

# BATTLE OF FLOWERS<sup>®</sup> ASSOCIATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

FOR

## BATTLE OF FLOWERS<sup>®</sup> PARADE

Friday, April 27, 2012

Vanguard: 11:30 a.m.

Parade: 12:30 p.m.

Parade Length - 2.6 miles

Parade Travels at 2.5 mph

Marching Time - 1 hour 10 minutes



## RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR BANDS

1. Complete the Entry Form and return a scanned copy (keep original for your records) to the Section Chair **VIA EMAIL BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON JANUARY 13, 2012**. Incomplete Entry Forms will not be processed.
2. We can accept only a limited number of entries, and the acceptance of any entry is subject to approval by the Parade Board. No political entries will be accepted.
3. **QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:**
  - a. Only high school, college and military bands are accepted in the Parade.
  - b. Bands must have 50 or more playing members; however, exceptions will be considered by the Parade Board.
  - c. Only playing members and flags, if they are a performing part of the band, may march in the Parade. Pep squads, cheerleaders, drill or dance teams and pom pom or spirit groups are not permitted in this Parade Section. These groups may participate only when their school is in the Parade as part of the Battle of Flowers<sup>®</sup> Association sponsored public school rotation.
  - d. If a school banner accompanies the band, it must be carried by two students from the school dressed in uniforms or school colors.
  - e. Please pace your music so that the maximum number of Parade attendees has the opportunity to be entertained by your band.
4. **UNIFORMS:**
  - a. A summer uniform is strongly suggested and must be requested by you and approved by the Parade Board **BEFORE** Parade day. A snapshot of the summer uniform must accompany your request to the Section Chair and it must be received by her no later than **March 1, 2012**. Criteria for the summer uniform are: trousers (no blue jeans), regular uniform shoes, long or short sleeved shirts with collars (no T-shirts), and a cap or visor. Summer attire must be uniform in color and style. Dress uniforms may be worn, but remember that San Antonio can be hot in April. The parade moves rain or shine, so come prepared!
  - b. The band director and his or her designated supervisors are not required to be in uniform, but they must be neatly dressed in band colors.
5. **SUPERVISORS:**
  - a. Each entry must have an adult supervisor whose responsibility is to see that all band members, sponsors, supervisors, band boosters and other participants understand and follow the Parade rules. The supervisor must be present in the Forming Area on Parade Day and must accompany the band along the Parade route.
  - b. There may be only one supervisor per 15 students.

- c. All supervisors must be adults, and no one (including children under 12 years of age) is allowed to accompany supervisors along the Parade route.
- d. Supervisors, boosters and chaperones must be neatly dressed in band colors.

6. **JUDGING:**

- a. Judging will take place along the Parade Route by qualified judges and you must be performing in order to be judged. You will be judged on a point system using the following criteria: Marching - Precision, Ranks, Cadence, Personal Bearing, Etc. (0-35), Music - Choice of Music, Interpretation, Technique, Tone, Etc. (0-35), General Effect - Showmanship, Appearance, Style, Esprit De Corps, Spacing, Auxiliary Units (0-30).
- b. Everyone accompanying the band is considered part of the entry and judged accordingly in the General Effect category.
- c. Bands must be playing when they approach and pass the Reviewing Stand or they will be disqualified from judging. Be aware of the location of the Reviewing Stand downtown near the Alamo and alert for the "Judging Ahead" sign.
- d. The band will suffer a heavy loss of points if time for arrival or other Forming Area rules are violated or if supervisors are offering water or spraying water in band members' faces when a band passes the Reviewing Stand.
- e. The two band categories to be judged are: Bands and Public Schools Section Bands.
- f. In the Band category, 5A bands will be judged together and 4A and below will be judged together.

7. **SPACING AND MARCHING:**

- a. Marching units form no more than 10 abreast, and all Parade units are spaced 40 feet apart. When the Parade stops, spacing closes to 20 feet, and when the Parade resumes, spacing returns to 40 feet.
- b. If you are following a float which breaks down, move around it on the left, and close to 40 feet behind the next entry.
- c. Maintain forward motion equivalent to the pace of the Parade at all times. Participants must not stop or slow the movement of the Parade in any way.

8. **HEALTH TIPS:**

- a. **THE WEATHER FOR THE PARADE CAN BE UNPREDICATBLY HOT. THEREFORE, EACH PARTICIPANT MUST BEGIN THE PARADE ROUTE WITH, OR HAVE ACCESS TO, AT LEAST A FULL PINT/HALF-LITER WATER BOTTLE.** Water to replenish water bottles is the responsibility of the participant and/or the participant's group. The Battle of Flowers® Association strongly encourages each group to provide a Water Wagon, or another source of water, to replenish the water bottles for their participants. Very limited supplies of water, for emergencies only, may be available in the Forming Area and in the Disbanding Area. No food is to be consumed by participants while on the Parade Route. **PLEASE COME PREPARED!**
- b. Be certain that all marchers are in good physical condition. Anyone who is not physically fit should not participate.
- c. Encourage participants to eat a healthy breakfast and to avoid junk food and carbonated soft drinks before and immediately after the Parade. No food is to be consumed by participants while on the Parade route.

9. **GENERAL:**

- a. Bands must be in the Forming Area on time. We schedule bands for as late an arrival as possible so that waiting time is minimal. Because of difficulties reaching the Forming area and feeding bands into the Parade, punctuality is essential, and we must have your cooperation.

- b. The 2012 Parade will be televised. The television cameras will be located near the corner of Broadway and Jones Avenue. Please begin playing before you cross Jones and continue until the entire band crosses in front of the cameras.
- c. All U.S. flags will mass at the beginning of the Parade. You may bring one or two United States flags to join the massed national colors.
- d. Parade Day instructions, including maps, position sheets and timetables, will be emailed to you the first part of April. PLEASE BE CERTAIN THAT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS IS CORRECT AND THAT YOU NOTIFY THE SECTION CHAIR IF IT CHANGES.
- e. Bands and marching units must give at least 30 days notice in writing if they must withdraw from the Parade, or they jeopardize their participation the next year.
- f. A signed release of liability form will be required from each participant in the Parade. It is the responsibility of the sponsor of the Entry to obtain the necessary signatures on the release form. By signing the Entry Form, the sponsor confirms that the release forms will be completed. Please scan and send release of liability form (keep original for your records) to the Section Chair **VIA EMAIL by March 1, 2012**.
- g. The use of cellular telephones during the Parade is prohibited.

THE BATTLE OF FLOWERS® PARADE BOARD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY TO ANY PARTICIPANT WHO DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE RULES OR WHO DOES NOT MEET THE STANDARDS SET BY THE ASSOCIATION. RULE VIOLATIONS MAY DISQUALIFY THE ENTRY AND JEOPARDIZE PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE PARADES.

- ⊛ All participants are expected to arrive in the Forming Area on time or they may be disqualified and/or forfeit a future Parade appearance.
- ⊛ The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, by Parade participants or workers in the Forming Area or on the Parade route before or during the Parade, is EXPRESSLY FORBIDDEN.
- ⊛ San Antonio City Ordinance prohibits the throwing or distributing of candy, tokens, gifts, advertisements or any other object from a Parade unit. Violation of this ordinance will result in immediate removal of the entry from the Parade.

THE BATTLE OF FLOWERS® ASSOCIATION ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACCIDENTS. IN ALL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE BATTLE OF FLOWERS® ASSOCIATION, THERE SHALL BE NO DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF RACE, ETHNIC ORIGIN, SEX OR CREED.