



September 8, 2016

Dear Band Director:

The Chamber of Schenectady County invites your band to perform in The Annual Gazette Holiday Parade. If you have participated in the past, you know that this is a unique Capital Region tradition that entertains up to 40,000 spectators.

The parade is judged and the top band will be awarded the "Stepping to the Music" award in December along with a <u>\$500 prize</u>. Judges will be on the reviewing stand near Proctors – make sure you're ready to shine when you walk past them! Remember – groups need to continue to move. DO NOT STOP TO PERFORM.

Please join us for this nighttime parade on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19 at 5 p.m.

Marching bands are one of the most important and popular elements of the parade. With more than 100 entries and considerable press coverage, the Holiday Parade is a great opportunity to showcase your band. With the generous support of The Gazette Newspapers, Open Stage Media, GE, Price Chopper, MVP Health Care, SEFCU and seven radio stations, this year promises to be the biggest and best ever.

The Gazette Holiday Parade will be held the Saturday before Thanksgiving – rain or shine. Staging begins at 3 p.m. and we expect the parade to end by approximately 7 p.m. Our awards reception, at which we will present our "Stepping to the Music" award to one of the holiday parade bands, will take place on Wednesday, December 7.

Please feel free to call Robin Granger at 518.431.1434 or e-mail <a href="mailto:rgranger@capitalregionchamber.com">rgranger@capitalregionchamber.com</a> if you have any questions. If you choose to accept our invitation, please fill out the enclosed application form and return it as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration – we hope to see you on November 19!



Daytime Phone: \_\_

Band Director Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_



## **Band Application**

The Gazette Holiday Parade has a <u>small</u> budget, supplied by sponsors, to assist bands in need of funding to participate in the Holiday Parade.		
	Fee Required: \$	
Payment will be made in the first week of December. Check should be made payable to:		
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Contact Person:		_
Group Name:		For Office Use Only
	State: ZIP:	Date Received

Important: Please attach information about your band for parade publicity and use by our announcers!

\_\_\_\_\_ (for use the night of the event to relay emergency information.)

Please return to: Robin Granger

The Chamber of Schenectady County | 306 State Street | Schenectady, NY 12305 rgranger@capitalregionchamber.com | FAX 518.431.1484