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The 2006 St. Patrick's Day Parade of Central Texas

JUDGING

Be a part of the Parade down Congress Avenue

Make your **Float** and Ride It! Shake a Leg with your **Dance, Martial Arts or Acrobat Team!** Show off your **Classic Cars** and **Fancy Motorcycles!** Yell with your **Cheerleaders!** Bring out your **Animals!** March with your **Band!** Walk with your **Fraternal Organization!** Stroll with Fellow **Students!** Get attention for your **Sports Team!** Gather your **Church Group!**
Raise Awareness for your Cause!

Win Awards!

The use of ingenuity and creativity in design and execution of an entry is encouraged and favored by the judges. Judges are selected by the Parade Committee prior to the parade. Judges are selected for their background in either a specific area, entertainment, parade and/ or float experience, or community activities. The judges are given the criteria prior to the parade to familiarize themselves with the process.

Prizes are awarded after the Parade.

Please be aware that points will be lost and units can be disqualified as follows:

Automatic total score reduced to 2, disqualified and/or removed from route for:

- Throwing items from unit
- Display of commercial information or logos without prior approval of the Sponsorship Committee
- Not having a clean up crew for animal units
- Alcoholic beverages in line up/staging area or on the route

Automatic total score reduced to 3 for:

- Poor taste: inappropriate dress and/or behavior
- Delay of parade
- Not observing all forward motion
- Cups/cans/bottles visible on the route

The parade will have judging and award trophies in the following categories of competition:

General Awards:

- W. Shamus O'Mobley Award for Overall Excellence
- Parade Marshal's Trophy For Excellence
- Honorary Parade Marshal's Trophy For Excellence

Marching Bands, Pipe and Drum & Band Auxiliary

Judging is done by experienced band instructors.

Judging Criteria: Three Scores - Appearance, Movement and Sound with 30 possible total points.

Appearance

- Matching colors
- Neat clean uniforms
- Parade block: even consistent spacing

Movement

- Straight lines front to back
- Spacing between ranks & file consistent
- All members in step
- March with Precision
- Flags, Poms, Rifles handled with precision

Sound

- Full, rich sound
- Specific instruments
- Pleasing sound:
loudness, softness
accents, tone,
range, staccatos
- Drum performance
- Music Selection
- Crowd Appeal

Awards are given for best in each class: Junior High/Middle School, High School, Best Celtic Pipe & Drum, Best Band Auxiliary and Best Band of the Parade.

Judging Criteria for all non-band units

Two Scores: Appearance, Movement & Sound (as one category, not two separate), with 20 possible total points.

Best Commercial Unit: Any unit promoting a business, product, or enterprise, regardless of sponsorship. This division requires prior approval from the Sponsorship Committee.

Judging Criteria:

Appearance

Crowd Appeal
Originality & Creativity
Costume/Dress

Movement & Sound

Quality of Music/singing/musicians (if applicable)
Precision of marchers in line and in step (if applicable)
Forward movement of performance/routines

Dance Groups, Troupes and Cheerleaders

Judging Criteria:

Appearance

Crowd Appeal
Originality & Creativity
Costume/Dress
Decorated vehicle, if applicable

Movement & Sound

Quality of Music or singing
Ability & Precision of Dancers/marchers
Precision of marching/twirling, etc. in line & in step
Jumps/motion/spirit/performance

Awards:

Best of Parade: Group of students who perform dance maneuvers along the route and who are sponsored by a recognized public or private school or school of dance.

Best School of Dance: Group of students who perform dance maneuvers along the route and who are sponsored by a public or private school or school of dance.

Floats

Any motorized vehicle or trailer pulled by a motorized vehicle or horse, designed and decorated specifically to participate in parades or similar events. Floats may not exceed 50 feet in length, including tow vehicle and superstructures may not exceed 13 feet from street level. They need to be secured and must be able to go under utility wires, clear lights and any trees along the route. Towing vehicles must be decorated.

Judging Criteria:

Appearance

Overall Appearance/Crowd Appeal
Amount of Work involved
Originality and Creativity
Quality of Workmanship
Costume /Dress of people on float and alongside
Appropriateness of motor unit

Movement & Sound

Ability & Precision of Dancers, if applicable
Quality of Music/Musicians, if applicable

Awards:

Best Community/Civic/Family/Irish Cultural Organization Floats: Any float sponsored by an organization to promote specific cities, regional areas, Irish family or events. Example: Float sponsored by a university, other school, chamber of commerce, community festival organization, Irish family.

Best Fraternal Organization Float: Any float sponsored by and promoting a nonprofit fraternal organization such as Fire Departments, Sheriff's Departments, and EMS.

Animal Units

NOTE: Animal units without a clean up crew will be disqualified from judging.

Judging Criteria:

Appearance

Crowd Appeal
Animals groomed and clean
Quality of drawn wagon or surrey
Dress of animal, Master and others in unit

Movement & Sound

Animals obedient and under control
Ability of Master to control animal
In line, proper spacing, moving together
Quality of music/musicians if applicable

Awards:

Best Animal Unit: Any unit with one or more live animals

Adult Mounted Unit: Any individual or group riding or otherwise accompanying a horse, pony, mule, etc. whose membership and programs are not limited to youth under the age of 18.

Youth Mounted Unit: Any individual or group riding or otherwise accompanying a horse, pony, mule, etc. whose membership and programs are limited to youth under the age of 18.

Marching Units/Costumes

Judging Criteria

Appearance

Crowd Appeal
Originality & Creativity
Costume/Dress
Neatness/Cleanliness

Movement & Sound

Quality of Music/singing/musicians
Precision of marchers in line and in step
Forward movement of performance/routines

Awards:

Best Adult Marching: Any group of 2 or more individuals whose membership and programs are not limited to youth under the age of 18 who march the parade route in formation.

Best Youth Marching: Any group of 2 or more youths whose membership and programs are limited to youth under the age of 18 who march the route in formation.

Best Historical Marching Unit: Any group of 2 or more individuals whose program includes United States, Texas, or Irish history, who march the route in formation.

Novelty Unit

Any entry that does not fit into the above divisions, Example: clowns, bike brigades or jugglers.

Judging Criteria:

Appearance

Crowd Appeal
Originality & Creativity
Costume/Dress
Neatness/Cleanliness

Movement & Sound

Quality of Music/singing/musicians
Precision of marchers in line and in step
Forward movement of performance/routines

Awards: Best Novelty Unit

Motorized Units

Judging Criteria:

Appearance

Crowd Appeal
Condition of vehicle
Uniqueness of vehicle(s)
Size of unit too big or too small
Costumes/Dress of riders

Movement & Sound

Vehicles in line or precision of performance
Motor sound enhancing or too loud
Proper spacing, moving together
Quality of music/musicians if applicable

Awards:

Best Motorized Units: Any single or group of motorized vehicles

Best Classic/Antique Car: Any individual or group of motorized vehicles manufactured prior to 1940 is an antique vehicle and any motorized vehicle manufactured after 1940 which has been maintained or restored to its original design and condition using original or similar replacement parts in its restoration is a classic vehicle.

Sample Judges Scoring Sheets:

Total Score: 0=No Show

Total Score: 1=Removed from route/disqualified

Total Score: 2=Violation of throwing, clean up crew, use of alcohol, commercialism

Total Score: 3=Violation of taste, delay of parade, forward motion, cups/cans/bottles

Total Score: 4=Needs Improvement

Total Score: 5=Average

Total Score: 6=Above Average

Total Score: 7=Good

Total Score: 8=Very Good

Total Score: 9=Excellent

Total Score: 10=Outstanding

Unit #	Organization	Name	Category	Appearance (1-10)	Movement/Sound (1-10)	Sound (Bands only) (1-10)	Total Score
1	AAA	AAA	Float	7	8		15
2	BBB	BBB	Marching Unit	8	6		14
3	CCC	CCC	Jr. High Band	7	9	9	25

St. Patrick's Day Parade of Central Texas - 2006
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