

## Christmas Parade Rules

1. All signed entries are due with the \$10 entry fee (cash or checks/money orders made out to NA Main Street) BY Monday, November 19, 2018 @ 5:00pm.

Entry & fee can be emailed to tvainisi1967@gmail.com or dropped off at/mailed to:

**New Albany Main Street Association**

**ATTN: Tracy Vainisi**

**135 E. Bankhead Street**

**New Albany, MS . 38652**

2. All applicants will be notified via hard copy letter and email of the check in plan. Be prepared to begin checking in at 4:00 pm in the lower parking lot of the Union County Library on the afternoon of the parade. ALL entrants will enter from the King Street driveway of the lower parking lot, fall into their category line as directed by parade officials. The parade will begin at 6:00 pm sharp.

3. Be sure to have accurate address, email, and phone number information. If there is a delay or cancellation, we will use the email and phone number on this application as the contact.

4. A first place winner for each of the 6 categories offered - Business, Civic, Adult, Church, Youth, School - will be awarded a \$100 prize. Award checks will be mailed to the contact of the winning entry. Winners will be notified and published in the Gazette as well as the New Albany Main Street and Visit New Albany websites and social media.

5. For safety reasons, **ABSOLUTELY NO THROWING CANDY OR OTHER ITEMS ALLOWED!** You may have designated persons to go to the individuals on the sidewalk to hand out candy, etc.

6. **NO SANTAS** allowed in any parade entry. There is only one Santa Claus, which is the last parade entry.

7. Both sides of floats and vehicles need to be decorated.

8. This is a Christmas parade, with the theme being Christmas in Toyland. Entrants should make the best effort to decorate their vehicles, floats, animals, and people in accordance of the theme.

9. Please drive safely and slowly.

10. Allow plenty of space between vehicles. Watch out for children and adults.

11. Any individuals who operate any vehicle in the parade **MUST** possess a valid driver's license.

12. The New Albany Main Street Association and Community Development Christmas Parade Committee reserves the right to limit the number/type of vehicles and other entries in the parade.

13. All entries with live animals are responsible for immediately curbing/cleaning up after their animals.

14. Entries received after November 19th will be accepted only upon approval from the Parade Committee Chair.

15. All participants are expected to abide by good behavior guidelines.

16. No monetary solicitations are permitted before, during, or after the parade.

17. No Live ammunition.

We encourage all parade participants to plan their decorations around the theme of the parade or to at least decorate their entry with Christmas decorations. This includes walking groups, floats or vehicles, but excludes all emergency vehicles (police, fire and rescue).

All entrants are expected to have signage -a banner or poster, whether carried or attached to the float or vehicle - signifying who or what organization they are representing. Lettering is expected to be a minimum of 8" high so parade spectators can see it from the sidewalk. Groups with no signage will be disqualified from the judging portion of the parade.

Judges will be looking for adherence to the theme, creativity, innovative use of materials and craftsmanship. All judging will occur during the parade itself. Judges will be selected/solicited by the New Albany Main Street Association. All judges' decisions are deemed final.

### **Float Judging Criteria**

A panel of judges will determine the best float entries by using the following criteria. A maximum of 100 points may be earned from each of the judges.

**Overall Appearance** (0-25 points) • Does the float look good? • Does the float go with the parade theme of Christmas in Toyland? • Does the float promote spirit and support for the City of New Albany?

**Construction Quality** (0-25 points) • How well is the float put together? • Difficulty of the construction? • Will the float last through the parade? • Does it look safe?

**Originality** (0-25 points) • Is it something out of the ordinary? • Is the idea of the float projecting the theme of Christmas in Toyland creatively?

**Extra Points** (0-15 points) • Awarded for: movable parts,

**Banner Lettering & Design** (0-10 points) • Does it meet the minimum 8" requirement? • Can it be read? • Is it neat? • Does it use eye-catching, colorful & creative materials?

### **Marching/Walking Unit Judging Criteria**

A panel of judges will determine the best marching/walking entries by using the following criteria. A maximum of 100 points may be earned from each of the judges.

**Originality** (0-25 points) • Does the unit wear costumes or utilize props? • Is the idea of the marching/walking unit projecting the theme of Christmas in Toyland creatively? • Is it something out of the ordinary? • Does the unit appropriately represent the spirit of Christmas?

**Uniformity** (0-15 points) • How well does the unit move together? • Are the costumes consistent? • Do the members work as a unit? • Does the unit try to engage the parade spectators by smiling, waving, singing, handing out candy/items? (reminder: NO THROWING of any candy or items. Doing so immediately disqualifies the group from competition)

**Overall Signage Appearance** (0-25 points) • Does the marching/walking unit and signage look good? • Does the marching/walking unit's signage relate to the parade theme Christmas in Toyland? • Does the marching unit and signage promote spirit and support for the City of New Albany?

**Construction of Signage Quality** (0-25 points) • How well is the signage put together? • Does it use eye-catching, colorful & creative materials?

**Signage Lettering** (0-10 points) • Does the banner lettering meet the minimum 8" requirement? • Can it be read? • Is it neat?

**Decorated Vehicle** (car, truck, tractor, motorized transport) Judging Criteria

(All motorized vehicles MUST BE driven by a licensed driver. NO EXCEPTIONS)

A panel of judges will determine the best decorated vehicle entries by using the following criteria. A maximum of 75 points may be earned from each of the judges.

**Overall Appearance** (0-25 points) • Does the decorated vehicle look good? • Does the decorated vehicle relate to the parade theme Christmas in Toyland? • Does the decorated vehicle promote spirit and support for the City of New Albany?

**Construction Quality** (0-25 points) • How well are the decorations on the vehicle put together? • Difficulty of the construction? • Does it use eye-catching, colorful & creative materials?

**Originality** (0-25 points) • Is the design something out of the ordinary? • Does the decorated vehicle have moving parts, unique materials or creative lettering? • Does the decorated vehicle project the theme of Christmas in Toyland creatively? • Does the decorated vehicle appropriately represent the spirit of Christmas?

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Judged categories must have a minimum of three entries or the category will no longer be considered for judging. In the event of this happening, The New Albany Main Street Parade Committee will move an entry to another category at its own discretion.

**Any group who wants to be considered for judging MUST have signage. No signage means immediate disqualification from the judging process.**

Some groups such as a church youth group could fall under the category of Church or Youth. It will be up to the person on the application listed as the Contact to choose the category that best suits the group.

Business: a group of people affiliated with a business

Civic Group: organizations such as Junior Auxiliary, Pilot, Friends of the Library, etc...

Church: a group of people affiliated with a church

Youth group: a group of youth ages infant to 18

School group: a group of people affiliated with a school

Adult group: a group of adults ages 18 and up

**AWARDS:** The winning entries will be notified the night of the parade via text and/or email. They will be publicly announced on Thursday, November 29th at the 3rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at Cooper Park - after the tree is lit at approximately 6:10 pm. Whoever is present from the winning team will receive the prize and have their photo taken for the newspaper on the evening of the 29th.