



The Battle of Flowers® Parade
 April 24, 2020
 THEME SHEET

Flowers...They are a part of our history and impact our lives more than we probably realize. They add beauty to a garden, are used as a way to share feelings, decorate our homes, enhance our fashion, compliment our food, provide healing in medicine and so much more. From its very inception 129 years ago, the Battle of Flowers® Parade has incorporated flowers as a way to pay tribute to the fallen heroes of the Alamo and battle of San Jacinto. Today we continue that historic tradition with every parade entrant leaving a fresh floral tribute in front of the Alamo chapel. Each year we work to preserve this important piece of cultural and civic history and it is our intent to thrive, blossom and add to the beauty of our city and state with this year's parade theme, "¡Viva Las Flores!" We hope this parade is filled with flowers, meaning and beauty all wrapped up in one incredibly memorable event. And we encourage the abundant and liberal use of those flowers and all things floral with your entry!

The Battle of Flower® Parade is a theme-based parade with the overall theme determined by the Battle of Flowers® Association. Participants choose a theme for their entry which must fit into the composite design of the Parade. Costumes, props and decorations must also follow the parade theme.

All entry themes used must be approved by the Battle of Flowers® Parade Board and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Please choose your theme and confirm with your Section Chair as early as possible to insure your successful participation. **Themes may be reserved prior to the submission of an entry form.**

The following are some of the floral themes we love. Choose one from this list or create your own but whatever you do, say it with flowers!

**THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS:
 (FLOWERS & THEIR SYMBOLISM)**

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| Amaryllis - splendid beauty | Aster – patience |
| Bird of Paradise – joyfulness | Black-eyed Susans – justice |
| Calla Lily - Magnificence & Beauty | Carnation: Pride & Beauty |
| Chrysanthemum - fidelity, optimism, joy & long life | Daffodil - regards & chivalry |
| Daisy - innocence & purity | Delphinium - bigheartedness, fun & levity |
| Freesia - innocence & thoughtfulness | Gardenia - purity & sweetness |
| Gerbera Daisy – cheerfulness | Gladiolus - strength of character, faithfulness, honor and remembrance |
| Heather - (Lavender) admiration, solitude & beauty; (white) protection | Hyacinth - playfulness & sporty attitude |
| Hydrangea - heartfelt emotions
Yellow: passion; White: purity | Iris - purple: wisdom; blue: faith & hope; |
| Lilac – confidence | Orchid - refinement, thoughtfulness, mature charm |
| Peony - bashfulness, compassion, good health & prosperity | Protea, King - change & transformation |
| Queen Anne's Lace - haven or sanctuary | Ranunculus - radiant charm |
| Roses: | White: innocence; |
| Red: love, respect admiration or devotion; | Pink: admiration, joy & gratitude; |
| Yellow: exuberance friendship & caring; | Lavender: adoration. |
| Orange: passion, energy pride & fervor; | |

Snapdragon - graciousness & strength
Sunflower - adoration & dedication

Statice - remembrance
Tulip - fame, perfect love

THE ART OF FLOWERS:

Artists and their famous floral paintings:

Vincent Van Gogh: Irises; Sunflowers	George O'Keeffe - Oriental Poppies
Édouard Manet - Flower in a Crystal Vase	Pierre-Auguste Renoir - Flowers in a Vase
Katsushika Hokusai - Bullfinch and Weeping Cherry Blossoms	Jan Davidsz de Heem - Vase of Flowers
Rachel Ruysch- Still Life with Flowers on a Marble Slab	Andy Warhol - Flowers
Claude Monet - Water Lilies	Mary Cassatt - Lilacs in a Window
Henri Fantin-Latour - Vase of Flowers	

FLORAL FANFARE

Flowers in music

"Tip Toe through the Tulips"; Tiny Tim
"I never promised you a Rose Garden"; Lynn Anderson
Guns & Roses

BLOOMING BENEFITS

When and where we use flowers

As tribute to fallen heroes and loved ones.

At celebrations:

Weddings Birthdays Quinceañeras

At Holidays:

Christmas Easter Fourth of July

To honor the victors in competitions

FAMOUS FLORA

Famous people named after flowers

Pete Rose	Daisy Lowe	Daisy Fuentes	Lily James	Orlando Bloom	Lily Tomlin
Rose Marie	Axl Rose	Rosa Parks	Ultra Violet	Earl Campbell (The "Tyler Rose")	

FLOWER POWER

The beneficial side of blooms

Food: without flowers there would be no honey
Flowers used in decorating: (Can you say Chintz?!)
Flowers/botanicals used in cosmetics and personal care

Flowers used in Medicine
Flowers used in dyes (marigolds and goldenrod)

STATE FLOWERS:

Select a state, emphasize the state's flower and highlight special landmarks in that state.

Alabama – Camellia	Alaska - Forget-me-not	Arizona: Saguaro Cactus Blossom
Arkansas - Apple Blossom	California - California Poppy	Colorado - Rocky Mountain Columbine
Connecticut - Mountain Laurel	Delaware - Peach Blossom	Florida - Orange Blossom
Georgia - Cherokee Rose	Hawaii – Hibiscus	Idaho - Mock Orange
Illinois - Purple Violet	Indiana – Peony	Iowa - Wild Prairie Rose
Kansas – Sunflower	Kentucky – Goldenrod	Louisiana: Magnolia
Maine-White Pine Tassel & Cone	Maryland - Black-Eyed Susan	Massachusetts - Mayflower
Michigan - Apple Blossom	Minnesota- Pink & White Lady's slipper	Mississippi – Magnolia
Missouri – Hawthorn	Montana – Bitterroot	Nebraska – Goldenrod
Nevada – Sagebrush	New Hampshire – Lilac	New Jersey – Violet
New Mexico – Yucca	New York – Rose	North Carolina - Flowering Dogwood
North Dakota - Wild Prairie Rose		Ohio - Scarlet Carnation
Oklahoma – Mistletoe	Oregon - Oregon Grape	Pennsylvania - Mountain Laurel
Rhode Island – Violet	South Carolina - Yellow Jasmine	South Dakota - Pasque Flower
Tennessee – Iris	Texas - Texas Bluebonnet	Utah - Sego Lily
Vermont - Red Clover	Virginia - Flowering Dogwood	Washington - Coast Rhododendron
West Virginia – Rhododendron	Wisconsin – Violet	Wyoming - Indian Paintbrush

Washington DC – American Beauty Rose (DC is also known for its Cherry Blossoms....)

POSIES IN THE PAST
Historical events/people with a floral connection

War of the Roses (Lancasters and Yorks 1600s)

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS
Famous poets and their homage to flowers...

“A host of golden daffodils” (William Wordsworth)
“Ah, Sunflower” (William Blake)
“Nothing Gold Can Stay” (Robert Frost)
“The Last Rose of Summer” (Thomas Moore)

“A rose by any other name” (William Shakespeare)
“The Rhodara” (Ralph Waldo Emerson)
“Flower in the crannied wall” (Alfred Tennyson)

GARDEN PARTIES:
Flower shows from around the world

Chelsea Flower Show

Philadelphia Flower Show

Singapore Garden Festival

Melbourne International Garden and Flower Show

BOUNTIFUL BOTANICALS
Beautiful gardens around the world

New York’s Central Park
Shalimar Garden
Exotic Garden of Monaco
Perinaya Royal Botanical Gardens

Adelaide Botanic Garden
Brooklyn Botanic Garden
Buenos Aires Botanical Garden
VanDusen Botanical Garden (Vancouver)

Trautmannsdorff Castle
Lautaret Alpine Botanical Garden
Kew Royal Botanic Garden

PETAL PUNS

Floral sayings with a twist

Petal to the metal...
What’s up buttercup?
Live life in full bloom

A peony for your thoughts.
They rose to the occasion...
Bee kind

Oopsie daisy
Last bud not least...
Garden variety

GLOBAL GARDENS

*****THE FOLLOWING THEMES ARE RESERVED FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SECTION OF THE PARADE*****

Emphasize the flowers of a geographic region and highlight the landmarks and/or fauna famous in the area.

TULIPS - NETHERLANDS – Windmills, wooden shoes, Amsterdam canals

TUDOR ROSE – England- Big Bend, London Bridge, Parliament, Tower of London, Double-decker busses, taxis, red phone booths, The Beatles (crossing Abbey Road), Harrods, Stonehenge, Buckingham Palace, Beefeater soldiers, London Eye.

LILY - ITALY – Venice Canals – Gondolas, Leaning Tower of Pisa, Coliseum, Roman Soldiers, Forum, Duomo, Art, Vatican, Food..

WHITE EGYPTIAN LOTUS FLOWER - EGYPT – Great Pyramids, Sphinx, the Nile, Obelisks, Crocodiles.

ORCHIDS, GIANT WATER LILIES - AMAZON RAINFOREST OR AFRICAN RAINFOREST – Mountain Gorillas, Animals, Vegetation, Jaguars, Anaconda, Macaw, Black Howler Monkey, Poison Dart Frog, Butterflies, Sloths.

GOLDEN WATTLE - AUSTRALIA – Koala, Uluru, Sydney Opera House, Sydney Harbor Bridge, Kangaroo, Aboriginal Art, Great Barrier Reef.

PLUM BLOSSOM - CHINA – Great Wall, Terra Cotta Soldiers, Dragons of Mythology.

CAMOMILE - RUSSIA – Red Square, St. Petersburg, Russian Dacha (Chalets).

RED CARNATION - SPAIN – Gaudi Church, La Sagrada Familia, Alahambra, Running of the Bulls (Pamplona), Artists: Pablo Picasso, Dali, Giant Puppet Parade (Las Fallas), Flamenco Music.