

# *Vicksburg Christmas Parade of Lights*

*Saturday, December 5, 2009*

*5:00 P.M.*

## **Unit Application Form**

The Vicksburg Main Street Program invites business firms, schools, churches, and service clubs from the surrounding area to enter floats in the 2009 Christmas Parade. In order to partially offset some of the expenses of the parade, we are asking \$20 for each non-profit entry or \$40 for each business firm entry due no later than Monday, November 16, 2009. For any entries received after the **official deadline of November 16, 2009**, the registration fee will be \$40 for non-profits and \$80 for businesses. **Please make checks payable to the Vicksburg Main Street Program.** Please note: we cannot underwrite any of a participating unit's expenses and plans should be made accordingly.

In order to have a beautiful and inspiring parade as possible, Main Street requires that entrants in the parade coordinate their decorations around the parade theme: "Christmas through a Child's Eyes," Downtown Vicksburg's Christmas Parade of Lights. See Regulations.

Please Complete attached application and mail to:  
**Downtown Vicksburg Christmas Parade of Lights**  
**Vicksburg Main Street Program**  
**P.O. Box 150**  
**Vicksburg, MS 39181**

For more information contact the Vicksburg Main Street Program – Office 601-634-4527(P), 601-631-3738 (f), or email [kimh@vicksburg.org](mailto:kimh@vicksburg.org). Parade rules, regulations, and application: [www.downtownvicksburg.org](http://www.downtownvicksburg.org).

**In order to be included in the parade line-up, please return your application no later than Monday, November 16, 2009. The registration fee will be doubled for any entries received after this deadline.**

Downtown Vicksburg Christmas Parade Regulations  
Sponsored by: Vicksburg Main Street Program  
Saturday, December 5, 2009  
**Theme: "Christmas through a Child's Eyes"**  
**Downtown Vicksburg's Christmas Parade of Lights**

1. No individual or unit will be allowed to take part in the parade without the prior approval of the Main Street Program and submittal of an application, Units may participate by means of riding a float (a trailer pulled by a truck) riding in the back of a pickup truck, riding motorcycles of 4-wheeler or walking.
2. All individuals and organizations participating in the parade are subject, while in the City of Vicksburg, to the laws and regulations of the jurisdiction. Failure to adhere to those laws and regulations or to obey the lawful command of an official empowered to give such command will be cause for immediate removal from the parade and may be cause for arrest and/or fine.
3. The conduct and movement of the parade will be controlled by Parade Marshals assigned for that purpose. Participants will obey the direction of the Marshals and all guidelines as they relate to the parade. **Failure to do so will cause the offending individual or unit to be removed from the parade and disqualified from all awards.**
4. All marching units are to proceed with forward motion only. Short routines (2-3 minutes) maybe performed provided the parade is not considerably delayed. **No more than 1 stop will be allowed during the parade.** T.V. 23 will be set-up on (site to be announced at a later date) on Washington Street. This will be the area for your one allowed stop.
5. Children under third- grade level (age 8) will not be allowed to march in the parade. Children under age 12 riding in float must be accompanied by 2 adults. **There also needs to be 1 walker on either side of moving vehicle/float the children are riding in.**
6. There is to be no use of firearms or fireworks at any point in the parade.
7. **Parade participants are expected to perform in good taste conducive to a family atmosphere. Marshals will remove any person or unit who in their sole discretion is in violation of this rule.**
8. **Floats cannot exceed thirteen (13) feet, six (6) inches in height and sixteen (16) feet in width.** All floats are also required to have fire extinguisher and Fix-A-Flat on board each float.
9. **PLEASE NOTE: To maintain the overall effects of the night time parade, only vehicles featuring lights display will be allowed. The only exception will be cars for dignitaries, pageant winners, walking groups, etc. No trucks, cars, or other means of transportation will be allowed unless lighting effects are created by the participants. Participants not meeting these guidelines will be asked to remove their entries from the lineup prior to entering there parade route.**

10. **Throwing of candy, trinkets or any object from the parade will not be allowed.** If walkers beside the float want to hand out items, that is ok as long as nothing is thrown into the crowd and as long as passing out items does not slow the progression of the parade.

11. Floats Units – There will be a Float contest with awards for: (1) Best Non-profit (2) Best Business, (3) Most Original, and (4) Best in Show. Judging will be along the parade route. Trophies will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in each category and one best in show.

12. There will be a maximum of 75 units in the parade: Bands, Floats, Marching Units, Antique Cars, Trucks, etc. Units will be assigned on a first come first serve basis.

13. There will be one official “**SANTA CLAUS FLOAT**” for Santa to ride on. No other Santa will be allowed.

14. All units should be identified so that the spectators can easily see the name of the unit or its sponsor. Marchers carrying banners or signs should precede the unit. Young children should not be assigned to carry identifications banners.

15. In case of inclement weather tune into WBBV, River 101.3 FM to listen to message concerning the status of the parade.

16. Units may begin to line up at 3:00 pm along Belmont Street between Washington Street and Drummond Street. Please enter Belmont Street from Monroe Street side. All units must be lined up by 4:30 pm. At 5:00 pm parade will turn right on to Washington Street, proceed north to Jackson Street. The parade is officially over at the corner of Washington and Jackson Street. The area around the City Auditorium should be used as a pick-up point for walkers and participants riding on floats in the parade.

**17. T.V. 23 will broadcast the parade. Each entry will be mailed an assigned number which the entrant places in the window (driver’s side) of the vehicle pulling the float. This number is for identifying the parade participant – it is not the line-up number. Please take the time to write up a brief description of your entry and mail back with application. This information will be used by T.V. 23 parade announcers when introducing each float entry as they are being televised.**

**\*Note:** To see over 6,000 other communities’ night time Christmas Parades – search [www.ChristmasParadeofLights](http://www.ChristmasParadeofLights).

**If you have any questions, please call  
The Vicksburg Main Street Program Office at 601-634-4527**

*Downtown Christmas Parade of Lights*  
*"Christmas through a Child's Eyes"*  
*December 5, 2009 – 5:00 p.m.*  
*Judging Guidelines*

Each float participating in the parade will be judged for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each category. There are two categories: Non-profit which includes schools and churches and then the Business Category. There is also Best in Show and Most Original trophies that will be awarded. The floats are judged by design, how well the theme was incorporated, originality, enthusiasm, and creativity on a scale from 1-10. After the panel of judges rates each float, the scores are tallied to arrive at which float won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each category. The float with most points is awarded Best in Show and the float that received the most points for originality is awarded Most Original. If you have any further questions regarding the Christmas Parade or the judging process please contact the Main Street Office at 601-634-4527 or by emailing [kimh@vicksburg.org](mailto:kimh@vicksburg.org).

**Example**

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Design</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Originality</b>	<b>Enthusiasm</b>	<b>Creativity</b>	<b>Total</b>
John Doe	Business	7	4	9	10	8	38
Main Street	Non-Profit	6	8	7	6	5	32

**2009 Downtown Vicksburg's Christmas Parade of Lights**  
**Parade Theme: "Christmas through a Child's Eyes"**  
**Unit and Point of Contact Information Form**  
(Please Print)

1. Name of participating unit: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Unit Mailing address and zip code: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Organization Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
5. E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Group classification (Please circle one)
  - A. School: Athletic Team, Band, Cheerleaders, Clubs, ROTC, Other.
  - B. Organization

<input type="checkbox"/> Athletic League	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Clubs	<input type="checkbox"/> Pageant
<input type="checkbox"/> Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Horse Riding Club	<input type="checkbox"/> Scouts
<input type="checkbox"/> Church	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Auto Club
<input type="checkbox"/> Dance Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

7. Description Entry:  
Length and Height of float \_\_\_\_\_  
Mode of Transportation pulling float \_\_\_\_\_

**Please supply information to be read by the parade announcers (TV 23) in 50 words or less (Please provide separate sheet of paper, if necessary):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned warrants that he/she is empowered to sign for the applying organization and that he/she has **read and understands** the provisions set forth in the enclosed Christmas Parade Regulations. The undersigned applicant agrees to abide by all rules for this event as described by the parade committee and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Vicksburg Main Street Program from any loss or damage to a person or property arising out of participation in the 2009 Downtown Vicksburg's Christmas Parade.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form and entry money to:  
Vicksburg Main Street Program P.O. Box 150 Vicksburg, MS 39181  
601-634-4527 (P), 601-631-3738 (F), kimh@vicksburg.org  
**Entries must be received by 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 16, 2009.**  
(Return this form)