

2025 “*SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS*” PARADE

Rules and Regulations

1. Each entry **MUST EXCLUDE** using Santa Claus as part of their theme on the float or in costume, as Santa will be riding on the last float in the parade. This includes individuals wearing white beards with Santa hats.
2. All motorized vehicles, including tractors, motorcycles, go-carts, etc. **MUST** be decorated in a Christmas motif and must carry its own Christmas lighting.
3. Groups with walkers ONLY, **MUST** be dressed in Christmas themed attire and wear battery-operated twinkling lights, flashing lights, glowing jewelry, etc.
4. Each participating organization **MUST** include Christmas music, including but not limited to caroling, live music/band, and/or recorded music on a sound system.
5. ALL parade entries are prohibited from stopping and/or performing for spectators once the parade begins.
6. Entries participating in the contest will need to be set up in place by 4:00pm. Judges will begin judging once the parade begins along parade route. ALL groups are prohibited from stopping and/or performing for the judges once the parade begins. The parade procession must maintain a forward motion.

Categories are as follows:

Themed Float (1st – 3rd place)

Non-Float (1st – 3rd place)

Religious Float (1st – 3rd place)

School Float (1st – 3rd place)

Drill/Dance Teams (1st – 3rd place)

Bands (1st – 3rd place)

Each Judge will score each entry on a scale of 1 – 10, with 10 being the best. Judges will then collectively decide who the winners in each category will be.

7. Due to the safety of our participants and spectators, we ask that you refrain from tossing or throwing candy from your float. If your organization would like to hand out candy, please have volunteers walk beside the floats and hand candy out to spectators. Please keep candy out of the roadway.
8. Parade participants who complete the parade route will not be allowed back into the staging area until all parade entries have started along the route.
9. You will be notified of any additional needs pertaining to the parade in your parade packets. Please make sure all of your volunteers and participants comply with any additional rules that are put in place for the safety of our community.

Thank you so much for your interest in Paducah’s Annual Christmas Parade. We are excited to see your Sounds of Christmas creations for 2025 and wish you the very best for this holiday season.