

SALINAS HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS

GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

(Please read the rules and guidelines carefully before signing application)

THE SALINAS HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS: To celebrate the opening of the holiday season with a lighted parade that provides entertainment, community spirit, and sharing this event for all to enjoy.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION: ALL PARADE ENTRIES MUST HAVE LIGHTS SOMEWHERE ON THE ENTRY. Holiday music accompanying the entry is also encouraged. Entries are by invitation only and subject to approval by Parade Organizers. Entries are selected on their entertainment value, uniqueness, size, and appearance. The parade is a “family fun” celebration and parade participants must be appropriate to be seen by all ages. Entries should adapt a holiday theme in their entry while incorporating lights. The Parade **will not** be used as a platform for special interests.

ENTRY APPLICATION FORM: The entry application form must be completed and signed with the understanding of the general rules and guidelines. The parade organizers reserve the right to reject any entry at any time. Applicants will receive notification of their acceptance. **A \$50.00 check, made payable to the Salinas Holiday Parade of Lights, must accompany the application.** This check will be refunded within a few days after the parade, unless the applicant does not appear for the parade or is found not to have followed the parade rules and guidelines, then the check will be retained by the parade. Staging instructions will be mailed approximately two weeks prior to the parade. The general rules and guidelines listed are for the safety and quality of the parade. Failure to abide by these rules and guidelines and those presented with the parade information packages, may result in the entry's removal from the parade.

COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS ENTRIES: A fee of \$200.00 is required (check, made payable to the Salinas Holiday Parade of Lights) for the entry or the business must be part of the Parade of Lights Sponsorship Program. A commercial business entry cannot be used as a “major” advertisement for the sponsoring business. Parade sponsors will receive various incentives based on the level of participation.

FORWARD MOTION PARADE: All entries are required to maintain a continuous forward motion during the parade.

NO HANDOUTS, CANDY OR FAVORS: Nothing can be tossed or handed out along the parade route, curbside or behind the crowd due to littering policies by the City of Salinas. Tossing or distributing any items from the parade route is a serious liability factor, one that has resulted in injuries in other parades. Any

IDENTIFICATION SIGNS: Identification banners are encouraged for entries in the parade. Signs must be for identification purpose only and not as an advertisement. No phone numbers, addresses or websites listed please.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Only a significant act of nature will cancel the parade, of which all units would be notified. If, for some unforeseen reason, your unit is not able to participate in the parade after being accepted, you must contact the parade staff, prior to the parade date. Entries absent on parade day without proper notification may not receive future invitations to the parade.

TYPES OF ENTRIES CONSIDERED FOR THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS PARADE

MARCHING MUSICAL UNITS: School Bands, Drum Corps, Independent Bands, etc. Marching musical units are requested to perform the half-mile parade route. Unit members are required to be in uniform attire.

FLOATS: We recommend push floats for this parade or decorated trailer. It is requested that floats be lit. A description of the float design with size dimensions must be submitted with the parade application. Floats should not exceed 50 feet in length or more than 14 feet in height and 10 feet in wide. Float applicants must follow the "Parade Float Guidelines" that will be mailed following receipt of entry application.

EQUESTRIAN/ANIMAL UNITS: Equestrian riders should be at least 8 years of age and accompanied by an adult trainer. Any animal deemed unsafe in the parade will be removed. All animal units must provide their own "clean-up" crew and equipment to follow their unit in the parade.

MARCHERS/SPECIALTY UNITS: Clowns, Color Guards, Marching Groups. Units will be considered on their entertainment value. Entries requiring vehicles to carry sound systems must notify parade organizers on the application. Carts or vehicles accompanying the entry must be decorated and lighted.

DRILL/DANCE: Dance troupes; drill teams, baton groups, etc. should consist of 10 members or more to be considered. Routines must be choreographed for forward motion.

VEHICLES: Vehicles considered for entry must be antique or unique. Commercial business vehicles such as vans, tankers, farm machinery, tractor-trailers and other large vehicles are not encouraged due to liability and safety concerns. Vehicles permitted in the parade will be restricted in numbers (example - car clubs will be limited to 8-10 cars). **No** commercial or private vehicles are allowed in the parade without prior written approval by the parade staff.

PARTICIPANT AGE RESTRICTIONS: Walking participants must be at least six years old or older. There must be a least one adult escort for every six children under the age of 13 years. Young children riding on a float must have adult supervision on and around the float.