

## **PARADE SELECTION CRITERIA:**

**ENTRY INFORMATION:** Although the parade is fun for those in the parade, the purpose of the parade is to entertain. It is a stage and each participant is a performer on that stage. The parade stage should remain PG rated: the parade will have viewers of all ages. It is NOT a stage for any form of nudity or public intoxication.

Be creative! The parade committee will select entries based on best overall concept and design. Find the right theme for your group to bring the fun to the streets! Duplicate theme applications will be evaluated based on thoroughness of application and expected quality of float.

Applications not selected will have first opportunity to pick another theme and resubmit. It is possible, but unlikely, that there would be two floats with the same theme. Provide a title for the float that relates to the theme and the design of the float.

### **YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION WILL INCLUDE:**

Completed application form.

Timely submission of application and appropriate fees.

Originality and creativity.

Adherence to the theme and float guidelines.

Clarity of ideas conveyed through written descriptions, drawings, sketches, photos, and attachments. Provide a detailed description of the entry such as sketches, drawings and photos to thoroughly present your design and costumes. Your drawing skills are not in question; just provide clear notes and complete descriptions.

Priority is NOT given to past participants, or for early applications. All applications, sketches, photos, etc. become the property of Mardi Gras, Inc.

Groups in the non-motorized category should provide a description of performance and any components that will be pulled or ridden along the route.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

**Costumes.** The costumes should relate to the theme of the entry and should be described on the application. Matching shirts are not costumes.

**Contact information.** Two contacts must be listed, email and phone numbers included.

**Vehicles:** All vehicles must be operable for the entire route. Each vehicle & component (trailer, flatbed, etc) should be listed with a description of design and decoration along with sketches of each. Each component must have decoration. There is a height limitation of 13 feet 5 inches.

Horse drawn vehicles will be limited and entries must provide for clean up. Horse drawn carriages will fall into the motorized categories according to length and wheel walkers are required for each axle.

Estimate the maximum number of people that will be riding and walking. As a safety precaution, no more than 50 passengers are allowed on a trailer or float, additional people may walk with the float.

Port-a-potty. All floats with 12 or more people will be required to have a portable toilet. Your krewe must provide a copy of the contract for your port-a-potty. Your application should show how it would be decorated and disguised.

Wheel walkers. One for each wheel - minimum of four. The job of the wheel walker is an important measure in the safety of the parade. A wheel walker is a person who walks next to the float, (by the wheels) to prevent anyone from trying to get mis-thrown beads, climbing on (or off) and who could notify the driver of any problems that would require immediate action for the safety of all. They may not carry or throw beads, but are allowed to toss mis-thrown beads to the crowd.

All entries must submit a deposit of \$350 in addition to the Parade fee shown. You should use PayPal for payment after you complete the application form. **Your application is not complete without payment.**

#### TYPES OF ORGANIZATIONS:

A "KREWE" is a group of people coming together to participate in the Mardi Gras Parade. Each "krewe" should have a name, but business names are prohibited.

#### Parade Fee

\$200 \_\_\_\_\_ A "WALKING KREWE"

A "WALKING KREWE" is a group (limited to 30 people) that marches in the parade. One small support vehicle is allowed to accompany a walking Krewe. Business logos are prohibited on the support vehicle.

\$500 \_\_\_\_\_ A "FLOAT" is a decorated motorized vehicle usually pulling a trailer. Business names and logos are prohibited on the tow vehicle and the trailer. Floats contain up to 50 passengers and must have wheel walkers to accompany the float and tow vehicle. Additional krewe members may walk with the float. Krewes larger than 50 people or one tow vehicle and trailer are subject to higher fees and review by Mardi Gras Inc.

\$800 \_\_\_\_\_ A "BUSINESS SIGNAGE ENTRY"\* is a krewe that is sponsored, funded or supported by one or more businesses. Business names and logos are prohibited on the trailer. This entry level permits the krewe to carry a banner supplied by Mardi Gras Inc. to display the business name. Logos and signs are permitted on the tow vehicle and may be up to 36" x 36" - limit of two (one per side)

\$2,500\_\_\_\_\_A "CORPORATE ENTRY"\* is an entry that is allowed to display business name(s) and logo(s) on both the tow vehicle and theme related float. This entry levels permits full display of logos, names, and other display advertising during the parade. Because of the unique nature of each entry, specific details will be discussed and finalized on an individual basis.

\*Float Sponsors and Business Entries may not conflict with the Mardi Gras, Inc. event sponsors. In all cases, MGI must approve the business and products displayed and advertised. Individual krewes, groups, and floats that have sponsors provide funding, services, and/or materials to them may NOT put the sponsors' names on the parade float/entry unless they register as a Float Sponsor or Business entry.

BUSINESS SPONSOR OR FLOAT SPONSOR INFORMATION: Please tell us about the products or services offered by any sponsors. \_\_\_\_\_  
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**UPON ACCEPTANCE:**

A representative from each krewe is required to sign the Parade Day Rules accepting responsibility for the actions of the entire krewe. A krewe representative and driver are required to attend a parade meeting in January. Any changes to the information provided with the application should be sent to Mardi Gras, Inc. immediately.

Your deposit is entirely refundable provided you follow all the rules. The fine schedule is enforced strongly and is important for the equity of all the krewes as well as the safety of the parade. Fines in disbandment will be levied for EACH INCIDENT.