



Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade Launches A Carrousel Wedding Contest

CHARLOTTE, NC – September 2, 2008 – Prospective newlyweds have a chance to win more than \$2,500 in wedding-related prizes and a chance to ride the Carrousel Wedding Float in the 2008 Carolinas' Thanksgiving Day Parade presented by Belk. Carolinas' Carrousel, Inc., the producer of the annual parade, is extending an invitation for brides and grooms to enter the Carrousel Bride & Groom contest.

Belk's Wedding Registry is one of the contest's main sponsors. Other sponsors supporting the contest and float are Barbara McKay's Premier Bride magazine, Bedazzled Bridal and Formal, Rose Chauffeured Transportation and Cheesecake, Etc. Each of these companies is contributing a generous prize for the winning couple and their logos will be featured on the Carrousel Wedding float, which will look like a big wedding cake. The contest was announced on August 17 at the Bridal Showcase, produced by Carolina Weddings and Events.

"We want to add a lot of new features to this year's parade," says Linda H. Vespa, executive director for Carolinas' Carrousel. "We came up with the idea to do a wedding-themed float and to invite local wedding industry professionals to participate. Belk, as the parade's presenting sponsor, agreed that this would be a good way to promote its Wedding Registry department. We decided to have a contest to select a Carrousel Bride and Groom to ride on the float in the parade and receive valuable prizes from the contest's sponsors."

"Belk is excited to support the parade and this contest," says Sara Miller, bridal manager at Belk. "We welcome the opportunity to make a local couple's big day even more special!"

Couples interested in entering the contest can find information and an entry form on the parade's website, www.carolinasthanksgivingparade.org. The deadline to enter is October 9, 2008.

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. 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 excellence in the future leaders of the area.

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