

# *Royal Rosarians*

## **2026 Parade Marching Guide**



*Welcome to the 2026 Rose Festival & Parade Season  
We invite you to march with us!*

## **2026 Rose Festival Parades**

**Minister of Foreign Affairs: Judy Rompa**

**Grand Floral Starlight Parade: June 6, 2026 — 6:30–10:30 p.m.**

Grand Floral Starlight Marshal Co-Chairs:

Neil Nathanson, Connie Shipley

Vintage Trolley (Non-Marchers): Marilyn Schultz, Sue Simpson

**Fred Meyer Junior Parade: May 30, 2026 — 1:00 p.m.**

Band Marshal Chair: Jan Tolman

Shuttle Lead: Alan Hoeckendorf

## Why We March

The Royal Rosarians have marched in parades since their inception in 1912. Our white suits and straw hats have always been a parade highlight and brought us recognition around the world. We ARE the official greeters and ambassadors for the City of Portland and, as such, bring recognition to Portland as the Rose Capital of the World.

*“For You a Rose in Portland Grows.”*

## NW Festival Hosting Parades

**Chair: Lord High Chamberlain John Jackson**

- Apple Blossom Festival (Wenatchee, WA) — May 1–3
- Lilac Festival (Spokane, WA) — May 15–17
- Marysville Strawberry Festival (Marysville, WA) — June 19–21
- Capital Lakefair (Olympia, WA) — July 17–21
- Seattle Seafair (Seattle, WA) — July 24–26
- Peach Festival (Penticton, BC) — August 7–9
- Autumn Leaf Festival (Leavenworth, WA) — September 25–27

## Local Portland Parades

**Chair: Lord High Steward Carolyn O’Doherty**

- Mardi Gras Parade (Portland) — Tuesday, February 17
- St. Patrick’s Day Parade (Portland) — Sunday, March 15
- St. John’s Parade — May 9
- 82nd Avenue of Roses — Saturday, April 25
- Good in the Hood (Portland) — Saturday, June 27
- Tillamook June Dairy Days — Saturday, June 27
- Portland Pride — Wednesday, July 1
- Hillsboro 4th of July — Friday, July 4
- Battle Ground Harvest Days — Saturday, July 18
- Astoria Regatta — Saturday, August 8
- Portland Veterans Day — November (date TBA)

# General Parade Guidelines

## Registration

**Register for ALL parades on Club Runner.** Go to the calendar, select the event, and click Members under Online Registration. This lets the Council and Parade Chairs know attendance numbers. Hospitality Packet links for NW Festival Hosting weekends are also found there. Note: purchasing a Hospitality Packet is not required to attend a NWFH parade.

## Formation

Follow the directions of the Royal Rosarian Drill Master(s). In formation, we use **guide right**. Drill Masters will be on the right; those on the right end of the line set the spacing.

## Parade Behavior

Smile, wave, and have fun while maintaining a dignified manner. See the Royal Rosarian Roster, p. 37, 38 (What is Expected of a Royal Rosarian/Parade Conduct) for full details.

## Cell Phones/ID Card

Carry a phone with the Parade Chair's number saved. Do not use your phone while marching except in an emergency. Carry your Photo ID and Royal Rosarian Emergency Information Card at all times. See the parade chair or drill master if you need a card.

## Sunglasses & Rain Gear

Sunglasses are permitted. Rain gear is a parade-time decision made by the Prime Minister. Purchase your rain gear at the membership meetings.

## Uniforms

Correct fit and cleanliness are required. See the Royal Rosarian Roster, pp. 36–41.

## Doffing Your Hat

Your Drill Master will blow a whistle to initiate the Doffing of your hat. Instructions will be given prior to each parade. In general, we doff at an Announcement Tower, for TV cameras, and for large groups of spectators. Begin the doff as soon as the announcer recognizes the group; end once past the tower, camera, or group. For large groups, wait until the full group has passed before ending.

## **Parade Spacing — The Accordion Rule**

Parades expand and contract due to MAX Train stoppages, performances, and TV commercial breaks. When the parade slows or stops, maintain **30–50 feet** between units. Do not move again until the unit ahead is moving and at least 30–50 feet away. If a gap has become too large, close it gradually.

## **Portland Rose Festival Foundation Directives**

All parade participants — marchers, float riders, band members, dancers, marshals — are **prohibited from making physical contact with spectators** anywhere along the route or in the formation area. **Additionally, nothing may be handed out, thrown, or distributed** to spectators. This includes gifts, literature, candy, stickers, silly string, water, or any other items.

## **Emergencies**

Notify a Parade Marshall, a Police Officer, or a PA Tower announcer. If none are available, call 911 immediately. Always carry your emergency contact card.

# **Guidelines For Marshaling Band and Escorting Floats**

## **Marching Bands - Grand Floral/Starlight Parades**

Arrive early and check in. Introduce yourself to the Band Director and Drum Major. Let them know you are there to assist at the direction of the parade organizers. March at the front right, abreast of their banner or leading element.

Maintain 30–50 foot spacing from the unit directly ahead.

Watch that banner carriers do not outpace the band.

At stops, close up to the unit ahead; wait before moving when the parade restarts.

If a street vendor blocks the band's path, move ahead, ask them to the honor line, then wait for the band to catch up.

Follow all directions from Portland Rose Festival Foundation Parade Marshals (orange vests) — typically speed-up or slow-down instructions.

In an emergency: notify a Parade Marshal, Police Officer, or PA Tower announcer.

## **Marching Bands - Junior Parade**

Introduce yourself to the band director. March at the front right side of the unit. Keep participants at a reasonable distance behind the entry they follow, ensure they stay in line and safe. Enjoy watching the kids!

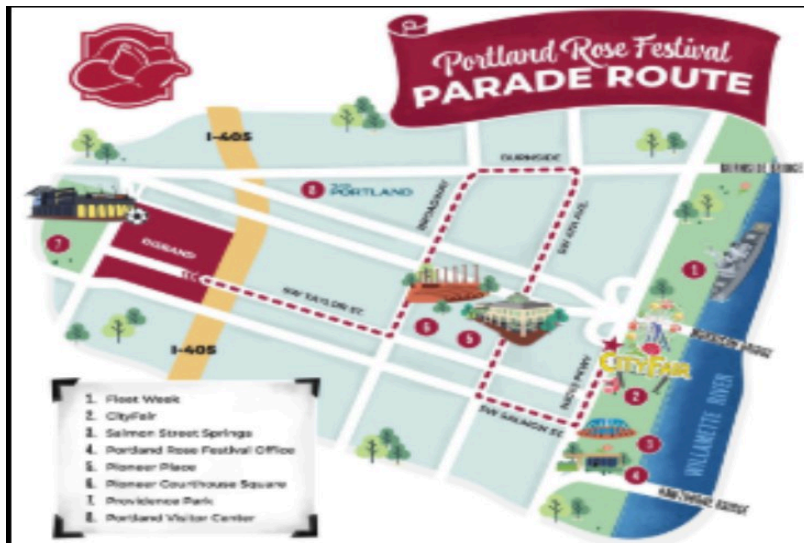
## **Floats - Grand Floral/Starlight Parade**

Arrive early and check in. Introduce yourself to the float coordinator and all participants. You will march at the rear right corner of the float. You are not responsible for speed or turning control. Stay toward the rear so you do not block the view of the float or sponsor's name as you pass spectators.

A float builder's escort (usually ONLY for the mini-floats) will always be at the front left of the float to assist the driver with speed and turns.

# CareOregon Grand Floral Starlight Parade

## Saturday, June 6, 2026



**Date:** Saturday, June 6, 2026 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Portland, SW Harvey Milk and Naito Parkway

**Arrive:** See below for timing

**Attire:** Whites, hats, capes, pants. Lighted gloves available for \$10 at membership meetings. Drummers, Banner, and Flag carriers: Red Rosarian shirt and khaki pants.

### **Arrival & Check-In**

**Gil and Linda Newby** will have their RV parked in the lot at Harvey Milk and Naito Parkway. Water and sandwiches will be available from 4:30 p.m. until 5:45 p.m. Come early and get hydrated and nourished!

**Band Marshals:** Check in at the lot on SW Harvey Milk and Naito Parkway no later than 5:15 p.m.. You'll need time to find your band in the lineup.

**Marching Unit:** Assemble no later than 5:30 p.m. at Waterfront Park (between SW 1st and Oak streets). The Vintage Tour Bus will also be parked here.★ *Mobility-challenged Rosarians: Contact Marilyn Schultz to reserve a spot on the Vintage Tour Bus.*

### **Parking & Transit**

Police barricades go up along the parade route and disband area by approximately 2:30 p.m. The easiest access is via MAX (1st and Oak stop) or the Portland Streetcar — neither is free, so buy your ticket in advance. If driving, park in a lot near the Hotel deLuxe (near the end of the parade). Do not rely on street parking — it may result in towing. Plan your transit and parking before parade day.

# Fred Meyer Junior Parade May 30, 2026



Join us for a fun Junior Parade! Your children or grandchildren may walk with you while you march or marshal.

**Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026 — Parade begins at 1:00 p.m.**

**Arrive: No later than 12:15 p.m.**

**Location: Meet at the north end of Normandale Park, NE 56th & Halsey**

**Attire: Whites, capes, hats, gloves (or greens if you don't have whites yet!)**

**Drummers, Banner, and Flag carriers: Red Rosarian shirt and khaki pants.**

## **Shuttle Service**

Alan Hoekendorf and Jim Wolleck will be in the CVS Parking Lot between 11:00–11:45 a.m. to transport Rosarians to Normandale Park. Please do not park in the CVS Parking Lot. The shuttle is also available after the parade to return Rosarians who parked near the check-in area. Please inform the shuttle leads if you will need the return trip.

## **Parking**

Street parking in the neighborhood if you are not using the shuttle. Please allow extra time to find a spot. The parade ends at Grant High School.

## **After-Parade Gathering**

Aunt Tillie's, 2000 NE 42nd Ave, Portland, OR (42nd Street Station)

Questions? Contact chairperson Dame Jan Tolman at 503-201-7341.

