



2020 Strawberry Youth Parade

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The Florida Strawberry Festival is February 27 ó March 8, 2020 and the Strawberry Youth Parade is always the first Saturday of the Festival. The 2020 Strawberry Festival Youth Parade will be Saturday, February 29th at 11:00 a.m. next year and will line up at the State Farmers Market as it has for the past several years. The Strawberry Youth Parade is a proud member of the Plant City Chamber of Commerce.

The parade always has a great turnout and involves hundreds of area families and adults who supervise. This cherished tradition for the communities surrounding eastern Hillsborough county is sure to continue its memory-making fun for years to come. Bystanders along the secured route enjoy watching the marching bands, floats, and especially the Florida Strawberry Festival Queen and Court.

For 2020 Youth Parade applications go to Florida Strawberry Festival's Website www.flstrawberryfestival.com and click on contest rules and scroll to 2020 Strawberry Youth Parade.

The Strawberry Youth Parade is coordinated by the Strawberry Youth Parade Committee and this is the 47th year of the Youth Parade. Pat Pogue, Youth Parade Chairperson, will be visiting local schools as well as schools in Riverview, Tampa, and Brandon area to encourage participation in the local parade. The parade forms at the Farmers Market and will follow the same route as in the past several years. The parade departs at 11:00 a.m. from State Farmers Market on the corner of Martin Luther King Blvd. and Alexander Street and continues north on Alexander Street and west on Reynolds Street. The Youth Parade will pass the festival grounds on Reynolds Street and disburse near Sammonds Road area or the floats can disburse at the Farmers Market for the safety of everyone.

The Plant City Police Officers are in the area to close streets and control traffic prior and during the parade. The police officers have done a terrific job in the past with traffic and the safety of the kids that participate in the parade as well as folks watching the parade.

No one over the age of 18 years of age may participate in the parade with the exception of band directors and chaperones. Chaperones are a must with all units in the parade.

All school clubs, PTSA, FFA, churches and groups involved with youth are encouraged to enter the Youth Parade. Non-profit youth groups and clubs are also urged to enter the float building competition. In addition to the activity of building a float and being in the parade, you might win a trophy and \$100.00 cash for your club, school, youth group or organization. All applications will be considered on a first come first serve basis as received for float building sponsorship by the Strawberry Youth Parade Committee. Local businesses in the area sponsor a float in the float building competition. Each business that sponsors a float donates \$300.00 for that group to buy and build their float. Such an event in the community is possible only through the generosity and cooperation of business people in the Plant City community. A member of the Strawberry Youth

Parade Committee will post the sign of the business on both sides of the float the morning of the Youth Parade. The Youth Parade Committee will furnish the signs. The contribution for the Youth Parade float building competition is tax deductible because it will be used by a non-profit club or group.

Individuals and/or groups, junior high, middle school and high school bands may be in the parade without being in the competition. The theme must be followed for the float building competition and must be displayed on the unit for judging. The judging for all units in the Youth Parade will be at the south side of the South Florida Baptist Hospital. The hospital has been so gracious for several years for the judges to set up in their parking area and it is very much appreciated. The judges for the Youth Parade are from out of town and are not affiliated with any local groups. The judging for the Award Categories is as follows:

BEST CLUB/GROUP FLOAT (non-professional)	\$100.00, trophy & rosette
BEST CHURCH FLOAT (non-professional)	\$100.00, trophy & rosette
BEST MARCHING UNIT	trophy & rosette
BEST BAND ENTRY	trophy & rosette

Second and third place winners in each category will receive rosettes.

The Strawberry Youth Parade Committee will announce the winners in each category immediately following the parade at the Florida Strawberry Festival grounds at the Awards Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. in the Stingray Chevrolet Tent.

For more information about the Strawberry Youth Parade, please call Pat Pogue, president at (813) 754-4680 or email ppogue1559@aol.com.