



Carolinas' Carrousel Announces the 2011 Spirit of Carrousel Award Winners

Bands in the Belk Carolinas' Carrousel Parade selected for outstanding performance

CHARLOTTE, NC – November 24, 2011—The winner of the Spirit of Carrousel marching band award was named at the close of the Belk Carolinas' Carrousel Parade in uptown Charlotte on Thursday, November 24. 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 2012 Belk Carolinas' Carrousel Parade. East Burke High School's Marching Cavaliers Band was the Honor Band for the 2011 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 winning bands also receive cash awards.

The 2011 winners are:

Spirit of Carrousel Award	Pride of Providence Marching Band from Providence High School
Class AAA	Pride of Providence Marching Band
Class AA	Charlotte District Band
Class A	Bailey Brass Band

The parade band judges also chose James Martin Middle School Step Team as the best Step & Drill Team and Drills of Hope as the best Step and Rhythm Band for 2011.

The 2011 Belk Carolinas' Carrousel Parade featured over 110 units, including marching bands, floats, step units and drill teams, and "special units." New units in this year's parade included the Biltmore Estate, NarroWay Productions and the touring company of Million Dollar Quartet, which is playing at the Knight Theater in uptown Charlotte through December 11. The Belk float featuring children modeling clothes from Belk, Belkie Bear and Santa provided a merry finale to the parade.

About Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc.

The Belk Carolinas' Carrousel 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

much more. The Parade and its ancillary activities, such as the Carrousel Scholarship program, 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. Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc. also exists to offer business, industry, and the local citizenry the opportunity of participating in showcasing the region and encouraging academic excellence in the future leaders of the area.

About Belk, Inc.

Charlotte, N.C.-based Belk, Inc. (www.belk.com) is the nation's largest privately owned mainline department store company with 303 Belk stores located in 16 Southern states. The company was founded in 1888 by William Henry Belk in Monroe, N.C., and is in the third generation of Belk family leadership. Its belk.com Web site offers a wide assortment of fashion apparel, shoes and accessories for the entire family along with top name cosmetics, a wedding registry and a large selection of quality merchandise for the home. To connect with Belk via Facebook, Twitter, blog, mobile phone text messages or by email, go to: Belk Get Connected.

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