

Carolinas' Carrousel Announces the 2009 Spirit of Carrousel Award Winners

Bands in the Thanksgiving Day Parade selected for outstanding performance

CHARLOTTE, NC – November 26, 2009—The winner of the Spirit of Carrousel marching band award was named at the close of the Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade in uptown Charlotte on Thursday, November 26. Judges select the winning band based on overall performance and musical skill. The band wins a cash award and will serve as the Honor Band, the leading band for the 2009 Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade. Providence High School's Pride of Providence Marching Band was the Honor Band for the 2009 parade.

In addition to the Spirit of Carrousel Award, three bands are chosen as best in their respective classes: Class AAA—75 or more wind instruments, Class AA—50-74 wind instruments, and Class A—up to 49 wind instruments. These band winners also receive cash awards.

The 2009 winners are:

Spirit of Carrousel Award	East Burke High School
Class AAA	East Burke High School
Class AA	Providence High School
Class A	Ashe County High School

The parade band judges also chose Drills of Hope as the best Step & Drill Team and Greenville CYO Marching Corps as the best Step and Rhythm Band for 2009.

The 2009 Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade presented by Belk featured over 120 units, including marching bands, floats, step units and drill teams, and "special units." The number of spectators who attended the parade in uptown Charlotte is estimated to have been over 100,000.

About Us

The Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade has evolved over more than six decades as a regional tradition and highlight of the Holiday Season. Founded in 1947 by four local businessmen to attract holiday shoppers to uptown Charlotte, the Thanksgiving week events have become so much more. In 2008, the Parade was recognized as the fourth largest Thanksgiving Parade in the United States. The Parade and its ancillary events are produced by Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc., an independent, volunteer, non-profit, charitable organization. Carolinas' Carrousel is committed to enhancing regional area's community life through quality family oriented entertainment. The Parade officially announces and celebrates the beginning of the Holiday Season. In addition, it promotes excellence through awards to area high school students and marching bands. The Carolinas' Carrousel also exists to offer business, industry, and the local citizenry the opportunity of participating in showcasing the region and encouraging academic and artistic excellence in the future leaders of the area.

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