



## "The 35th Annual LIGHTER SIDE OF CHRISTMAS PARADE 2023" IMPORTANT PARADE FLOAT ENTRY INFORMATION

- When:** Saturday, December 2, 2023 The parade begins promptly at 6:00 PM.
- Theme:** "Woodland Park's Nightmare Before Christmas"  
This year we are celebrating the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lighter Side of Christmas Parade. Our theme this year, "Woodland Park's Nightmare Before Christmas," which tells the story of Jack Skellington, the King of "Halloween Town," who stumbles upon "Christmas Town" and schemes to take over the holiday. This year Woodland Park will take over the holiday! Proceeds from this year's event will benefit The Rotary Club of Pikes Peak in Woodland Park and the Divide Mountain Girls Scouts. (Remember, this is the LIGHTER Side of Christmas ☺ Have fun!)
- Beneficiary:** Proceeds from this year's event will benefit The Rotary Club of Pikes Peak in Woodland Park and the Divide Mountain Girls Scouts.
- Float Line Up Time:** 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Check-in is located at the **check-in tent** near the movie theatre behind Gold Hill North. Look for the lighted pop-up tent and banner.
- Drop/Off and Parking:** Please use the DDA/Centennial Trail parking lot to drop off parade participants and for parking. Enter and exit from North Walnut Street. **While participants can be dropped off in the Gold Hill North parking lot, please respect these businesses and do not park there.**
- The Parade Route:** The parade begins at Taco Bell, travels east on Hwy 24, turns left after Tweeds on Grace, and ends at the Ute Pass Cultural Center. **We have ONE (1) hour to get on and off the highway. Make sure you have a person at the ceremony at UPCC following the parade in case your entry wins a trophy!** [www.lightersideofchristmasparade.com](http://www.lightersideofchristmasparade.com) Check here for updates or last minute changes to the parade.
- Parade Website:** [www.lightersideofchristmasparade.com](http://www.lightersideofchristmasparade.com)
- Facebook:** "Like" us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/LighterSideofChristmasParade>
- Deadline:** Float entries are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Return completed applications via email to [lightersideofchristmas@gmail.com](mailto:lightersideofchristmas@gmail.com) or mail it to: SOAR PO Box 214 Woodland Park, CO 80866 or drop entry off at Reserve-Our Gallery in Woodland Park. **The entry fee must be paid to reserve your spot in the parade.** There are a limited number of openings for floats, so please get your entry and fee turned in early.

### FLOAT AND PARADE GUIDELINES

- All floats should have lights. This is not mandatory, but sure makes it easier to see your entry!
- Floats should travel slowly; however, do not stop during the parade unless directed to do so.
- Only leave two car lengths between entries. THIS IS IMPERATIVE TO GETTING THE PARADE COMPLETED IN TIME!!
- **As children of all ages know, there is ONLY ONE SANTA and he will have his own float and will be at the end of the parade. Santa has requested that there be no other Santas. **Your entry will be disqualified from voting if you have a Santa on your float and you may be restricted from participating in future parades.****
- **Wrapped candy may only be handed out by adult and adult supervised walkers and cannot be thrown from floats.**  
We want everyone watching the parade to be safe! In addition, thrown candy freezes to the ground and is difficult to clean up in the short time before the highway opens. **If you throw candy, we'll assign clean-up for your group next year.**
- ALL participants with your float, whether walking or riding, must sign waivers. Feel free to make additional waiver forms. Submit your waiver(s) at the check-in tent prior to the start of the parade.
- Pay attention to people directing the beginning of the parade (**Ray Thomas, Sr.**) and any others along the parade route. Follow their direction to slow down or move along faster.
- Keep and share this information with ALL the people participating with your float.

### AWARDS and FEES

- Trophies will be awarded for: *Best Use of Lights; Best Use of Theme; Grand Marshal Award, Spirit Award, Judges Choice, and Most Unique!* Suggested variations of the theme: Cultural, Musical, Fun, Humorous, Traditional, or Historical. Judges will be at the first announcement stand near Pine and Hwy 24. **Make sure you have a rep at the ceremony at the UPCC following the parade in case your entry wins a trophy!** Trophies are presented at this time following the parade.
- Entry fees (\$30 for businesses, \$15 for non-profit organizations/individuals) go towards advertising, trophies, and other parade expenses. The beneficiary receives any extra funds.

**For additional information contact:**  
719-888-9763 or email [lightersideofchristmas@gmail.com](mailto:lightersideofchristmas@gmail.com)



## 2023 PARADE FLOAT APPLICATION FORM (Please Print Legibly or Type)

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Float: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry fee: (please check one)

\$30 business/commercial \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 nonprofit, organization/individual \_\_\_\_\_

Type of payment: (please fill in)

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to Lighter Side of Christmas.**

Send application and payment to:

**SOAR, PO Box 214 Woodland Park, CO 80866**

**Or drop off entry at Reserve-Our Gallery 400 West Midland, Suite 120, Woodland Park**

Applications are accepted on a first come first serve basis. We are limited to 45 entries.

**Float Description Due by November 29, 2023 PLEASE**

- A description of your organization will be read as your float passes the announcers stand.
- You must submit this description by the deadline. No last minute pages will be added this year.
- **The description should be one paragraph only! Your description has to be easily read from the announcers stand in less than 60 seconds.**
- Email your description to **lightersideofchristmas@gmail.com** by November 29, 2023.
- No last minute announcements will be accepted as I really like making stuff up for your entry. 😊
- Only your name will be announced if you fail to supply your organization's description.

**Waivers Must Be Turned In Before the Parade Starts on December 2**

- All participants riding on or walking with your float must be listed on a parade waiver.
- Waivers must be submitted at the Check-in Tent before the parade.