



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR 33rd ANNUAL GRAND ILLUMINATION PARADE

NORFOLK, Va. – (December 2017) – More than 80,000 parade-goers along the two-mile route were treated to quite an impressive show by the 75 units in the 2017 Grand Illumination Parade.

An independent panel of judges were staged along the route to evaluate the units that were all competing to win one of the prestigious Grand Illumination Parade awards.

The Downtown Norfolk Council is proud to congratulate the following 2017 Grand Illumination Parade award winners.

President's Award (*Unit with the best use of innovation and imagination*)

Norfolk NATO Festival

Best in Class

Animal – Pugs U Gotta Save

Motorized – Black and White Cabs *Was also the winner for motorized in 2016*

Walking – The Marching Elites *Was also the winner for walking in 2016*

Float - Best in Show

Hurrah Players

Float – Best Illumination

City of Norfolk

Float – Best Theme Interpretation

Copeland Mills School of the Arts

Best Commercial Float

Dominion Energy

Best Non-Commercial Float

Hampton Roads Pride Boat Club

1st Place High School Marching Band

Nansemond River High School

2nd Place High School Marching Band

Norview High School

3rd Place High School Marching Band

Maury High School

Best Marching Band (*Presented to a band other than High School*)

Hampton University

“Balloonatics” Winner

Wells Fargo carrying Bubbles the Fish. The award recognizes the most enthusiastic Giant Helium Balloon Handlers.

Nordstrom Style Award

Sail Nauticus. The award recognizes the unit that had the most well thought out, creative and stylish attire.

The Grand Illumination Parade also kicks off the annual Holidays in the City celebrations in both Downtown Norfolk and Olde Town Portsmouth. It's a magical time to visit with holiday music, festive lights decorating the streets and the pleasant aroma of chefs' special creations at nearby restaurants. Greenery and holiday displays adorn doorways and windows of shops and hotels, and there are special events and festivities scheduled for people of all ages. For a complete list of activities and events, visit holidaysinthecity.net.

Downtown Norfolk Council is a private, not-for-profit membership organization comprised of businesses and individuals working toward a dynamic, attractive and prosperous Downtown. DNC also manages the Downtown Norfolk Improvement District, a 48-block special services district with enhanced services that keep Downtown friendly, safe and spotless. Connect with Downtown Norfolk on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram or visit DowntownNorfolk.org.

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