



2023 INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE
Tuesday, July 4th, 2023

Floats - General Information and Rules

Parade Theme for the 2023 Wakefield Independence Day Parade is
“Under the Big Top”

There are two Float Divisions – Non-Profit Organization and Corporate/Business.

There is also a division dedicated solely to the Wakefield School System’s PTOs. Floats in this division are eligible to win the Gertrude M. Spaulding Award for the best use of recycled materials.

Floats must be no taller than 13 feet in total height or they will not fit along the parade route.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS - Non-profit is defined as: Groups or committees classified as “non-profit” by the state or federal government. If your entry wins a prize, the check will be payable to the organization, not an individual. There is no entry fee for a Non-Profit Organization. Only non-profit organizations will be eligible for cash prizes. The WIDC will reimburse any nonprofit group up to \$200 for supplies and materials. Please mail your receipts, along with the reimbursement form (found on the website) after the parade to be reimbursed.

CORPORATE/BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS - Sponsorship of floats by commercial firms is encouraged and appreciated. However, it is important for such sponsors to design a presentation which relates to the parade theme or to the celebration of American independence, not as an advertisement for your business. There no entry fee of for a Corporate or Business Organization but a donation to the parade is appreciated. **There are no cash prizes for this division.** The winners (First, Second and Third) will be presented with a banner to hang in front of your float so spectators can see the winners. All winner banners will be collected at the end of the parade to be used in future parades.

General Information

All floats and participants will go directly to check in at the Lakeside Office Park no later than 3:00pm for judging at 3:30. All persons, decorations and equipment that are a part of the float must be on the float and ready for judging at this time. Float drivers must be in the truck cab or the towing vehicle 30 minutes before the parade starts to line up. Because of the overall parade schedule, floats must be on time.

The Float Coordinator reserves the right to remove any float that the Committee considers inappropriate or a danger to spectators. No racial, religious, sexual orientation or ethnic slurs, explicit sexual content of any kind, as determined by the judges, will be tolerated.

There is absolutely no throwing of anything from any float per the rules in our insurance policy. No handouts such as brochures, flyers or advertising will be allowed. All people riding on the float must be secured to the float or able to hold onto something while the float is in motion. This is in consideration for the safety of both participants and spectators.

Any group seen throwing or handing anything out will be immediately ejected from the parade and will not be allowed to participate the following year. Any float that is told to leave the parade, but does not, will be banned from any and all future parades.

There is no walking on the side of the float for safety reasons. All participants not riding on the float, may walk behind or in front of the float.

No alcoholic beverages will be allowed on any float or in any other vehicle on the parade route. No alcoholic beverages may be consumed before or during the parade by the float participants or the driver of the float vehicle. Anyone seen consuming alcoholic beverages, will be reported to the Wakefield Police, and the float will be removed from the parade line up.

No fundraising by any other organization will be allowed.

All prizes will be announced before the parade begins so that floats may travel in the parade with awarded recognition. The decision of the judges will be final.

Floats will be assigned a place in the parade's line of march by the Parade Coordinator and the float will receive a paper with their number on it when they check in on parade day.

All float participants MUST fill out an application. If you choose to withdraw from the parade for any reason you are welcome to do so up until July 2nd at 5pm.

Competition for Float Decoration

All prizes will be announced before the parade begins so that floats may travel in the parade with awarded recognition.

Prizes

Non-Profit Division

First Place - \$300

Second Place - \$200

Third Place - \$100

Corporate/Business Division

First Place

Second Place

Third Place

Gertrude M. Spaulding Award
for best use of recycled materials
(Only Wakefield PTO organizations eligible)

Prize amounts subject to change

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APPLICATION FOR 2023 FLOAT

Parade Theme for the 2023 Wakefield Independence Day Parade is
“Under the Big Top”

Name of Organization

Contact Person

Contact Phone Number/Email

Please circle one: NON-PROFIT CORPORATE/BUSINESS

If your corporate group is registering under a non-profit, please provide the name and address of the non-profit. If your group is a winner, we will mail the prize money directly to the nonprofit of your choosing. Corporate groups representing a nonprofit **MUST** display the nonprofit banner on their float.

Non-Profit Tax ID# _____

Please return this signed application **no later than June 15th** to:
WIDC, PO Box 1746, Wakefield, MA 01880 or
Email your signed application to Christina Gagne- Christinagagne@hotmail.com

If approved to participate in the parade, you will receive parade day instructions via email in the weeks leading up to parade day.

I have read and agree to the rules stated above. I understand that if anyone in my group does not adhere to the parade float rules, they will be removed from the parade at the WIDC's discretion.

Signed: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

FOR WIDC ONLY

Date Received _____