



**2017 Mid-Valley Lighted Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 9 at 6 pm**

October 27, 2017

Greetings & Merry Christmas!

You're invited to celebrate "A Superhero Christmas", as an entry in the 23rd Annual Mid-Valley Lighted Christmas Parade to be held on Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 6 PM.

The starting point will be the intersection of Texas Boulevard and Pike Avenue in Weslaco. All entries will line up west of Texas Boulevard on Pike. The parade route will travel south on Texas (approximately one mile) to Sixth Street, the parade ending point.

Currently, the parade committee seeks marching bands, competitive and non-competitive floats, marching/cycling/walking groups, dancers, magicians, clown groups, and antique cars to join the celebration of the parade theme, "A Superhero Christmas". A minimal entry fee of \$25 will be charged to all entries, except Car Clubs which is \$35 with a limit of 4 cars per car club entry (only the first three clubs to enter will participate). A \$50 entry fee will be charged to all competitive floats. Cash prizes of \$1,000, \$750 and \$500 will be awarded to the first, second, and third place floats. **NO EQUESTRIAN ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Enclosed are an entry form, the parade guidelines and rules, and a narration form. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Weslaco Chamber at 956.968.2102.

Please note the due date is **Wed, November 29. ANY ENTRIES RECEIVED AFTER THIS WILL BE PLACED AT THE END OF THE PARADE. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Thank you for your participation and we look forward to your prompt entry.

****PARADE LINE UP will begin at Pike and Texas and go west down Pike to Border Ave, then turn south on Border. You will receive a phone call with your parade number the day before the parade, so it's important to provide current and accessible contact information.**

ENTRY FORM – DUE DATE: Wednesday, November 29, 2017

Please complete this entry form and return or fax to The Weslaco Chamber of Commerce at 956.968.6451 no later than Wednesday, November 29, 2017, at 5:00 PM. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Name of Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Day Telephone: _____ Evening Telephone: _____

Entry Fees: Car Clubs \$35, limit 4 cars; Competitive Floats \$50; all other entries \$25.00;

Commercial/Advertising Product/Service \$100.

Type of Entry (check one only):

- ___ Marching Band (\$25)
- ___ Pageant Queen/King (\$25/queen or king)
- ___ Band on a float (wagon, etc. \$25)
- ___ COMPETITIVE FLOAT (\$50)
- ___ NON-COMPETITIVE FLOAT (\$25)
- ___ Commercial/Advertising Product/Service Entry (\$100)
- ___ Thematic Unit (clowns, cyclists, \$25)
- ___ Drill Team/Dance Group (\$25)
- ___ Cheerleader squad (\$25)
- ___ Car Club (\$35 per club; Limit 4 cars)
- ___ Other (Describe) _____

Total number of persons in your entry: _____

Describe in detail how your entry will be illuminated:

Please provide TOTAL LENGTH of unit (length of car and length of trailer) _____

Will your entry use sound amplification? ___yes ___no

Megaphones or hand held amplification devices WILL NOT be allowed. The Christmas Parade Committee or designee must approve all music. Call 956.968.2102.

PLEASE NOTE: (1) There will only be ONE (1) Santa Claus for the entire parade. He will ride on a float courtesy of the City of Weslaco. No other Santas will be allowed! If anyone is wearing a Santa costume, they will be asked to remove it before they begin in the parade. (2) There will be no alternate date/refunds should the parade be canceled due to weather. (3) Dance teams will be notified of the allowed locations to stop and dance along the route. No other stops will be permitted.

I have received, read and agreed to comply with all the rules that govern my entry’s participation. I understand that violation of these rules will forfeit my/our participation for this year AND next year.

Check information you have submitted*: ___ Length of unit ___ Narration form ___ Waiver
___ Payment ___ Point of Contact info

**Failure to provide all the necessary information will result in a delay in your parade reservation.*

Date: _____ Signature: _____ Title: _____

Point of Contact for day of event – this is the person we can contact with the parade entry number, and the person who will be present at the parade.

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **Cell Ph.:** _____

Please complete pages 2-4 of this entry form. **Please include your check or money order payable to the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce.**

WAIVER and RELEASE

Please complete and return this form with your entry form.

“Participant” hereby releases the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce and the City of Weslaco and all others associated with the Mid-Valley Lighted Christmas Parade from any and all claims arising from his/her participation in the Mid-Valley Lighted Christmas Parade in Weslaco, Texas on Saturday, December 9, 2017.

In exchange for the right to participate in the parade, Participant hereby waives, releases and discharges any and all claims for injuries to person, including death, or to property that Participant may incur as a result of Participant's involvement in the parade. This release discharges the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of Weslaco and others associated with the parade from and against any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way to the parade, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of Weslaco or others.

Further, the Participant hereby grants full permission to any or all of the foregoing, to use any photographs, videotapes, motion pictures, recordings or any record of this event.

Participant has carefully read and understands the foregoing Waiver and Release and signs it at his/her own free will.

Participant

Date

If a minor, signature of parent or guardian

OFFICIAL GUIDELINES

All Entries are expected to adhere to “A Superhero Christmas” Theme

COMPETITIVE FLOATS (\$50) and NON-COMPETITIVE FLOATS (\$25)

All competitive and non-competitive floats are expected to enhance the parade theme “A Superhero Christmas” or demonstrate it in some creative manner. All floats must be fully decorated and towed by a vehicle, car or truck with proper insurance coverage. The vehicle towing the float must NOT be decorated. Members of the parade committee will place entry numbers in a visible area on all competitive floats during the parade lineup. All competitive floats must have submitted a \$50 fee with an entry form prior to the start of the parade. **Checks made payable to the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce.**

Note: All floats must carry an “all purpose” five-pound fire extinguisher within the reach of the driver. No more than two persons will be permitted in each tow vehicle. Floats must be illuminated with participants coordinating their attire with the theme of the float.

CAR CLUBS (\$35; LIMIT 4 CARS PER ENTRY)

Classic cars, Competition Cars, new and old may participate. Car clubs will be lined up by entry. There can be NO demonstration of hydraulics or air bag systems and no demonstration of “dancing” cars. We will limit the number of car clubs entered in the parade.

MARCHING BANDS, BANDS ON FLOATS (\$25)

Marching bands are expected to provide music and showmanship along the parade route. All bands will assemble on Pike Blvd based on their lineup number. All groups should be prepared to disband at the intersection of Texas Boulevard and Sixth Street. Additionally, the two marching bands that best demonstrate music, marching, and creativity in following the theme will be awarded a cash prize. The 1st place band will receive \$300.00 and the 2nd place band will receive \$200.00.

THEMATIC UNITS (\$25)

Thematic groups such as clowns, cyclists, etc., should perform along the parade route. If sound/music is necessary to convey a theme, a vehicle with a sound system will be allowed to precede the group.

DRILL TEAM/DANCE GROUP/CHEERLEADERS (\$25)

All dance/drill teams and cheerleader groups should be prepared to march as a unit, with a marching band, or ride on a float. Participants on a float will NOT be permitted to unload the float to perform along the parade route. The vehicle towing the float must NOT be decorated. Should a group on a float require music: a vehicle with a sound system will be allowed to precede the group.

PAGEANT QUEENS, KINGS, and their COURTS (\$25 PER PERSON)

Pageant queens, kings and their courts may ride on a convertible, sports vehicle or decorated float.

ADVERTISING/BANNERS (\$100 PER ENTRY)

No political advertising by parade participants will be allowed while on the parade route. Commercial entrants such as wrapped vehicles for a business will be allowed for this \$100 fee.

THROWING or DISTRIBUTION OF ITEMS

The distribution of articles such as candy, leaflets, coins, souvenirs or any other items **WILL NOT** be allowed along the parade route.