



Kiwanis Club of San Marcos
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16th Annual

Kiwanis Club of San Marcos
Holiday Parade
Sunday, December 4, 2011

Help put a smile on our community by becoming part of this San Marcos holiday tradition! There's nothing more exciting or entertaining than watching a parade - except for being IN the parade! The 16th Annual Kiwanis Club of San Marcos Holiday Parade will be held on Sunday, December 4th with **step off at 1:00 pm sharp**. Our parade kicks off the holiday season in San Marcos and coordinates with the City of San Marcos Holiday Tree Lighting and Santa's Village at the Civic Center that weekend. Celebrate the holidays while your group or business parades in front of thousands of San Marcos residents!

PARADE THEME AND ROUTE



This year's theme is "Let the Christmas Bells Ring Out". Floats and entries should include a motif reflecting the joyful music of the season through the use of holiday music, costumes, animation, color, and/or lights.



Parade entrants will assemble in Parking Lot 9 of Palomar College; step off will be at Comet Circle and Mission Road. We will then go east on Mission Road to San Marcos Blvd. and the Civic Center – 2 ½ miles of holiday cheer for all ages! A printable parade route map is available on our website.

ENTRY FEES



An entry fee of \$40 for non-profit organizations/community groups or \$55 for business/corporate entries must be submitted with your entry form to help defray the costs of the parade. Everyone involved in presenting the parade is a volunteer and costs to produce the parade are funded through entry fees and donations.



This is a "rain or shine" event. **Entry fees are non-refundable.** (Need a sponsor? Be sure to stress the publicity your sponsor will receive and include their name in your signs, on your float, etc!)

MANY WAYS TO PARTICIPATE



Please see our entry form for a list of the numerous categories for participants. It may not be possible for you or your organization to enter a float but there are many ways to participate.



Walk or march, glide on skates, pedal a bike, pull a wagon... Don your group/club uniforms, etc., or "dress-up" in holiday theme clothes and join the fun of this shared community holiday spirit.

MANDATORY PRE-PARADE MEETING



All entries are required to send at least one representative to the Pre-Parade meeting on **Tuesday, November 29th at 7:00 pm** in the Dining Room at Community Services (3 Civic Center Drive, San Marcos. At this one-hour meeting, you will receive your position in the lineup and all final details for this year's event so that everyone can enjoy a stress-free parade day.

ON PARADE DAY



The assembly area at Parking Lot 9 will have signs designating parade positions. Please check in at the sign-in table before going to your position. You may arrive at any time but please allow ample time to get set up and in position before 11:00 if vying for a trophy. Judging for trophies will occur at 11:00 with awards presented at 12:00 noon. The front of the lineup will leave the assembly area shortly after the awards are presented so that step-off will occur promptly at 1:00pm at the corner of Comet Drive and Mission Road.

ONLY ONE SANTA PER PARADE



Seeing multiple Santas in the same parade confuses children. The official "Parade Santa" has been named by the parade committee and will be at the end of the parade. **Please use other characters in your entries.**

STRICTLY ENFORCED SAFETY RULES



This community day of fun and holiday spirit must have a focus on safety for participants and spectators as one of its prime goals. Although it may seem to add to the festivities, the throwing of candy, balloons, or other items/materials from floats, vehicles, or special units is strictly forbidden since it encourages children to run into the street. This would create dangerous risks to their safety and to the safety of participants riding on floats if the vehicle has to stop suddenly. Also forbidden

is the distribution of any literature, etc. by entrants to spectators along the parade route. Your participation in the parade will publicize your group, organization, etc. as thousands will see your entry but the parade is not a platform for distribution of information.

Failure to comply with these rules will result in a ban for entry into future parades.

FLOAT ENTRIES



All float entries must be submitted for approval by the Parade Committee on or before November 20, 2010. Float entries submitted after that date may be rejected by the Parade Committee.

Entries must include a sketch or model of the float design indicating the size, materials to be used in the float construction and other important aspects of the float. If a professional builder will be constructing the float, please indicate the name, address, phone and contact person for the builder.



Float Dimensions: A float entry must be at least 8 feet wide and 16 feet long to be considered a float. Smaller entries may be accepted and included in the special units section. **PLEASE NOTE:** Highway height clearance is 13 feet, street width clearance is 14 feet and maximum float length is 35 feet.

Towing/Chassis/Body: You may build a float over a vehicle (low jeep, tractor, etc.) boxed in as part of the unit. If a towing unit is used, it must be incorporated as part of the float with the necessary skirting of the float continued around the towing vehicle. The towing vehicle must be decorated in the same theme and manner as the main float. Tow bars are required on all floats.



Costumed Characters: Children and adults may be used on floats but their safety is a primary concern. Entries should explain how people are included on your float and your plans to assure their safety. Costumed characters may walk along side the float but should be an integral part of the overall float theme. The Parade Committee must approve the number of walking characters in advance. Un-costumed guides may accompany the walking characters for safety reasons with prior approval from the Parade Committee.



Music/Singing: Music and singing are often an integral part of floats and other entries. Please include this information on your entry form so the Parade Committee can properly space entries with music and/or singing.

TROPHY AWARDS



All entries will be judged and are eligible for one award only. The trophy awards are:

- SWEEPSTAKES: Best of parade
- GOVERNOR'S: Best float depicting this year's theme
- MAYOR'S: Best non-professionally constructed float
- FOUNDER'S: Most creative use of lights and/or music
- KIWANIS': Best entry submitted by a community group including schools, community service clubs and other non-profit organizations.
- HOLIDAY SPIRIT: Best entry incorporating costumed children and/or animals
- BEST OF SHOW: Best entry by an equestrian unit

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Kiwanis Club of San Marcos

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