

# Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Society

## PARADE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND GUIDELINES

### **\*\* PLEASE READ AND INFORM ALL PARTICIPANTS \*\***

The MLK Day Parade celebrates participants of all ages honoring Dr. King's legacy and demonstrating how we can continue keeping his dream alive. Floats and entries should reflect the parade's theme and be suitable for all audiences, including children. Parade Marshals, Law Enforcement, Security Personnel, and Volunteers will be present to ensure participant safety and maintain proper spacing and movement.

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#### GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Date & Time:** The parade begins at 11:00 AM on January 20, 2024, starting at N. Detroit and John Hope Franklin Blvd. The parade will loop at the Greenwood Hook and end at Archer and Elgin for dispersal. Forward motion must be maintained at all times, unless directed otherwise by parade officials or law enforcement.
  - **Arrival Time:** All vehicles and floats must arrive at the staging area by 8:30 AM. No late entries will be allowed.
  - **Designated Waiting Area:** Participants must remain in their designated waiting area until called for lineup. If your group is not present when called, you forfeit your position in the parade.
  - **Parade Packets:** Parade packets with credentials will be available for pickup on Saturday, January 13, 2024, at the OSU Auditorium from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Packets not picked up can be retrieved at the Command Tent on parade day but must be collected BEFORE 8:30 AM.
  - **Entry Numbers:** Entry numbers must be displayed in the upper right-hand corner of the windshield or prominently on a banner. Entries without official numbers will not be admitted to the staging area.
  - **All Terrain Vehicles** are not allowed to participate in the parade.
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#### PARADE DAY INFORMATION

1. **Check in:** All parade unit must be parked no later than 8:30 AM at the designated numbered spot in the staging area.
  2. **Child Safety:** All children under 12 must be supervised and remain on a float or in a vehicle, except for those participating in drill teams, dance groups, or carrying banners. Children may not get on or off floats or vehicles during the parade.
  3. **Item Distribution:** Nothing may be thrown from floats or vehicles. Items may be handed to spectators, but riders cannot exit moving vehicles.
  4. **Cleanliness Responsibility:** Entries distributing materials (including campaign or promotional items) are responsible for cleanup. The City of Tulsa may assess littering citations.
  5. **Forward Motion:** All entries must maintain forward motion at all times. Stopping or reversing without instruction from parade officials is prohibited.
  6. **Performances:** Performance groups may perform once for 45 seconds in the designated area. Any performance outside this area is not allowed, and violators may be disqualified from future parades.
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## JUDGING INFORMATION

1. **Start Time:** Judging begins at 8:30 AM.
  2. **Theme Representation:** Float entries competing for awards must have a representative ready to explain how their float represents the parade theme.
  3. **Time Limits:** Band and drill team routines are limited to 90 seconds for judging. A signal will be given 20 seconds before the time limit is reached. Exceeding this time will result in disqualification.
  4. **Awards:** Judging concludes at 10:15 AM, and awards will be presented afterward.
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## FLOAT REQUIREMENTS

1. **Arrival Time:** All floats must be at the staging area by 8:30 AM. Late arrivals may be denied entry.
  2. **Size Limits:** Maximum float dimensions are 50 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 15 feet high.
  3. **Safety Equipment:** Each float must have a fire extinguisher and first aid kit onboard.
  4. **Driver Requirements:** Drivers must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance on their person at all times.
  5. **Decoration:** Floats must be decorated appropriately, in line with the parade theme. Undecorated vehicles will not be allowed.
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## VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Arrival:** Vehicles must arrive by 8:30 AM to participate.
  2. **Decorations:** All vehicles must be appropriately decorated with the parade theme, such as using banners, streamers, and flags.
  3. **License and insurance:** All drivers must have in their possession valid drivers license and a certificate of insurance.
  4. **Spacing:** Maintain a safe distance of 6-8 feet from the preceding entry.
  5. Car clubs are limited to 10 vehicles
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## MARCHING/WALKING GROUPS

1. **Identification:** Marching and walking groups must display a banner or sign with their organization's name.
  2. **Performance Limitations:** Performances are limited to 45 seconds and must occur only in the performance area. Stopping parade flow elsewhere is not permitted.
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## BANDS/DRILL TEAMS

1. **Arrival:** Bands will be judged at 8:30 in designated area near the Hospitality Tent.
  2. **Performance Limitations:** Performances are limited to 45 seconds and must occur only in the performance area.
  3. **Marching Limitations:** Counter marching, reverse marching will not be permitted.
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## HORSE ENTRIES

1. **Positioning:** Horse units are usually placed at the end of the parade unless directed otherwise by officials.
2. **Shoes & Clean-Up:** Horses must have proper shoes for pavement, and each unit must have a pooper scooper following closely behind.
3. **Tail Bags:** Horses must wear tail bags, or they will not be allowed to participate.

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**MOTORCYCLE ENTRIES**

1. **Driver Requirements:** Motorcycle drivers must carry a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.
2. **Conduct:** Wheelies, stunts, and unnecessary noise are prohibited. Both wheels must remain on the ground at all times.

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**TENT INFORMATION**

1. **Approval & Permits:** Tents must be approved by the MLK Commemoration Society at least one week before the parade. Necessary permits must be obtained from the City of Tulsa.
2. **Responsibility:** The MLK Commemoration Society is not responsible for tents or their contents.

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**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

The parade is a family-friendly event, televised and streamed locally and potentially nationally. Performances or displays that are lewd, obscene, or offensive, including those depicting violence, are prohibited and grounds for removal. The MLK Commemoration Society reserves the right to disqualify any entry that fails to comply with these rules, regulations, or the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s commemoration.

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By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and will abide by the MLK Parade Rules and Regulations. I also agree to inform all other participants in my group of the same.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Group Entry Name:** \_\_\_\_\_