

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

May 4, 2017

Dear Friends of Hampton University:

The Office of Student Activities is preparing for our annual Homecoming celebration. Our annual Homecoming week is scheduled to begin on Sunday, October 15, 2017. We are extending an invitation to everyone to participate in the week's activities.

On Saturday, October 21, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., Hampton University will conduct its Annual Homecoming Parade. The parade will begin in downtown Hampton and end on the University's campus. At this time, I would like to extend a personal invitation to you and your organization to participate with us in making our Homecoming Parade the largest and most exciting ever!

Visit our website at <http://homecoming.hamptonu.edu/>. There you will find the entry form, information and rules. Please fill in all necessary information for submission. **ALL ENTRY FORMS SHOULD BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017.** If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mr. Calvin J. Harris in the Office of Student Activities at (757) 727-5690.

In the event of inclement weather, please call Hampton University's Police Department at (757) 727-5300 for updates. With your help, Hampton University can have a memorable parade. I am looking forward to hearing from you in the very near future. Have a great year and thank you in advance. Come help make this one to remember!

Sincerely,

Calvin J. Harris
Parade Coordinator

All entry forms must be received in our office on or before Friday, Sep. 22, 2017.

Information and Rules

Parade Date: October 21, 2017

Application Deadline: September 22, 2017

I. Definitions of Entries

- A. **Float** – A decorated structure that is towed by a motor vehicle. All visible sides (including the rear end) must be completely covered with decorations. Must be constructed and decorated so that each side is equally attractive and interesting
- B. **Motorized** – MOTORIZED FLOATS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED.
- C. **Band** – A group that marches while playing musical instruments.
- D. **Marching** – An individual or group, other than a band, that marches the parade route in costume or uniform. Those marching must be 10 years of age or older.
- E. **Identification** – All units must be identified. Floats name identification must appear on both sides. Bands and marching units must provide name identification front of the unit.

II. GENERAL

- A. No stopping to perform along the the parade route EXCEPT at the judge's stand. NO REVERSE MARCHING. Judges may disqualify units from competition for this offense.
- B. No unit should break ranks before reaching the dispersal area.
- C. Throwing of candy, gum, favors, etc., from elements in live is forbidden, as children may be pushed under a vehicle.
- D. Distance between separate units will be two car lengths. Distance between different elements within your group should be no more than one car length.
- E. Keep ranks close up. Exert every effort to keep parade moving and eliminate gaps.
- F. Automobiles, trailers, and floats will govern their speed so as not to overrun marching units. Any vehicle suffering mechanical failure should be pulled out of the parade line.
- G. Band leaders should conduct their music so as not to overlap adjacent bands.
- H. The judges' stand will be in front of Bethel AME Church on Lincoln Street.
- I. Only student groups that are recognized by the Student Affairs Council will be permitted to participate in the parade.
- J. All questions and request for exception must be directed to Mr. Calvin J. Harris at 757.727.5690.

III. Assembly

- A. **Floats**
 - 1. All floats are to be assembled on Bemis Lawn by 7:45 a.m. the morning of the parade. The Hampton (City) Police Department will provide escort to the City Hall

assembly area at 8:00 a.m. If you miss this time, it is very unlikely that your unit will make the parade. **(CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS ONLY)**

2. Float inspection will be conducted at 6:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the parade by either the Parade Coordinator, and or his representative.
3. At 6:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the parade, a final inspection will be conducted to determine participation.
4. All other floats should arrive at City Hall by 8:00 a.m. the morning of the parade.
5. **Note: Whether you want your entry judged or not, it must be decorated.**

B. Bands/Marching Units

1. All vehicles must arrive to the assembly area between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.
2. Participants arriving on buses should be dropped off on Eaton Street near the assembly area. Buses should then proceed to Hampton University and park in Lot 10 near the Convocation Center.

IV. Judging (Scoring) of Entries

Scale of Points: 1 to 10

- A. **Floats** - Total of 40 points; 10 points maximum for each category as follows:
 1. Originality
 2. Artistic Design
 3. Esthetic Design
 4. Workmanship (Materials, Construction, Neatness)
- B. **Bands** - Total of 50 points; 10 points maximum for each category as follows:
 1. Precision
 2. Dress (Alignment)
 3. Execution (Drill Formation)
 4. Cover (Straight Line)
 5. Music Quality
- C. **All Other Participants** - Total of 30 points; 10 points maximum for each category as follows:
 1. Originality
 2. Dress
 3. Overall performance

* 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners from each category will be announced during half time of the Homecoming football game.