



Cambridge-Dorchester County Christmas Parade

CDCCP, Inc. - a 501(c)(3) Corporation PO Box 1083
Cambridge, Maryland 21613
www.christmasparade.org
Email: cdccp@yahoo.com

2026 Theme “Hard Candy Christmas”

Saturday, December 5, 2026

Line-Up Time: 4:00 PM at Long Wharf Park

Parade Start Time 5:00 PM

Please join us for the Cambridge-Dorchester County Christmas Parade in historic downtown Cambridge, Maryland, on 12/5/2026. A Cambridge Tradition Since 1946!

Each year we provide participation stipends (\$200 for Middle and High School bands and \$100 for Elementary bands) in attendance, in addition to prize money for top-performing bands first through third, bragging rights, and trophies.

Bands are encouraged to display their talents and compete for trophies and prize money.

Judging is provided by an independent panel of out-of-state judges. We have employed a four-person panel who are collectively DCA, MAPS, WGI, and/or US Bands affiliated. Our judges include some of the best in the marching arts arena.

High School 1 st Place: \$200 High School 2 nd Place: \$150.00 High School 3 rd Place: \$125.00	Middle School 1 st Place: \$150.00 Middle School 2 nd Place: \$125.00 Middle School 3 rd Place: \$100.00
Trophies are awarded as follows High School 1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd Middle School 1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd Best Drum Major Best Band Front Best Winds/Brass Best Percussion Best Band Overall	

Bands are extended 120 seconds for performance at the reviewing stand located at Craig’s Pharmacy Parking Lot on Race Street.

Any questions, call Bruce McWilliams at 443-521-1671.

Please complete the form below and mail it to the above address or email it to

cdccp@yahoo.com



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Band Registration Form

School Name _____

Band Name _____

Band Director _____

Contact Phone _____

Email _____ Cell _____

Drum Majors _____

Approximate Length of your Band (in feet) _____

Assistant Directors _____

Musical selection the band will be performing: _____

Please note any information you would like announced at the grandstand (you may attach an additional sheet, but keep in mind there is little time for prior announcement). Feel free to type and attach.

STIPENDS: Stipend money (High, Middle & Elementary) will be handed to band directors upon arrival at Long Wharf. We will ask for a signature that allows us to record that you were provided the check. Please provide:

To whom the check should be endorsed (Payee): _____

PRIZE MONEY: (Middle & High School) - Please provide us the following information

To whom the check should be endorsed (Payee): _____

The exact name and address of the individual authorized to receive prize money: _____

(checks will be handed out immediately following the parade at the reviewing stand)

Please note, **once checks have been signed for, or in the event they go unclaimed, they will not be replaced.** This has become a recurrent problem and has made book-keeping difficult. A person should be designated to retrieve the check from the reviewing stand the evening of the parade, following the parade. We will NOT mail checks.

Please Email or Fax Completed Forms to: cdccp@yahoo.com or Fax: 410-749-7550



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BAND PARADE RULES 2026

“Hard Candy Christmas”

1. **FULL PARADE ROUTE:** The Bands will kick off from Long Wharf, as typical. The Route progresses this year from Long Wharf, down High Street, turning onto Poplar and continuing on Race to Washington Street, ending the parade at the formerly known Haddaway’s Service Center. (755 Race St, Cambridge, MD 21613).
2. **LINE UP:** Lineup for all bands remains at Long Wharf. All entrants should be at the lineup destination at Long Wharf **no later than 4:15 PM – We are still preparing the lineup, but will email lineup numbers to each of you. Entry numbers will also be posted online – with a link to the lineup on Facebook.**
3. **PARKING/UNLOADING:** Buses and accessory vehicles accompanying each school band are permitted at Long Wharf for drop off of students and equipment **ONLY**. All vehicles, after unloading, shall immediately unload and leave the area. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. This is in light of safety and congestion concerns. Band Directors - please be sure that your bus drivers are aware and that unloading begins immediately upon arrival at Long Wharf. **No one shall be permitted to stay in the staging/lineup area at Long Wharf except for unloading.** We would ask that everyone depart within fifteen minutes upon arrival at Long Wharf. Buses may park at Haddaway’s and behind the church at the Washington and Race intersection to pick up students from the end of the parade route. **PARENT DROPOFF - Parents dropping children off in personal vehicles will be asked to drop students the half block prior to Long Wharf to walk down to staging to avoid safety issues and congestion. PARENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED to drive into Long Wharf. Please alert your parents to plan accordingly in advance.**
4. **STIPENDS:** Stipend money will be handed to band directors upon arrival at Long Wharf. We will ask for a signature which allows us to record that you were provided the check. We will also verify who is permitted to pick up prize money **TO BE HANDED OUT FOLLOWING THE PARADE AT THE REVIEWING STAND**. Checks will not be mailed.
5. **TROPHIES:** Trophies and the announcements of winning entries will occur immediately following the parade, at the reviewing stand. **PLEASE** be available or have someone designated to be present at the reviewing stand for the announcement and to collect trophies. **NO TROPHIES WILL BE MAILED.**
6. **PRIZE MONEY:** Prize money for those bands placing 1st through 3rd **will be handed out at the reviewing stand following the parade. A designated individual should plan to receive prize money and trophies.** Please note, **once checks have been signed for, or in the event they go unclaimed, they will not be replaced.** This has become a recurrent problem and has made bookkeeping difficult. We will not mail checks for prize money. Someone **MUST** be present to sign for prize money following the parade.
7. Entries are encouraged to **DECORATE** or incorporate the theme into performance (lighting is optional). **This year’s theme is: “Hard Candy Christmas”.**
8. All entries must have their group or organization’s name visible to the judge’s eye for proper judging recognition.

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- 9. NEW -** Band entries will be allowed to stop in front of the judges' stand **ONLY**. You are to make your performance **NO** longer than 120 seconds (yes, double the time from past years). Bands may take advantage of a full two minutes to perform. You will be timed by the NJA. It is at the NJA's discretion whether to disqualify or diminution of points for going over 120 seconds.
- 10.** Entries are **NOT ALLOWED** to have or display a real-life Santa Claus on their float or driven vehicle. Any entry doing so **WILL BE** removed from the parade.
- 11.** No candy can be thrown. You may have someone walking next to your entry handing out candy. If any member of the Parade Committee sees you violating this rule, you will be disqualified from judging and removed from the parade. This is for the safety of the children watching the parade!
- 12.** No hot rodding, hole shots, or wheelies will be allowed during the parade. This rule is in place to protect spectators. If you are caught violating this rule, you will be disqualified from judging and removed from the parade.
- 13.** Entry forms must be postmarked (US Mail) no later than November 20, 2026. Lineup will be posted on the website and Facebook page on December 4, 2026 by 9 p.m. We will make an attempt to email lineup numbers to those including an email address on their application.
- 14.** Due to difficulties in rescheduling, there will be **NO RAIN DATE**.

If you have any questions, please contact
Parade Chairman, Bruce McWilliams, or Amanda McWilliams
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Web: www.christmasparade.org