Everybody loves a parade! The Downtown Dunedin Merchants Association is sponsoring its **21st Annual Dunedin Mardi Gras Celebration**, which will be held on Tuesday evening, February 21, in Downtown Dunedin. Our theme for this year is: **Big Mama's Jambalaya Jive (Come to Mama)**. The hours are from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., with the parade starting at approximately 7:30 p.m.

We have a fee of $100.00 to enter the parade. You must provide your own beads, if you wish to purchase your beads from the committee please contact your Parade/Float Directors. We will have them available at a very reasonable price. The beads will be available for pick up the night of the parade in the parking lot of the Stadium. We have enclosed information on purchasing your beads. . Please remember that you are ***required to provide enough beads to last the entire parade route for all of the participants in your unit.*** **.**

Enclosed please find a parade Entry Application that also explains parade requirements along with a Policy and requirements sheet and a Release/Waiver Form. Please fill these forms out completely and return them, along with your check and proof of liability insurance coverage by February 10, 2012 to: Downtown Dunedin Merchants Association, PO Box 2112, Dunedin, FL 34697 or email to dunedinmardigras@gmail.com.

By returning the application as soon as possible, we will be able to review your entry and contact you if we have any questions.

Due to limited space for the staging area, ALL entries that include motorized vehicles will be limited to three vehicles or a combined maximum of 100 linear feet. Professionally built floats and individually owned cars entered as part of an organized club will be excluded from this limitation. No additions to the total length of your entry may be made after February 10, 2012.

You should receive your "unit" line-up staging number and instructions by E-mail by Friday, February 17th. If you have not received it, please call 727-465-4898 after 11:00am on Friday February 17th.

The parade is staged along the west side of the Dunedin Blue Jays “Florida Auto Exchange” Stadium and Dunedin Public Library, on Douglas between Union and Beltrees. Please enter the staging area from Union and Douglas northbound. The staging area will be closed to thru traffic from about 5PM on. The parade route runs north on Douglas Ave. from the corner of Beltrees and Douglas, turning right on Skinner (State Rd 580) and then disbanding. You will be staged according to your number. You need to check in with the Parade Marshall upon arrival. As in past parades, metal barriers will be placed along the parade route, which will help alleviate the crowd from running into the street**.**

If you are interested in participating in the Dunedin Mardi Gras Parade, and would like information on renting a float, or have any other questions please call us at 727-465-4898. Or contact us at: dunedinmardigras@gmail.com, president@delightfuldunedin.com , or barmoredavid@gmail.com ,

Sincerely,

David Barmore
Sue Everett
Parade Directors

Downtown Dunedin Merchant Association

21st Annual Dunedin Mardi Gras Parade

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

PARADE APPLICATION

Sponsoring Group/Business: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ PHONE _____ Cell: _____.

TYPE OF ENTRY – ENTRY FEE $100

___ FLOAT Name/Title appearing on Float: _____

Total length including tow unit: _____ Width: _____ Height: _____

Music on Float: Yes_____ No_____ Number of riders: _____

___ BAND (Walking or Marching) Number in Band: _____

___ GOLF CART Number of Carts _____

___ WALKING UNIT – NO VEHICLES (Includes twirlers, scout troops, etc) Number of walkers _____

___ MOTORIZED VEHICLE(S) WITH WALKERS Number of vehicles _____Number of walkers_____

Type of vehicles_____ Total Length_____

___ MOTORIZED VEHICLE(S) – NO WALKERS Number of vehicles_____(Maximum 3)

Type of vehicles_____ Total Length_____

___ OTHER Describe: _____Number in group_____

Example: Horses, Dog Groups, etc.

Total length of your unit(s) including tow vehicles:_____ (Max 3 vehicles or 100 feet, except professionally built floats)

PROOF OF LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE IS REQUIRED FOR MOTORIZED UNITS. A COPY OF LIABILITY INSURANCE MUST BE ATTACHED WITH THIS APPLICATION.

****THE PARADE COMITTEE HAS THE FINAL DECISION ON ALL PARADE ENTRIES****

If, after submitting your application, you are unable to participate, please contact us ASAP so that we may adjust the line-up.

By signing this, we, as sponsors of this parade entry, agree to abide by the attached policies and the rules and regulations of the Mardi Gras Parade. The Parade participants and its members hold the Downtown Merchants Association and the City of Dunedin harmless for any accident, injury, loss, or damage with this engagement.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____Date_____

RETURN TO: Downtown Dunedin Merchants Association
PO Box 2112,
Dunedin, FL 34697 or email to dunedinmardigras@gmail.com.

Downtown Dunedin Merchant Association

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Please tell us about your entry

1. Float_____ Band_____ Other (list) _____

2. Organization/company sponsoring unit:_____

3. List additional sponsors (if any): _____

4. Contact Name:_____ Phone (Day)_____ (Eve_____

5. Who will ride or walk with the unit. (Eg. employees, volunteers):_____

6. If float - Length: _____ Width: _____ Height:_____

   Built by:_____

7. If band - How many members:_____

8. If pre-recorded music - what type of music will be played?_____

9. History of organization/company:_____

   _____

   _____

   _____

90. Costume or dress of riders or walkers (if any) _____

   _____

10. Range of ages of people in group._____

112. If animals in unit, what type?

   _____

12. Special comments:_____

   _____

   _____

Questions please call us at 727-465-4898. Or contact us at: dunedinmardigras@gmail.com, president@delightfuldunedin.com , or barmoredavid@gmail.com ,

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POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

Entering the Parade area:

All floats, cars, including antique cars, boats, and all other units are to enter the staging area from the south end of Douglas Ave at the corner of Union and proceed north to the staging area. Parade Staff will direct you to your line-up positions.

FLOAT DRIVERS ARE CAUTIONED TO BE ALERT FOR ANY OVERHANGING TREES IN THE AREA.

- Units should be in place by 5:45 p.m. **DO NOT ARRIVE EARLIER THAT 5:00 P.M**. Riders must arrive by 7:00 p.m.
- All parties specifically agree that the owner and sponsor accept full responsibility for protection against personal injury and property damage in the operation of said unit.
- It is clearly understood that the necessary personnel to staff the entry and costumes will be provided by the sponsoring organizations.
- **A DRIVER MUST REMAIN WITH THE FLOAT AT ALL TIMES**. You should maintain a 1.5 float length interval at all times.

For easier entrance into the staging area, PLEASE bring your staging unit number with you.

- All floats and tow units should be decorated.

- For safety reasons, please do not encourage the children along the route to come out onto the roadway for any reason.

- It is strongly suggested that items not be thrown from your unit into the crowd or onto the street, for both the parade watchers safety and your liability. Candy and other giveaways should be handed out by walkers or children no less than 14 years of age.

- Once in line and moving with the parade, remember you are part of the total show. Please maintain a distance of 35 feet behind the unit in front of you. Parade staff along the route will notify if you are too close or far away. Please no slowing down for photographs once the parade starts. If your unit becomes disabled, try and pull to one side to allow the parade to proceed around you. If able you may re-enter the parade.

Disbanding:

The Parade ends at the corner of Douglas and State Rd 580. All units will turn right. Floats and other parade units that need to break down or drop off riders should pull over to right hand curb of State Rd 580. Units that do not need to stop should proceed to the nearest intersection to enter traffic flow and if necessary loop back around to the staging area to drop people off at their cars. DO NOT try and reenter the downtown Dunedin core as it is closed to traffic. We encourage all participants to join us downtown for the live music, food and fun.

Rider Information:

WHERE TO GO: Report to the staging along the west side the Dunedin Blue Jays "Florida Auto Exchange" Stadium and Dunedin Public Library, on Douglas between Union and Beltrees. There is some parking in the Stadium lots, there are also a limited number of spaces available on the streets.

Riders must be with their units by 7pm.

Minimum age of persons riding the Float must be no less than fourteen (14) years of age, unless accompanied by an adult.

REMEMBER, as the starting time approaches, traffic in this area will become very congested, many of the streets will be closed to traffic, and parking will be limited. Please allow yourself ample time to arrive.

It is clearly understood that the necessary personnel to staff the float and costumes will be provided by the sponsoring organization.

PROOF OF LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE IS REQUIRED FOR MOTORIZED VEHICLES. A COPY OF LIABILITY INSURANCE MUST BE ATTACHED WITH THIS APPLICATION.

THE MARDI GRAS PARADE COMMITTEE HAS THE FINAL DECISION ON ALL PARADE ENTRIES

DOWNTOWN DUNEDIN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

Questions please call us at 727-465-4898. Or contact us at: dunedinmardigras@gmail.com, president@delightfuldunedin.com , or barmoredavid@gmail.com ,