



APPLICATION



60th Diamond Anniversary Annual Marshall Christmas Parade Monday, December 2, 2024 at 7PM

DEADLINE: APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

The Marshall Christmas Parade has been a family tradition for 60 years. The parade brings together family and friends to enjoy the sights and sounds, and for many it marks the beginning of the holiday season. Participants have the very important responsibility to ensure viewers are dazzled by each and every entry.

2024 THEME: *Sparkling Splendor: Our Diamond Anniversary Christmas*



We are looking for dazzling floats with shimmering decorations and/or a touch of elegance that will showcase the brilliance of diamonds during this holiday season.



Name of Organization/Business _____ Contact Person _____

Title/Duty Within Organization _____ Date of Birth _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Instructions and rules will be emailed to this email address.

Check ONLY those that apply to your entry:

*Vehicle Total Length: _____ feet

ENTRY TYPE

First Responder/Firetruck*

Truck/Equipment ONLY* (NO Float)

Marching Band

Color Guard

Hot Air Balloon*

Float* TO BE JUDGED

(can have walkers too)

Float* (do NOT want to be judged)

(can have walkers too)

Walkers ONLY (no vehicle)

Walking Performance *(dancers, etc)*

DETAILS

Number of people: _____

(everyone in your entry)

Music (MUST be holiday music)

Contains Horses

Contains Dogs

WAIVER of Physical Damage or Personal Injury In consideration of participating in the Marshall Christmas Parade, the Releaser, intended to be legally bound for themselves and their agents, employees, volunteers, guests, licensees, heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims they may have against the City of Marshall, its officials, and the City of Marshall representatives, successors, and assigns for any and all injuries or damages suffered from participation in the Marshall Christmas Parade.

I, the undersigned, have read this waiver of liability, fully understand its terms, understand that I have given up substantial rights by signing it, and have signed freely and voluntarily without any inducement, assurance, or guarantee being made to me and intend my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

MARSHALL HOLIDAY LIGHTS & DECORATION FUND DONATION

Your gift will help defray the thousands of dollars spent each year for maintenance on our downtown lights and decorations. Your gift will be acknowledged on a banner in the parade, an ad in the newspaper, and on social media.

\$ _____ **Holiday Donation Amount** *Donation is optional and not required for parade entry.*

Payment is enclosed *(check payable to MAEDA)*

Please invoice me

Call me to pay with credit card

RETURN FORM BY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024 to the Choose Marshall Welcome Center at
323 W. Michigan Avenue, Marshall, MI 49068 **Email** to jenniferconleydarling@gmail.com
This form can be filled out Online at ChooseMarshall.com/news

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Conley Darling at (917) 603-0793 or jenniferconleydarling@gmail.com



RULES & INSTRUCTIONS



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We are looking for dazzling floats with shimmering decorations and/or a touch of elegance that will showcase the brilliance of diamonds during this holiday season.



- **All entries MUST be decorated for the holidays and be WELL LIGHTED.** This is a nighttime parade so lights are necessary for the **SAFETY** of parade attendees and participants, as well as for their entertainment value. **Headlights do not count towards lighting your vehicle.** If your vehicle is not decorated and/or has only minimal lights you will not be allowed to participate in the parade. Walkers should have lights or glow sticks on every person.
- Marching bands, walkers, etc. **MUST** be in uniform, costume, or wear holiday-appropriate attire.
- All participants are required to keep pace with the parade marshal, keeping gaps to a minimum between groups/floats to ensure a smooth and continuous parade.
- **Santa is not allowed on any entry.** There is only ONE Santa and he is found on the last float. No one else is allowed to dress as Santa and he is not to be depicted in life-like decorations.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO CANDY CAN BE THROWN FROM VEHICLES.** Candy is to be passed out by walking participants ONLY. To keep the parade moving quickly, candy should be “underhand tossed” **BEHIND** the barriers lining Michigan Avenue (into parking spaces). **The goal is to keep candy out of the center of the road and people/children out of the way of parade vehicles. VIOLATORS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE PARADE AND NOT ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE PARADES.**
- Gun shots and cannons are not allowed. Live fire/flames are allowed only with special permission.
- **Any group containing animals MUST include a clean-up crew.** No one wants to step in a mess!
- Vehicles on trailers are not permitted without prior approval.
- If you want your float judged, make sure to come with 2 people who can carry your banner if you win.
- Parade is not lined up in first-come, first-in-line fashion. As much as possible: music entries are spaced out, horses are kept away from fires and loud groups, etc. We rotate annual entries to try to be fair.
- No parade entry can be taller than 14-feet.

TIMELINE

5:45 - Entry Line-up Begins
 6:00 - All Floats that have chosen to be judged must be IN PLACE with lights working and decorations complete
 6:30 - All Entries in Place
 7:00 SHARP - Parade begins
 Parade ends in the Marshall Middle School area.

**FINAL APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION AND DECORATION OF ENTRY
 WILL BE HELD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE.**

**Please read all of the requirements *carefully* and fill out the application *completely*.
 Incomplete applications WILL NOT be accepted.**

Parade instructions and placements will be emailed the week prior to the parade.
 Questions? Please contact Jennifer Conley Darling at (917) 603-0793 or jenniferconleydarling@gmail.com
 Choose Marshall Welcome Center ~ 323 W. Michigan Avenue, Marshall, MI 49068 • 269-781-5163

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