

# Parade Guidelines for Bands



 MetalFlow

VOLKSPARADE

Wednesday, May 9, 2018 2pm



 Yanfeng  Johnson Controls

KINDERPARADE

Thursday, May 10, 2018 2pm

(Rain Date: May 11, 2018 2pm)



QUALITY CAR WASH  
MUZIEKPARADE

Saturday, May 12, 2018 2pm

Tulip Time would like to invite you to participate in our world renowned parades during the week of the Festival, May 5—13. The Parade Committee selects bands from across the country and around the world to "show their stuff" during our unique parades.

Along with bands, the three parades feature floats and many unique entries; our Muziekparade is THE largest parade in Michigan with over 160 units and draws an average audience of over 100,000. We offer one of the most organized and professional parade experiences in the country, with well-trained and highly qualified personnel, staff, Parade Marshals and chairpeople.

## BAND GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION

Review the band guidelines and complete the application online at [www.tuliptime.com/parades](http://www.tuliptime.com/parades) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. **(NOTE: the application will be available online after January 2, 2018.)** The application deadline is March 6, 2018 and selected bands will be notified in writing after March 13, 2018. There is no application fee for bands.

*The Tulip Time Festival, through its Parade Marshals, reserves the right to make decisions regarding band appearance and compliance with the Guidelines at the time of the Parade. Bands are expected to comply with the instructions of Parade Marshals.*

## **Band Uniforms**

- Bands must be in matching professional uniform. Any insignia, images, additions or alteration of band uniform will not be allowed.
- The Red Cross requests that band members wear a T-shirt or tank top under their uniform to allow for faster treatment in case of injury or heat exhaustion.

## **Each band director may have no more than two additional people accompany the band in any capacity (assistant director, first aid, water carrier, etc.).**

- These persons must be dressed to match the band, i.e., band uniform or school clothing matching in color to the band uniform.
- Any additional person or persons will be removed from the route by the Parade Marshals.

## **Chaperones are not allowed to walk the parade route, or walk in front of observers.**

- Arrangements should be made to meet their band at the end of the parade route.
- Reserved premium and general bleacher seat tickets are available through the Tulip Time office ([www.tuliptime.com](http://www.tuliptime.com)).

## **Band directors are responsible for the proper hydration and nutrition of band members prior to the parade, even beginning as early as the day before.**

- The parade route for the Saturday Muziekparade is 2.4 miles long; Wednesday and Thursday parades are a bit shorter at 1.5 miles approximately.
- Hydration and nutrition recommendations are available online at websites such as [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). You may also want to consult medical personnel in your area for additional recommendations.
- We prefer that no water carriers be used, but will allow up to two water carriers per band (see above) if all other guidelines are met and the director feels it is absolutely necessary. If the band is properly hydrated, water carriers are unnecessary.

## **Bands are expected to use a cadence of MM 120-132.**

- Our parades maintain a fairly **brisk pace**.
- Gaps pose a serious threat to safety as people, especially children, will attempt to cross the parade route in these gaps.
- Gaps also slow the parade, making media coverage very difficult.
- Bands that do not keep pace with the rest of the parade may not be invited back. Each unit must **maintain a forward momentum**, and may not slow or stop the parade in any way. This means that there should be no stopping and playing along the parade route.

## **Bands are expected to play as much as possible throughout the entire parade route, and specifically at times when in front of television cameras, large crowd sections such as the bleachers, etc.**

- Cameras are typically set up on 8th Street. Bands should begin playing by the middle of the block between College and Central, but without slowing or stopping the progression of the parade.
- Reviewing takes place in the area of the Civic Center. These reviews are used to determine invitations for the next year's parade.

## Weather Policy

- The Muziekparade and the Volksparade will go on “rain or shine.” Be prepared for hot, cold or rainy weather. These parades will only be cancelled if weather is life-threatening.
- The Kinderparade may be re-scheduled to Friday, May 11, due to inclement weather. The decision to re-schedule will be made as soon as possible, by 11am, on parade day. The rain date may be cancelled as well, if weather is rainy.

## Firearms Policy

- In order to promote the safety and well-being of parade attendees, firearms in the parade will be for ceremonial purposes only, and **will not be loaded**. Rifles must be carried in an “over the shoulder” position only.
- Only active police personnel may be in possession of live firearms.
- Entries that include firearms will be inspected prior to step-off by the Holland Police Department.

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If you have any questions about the guidelines or application process, please contact Shannon Yanek at [parades@tuliptime.com](mailto:parades@tuliptime.com) or 800-822-2770 ext. 117.

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