

**Marching Band Application and Information**

**2014 St. Patrick’s Day Parade, Dublin, Ireland.**

**Thank you for considering applying to present your Band in the St Patrick’s Day Parade, Dublin.**

**Essential Information for Bands:**

* The 2014 Parade will be held on **Monday 17th March** at 12 noon (subject to licensing.)
* The parade travels through the heart of Dublin City and the route is approx 2.6km long. It will take about 90 minutes to complete the parade route. Bands must move continuously along the route and parade marshals will endeavour to ensure that the parade proceeds uninterrupted at a marching pace in the range of 96-126 paces per minute.
* The parade consists of marching bands, theatrical presentations and ceremonial elements.
* Logistics determine that only a limited number of bands can be accommodated within the parade on any given year, a selection process is thus in place.

**Application:**

Please note in order to be considered, all bands are required to complete this application form and to submit the following information with the application in order for a full assessment to be undertaken:

1. **Submit a letter of Recommendation.**

Letters may be from Band Associations, Adjudicators, Festival Organisers or College Music Departments.

1. **Enclose a separate Band Biographical Information Sheet and also complete the section within this form**

The details requested on this document are required for preparing the television and grandstand commentary.

1. **Submit a non-returnable DVD of a performance that is less than 1-year old.** Please label the disc with the Band’s name, the Director’s name and the Director’s telephone number. Alternatively please offer a suitable web based location (i.e. youtube.)
2. **Submit a non-returnable, colour photograph of the Bands in their Uniforms/Performance Dress to be worn during your performance. [Please note that the festival requires all bands to be in dress uniform/performance dress rather than casual dress.]** This can be sent by email or posted using a disc or memory stick, or sent as a physical photo.Please label the photograph with the Band’s name & Band Director’s contact details.
3. **Copy of Application Documentation**

It is highly recommended that you keep a copy of your completed Application documents as a record of your submission.

**6**. **Time-frame:**

Bands should submit application materials at the earliest opportunity and no later than **30th September 2013.** Please note that the festival operates a rolling application process for marching bands and early application is advised to avoid disappointment. Bands should wait for confirmation of participation from the festival before making travel arrangements. The festival will reply to bands within 4 weeks of receiving a complete application.

**7. Travel Arrangements:**

Bands are responsible for their own travel, accommodation and transport for the parade. The Tourism Ireland office in your country can provide details of experienced Tour Operators who can organise your travel arrangements to and around Ireland. For a list of offices visit: <http://www.tourismireland.com>.

1. **Application Submission:**

Please send your application materials either by email to:[**bands@stpatricksfestival.ie**](mailto:bands@stpatricksfestival.ie)*or* by post to Edelle Moss, Marketing & Development Director, St. Patrick’s Festival, St. Stephen’s Green House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, Ireland. A receipt of safe arrival will be sent**.**

1. **Any queries can be directed to Edelle Moss at the Festival Office:**

Telephone: +353 1 676 3205

**2014 ST. PATRICK’S FESTIVAL MARCHING BAND APPLICATION FORM**

**Section A**

**1. Participant Information**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Band Name:** |  | |
| Band Postal Address: |  | |
|  |  | |
| Director’s Name: |  | |
|  |  | |
| Email Address: |  | |
| Director’s Telephone: | (Day) | (Evening) |
| Band’s Website : |  |  |

**2. Main Contact in the Band dealing with this application**

(Preferably someone who has good conversational English)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contact Name: |  |
| Contact’s Email Address: |  |
| Contact’s Mobile Phone Number: |  |
| Time difference between Dublin and your location (e.g. +6 hrs): |  |

**3. Moving Footage of the Band performing**

Please list website details where footage of suitable quality would be available to view remotely (if available)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * http://www. |  |
| * http://www. |  |
| * http://www. |  |

**4. Dublin Itinerary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Group Arrival Date: Group Departure Date: | |
| Hotel/Accommodation Address: | |
|  | |
| Telephone: | Fax: |

**5. Type of Group**

For the following please mark with a tick or “X” alongside the appropriate group types.

There may be more than one category that applies to your group or sections within your group.

**(a)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Marching Band | * Concert Band |
| * Brass | * Orchestra |
| * Brass & Reed | * Pipe Band |
| * Jazz Band | * Fife & Drum/ Flute |
| * Drum Corps/Drum & Bugle Corps | * Other: (please specify) |
|  | |

**(b)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Amateur | * Professional |

**(c)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total Number of People Performing: | Total Number of People Travelling: |

**(d)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ages of those Performing (i.e. adults, teenagers etc): |  |

**(e)**

|  |
| --- |
| Usual Marching Pace: (pace per minute) |

**6. Festival Participation**

Please tick (or mark with an “X”) the events your group would like to participate in.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * St. Patrick's Day Parade |  |
| * International Band Competition (which takes place during the Parade) |  |
| * Other Performance Opportunities before or after the parade |  |

**7. Bands Biography** *(please insert relevant details about how the Band was formed, where you are based, who your musical director is, they types of participants in the band, places you have performed and any prizes won etc)* Minimum of 100 words. (This information may be used for publicity purposes)

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**8. Tour Operator Company Information** *(if applicable)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company Name: |  | Contact: |
| Postal Address: |  | |
|  |  | |
| Email Address: |  | |
| Telephone: |  | Fax: |

**9. Irish Handling Agent** *(if applicable)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Company Name: |  | Contact: |
| Postal Address: |  | |
|  |  | |
| Email Address: |  | |
| Telephone: |  | Fax: |

**Section B**

**International Band Competition**

The International Band Competition is a feature of the St. Patrick’s Festival Parade and is *optional*. Please read the Rules and Regulations for the Band Competition (see attached) prior to completing this section of your application.

**Categorization**: (please tick or mark with an “X” alongside the appropriate category or categories)

**(a)**

**Bands from Educational Institutions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * A = student population of 001-750 | * Junior High School |
| * AA = student population of 751-1500 | * Senior High School |
| * AAA = student population of 1500+ | * University/College |

**Other Bands** (please also indicate what standard your group is)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Youth | **Standard** |
| * Adult | * Junior |
|  | * Intermediate |
|  | * Senior |

**Section C**

**Musical Performances**

In the past the festival has created additional performance and promotional opportunities for bands during their visit. If you are interested in additional performances and promotional opportunities during the festival please indicate your availability:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Morning** | **Afternoon** | **Evening** |
| Frid 14th March 2014 |  |  |  |
| Sat 15th March 2014 |  |  |  |
| Sun 16th March 2014 |  |  |  |
| Mon 17th March 2014 |  |  |  |

**Section D**

In signing this Application I acknowledge that I have read and agree to be bound by the St. Patrick’s Festival Parade Rules and indemnify St. Patrick’s Festival (see below).

The group hereby undertake to indemnify Féilte Dhuibh Linne Teoranta (St. Patrick’s Festival) against all actions, proceedings, claims, demands, damages, expenses and costs, whatsoever arising out of or in any way concerned with the group’s participation in the 2014 St. Patrick's Festival.

The group further agree that they participate in the 2014 National St. Patrick's Festival entirely at their own risk and not as either agents or employees of Féilte Dhuibh Linne Teoranta.

Signed: Date:

Director/Group Leader

Witness: Date:



**OVERALL PARADE RULES 2014**

IN ORDER TO MAKE THE ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL PARADE MORE ENJOYABLE FOR BOTH PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS THESE REGULATIONS MUST BE OBSERVED.

THE RULES WILL BE STRINGENTLY ENFORCED. **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY.**

**1. Féilte Dhuibh Linne Teoranta, the organising body of the St. Patrick's Festival Parade in Dublin, reserves the following rights:**

* 1. That all application forms must be returned to the Festival Office by **30th September 2013** at the latest**.**

1.2 It is essential that bands provide biographical information for commentary in the parade. Bands should include information: biography on participating group, detailed information on group's location (i.e. population of area, local history of area, human interest stories etc), and list of music being played.

1.3 The festival reserves the right to refuse any application if, in the opinion of the Organisers, the entry is not suitable for participation. Participation in the Parade is entirely at the discretion of the Festival Organisers.

1.4 The festival reserves the right to postpone, abandon or alter the route of the Parade if, in the opinion of the Organisers, such action is advisable in the common interest and no action will lie against the Organisers in respect of any loss incurred by any entrant on foot of such decision.

1.5 Whilst every care has been taken by the Organisers to ensure against accidents and to arrange proper stewarding of the Parade, no responsibility can be accepted by them for any loss or damage caused to exhibits or their personnel, or to members of the general public, parade stage managers / stewards, or the occupants of the viewing stands, arising from any cause whatsoever connected with the Parade.

**2 All participants in the Parade must be prepared to observe the following rules:**

2.1 The Parade is not to be used in any way as a vehicle for a means of protest. Any entry incorporating a protest will not be eligible, and the Organisers will be the final arbiters in deciding the matter. If, on the day of the Parade, any entry should take the form of a protest group without prior permission, the Organisers reserve the right to have that entry forcibly removed from the Parade and will accept no responsibility for consequent loss, damage or injury incurred by the entrant(s).

2.2 Under no circumstances are any participants to deliberately stop at any of the viewing stands or TV cameras along the route. Failure to adhere to this rule will automatically disqualify the participant from entering any future parade and may incur a financial penalty.

2.3 It is the responsibility of each Marching Band/Performance Group to nominate a director/ group leader who will liaise with the Festival Parade Production Team to ensure the smooth continuous flow of the Parade. The Festival should be made aware who this nominee is in advance. The staging / production team at the festival will liaise with the designated person from your band.

2.4 It is the responsibility of each Marching Band to ensure that exhibits and music are in good taste and otherwise arranged so as not to cause harm or give offence to spectators or other participants in the Parade.

2.5 It is the responsibility of each Marching Band to ensure that all participants must arrive at the Assembly point at their given time and must disembark their coaches when asked. All participants should be in position and ready to move off the assembly area at the designated time. An information pack with your schedule, assembly point and the contact details of your stage manager will be provided to your band in advance of the parade.

2.6 The festival requires that bands are in dress uniform. No street clothing should be worn by any participants in the Parade, *including those people accompanying entries*. A maximum of four people (who are not performing) may accompany each band and are expected to dress smartly in band uniform or band colours. No walking groups / individuals who are not performing are permitted in the Parade.

2.7 For those bands participating in the International Band Competition the Judges' decisions are final.

2.8 St Patrick's Festival retains all legal rights and title to use, throughout the world of any photograph, DVD or film in connection with the 2014 St. Patrick's Festival for use on print, website, TV, pay TV, theatrical or non theatrical release, DVD or any other type of exhibition or exploitation.



|  |
| --- |
| **Specific Marching Band Competition Information 2014** |

1. **General**
   1. The St. Patrick’s Festival Parade will feature a competition for marching bands in Dublin on Monday 17th March 2014 at 12 noon (subject to license).

1.2 The competition is open to all marching bands. Marching Bands wishing to take part in the parade in an exhibition category only will be welcome to do so.

**2. Categorisation**

2.1 Entries will be accepted from Professional, Military, College/University, Senior High, and Junior High or equivalent e.g. Novice, Contest, Championship, or Premier class bands on the entry form. Bands will compete within their relevant section and only against their peers. Bands should clearly indicate instrumentation type and size.

School bands will be subdivided according to age and school size as outlined below:

### A = school with student population of 001-750

**AA = school with student population of 751-1500**

**AAA = school with student population of + 1500**

2.2 Adjudicators will be sensitive to the varying degrees of experience and instrumental composition of competing bands. There will equally be an awareness of the differing traditions of the competing bands. The awards are structured to reflect these differences and the instrumental diversity of the bands eligible to enter the competition. Entries will be marked Adult or Youth[[1]](#footnote-1) and categorized as follows:

Brass

Brass & Reed (Concert and Wind ensembles)

Drum Corps/Drum and Bugle Corps

Fife & Drum/Flute

Junior High

Senior High

Pipe Band[[2]](#footnote-2)

2.2.1 In addition, the Festival will be pleased to consider entries from other musical formations, e.g Accordion Bands, Community Bands etc.

* 1. Awards will be offered under three distinct headings:
* **Universal Awards**: Open to all competing bands regardless of age, size, experience, or instrumental constitution.
* **Sectional Awards:**  Focused on designated groups as set out above.
* **Discretionary Awards:** These will be available to the international panel of judges to recognise particular excellence; e.g. drum majors, auxiliaries etc (see 6.3.1 below).

1. **Format**
   1. Bands will assemble on Mountjoy Street in accordance with instructions from the parade

stewards. An information pack with assembly details will be forwarded in February 2014.

* 1. The Parade will commence at **12:00 noon**. All bands must be in position and ready to depart the

assembly area at the time designated by stage management (between 10.30am and 11am).

3.3 The Parade route runs from Parnell Square, O’Connell Street, Westmorland Street, Dame Street, through Christ Church and Patrick Street. The route is approximately 2.6kmdistance in total (c. 1.75 miles) and is 7 metres (c. 23 ft) wide at the adjudication zone in O’ Connell Street.

* 1. Bands are requested to carry an identifying banner.

3.5 A parade stage manager will accompany each marching band.

3.6 Adjudication will take place within a designated area of c. 275 metres (c. 300 yards) at the VIP viewing grandstand opposite the GPO on O’ Connell St. which is approximately 900 metres (c. 984 yards) along the route.

* 1. The adjudication area will be clearly marked and signalled c. 225metres (250 yards) and c.45 metres (c. 50 yards) in advance. Assessment will take place only within this area.
  2. PLEASE NOTE: Bands must play on the march. They are **not permitted to stop voluntarily at any point on the route,** unless requested to do so by a Parade Stage Manager. Bands **will not deliberately stop** within the adjudication zone. Failure to comply will result in automatic disqualification.

1. **Adjudication**
   1. An international panel of judges will undertake adjudication. Dr. Joseph Ryan will chair the

panel.

4.2 The judges will be positioned in the VIP viewing grandstand opposite the GPO on O’ Connell St.

4.3 There are no set pieces; bands are free to perform a selection of their own choice. Directors are advised that a sense of fun and showmanship (presentation), in keeping with the spirit of the Parade, will be appreciated by public and adjudicators alike. The appeal and quality of the music presented will be a feature in the adjudicator’s deliberations. Bands can be inspired by the theme of this year’s Parade when selecting music.

1. **Marking**

5.1 Points will be allocated as follows:

Music Quality 55 points

Marching 25 points

Presentation[[3]](#footnote-3) 20 points

* 1. All judges will contribute to the final score and comments will be given in written form. The Adjudicators’ comments will be available to the competing bands at the Awards Ceremony on the afternoon of March 17th 2014.
  2. Bands will be graded in accordance with internationally recognised standards.

Superior 85 points and above

Excellent 74-84 points

Good 63-73 points

Fair 50-62 points

* 1. Formal announcement of the competition results will be made on the afternoon of March 17th 2014 in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Dublin. **Directors and representatives of competing bands will be expected to attend this Awards Ceremony.**

1. **Awards and Ratings**
   1. Universal Awards
      1. Best overall band
      2. Best contribution to the spirit of the Parade
      3. Best Adult Band – New addition to form
      4. Best Youth Band – new addition to form
   2. Sectional Awards
      1. Superior and Excellent rating trophies will be awarded in the categories as set out in 2.2 & 2.3
   3. Discretionary Awards
      1. Such awards will have the same status as Sectional Awards and may be instituted at the

discretion of the panel of judges. They may be employed;

* To recognise the excellence of a particular ensemble e.g. Accordion Band, Brass Band, or a particularly fine small ensemble ‘A’ category etc.,
* To award excellence in a particular section e.g. Drum Corps

1. ***Youth Band*** *= 90% of performing members years of 18 years of age and under.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. ***Pipe Band*** *The term Pipe Band will be understood to mean a band composed exclusively of war pipes and drums. A full marching band with pipe component will not qualify under this particular heading but will be welcome to compete for the other relevant awards and in a distinct category.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. *It may be fully understood that bands will be assessed under this heading consistent with the innate traditions of their category.* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)