the staging area for getting into formation. This will be done in the street just before it is your turn to get in line.
- The parade route will begin at Railroad Ave and Main Street. It will precede east on Main and turn left (north) at Ave H. Participants are asked to turn left onto Ave H. *If you wish to take your float or group elsewhere, you may do so after the turn onto Avenue H.* The Main parade route is Main Street and ends at Ave. H.

Thanks for your cooperation and participation in this great community event

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Application for Registration

Name of Person Completing Application: _____

Name of Company / Organization / Group: _____

Number of years you have previously been in the parade: _____

Contact Person’s Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Alternate Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Address if available: _____

Check appropriate classification for your entry, this will determine how you will be judged!

Float Category:

- ____ Corporate / Franchise Business Float
(Professional Floats and large businesses)
- ____ Locally Owned Business Float
(Small businesses, employee built floats)
- ____ Motor Vehicle (cars, fire trucks, etc.)
- ____ Adult Community Organization Float
- ____ Children’s Community Organization Float
- ____ School Float

Walking Category:

- ____ Marching Band
- ____ School Group (drill team, cheerleaders, etc.)
- ____ Children’s Group
(Dance groups, twirlers, scout groups, etc.)
- ____ Adult Group

Approximate size of float or walking group: _____

Will you be playing music? YES NO

Approximate time of arrival (you must be at the staging area no later than 5:30pm) _____

Brief Description of your Group (to be used for announcement during the parade): _____

By signing this application, the parade entrant states that he or she has read, understood, and agrees to follow all the regulations and rules stated on the previous page and agrees to make certain that all participants in his or her group also agrees to follow those same regulations and rules.

Signature of Contact Person: _____ Date: _____

Mail Completed Registration Form and \$20.00 (\$35.00 if late registration) to:
City of Humble / Beautification Committee 114 W. Higgins, Humble, TX 77338
Call 281-454-4500 for further information OR Contact the following:
Gwen Key gwenkey@keyrealtorsinc.com 281-454-4500
Chris Green cgreen@humblepolice.com 281-319-9711

You may drop off this application and your fee at City Hall instead of mailing it.

Christmas Parade Route

