



**Application for the
2021 City of Oxford Christmas Parade
“Christmas Joy”**

Monday, Dec. 6, 2021 – 6:30 pm

Inclement Weather Date: Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021. All timeframes are the same as the original date.

ENTRY DEADLINE – Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at 5:00pm

NO ENTRY FEE REQUIRED

******There is a limit of 80 entries for time constraints, so make certain you get your form in promptly****.**

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL IF ONE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION _____

CONTACT PERSON FOR THE ORGANIZATION _____

Circle all that apply: PEDESTRIAN/DANCERS – BAND – FLOAT – VEHICLE

TELEPHONE (PRIMARY) _____ **(SECONDARY)** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

EMAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO: Linda Allgood at ncmbroxford@gmail.com by the deadline of November 23, 2021, at 5pm. Only the actual application page should be returned. The informational pages are for you to keep and share with your organization so everyone is aware of your responsibilities as a participant.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE BEGINNING OCTOBER 12TH AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- 1. Online** at either the websites of North Central Mississippi REALTORS: www.usamls.net/ncentral; City of Oxford at www.oxfordms.net; or Oxford-Lafayette Chamber of Commerce at <https://oxfordms.com/chamber-of-commerce/>.
- 2. In Person:** Pick up a paper application at OXFORD CITY HALL OR THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICE

ANY mailed applications must be postmarked by Nov. 15th to be accepted. _____

North Central Mississippi REALTORS
1202 Office Park Drive, Suite C
Oxford, MS 3865

2021 City of Oxford Christmas Parade Applicant Information

Any changes to this information will be posted promptly.

FAILURE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS AND FOLLOW THE RULES CAN RESULT IN AN APPLICATION BEING DENIED OR REMOVAL FROM THE PARADE

ANY PERSON OR GROUP WHO HAVE LEGITIMATE COMPLAINTS LODGED AGAINST THEM FROM THE PUBLIC, OTHER PARTICIPANTS, OR PARADE WORKERS, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE PARADE THE FOLLOWING YEAR

APPROPRIATE CHRISTMAS MUSIC IS ENCOURAGED FOR ALL ENTRIES

1. TIMEFRAME

- Applications are due by November 23rd at 5pm.
- Pre-Parade Meeting- See details below – Monday, November 29th at 6pm.
- December 6 – PARADE DAY
 - 3:00pm – Entrants can start checking in – Floats and vehicles on Old Taylor Road and walking groups or performers at the Gertrude Ford entrance on University Ave. A performing group other than the school bands will not be checked in until you are ready to be lined up together
 - 6:15pm – All entries must be in line
 - 6:20pm – Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive
 - 6:30pm – Let's Have a Parade

2. NOT ALLOWED:

- Equestrian – Only the OPD Mounted Patrol are allowed
- Motorized vehicles that are not used to pull a float, including but not limited to ATV, Motorbikes, Motorcycles, etc.- ONLY LAW ENFORCEMENT OR FIRE DEPARTMENT ARE ALLOWED THESE VEHICLES
- Tractor Trailer Vehicles
- Trailers over 24 feet in length or entries over 13 feet in total height- THEY CANNOT SAFELY MAKE THE TURNS AROUND THE SQUARE OR CLEAR OVERHEAD POWER LINES.

ALLOWED: Antique cars or trucks or convertible vehicles for pageant winners (All vehicles must have some type of Christmas decorations)

3. THEME: This year's parade theme is "CHRISTMAS JOY".

4. BE PREPARED:

- Each entry is allowed one vehicle to pull each float. No additional vehicles are allowed. Large groups can be divided into multiple entries if needed to meet the vehicle allowances in height and overall size. Each group should be clearly identified on each application.
- Each entry must be decorated appropriately to be allowed in line.
- Pageant Winners must be in open air vehicles, appropriately identified by signage on the vehicle and be appropriately decorated. All pageant winners must have already been crowned before the application deadline and must be from a recognized event. Family only winners are not allowed.
- Walking Groups must designate one person as their contact for the check-in point. The group will be responsible for assembling their members in a safe spot in the Gertrude Ford parking lot prior to coming as a group to be placed in line. ***The parade workers will be not responsible for escorting children to their groups and individuals will not be allowed to be dropped off in the float area. ALL CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 12 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT THAT IS PART OF THEIR GROUP WHEN INSIDE THE PARADE EVENT AREA, INCLUDING THE PARKING LOTS AND STAGING AREAS. Parking is not allowed in this area as classes are still in session. Any vehicles that need to

remain such as buses, should drop off in the Gertrude Ford lot and then move to the Oxford Activity Center.

- **Bands**: School affiliated bands will be allowed to drop off in the parking area behind the band hall where the practice field is located. BUSES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO OFFLOAD IN THE MIDDLE OF OLD TAYLOR ROAD. Prior to the parade, the bands, other than the Ole Miss Band, will be escorted up the hill by volunteer workers to be placed in line for appropriate distancing throughout the parade. All vehicles carrying band members or equipment MUST drop off and then move the vehicles to the parking lots at the Oxford Activity Center. Parking is not allowed in the drop off area. The Ole Miss Band members will have access to the band hall parking lot by coming up Old Taylor Road and turning right until we close the inside lane of the street to complete the lineup.
- **Floats** requiring last minute decorations before joining the staging area should pull off the shoulder of Old Taylor Road before the baseball stadium and complete the final decorations, then pull up to check in and be placed in line. All floats must have adult walkers attending for safety. You will not be allowed to unbox decorations and clutter the staging area once you are in line so prepare your decorations accordingly. Everything must remain on your float.
- **Groups** performing must use appropriate holiday music, be dressed appropriately, and with a performance that is family friendly. Inappropriate music, routines or attire will not be tolerated. Any groups which are the topic of legitimate complaints to the parade officials, or the city will not be allowed to participate the following year. All performances that require a stoppage of the parade must not last more than 3 minutes so as not to hold up the progress of the parade and create huge gaps. That is our biggest complaint from previous years. Volunteers will be on hand to help keep the parade moving for everyone's safety and enjoyment.
- **Judging**: Trophies for Most Original Float and Best Overall Float will be announced prior to the start of the parade. To be judged your float name must be clearly marked with the group name and be in line no later than 6:00pm.
- **Santa and Candy** – There is only one Santa allowed and he will be on the last float. No other entries will be allowed to include Santa. **For the safety of the parade attendees and participants, we strongly discourage any candy from being thrown from the floats other than Santa's. Other items including but not limited to cups or frisbees are absolutely not allowed to be thrown for safety reasons.**
- Firearms and dangerous behavior are prohibited.
- Riders must always remain on their entry. Any group who must be warned to keep their riders out of the street or from between the other entries, will not be allowed to participate the following year. Every group must have adult walkers the entire parade route.
- Careless driving will not be tolerated.
- Parade Volunteers will have clothing identifying them and walkie-talkies to communicate with other volunteers and city officials during the parade. Any volunteer can assist in getting appropriate help in the event of any emergency along the parade route.

PARADE ROUTE REMINDER – The route runs the same as 2019, with all post parade pickups at the Oxford Activity Center. There is no place for groups to leave the parade prior to the Oxford Activity Center. PARADE WORKERS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL BE ON HAND TO STOP ANYONE TRYING TO OFFLOAD or TEARDOWN ENTRIES FROM THE INTERSECTION OF NORTH LAMAR AND PRICE ALL THE WAY TO THE OXFORD ACTIVITY CENTER. THIS CLOGS TRAFFIC AND IS A HUGE SAFETY ISSUE FOR MOVING VEHICLES OF OTHER ENTRIES AND SPECTATORS LEAVING THE PARADE ROUTE AT ITS CONCLUSION.

FINALLY, AND MAYBE MOST IMPORTANTLY FOR YOUR ENTRY IS OUR PRE-PARADE MEETING: The yearly MANDATORY pre-parade meeting will be held on Monday, November 29th at 6pm at the Oxford Conference Center. We will be finalizing the parade, answering questions, and addressing the safety requirements of the City of Oxford officials. This year any entry, no matter whether it is an individual vehicle or a group, without a representative at the meeting will be pulled from participating in the parade and notified after the meeting. There is no exception to this requirement.