



Penn School National Historic Landmark District
First School in the South for Formerly Enslaved West Africans

Re: Penn Center's 39th Annual Heritage Day Parade

Dear Church Families, Businesses, Schools, and Organization,

The Annual Penn Center Heritage Days parade is a highly anticipated event, filled with colorful floats, lively performances, and an atmosphere of joy and being home. We have worked diligently to provide an unforgettable experience for our attendees and would like you to be a part of the parade to enhance the festivities.

This celebration continues to be one of the longest running cultural events in Beaufort County. Please come out and enjoy our cultural celebration events and activities.

Our theme, "*Honoring Our Past, Inspiring Our Future, STAND UP FOR JUSTICE!*" integrate the living heritage of our ancestors as we continue in the *struggle for civil rights and social justice*.

We are soliciting your church, business, or organization to participate in the 39th Annual Heritage Celebration Days Parade to be held Saturday, November 11, 2023. Please ensure your parade float is decorated to incorporate this year's theme, and that it is ready to line up by 8:00 a.m. The parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. sharp from St. Helena Elementary School. No vehicles that are not parade participants will not be allowed.

Please note: The order in which we receive your application has no bearing on the parade line-up.

Attached you will find the official parade application. The deadline for receipt of this application is Friday, October 27, 2023.

We look forward to your participation in this special event. If you have questions, please contact us at 843-838-2474 or email heritagefestival@penncenter.com

Sincerely,

Marie Gibbs, Ph.D., Gardenia Simmons White
Co-Chair, Heritage Planning Committee

Enclosure

39th Heritage Days Parade Application

Penn Center's 39th Heritage Days Celebration will be held November 9-11, 2023. A major part of this celebration is the **Heritage Days Parade which will be Saturday, November 11th beginning at 9:00 a.m.** leaving from St. Helena Elementary School and ending at the Penn School Historic Landmark District. The Parade route is an estimated 1.5 miles. **Only two (2) units are allowed to represent your organization in the parade. A representative will be required to attend the parade orientation.**

Please print all information clearly

Name of Organization/Business, or Church: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Area Code/Phone Number: Home _____
Work _____

Fax _____ Email _____

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATELY:

____ **Yes**, we would like to have a unit in the 2023 Heritage Day Parade!
Enclosed is my \$25.00 per unit entry fee. (Please contact us at 843-838-2474 for special arrangement for motorcycles and golf carts).

____ **Churches are permitted one (1) entry in the parade at no charge.**

Please check the type of unit.

- ____ Marching Band
- ____ Marching Unit
- ____ Float
- ____ Other, please describe: _____

Number of Persons in Unit _____

Contact Person: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail To: **Heritage Day Parade Penn Center, Inc.**
P.O. Box 126
St. Helena Island, SC 29920

****DUE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY OCTOBER 27, 2023**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Received _____ Accepted _____ Denied _____

