

October 2024

Dear Friends of Hampton University:

The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership is preparing for our annual Homecoming celebration. Our annual Homecoming week is scheduled to begin on Sunday, October 20, 2024. We are extending an invitation to everyone to participate in the week's activities.

On Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., Hampton University will conduct its annual Homecoming Parade. The parade will begin in downtown Hampton and end on the University's campus. At this time, I would like to extend a personal invitation to and your organization to participate with us in making our Homecoming Parade the largest and most exciting ever!

Visit our website at <https://home.hamptonu.edu/homecoming/parade/>. There you will find the parade entry form, information, and rules. Please fill in all necessary information for submission. ALL ENTRY FORMS SHOULD BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Director Mr. Calvin J. Harris in the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership at studentactivities@hamptonu.edu.

In the event of inclement weather, please call Hampton University's Police Department at (757)727-5300 for updates. With your help Hampton University can have a memorable parade. I am looking forward to hearing from you in the very near future. Have a great year and thank you in advance. Come help make this one to remember!

Kind regards,

Mr. Calvin J. Harris
Director of Student Involvement & Leadership
Parade Director

Parade Date & Time: October 26, 2024 Starts at 9:00am

1. **All vehicles and participants must arrive to the assembly area between 7:00 a.m. and 7:45 a.m.** – IF YOU ARRIVE AFTER 8:00 AM YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MARCH IN THE PARADE
2. Participants arriving on buses should be dropped off on Eaton Street near the assembly area. Buses should then proceed to Hampton University and park on Bemis Lawn

II. GENERAL RULES

- A. No stopping to perform along the parade route EXCEPT at the judge's stand. (45 seconds) NO REVERSE MARCHING. Judges may disqualify units from competition for this offense.
- B. No unit should break ranks before reaching the dispersal area.
- C. Throwing of candy, gum, favors, etc., from elements in live is forbidden, as children may be pushed under a vehicle.
- D. Distance between separate units will be two car lengths. Distance between different elements within your group should be no more than one car length.
- E. Keep ranks close up. Exert every effort to keep the parade moving and eliminate gaps.
- F. Automobiles, trailers, and floats will govern their speed so as not to overrun marching units. Any vehicle suffering mechanical failure should be pulled out of the parade line.
- G. Band leaders should conduct their music so as not to overplay adjacent bands.
- H. The judges' stand will be in front of Spirit of Life Christian Church on Lincoln Street.
- I. Only student groups that are recognized by the Student Affairs Council will be permitted to participate in the parade.
- J. All questions and request for exception must be directed to Mr. Calvin J. Harris at 757.727.5691.

III. Assembly

B. Floats

1. All floats are to be assembled on Bemis Lawn by 7:00 a.m. the morning of the parade. The Hampton (City) Police Department will provide escort to the City Hall assembly area at 7:30 a.m. If you miss this time, it is very unlikely that your unit will make the parade. **(CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS ONLY)**
2. Float inspection will be conducted at 6:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the parade by either the Parade Coordinator, and or her representative.
3. At 6:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the parade, a final inspection will be conducted to determine participation.
4. All other floats should arrive at City Hall by 8:00 a.m. the morning of the parade.
5. **Note: Whether you want your entry judged or not, it must be decorated.**

C. Bands/Marching Units & Organizations

1. **All vehicles and participants must arrive to the assembly area between 7:00 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. – IF YOU ARRIVE AFTER 8:00 AM YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MARCH IN THE PARADE**
2. Participants arriving on buses should be dropped off on Eaton Street near the assembly area. Buses should then proceed to Hampton University and park on Bemis Lawn

IV. Judging (Scoring) of Entries

Scale of Points: 1 to 10

A. **Floats** - Total of 40 points; 10 points maximum for each category as follows:

1. Originality
2. Artistic Design
3. Esthetic Design
4. Workmanship (Materials, Construction, Neatness)

B. **Bands** - Total of 50 points; 10 points maximum for each category as follows:

1. Precision
2. Dress (Alignment)
3. Execution (Drill Formation)
4. Cover (Straight Line)
5. Music Quality

* 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners from each category will be announced during half time of the Homecoming football game.