



**TO MAROON
AND BACK**
MSU HOMECOMING 2023

Welcome To Homecoming 2023!

Missouri State University Community,

This year's Homecoming Committee is extremely excited to get Missouri State University's 2023 Homecoming underway! This year, we are excited to have a theme that will excite the whole bear community. We wanted to select something that will embrace a different experience and truly challenge participants' creativity. Our 2023 homecoming theme is "To Maroon and Back". This theme embodies any and all things outer space, discovery, and exploration and the committee is excited to see what "out of this world" ideas with which participants choose to embrace the celebration. The goal of every celebration of Homecoming is to be inclusive of all students. With this theme, we hope to test your creativity, pride in Missouri State University, and ability to display cultural competence, community engagement, and ethical leadership throughout.

We are excited to welcome returning and new organizations to this celebration! Things are always changing so be sure to read the full packet to get all the details about the week's events and please pay extra attention to any areas where disqualifications and point deductions can happen. Make sure to follow our Twitter and Instagram accounts (@MOStateHoco) for updates.

As always, contact the committee if you have any questions and welcome to our "Stellar" Homecoming!

Best wishes and Happy Homecoming,

Faron Haase and Paige Paxton

2023 Homecoming Co-Chairs

Calendar of Important Events

Monday, August 21, 2023 - 12pm

- Homecoming Packet Released
- Homecoming Royalty Packet Released
- Homecoming Event Entry Form Available

***ALL AVAILABLE ON BEARLINK

Tuesday, September 19, 2023 – 7 PM

- Optional Informational Meeting #1
 - o Meyer Library 101

Friday, September 22, 2023 – 5 PM

- All Entry Forms Are Due

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 – 7 PM

- Mandatory Informational Meeting #1
 - o PSU Theatre

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 – 7 PM

- Rockstar Auditions
 - o PSU 308AB

Friday, September 29, 2023 – 7 PM

- Rockstar Auditions
 - o PSU 312

Thursday, October 5, 2023 – 7 PM

- Mandatory Informational Meeting #2
 - o PSU Theatre

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 – 4 PM

- Spirit Banners Due
 - o Office of Student Engagement

Sunday, October 15, 2023 – 10-11:30 AM

- Decorate Downtown
 - o Start at Meyer Alumni Center

Sunday, October 15, 2023 – 1 PM

- Chalk N' Rock
 - North Mall

Sunday, October 15, 2023

- Spirit Banner Judging
 - Plaster Student Union

Monday, October 16, 2023 – 12 PM

- Donation Drive Begins
 - Multicultural Resource Center and Center for Community Engagement (PSU 1st Floor)

Monday, October 16, 2023 – 4 PM

- PSU Window Decorating
 - Plaster Student Union (North Patio)

Monday, October 16, 2023 – 12:01 AM

- King and Queen Voting Available Online

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 – 7 PM

- Rockstar
 - Hammons Student Center

Wednesday, October 18, 2023 – 4 PM

- Field Day
 - Foster Recreation Center

Thursday, October 19, 2023 – 9-9:30 and 12:30-3:30 PM

- Mandatory MO State Live Skit Rehearsal
 - Time slot requested closer to date

Thursday, October 19, 2023 – 7:30 PM

- MO State Live
 - Hammons Student Center

Friday, October 20, 2023 – 4 PM

- Maroon and White Night

- PSU North Mall

Friday, October 20, 2023 – 5 PM

- Donation Drive Ends
 - Multicultural Resource Center and Center for Community Engagement (PSU 1st Floor)

Friday, October 20, 2023 – 5 PM

- King and Queen Voting Ends

Saturday, October 21, 2023 – 9 AM

- Band of Bears Homecoming Parade
 - John Q. Hammons Parkway

Saturday, October 21, 2023 – 11 AM

- Bear Fest Village Homecoming Tailgate
 - Bear Fest Village

Saturday, October 21, 2023 – 2 PM

- Bears Football Game
 - Homecoming Royalty Coronation

This Year's Opponent:



Murray State University

Murray, Kentucky

Committee Contact Information

Name	Position	Email
Tara Benson/Paige Jenkins	Advisors	tbenson@MissouriState.edu
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Ainsley Kempin	Philanthropy Coordinator	Ainsley790@live.missouristate.edu

Campus Wide Homecoming Informational Meeting (Optional to Attend)

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Library 101

7-8pm

All interested participants are welcome to attend. The purpose of these meetings is to provide each participating organization with an opportunity to ask questions prior to submitting their registration forms. We recommend you bring a laptop or a notebook to take notes. If your organization is participating in Homecoming for the first time, or the first time in a few years, we recommend you consider attending one of these meetings.

Entry Forms for ALL Participating Organizations are Due:

Friday, September 22, 2023, by
5:00PM
via BearLINK

The BearLINK time stamp must be before 5:00 PM CST on
September 22, 2023.

Mandatory Homecoming Meetings

Tuesday, September 26, 2023
Thursday, October 5, 2023

7 pm - 8 pm

PSU Theatre

Each participating organization must have AT LEAST ONE representative present on both meeting dates, even if they are on a team with other organizations. The representative from each organization does not have to be the same individual for both meetings. Any participating organization that does not have a representative present will be disqualified from participating in the Homecoming 2023 events.

Attention Student Organization Leaders

Please ensure you have completed the annual registration form to re-register your organization for the 2023-2024 school year. You can do this by following the instructions on this link:

<https://organizations.missouristate.edu/Guide/student-organization-annual-registration.htm>

Your organization will not be allowed to compete in Homecoming unless they have registered with the link above.

If you have any questions, you can reach out to the Office of Student Engagement!

Points Information

Missouri State's student organizations will be divided into three separate divisions: Student Organizations, Residence Life, and Fraternity and Sorority Life. They will compete for points throughout the week of Homecoming to win their respective divisions.

Student Organizations, Residence Life organizations, and Fraternity and Sorority Life will be allowed to team up with other organizations within their division. Meaning points/ranking will be done according to teams, not individual organizations.

Clarification for working in teams: For example, if Organization A and Organization B are teamed up this year, they must enter as a team by filling out the proper information on their entry forms. If the team places first in an event, they will receive participation points and

placing points as a team. There is not an option to enter separately into one event and as a team in another event, teams are scored and judged as a team for every event.

Organizations are not allowed to team up with organizations that they have paired with for the previous Homecoming. For example, if Organizations A, B, and C were a team for Homecoming 2022, none of them can be paired together again until Homecoming 2024. (Note: Greek Week pairings do not affect Homecoming pairings, and while there is not a limit on how many organizations can be on one team, there is a cap of 300 total members).

Entry forms are due Friday, September 22, 2023, at 5:00 pm via BearLINK. Organizations are not allowed to participate as part of more than one team or join a team after they have sent in their entry forms. No changes or teams can be made after entry forms are submitted via BearLINK. If there are any questions regarding entry forms, please contact the Team Competition Coordinator or Homecoming Co-Chairs before Friday, September 22, 2023.

In the event of a tie at the end of Homecoming Week:

In the event of a tie at the end of Homecoming Week, the highest and lowest point values for the tied organizations/teams will be dropped, and the remaining points will be averaged. The organization/team with the highest average will win. For example:

	Banner	Window Painting	Chalk N Rock	Decorate Downtown	Rockstar	Field Day	Mo State Live	New Average
Team A	50	150	250	150	325	0	275	825/5= 165
Team B	100	250	150	150	225	50	275	875/5= 175

In this example, Team B would take 1st place in their division

In the event of a tie within a specific event:

While some Homecoming events have tiebreakers defined within their rules, some do not. If there is a tie within an event that does not have a defined tiebreaker, each of the tying teams will receive placing points for the event. For example, if Organizations A and B tie for first place in the Banner Event, each organization will get 150 points for placing first (along with the 50 participation points). Then, if Organization C was beaten by both A and B, they will receive third place with 50 points (along with 50 participation points). They will not be “bumped up” to second place, second place points will remain unawarded.

Homecoming Points Breakdown

Event	Participation	Placing (Additional Points)
Banner Competition	50	1st - 150 2nd - 100 3 rd - 50
Decorate Downtown	150	1 st - 150 2nd - 100 3rd - 50
Chalk N’ Rock	150	1 st - 150 2nd - 100 3rd - 50
PSU Window Painting	150	1st - 150 2nd - 100 3rd - 50
Donation Drive	Clothing drive: 100 Food drive: 100	1st - 200 2nd - 150 3rd - 100
Rockstar	75 (Auditioning) 150 (Participating)	1st - 400 2nd - 300 3rd - 200

Field Day	50	1st - 200 2nd - 150 3rd - 100
Mo State Live	75 (Auditioning) 200 (Participating)	1st - 400 2nd - 300 3 rd - 200
Parade – Walking Entry	150	1st - 300 2nd - 200 3rd - 100
Parade – Decorated Car	150	1st - 300 2nd - 200 3rd - 100
Parade – Float	400	1st - 500 2nd - 400 3rd - 300
TOTAL POINTS	2,250 (Including auditioning and participating)	5,150 (1st in each event)

Overall Rules

Every Homecoming event has its own unique set of rules and regulations listed further in this packet. Please read the rules for each event carefully to avoid any point deductions or disqualifications. In addition to the rules outlined for each individual event, the following rules are applicable to ALL events sponsored and hosted by the MSU Homecoming Committee.

1. To compete in any Homecoming event, the organization must complete an entry form and submit all relevant information. Entry forms are to be completed on the Homecoming BearLINK page by 5:00 pm on Friday, September 22, 2023.
2. If competing as a team, each organization must complete an entry form and indicate the organizations they are competing

with. Organizations in teams will compete as a team for all the Homecoming events.

3. All entries will be sensitive to all identities and groups. Entries which do not stay true to our three pillars and violate this rule may result in a range from point deductions to disqualification by the authority of the Homecoming Advisor.
4. To compete in Homecoming, an organization cannot be on probation with the Office of Student Conduct, Office of Student Engagement, or Fraternity and Sorority Life. If an organization that is competing as a part of a team is placed on probation, they will no longer be allowed to assist their team in any way and their name cannot appear on any Homecoming-related materials. For example, the name of the organization on probation cannot be listed in the PSU Window Painting design.

All participating organizations must check-in with the committee member in charge of the event. Failure to do this will result in a five-point deduction. Regarding check-out information, check specific event details to see if checking out with a committee member is necessary.

The following rules are specific to ALL the events that are art-related: (Spirit Banner, Chalk-N-Rock, PSU Window Painting and Decorate Downtown)

1. The name of the organization(s) must be clearly displayed and fully spelled out (not in Greek letters or acronyms). Organizations on probation cannot be included in the design. Displaying the names of these organizations will result in a five-point deduction.
2. No entry may suggest or include any profane language or action, vulgar or sexually suggestive material, or anything perceived as

promoting the use of alcohol or drug use. Additionally, no entry shall contain political, commercial, or controversial themes or slanderous statements.

3. Decorations and artwork will be displayed all week long; therefore, decorations must be done with good taste and incorporate the Homecoming theme of "To Maroon and Back".

Disclaimer

In the case of ambiguity or contradiction within the packet, ALL decisions are up to the discretion of the 2023 Missouri State University Homecoming Committee. In the case of clarification, information will be shared with the necessary parties.

Spirit Banner

Judging on Sunday, October 15

Plaster Student Union

1 PM – 1:30 PM

Rules and Regulations:

1. Banners must be no larger than the size of a twin-size sheet. If the banner is larger than the specified size, it will not be judged or displayed.

2. The organization MUST punch holes at the top of the banner and reinforce the holes with grommets. If there are no holes, the banner will not be hung, and therefore will not be judged.
3. Paint, markers, (SPRAY GLITTER ONLY), etc., may be used to decorate the banners.
4. Banners must be submitted to the Office of Student Engagement by 4:00 pm on Wednesday, October 11, 2023. The banners must be dry and folded or rolled when submitted or they will not be judged.
5. Banners must incorporate the Homecoming theme, “To Maroon and Back”
6. The name of the organization(s) must be clearly displayed on the banner and fully spelled out. If competing as a team, all organizations' names must be present.
7. No banner shall contain political, commercial, or controversial themes.
8. No banner may depict alcohol/drug use, illegal acts, slanderous statements, and they shall be sensitive to all identities and groups.
9. If banners are not picked up by 5:00 pm on Sunday, October 29, 2023, they will be discarded. Banners will be available to be picked up in the Office of Student Engagement beginning Monday, October 23rd.

The following criteria will be used by the judges in distributing points. Each criterion will be ranked on a 1-10 point scale for a perfect score of 50 points.

Originality/Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
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Correlation to Theme	Design relates to MSU's Homecoming Theme - "To Maroon and Back"
Overall Impression	They put forth the effort to create a high-quality decoration, their hard work is apparent
MSU Pride Shown	Showcased elements of the university; amount of pride felt
Utilization of Space	Resourceful with design and used area allotted creatively

First place for each division \$50

Decorate Downtown

Sunday, October 15

Downtown Springfield

10:00 am - 11:30 am

Each participating team will be partnered with a downtown Springfield establishment. It will be the responsibility of your team to reflect the spirit and pride of Missouri State Homecoming with exciting and appropriate decorations. Each team is to remember that they are representing Missouri State University and should reflect their school pride in their decorations.

Rules and Regulations:

1. Organizations will be paired up with a business by the Decorate Downtown Coordinator. Do not contact businesses, as they have already been contacted.
2. Your team is allowed to have six (6) participants helping with decorating your assigned window.
3. Each team will be supplied with ten (10) bowls of paint. If a team needs more than 10 bowls of paint, there will be a five-point deduction per additional bowl of paint. Organizations may not bring their own paint, outside decorations, stencils, or glitter; only paint provided by Homecoming Committee is permitted. Use of these items not provided by the Homecoming Committee will result in disqualification from the event. Organizations must supply paintbrushes and water. Organizations may also choose to supply their own painter's tape and additional containers to hold and/or mix paint, as well as rulers or yardsticks.
4. Check-in begins at 9 am and ends at 9:45 am at Meyer Alumni Center in Downtown Springfield. You may check in at the designated table, with Homecoming Committee.
5. Organizations will begin decorating at 10 am and must finish decorating at 11:30 am. Any organization continuing to decorate after 11:30 am will be disqualified. Judging will begin at 11:45 am.
6. The Homecoming Committee will pre-assign window spaces for all competitors, with space of equal size. Organizations should be prepared to paint one window, regardless of location. Organizations should contain their decorations to the space that was designated to them by the Homecoming Committee. If an organization decorates outside of their allocated space, it will result in a five-point deduction.

7. An additional item to add to the window painting will be announced on the day of the event. This item will be revealed via Twitter and Instagram (@MOStateHoco) at 9:45 am. Teams must find a way to incorporate this item into their design or they will face a five-point deduction.
8. DO NOT DISRUPT THE NORMAL BUSINESS DEALINGS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT. In the event of a filed complaint or lack of cooperation, the student organization will be disqualified from the event and eligibility for next year's event will be pending.
9. Organizations will not be able to enter the business for any reason pertaining to the event, including getting water or washing paintbrushes. You may enter for personal reasons (food, coffee, restroom).
10. All competitors and/or spectators must be respectful and clean up the area around the business! Any paint found on the sidewalk or on the building, and/or paint bowls or brushes left outside the building once an organization has checked out will lead to a disqualification.
11. Organizations will not be responsible for cleaning the paint off the windows at the end of the week. The Homecoming Committee will provide professional cleaning services to clean at the end of the week.
12. The Homecoming Committee reserves the right to do spot checks of all entries regarding progress, decoration procedures, and the regulation of event rules and University policies.
13. Organizations MUST check in and out with the Decorate Downtown Coordinators, or their designee, at the Meyer Alumni Center. If an organization leaves without checking in AND out, five (5) points will be deducted from the organization's score for Decorate Downtown.

The following criteria will be used by the judges in distributing points. Each criterion will be ranked on a 1-10 point scale for a perfect score of 60 points.

Originality/Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
Correlation to Theme	Design relates to MSU's Homecoming Theme – "To Maroon and Back"
Overall Impression	They put forth the effort to create a high-quality decoration, their hard work is apparent
MSU Pride Shown	Showcased elements of the university; amount of pride felt
Utilization of Space	Resourceful with design and used area allotted creatively
Incorporation of Surprise Item	How well did you incorporate the surprise item provided by the committee on the day of the event?

Chalk N' Rock

Sunday, October 15

North Mall

1 PM – 2 PM

This year we are excited to continue the tradition of Chalk N' Rock! However, PSU Window Painting and Chalk N' Rock will happen at different times and days, which is a change from previous years. All teams will be assigned a sidewalk square the day of the event and everyone will chalk at the same time.

Rules and Regulations:

1. Organizations must check-in and out in front of the Plaster Student Union, at the designated Homecoming Committee table. If an organization leaves without checking out or cleaning their area, there will be a five-point deduction.
2. Time limit for chalking will be one hour, from 1pm to 2pm.
3. Organizations must provide their own washable sidewalk chalk. ALL chalk must remain in its original packaging. NO paint chalk can be used. All chalk MUST be water soluble. If an organization uses non-water-soluble chalk, they will be disqualified from the event.
4. Your team is allowed to have up to four (4) participants working at your assigned station at a time.
5. NO stencils will be permitted for this event. Teams may use tape to outline and a sponge with water to help design. The use of stencils will result in disqualification from the event.
6. Sidewalk squares by the MSU Bookstore will be assigned randomly by the Homecoming Committee.
7. Organizations are limited to chalking within their assigned squares. If an organization chawks outside of their assigned square, they will be disqualified.

The following criteria will be used by the judges in distributing points. Each criterion will be ranked on a 1-10 point scale for a perfect score of 50 points.

Originality/Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
Correlation to Theme	Design relates to MSU's Homecoming Theme "To Maroon and Back"
Overall Impression	They put forth the effort to create a high-quality decoration, their hard work is apparent
MSU Pride Shown	Showcased elements of the university; amount of pride felt
Utilization of Space	Resourceful with design and used area allotted creatively

Donation Drive

Monday, October 16 – Friday October 20

Center for Community Engagement and
Multicultural Resource Center

Event Description:

Rather than hosting the typical “Can We Build It?” event, this year we will be hosting a week-long Donation Drive. The Donation Drive will take place throughout the week of Homecoming, Monday, October 16 through Friday, October 20. The drive will consist of two separate competitions. First, a clothing drive to benefit the Missouri State University Transitions Closet, located in the Multicultural Resource Center (MRC) on the first floor of the Plaster Student Union. The second part will be our traditional food drive to benefit the Ozarks Food Harvest and Missouri State University Bear Pantry, located in University Hall.

Ozarks Food Harvest provides food distribution and services to hunger-relief organizations in the Ozarks. The Transitions Closet is a resource provided through MSU’s Multicultural Resource Center. It is free and open to all students who are in need of clothing or going through some form of life transition, including but not limited to- students in need of gender-affirming clothing, international students transitioning into the United States from abroad, and students preparing to transition out of Missouri State into full-time employment.

From 12pm on Monday, October 16 until 12pm Friday, October 20, there will be bins outside of the Center for Community Engagement (CCE) and Multicultural Resource Center (MRC), both located on the first floor of the PSU. Each team will have a labeled bin located in front of each of the two offices for their donations.

The Homecoming Committee will count the donations and update current rankings each day of the drive and post them at the entrances of both the MRC and CCE. For placements, each clothing item will represent 1 pound of food. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each division will be determined by the total combined “weight” of food and clothing donated by each competing party. 1st place will receive 200 points, 2nd place will receive 150 points, and 3rd place will receive 100 points.

Rules and Regulations

Clothing Drive:

- Teams will receive 100 participation points for donating at least 25 items throughout the week
- At the end of the week, the clothing items will be totaled, and each item will count as 1 pound.
- All donations must be turned in by 12pm on Friday, October 20 to be accepted and in consideration for points.
- Shoes and other two-piece items will be considered 1 item as a pair.
- Preferred items include:
 - o Bear wear
 - o Slacks
 - o Sweaters
 - o Jackets
 - o Coats
- The Homecoming Committee will post updates with the current most needed items occasionally on Instagram and Twitter at @mostatehoco.

Food Drive:

- Teams will receive 100 participation points for donating at least 25 pounds throughout the week
- At the end of the week, the food items will be totaled by team
- Cans cannot be disfigured in any way such as being painted, having construction paper sleeves, having removed labels, etc.
- If there are any currently expired items OR any that will expire before October 23rd, 2024, EACH expired item can result in a 3-point deduction. If there are 5 or more cans that are currently expired or will expire before October 23rd, 2024, the team will be disqualified from this event.

- Each team must have at least three (3) members sign up to help sort and organize donated items throughout the week, for a total of three members throughout the duration of the drive.
- A sign-up sheet will be provided to competing parties to designate their volunteers the week before Homecoming for those sorting and organizing donations.
- All donations must be in or by your team's bin by 12pm on Friday, October 20 to be accepted and in consideration for points.
- Preferred items include:
 - Tuna or other canned meat
 - Peanut butter
 - Cereal
 - Canned fruit and vegetables
 - Beans, soups, or stews
 - Boxed rice
 - Boxed pasta
- The Homecoming Committee will post updates with the current most needed items occasionally on Instagram and Twitter at @mostatehoco.

PSU Window Painting

Monday, October 16

Plaster Student Union (North Patio)

4 – 5 PM

This year we are excited to continue the tradition of PSU Window Painting! However, PSU Window Painting and Chalk N' Rock will happen at different times and days, which is a change from previous years. All teams will be assigned a window panel the day of the event and everyone will paint at the same time.

Rules and Regulations

1. Check-in will begin at 3:30 pm.
2. Organizations must check-in and check-out with the Kickoff Day Coordinator or their designee. Check-in and out will be in front of the Plaster Student Union. If an organization leaves without checking out or cleaning their area, there will be a five-point (5) deduction.
4. Time limit for window painting will be one hour.
5. Each team will be supplied with ten (10) bowls of paint. For each additional bowl of paint after the designated 10, teams will face a 5 point deduction.
6. Organizations may not bring their own paint, outside decorations, stencils, or glitter; only paint provided by the Homecoming Committee is permitted. NO dry erase markers permitted. Use of these items not provided by the Homecoming Committee will result in disqualification from the event.
7. Organizations must supply paintbrushes and water. Organizations may also choose to supply their own

painter's tape, additional containers to hold and/or mix paint, as well as rulers/yardsticks.

8. A team is allowed to have up to four (4) participants working at your assigned station. Participants will be given a wristband upon check in.
9. Organizations are not to contact any PSU vendors to obtain supplies for Window Painting. This includes, but is not limited to cups, plates, napkins, chairs etc. If an organization is found to have contacted a PSU vendor, five (5) points will be deducted from the organization's score for Window Painting.
9. Organizations CANNOT use PSU bathrooms to wash out painting materials before, during, or after the event. If an organization is found to have violated this rule they will be disqualified from the event.
10. Water from the PSU may not be used to clean brushes, Water can also not be brought outside from the PSU.
11. There can be no preparation on the windows before the official start time. This includes attaching any tape or stencils to the window. If an organization is found to have done any preparation on the window, five (5) points will be deducted from the organization's score for Window Painting.
12. All paint, trash, and materials must be cleaned up following the event. If a team fails to clean up their assigned area, their entry will receive a 10-point deduction.
13. Window panels will be assigned randomly by the Homecoming Committee. Each division will have their own section of window panels.
14. Organizations are limited to painting one window panel and may not paint outside of these boundaries. Painting outside of the panel will result in a five-point deduction.

The following criteria will be used by the judges in distributing points. Each criterion will be ranked on a 1-10 point scale for a perfect score of 50 points.

Originality/Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
Correlation to Theme	Design relates to MSU's Homecoming Theme - "To Maroon and Back"
Overall Impression	They put forth the effort to create a high-quality decoration, their hard work is apparent
MSU Pride Shown	Showcased elements of the university; amount of pride felt
Utilization of Space	Resourceful with design and used area allotted creatively

Rockstar

Tuesday, October 17
Hammons Student Center
7PM

Rules and Regulations:

1. Contestants

- i. You may have UP TO five (5) people onstage during the performance, including the Rockstar(s) being judged
- ii. Only two (2) people on stage can be singing participants
- iii. There will be no changing of Rockstars or other participants once the form is submitted.
- iv. Each organization can submit one (1) Rockstar
 - i. Pairings/teams can submit one (1) Rockstar per organization in the pairing/team, and they must all be from different organizations.
 - ii. There will be a cap of thirty (30) Rockstars in total during the first round.
 1. If the maximum number is hit, contestants will be accepted based on the time of entry form submission.
 2. If maximum submissions are hit, paired organizations can submit up to three (3) Rockstars per pairing/team.
- v. Paired Organizations:
 - i. Paired organizations may have up to five (5) people on stage.
 1. This group of five (5) people can be made up of:
 - a. one (1) Rockstar and four (4) non-singing participants.
 - b. One (1) Rockstar, one (1) non-judged duet partner, and three (3) non-singing participants.

- c. Two (2) Rockstars and three (3) non-singing participants.
 - 2. If a paired organization has submitted three (3) or more Rockstars, only two (2) can be onstage at a time.
 - 3. If the pairing/team chooses to perform a duet:
 - a. With two (2) Rockstars, each will be judged separately.
 - b. With one (1) Rockstar and one (1) duet partner, only the Rockstar will be judged.
- vi. Individual Organizations:
 - i. Individual organizations may have up to five (5) people on stage.
 - 1. This group of five (5) people can be made up of:
 - a. One (1) Rockstar and four (4) non-singing participants.
 - b. One (1) Rockstar, one (1) non-judged duet partner, and three (3) non-singing participants.
 - 2. If the organization chooses to perform a duet with one (1) Rockstar and one (1) duet partner, only the Rockstar will be judged.

2. Auditions

- i. Auditions will be held on September 26, 2023 and September 29, 2023 and are mandatory.
 - i. If none of the audition times work for a contestant, they must schedule a time outside of them with the coordinators.
 - ii. Sign up for auditions using the form found on BearLink.
- ii. Expectations for the audition:
 - i. Contestants must have all members of their entry present.

- ii. Contestants must have their chosen song submitted and approved by the committee.
- iii. Contestants must have all costumes/props/sets submitted to the committee through the form provided prior to the audition date, though it is not necessary to bring them to the audition.
- iv. Contestants must have some choreography ready to present to the coordinators.
- v. Contestants MUST perform the song, any choreography brought to the audition, and any costumes/props/sets submitted for the Rockstar event. Any differences not approved by the committee will result in disqualification.

3. Event Specifications:

- i. Lineup for the event may start at 5:00 PM on the day of the event. Any organization found to have members lining up/attempting to line up before 5:00 PM will be a five (5) point deduction per person found.
- ii. Chosen songs cannot go over two minutes and thirty seconds (2:30).
 - i. If a contestant goes over two minutes and thirty seconds (2:30) at the Rockstar event, it will result in a five (5) point deduction until they hit three (3:00) minutes which will then result in a ten (10) point deduction.
- iii. Songs are not allowed to have backup vocals unless they are approved by the committee.
 - i. If a contestant's song has backup vocals, they should notify the coordinators.
- iv. All songs must be family friendly, with no mature subject matter or crude/explicit language.
- v. Each contestant must provide two (2) song options for their first-round performance AND two (2) secondary songs if they are to move on to the second round.

- i. There will be no changing of songs once submitted unless the songs submitted were already taken.
 - ii. If multiple contestants submit the same song, it will be based on the time of entry.
 - iii. Songs must be submitted in MP3 or MP4 form to the form found on BearLink by Friday, September 22nd, 2023, by 5 PM to allow the coordinators to review song choices.
 - 1. Each Rockstar must submit their own song form to ensure each Rockstar has a second-round song approved.
 - 2. The earlier a song is submitted, the earlier it will be approved.
 - iv. Second-round performances cannot include any backup performers or singers. Only the Rockstar will be allowed on stage.
 - v. Contestants will be notified if their chosen song(s) were already taken or not approved by the coordinators by 10 PM on Friday, September 22nd, 2023.
 - vi. All costumes/props/sets are due to the form found on BearLink by 5 PM on Friday, September 22nd, 2023. There only needs to be one (1) submission per performance.
 - 1. The earlier the form is submitted, the earlier the items will be approved.
 - vii. Contestants will be notified if their chosen costumes/props/sets are not approved by 10 PM on Friday, September 22nd, 2023.
- vi. Entry forms must indicate the specifications of each performance including:
 - i. All participants.

- ii. Indication of who will be singing and if they are a competing Rockstar or a duet partner, or any non-singing participants.
 - iii. If two (2) Rockstars from different organizations are performing together, each organization must submit its own form one (1) submission only equals one (1) rockstar.
 - vii. Each performance will have two (2:00) minutes cumulative for setup and teardown, it can be one (1:00) minute for setup and one (1:00) minute for teardown, etc.
 - i. There will be a five (5) point deduction for every thirty (:30) seconds past the two (2:00) minutes.
 - viii. No stunting is allowed on stage. The participant and the backup dancers must always keep at least one foot on the stage while performing. This means no lifting, no standing on chairs, no jumps, and no flips. Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate disqualification.
 - ix. The consumption of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances by participants prior to or during the event is strictly prohibited. Any performers found to be under the influence will result in immediate disqualification. Any audience member(s) who act under the influence will be removed from the venue and/or from the program.
 - x. If any members of organizations are seen blocking walkways or exits, there will be a five (5) point deduction to their score to ensure everyone's safety.
 - xi. There will be a mandatory dress rehearsal on the day of the event, please use the form found on BearLink to sign up for a time slot by Tuesday, October 10th at 5 PM.
4. Scoring:
- i. Round One will be scored based on division, meaning there will be a separate Top Three (3) in:
 - i. Fraternity and Sorority Life

- ii. Residence Life
- iii. Student Organizations
 - 1. If two performers from the same team/group both place in the top three (3), they will be announced as the highest place and the lower place will be filled by the next highest scoring contestant.
 - a. EX. If team/group 1 scores both first and third place and team/group 2 scores fourth, team/group 1 will be announced as first and team/group 2 will be announced as third.
 - 2. If two (2) people from the same organization score in the overall Top Five from Round One, they will both move on to Round Two.
 - a. In this situation, only the higher placing contestant will get points for their pairing/team/organization.
- ii. Round Two will be scored based on overall points, meaning the Top Five can be made up of any combination of divisions.
 - i. They will be judged outside of their organization, so no points scored during the second round will be applied to the pairing/team/organizations score.
 - ii. After the Top Five from Round One perform their second song, they will be judged, and the Top Three overall scorers will be announced.
- iii. The Fan Favorite will be voted on by the audience during the intermission. A form will be sent out closer to the event to the liaisons to each organization competing. While this performer will not score any more points or be judged in the second round, they will be given the chance to perform their second song.

The following criteria will be used by the judges in distributing points (both first and second rounds). Talent/Overall Impression will be ranked 1–10 points, and Theme/Originality will be ranked 1–5 points for a perfect score of 20 points. The ** means that MSU Pride is no longer a required section in grading, but you can get up to five (5) extra points on your score by demonstrating MSU Pride.

Originality/Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; how well the performance stood out and ‘wow-ed!’ you
Correlation to Theme	Relates to MSU’s Homecoming Theme – “To Maroon and Back”
MSU Pride Showcased	Performance displays elements of the university; amount of pride felt (Bear Wear, MSU related lyrics or props, etc.)
Talent/Overall Impression	Performance is unique and imaginative; the overall number is engaging and impressive

5. Event Timeline:

Prior to the Event

- Rockstar and other participants are due in the entry form by Friday, September 22nd.
- Song submissions (two main performance song options, two second-round song options) due to the form found on BearLink by Friday, September 22nd at 5 PM.
- Costumes/props/sets due to the form found on BearLink by Friday, September 22nd at 5 PM.
- Auditions on September 26th and September 29th, 2023.
 - Sign up using the form found on BearLink.

Day of the Event:

- The lineup for the event may start at 5:00 PM. Any organization found to have members lining up/attempting to line up before 5:00 PM will be a five (5) deduction per person found.
- Sign up for dress rehearsals using the form found on BearLink by Tuesday, October 10th at 5 PM.

Field Day

Wednesday, October 18
Foster Recreation Center
4PM

Each team or organization will participate in multiple types of challenges that test them academically and athletically. This event is sponsored by the Traditions Council.

Rules and Regulations:

1. If competing as a team, each organization within the team must have at least one representative. Each organization must also complete an entry form and indicate which team they are competing with.
2. Teams must have exactly six (6) participants.
3. All participants must sign the University Safety Waiver because the event includes physical activity.
 - a. Tennis shoes/comfortable closed-toe shoes and gym clothing are highly recommended.

4. Each division has their own designated time to participate in Field Day.
 - a. Student Organizations
 - i. Check-in: 4:00 PM
 - ii. Competition: 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM
 - b. Residence Life
 - i. Check-in: 5:00 PM
 - ii. Competition: 5:30 PM- 6:30 PM
 - c. Fraternity and Sorority Life
 - i. Check-in: 6 PM
 - ii. Competition: 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
5. Each team must participate in all the challenges.
 - a. Each team member must participate in at least two (2) of these challenges.
6. A team can win up to 5 points for each challenge depending on how fast a challenge is completed, or how many correct answers are given. No points will be awarded if the challenge is not completed.
7. Winning teams will be determined by totaling the number of points earned throughout the event.
8. In the event of a tie, there will be a tie-breaker challenge.
9. Homecoming points will be awarded to the top three organizations/teams from each division.

The following breakdown will be used to distribute Homecoming points by competing category:

- 1st place--200 points
- 2nd place--150 points
- 3rd place --100 points

MO State Live

Thursday, October 19
Hammons Student Center
7:30 PM – 10 PM

The purpose of MO State Live is to showcase the organization's pride for Missouri State University and The Bears through fun performances.

Rules and Regulations:

1. Teams will write, direct, and perform a performance based on the homecoming theme, “To Maroon and Back” and Missouri State traditions.
2. Teams may have up to 20 members performing.
3. The performance must incorporate the homecoming theme and MSU pride.
4. A schedule with rehearsal dates and times must be provided by September 1st, 2023 by 5pm to BearLink.
5. Rehearsals may start September 11th, 2023. A list of participants will need to be provided by September 18th, 2023 by 5 pm to BearLink. GPA will play a factor and will be checked by the OSE. The GPA requirement is 2.5 MSU cumulative GPA.

6. Movement and stage blocking (positioning and placement) will be judged for fluidity, purpose, and how the movement adds to the performance.
7. Unless stepping and strolling is a part of your organization's history, stepping and strolling will not be allowed and will result in disqualification.
8. Stunting is permitted during the MO State Live performance. This includes, but is not limited to: lifting persons in the air, flipping/tumbling, etc.
 - a. If the homecoming committee deems the stunting too challenging or hazardous, you may be asked to remove or change this portion of your performance
9. Teams are allowed to use music in their performance. If music is used:
 - a. No profanity or obscene language.
 - b. Teams must add an audible “ding” to the beginning of their music, to mark the start of their performance.
 - c. Teams must record their audio, which includes talking and music portions, to lip sync their performance. There will be no use of microphones.
10. Timer starts once the audio begins after the recorded “ding”.
11. Each performance must last a minimum of three minutes (3:00) and may not last longer than six minutes (6:00).
 - a. There will be a 5-point deduction per every 10 seconds over or under the time limit.
 - b. If the team exceeds 30 seconds outside of their allotted time, they will be disqualified from placing.
12. Each team will have three (3:00) minutes to set up (from the time the first person enters the designated area to the start of the performance) and three (3:00) minutes to tear down (from the second the performance ends to the last person leaving the designated area).
 - a. There will be a 5-point deduction every 10 seconds over the time limit.
 - b. If the team exceeds 30 seconds over time, they will be disqualified from placing.

13. The performance will take place on the floor of the Hammons Student Center Arena. Teams may use the whole floor (designated floor area) to entertain the crowd.
 - a. Teams may use props, sets or decorations to enhance their performance. Props, sets, and decorations may not exceed 7 feet in height, 7 feet in width, and 7 feet in depth, including wheels.
 - i. Set pieces must include wheels with locks.
 - ii. If any sandbags are used throughout the performance, they must each individually have a secondary covering. i.e. pillowcases, trash bags, etc.
 - b. Sets will not be judged but are encouraged if they will help the overall appeal.
 - c. The homecoming committee will provide a black curtain for any team who wishes to use it.
 - d. All props, sets and decorations must be picked up immediately following MO State Live.
14. The Homecoming committee will be doing 1-2 check-ins with the teams during their practice time. (Spirit Day Coordinators will be in contact with the organization's chairs to schedule these check-ins)
 - a. Each team will have one person that will need to stay in contact with the homecoming committee to coordinate check-in times.
15. Teams will be given a check-in time by Tuesday, October 17th, 2023, for MO State Live. There will be a table at Hammons Student Center where there will be homecoming committee members to help you check in.
 - a. If a team is 10 or more minutes late, 5 points will be deducted from their performance score.
16. There will be a mandatory dress rehearsal the day of MO State Live from 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM and 12:30-3:30 PM. The Spirit-Day Coordinators will send out a Signup Genius for each team on October 18th, 2023.
 - a. Teams must bring all props, sets, or decorations FULLY constructed to dress rehearsal. No further construction will be allowed after check-in.

17. Crude language, obscenity, vulgar behavior, profanity, etc. (final decision is made by the homecoming committee) will NOT be tolerated and will result in disqualification.
18. Line formation at Hammons Student Center cannot begin until 5:30 PM on Thursday, October 19th, 2023. If a member of an organization begins or joins a line before this time, their organization's entry will be penalized with a 10-point deduction.

We encourage organizations to consider the cultural competence pillar of the MSU Public Affairs mission when thinking of including elements of stepping and to reflect on whether the inclusion of such elements would be an appropriation of culture. To learn more about the history of stepping and strolling, please follow this link:

<https://bit.ly/2ObfMFT>.

The following criteria will be used by the judges in distributing points. Each criterion will be ranked on a 1–10-point scale for a perfect score of 50 points.

Concept Originality/Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
Cohesiveness/Appearance	Appearance of the group is unified and appropriate for the performance
Complexity of Routine	Perceived time and effort put into the complexity and execution of the routine
MSU Pride and Theme Shown	Showcased and related to elements of the university and the homecoming theme; amount of pride felt
Overall Impression	Overall feel of the performance (talent, execution, etc.)

Maroon and White Night

Friday, October 20

PSU North Mall

4 PM – 7 PM

This classic Homecoming tradition will return this year as a non-competitive, “Out-of-this-world” community enrichment experience with the goal of uniting past, present, and future Missouri State Bears. Organizations from the MSU campus and the greater Springfield community will have the chance to set up a booth at Maroon and White Night to showcase their university pride. The event will feature catering, music, and a space for current students to connect with alumni and community members.

Band of Bears Homecoming Parade

Saturday, October 21

John Q Hammons Parkway

9 AM

The Missouri State University Homecoming Parade is the highlight of Homecoming for many students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members. John Q. Hammons Parkway will be lined with people Saturday morning while many entries participate in the parade. All entries are subject to approval from the Homecoming Parade Coordinators, Homecoming Committee Chairs, and Homecoming Committee Advisors. They reserve the right to refuse any parade entries that are in direct conflict with the mission, values, and goals of the university. For a complete listing of the mission, values, and goals of the university please see the main Missouri State University website (www.missouristate.edu). We look forward to seeing you at the parade! Go Bears!

Important Dates:

<u>Friday, September 22 at 5 PM</u>	• University-affiliated parade entry forms are to be completed online. • IF your organization is using something OTHER than a vehicle to pull your float, it must be approved by this date.
<u>Friday, October 12 at 5 PM</u>	• ALL COMMUNITY parade entry forms must be completed online. (Community Entries are non-competing entries)
-	• ALL entries –floats, walking, animal entries and decorated

<u>Saturday, October 21 at 9 AM</u> <u>(Parade Day)</u>	cars – must arrive between 7:00 and 8:00 am to be entered in the parade.
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Definitions of Entry Categories:

Float (Competition Entry): A float entry is anything being pulled by a vehicle or self-propelled wagon. Note: The vehicle pulling the float can be decorated, will be considered part of the float, and will be judged as part of the float.

- All float entries must have two (2) representatives, different from the Parade Contact, from each team to be their Float Safety Monitors. These people will help monitor and control the participants in the float line-up area. These individuals' names must be submitted on the entry form in the parade section.
- Each entry must also submit how many participants will be riding on the float the day of the parade. This number must be submitted when turning in the float entry form on BearLINK.
- Please remember that because of traffic signals and other obstructions, floats must be less than 13 feet in height and less than 20 feet wide. No one can be standing or dancing on top of the highest point of the float.
- Float operators must have an adequate escape route meaning they cannot be sealed/enclosed into the float without means of getting out quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Entries must clearly identify the organization's full name(s) on both sides of the float for the purpose of

judging. An organization must identify the complete name, and not a nickname or acronym they go by.

Decorated Car (Competition Entry): A car entry is defined as a vehicle requiring a standard automobile license to operate which is decorated in accordance with the Homecoming theme.

Walking (Competition Entry): A walking entry is defined as any group of individuals moving through the parade without a car or a float. These individuals may utilize a similar dress style, synchronized movement, and/or organized choreography to be judged upon.

Animal (Non-Competition Entry): An animal entry is defined as any parade entry that includes animals. Each animal is required to have a clean-up crew. All animals must be controlled by means of a harness, halter, or leash if not otherwise contained. Animals may by no means be cruelly exploited, endangered, or abused in the process of this entry. For example, it is okay to ride a horse, but not okay to have an animal in a cage on display.

Political Entries (Non-Competition Entry): This entry is defined as any entry into the parade that represents a political party and is participating in the parade for political support, including election to an office or support for a policy/interest group. This entry is not eligible for cash or community prizes.

- Political groups and individuals will be allowed to participate and should be entered in the community division but will not receive prizes nor will be considered in the competition.

General Information

1. An organization must complete a separate entry form for each category they choose to participate in. Entry categories are the methods in which an organization or group can participate in the parade. An organization may have only one (1) entry in any category. Each entry will be judged separately.
2. Competition divisions are the groupings of organizations that will be competing for points. Organizations will only be competing for points within their own divisions, which are as follows: Student Organizations, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Residence Life.
3. Entries must complete the ENTIRE parade route or be disqualified.
4. The parade staging (line-up) area will be on east Trafficway St. between National Ave. And John Q. Hammons Pkwy. Parade entries must enter from National Ave. (for floats, walking, animal, or car entries). All entries must check in with one of the Homecoming Parade Coordinators or a designated Homecoming representative. During staging, an organization's entries will be separated by other parade entries when blending of entries occurs.
5. We must have accurate contact and phone information for each entry that is submitted. Each organization must select a Parade Contact; each entry from an organization must have a Parade Contact. The Parade Contact must be present to check the entry in and must stay with the entry throughout the entirety of the parade. The Parade Contact will be the primary contact for the day of the parade to the Homecoming Committee. The contact information listed on the application should be information that the Homecoming Committee can reach weekdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
6. All entries must meet local fire codes. Any type of open flame, fuse lite, or firework is prohibited for all participants.

7. Any entry may be removed from the parade and competition if, in the opinion of the parade officials or the Homecoming Committee, the entry is operated in a hazardous manner or because of the misbehavior of individuals or animals associated with the entry
8. Late community entry form submissions will be charged a \$25.00 entry fee.

Rules

1. Each entry MUST have a banner in front of the entry that clearly identifies the organization's complete name. If the entry is for a team, each organization's name must be clearly stated on the banner. Any entry that does not have this banner, or the banner is not able to be read from the judging booth, will not be judged, and will also not receive participation points for the Parade.
2. All entries are restricted to distributing information in a handbill no larger than 4.25" x 5.5" (1/4 letter size) to community members present during the parade. The handbill may be two-sided.
3. All candy must be store bought, sealed, and individually wrapped. There will be NO homemade candies, desserts, or anything edible distributed amongst the crowd.
4. All entries must be continuously moving. Entries are not permitted to stop to perform choreographed routines. Any entry causing undue delay will be disqualified.
5. Candy, etc., to be distributed on the parade route MUST NOT BE THROWN FROM VEHICLES – it must be handed out by walkers. Entries must provide one or multiple people to walk alongside the entry if you wish to distribute candy to attendees.
6. Entries must complete the ENTIRE parade route or be disqualified.

7. For the safety of all those competing, there will be no interfering with the entries that are either in front or behind your competing entry. If anyone disturbs another entry during the course of the parade, your entry will be immediately disqualified, and no points will be awarded to the team.

Rules & Regulations about Alcohol and Controlled Substances

The Missouri State alcohol policy does apply to ALL individuals in the parade and is stated as follows:

The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol is prohibited on University property, in conjunction with University activities, and in conjunction with student organization events. Prohibited unlawful use includes violation of the Missouri law prohibiting possession or use of alcohol by persons under 21 years of age and all other state and federal laws regulating use, possession, or distribution of alcohol and drugs. "University activities" include those activities that are planned, promoted, or sponsored by a University department or other University subdivision. This policy is explicitly stated in the Annual Notice to Students and Employees.

Therefore, Entries will be removed and disqualified immediately if the presence of alcohol or drugs is detected.

1. All entries are prohibited from displaying or distributing any information with regards to alcohol or drugs (including "Happy Hour" or "Specials" information) as well as any display of alcoholic beverage company logos. The Office of Student Engagement does not support alcohol or drug use among students or community members.
2. Companies promoting alcohol/drugs (Budweiser, Dispensaries, Brown Derby, etc.)

- Participants of all entries (walking or driving) are strictly prohibited from using alcohol or controlled substances prior to and during the parade.
- The parade is a Missouri State sponsored function. Therefore, any alcohol and controlled substance-related situations will likely result in the immediate disqualification of your entry. Any violations of this policy will result in further disciplinary sanctions through the Missouri State University Judicial System.

Prize Money and Judge Criterion

- Prize money will be awarded to overall winners for the following three categories, regardless of division:

	Float	Decorated Car	Walking Entry
1 st Place	\$500	\$300	\$200
2 nd Place	\$400	\$200	\$150
3 rd Place	\$300	\$100	\$100

*Disclaimer: For entries with more than one student organization on their team, earnings will be evenly divided.

- Winners will be emailed with additional information when checks are available for pick up.

The following criteria will be used by the judges in distributing points for each of the float, car, and walking entries. Each criterion will be ranked on a 1–10-point scale for a perfect score of 50 points per entry.

FLOAT

Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
Relation to Theme	Design relates to MSU's Homecoming Theme

	"To Maroon and Back"
Presentation/Eye Appeal	Overall appeal of the entry to spectators
Quality of Workmanship	They put forth the effort to create a high-quality decoration; their hard work is apparent
MSU Pride Shown	Showcased elements of the university; amount of pride felt

Car

Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
Relation to Theme	Design relates to MSU's Homecoming Theme "To Maroon and Back"
Presentation/Eye Appeal	Overall appeal of the entry to spectators
Quality of Workmanship	They put forth the effort to create a high-quality decoration; their hard work is apparent
MSU Pride Shown	Showcased elements of the university; amount of pride felt

Walking Entry

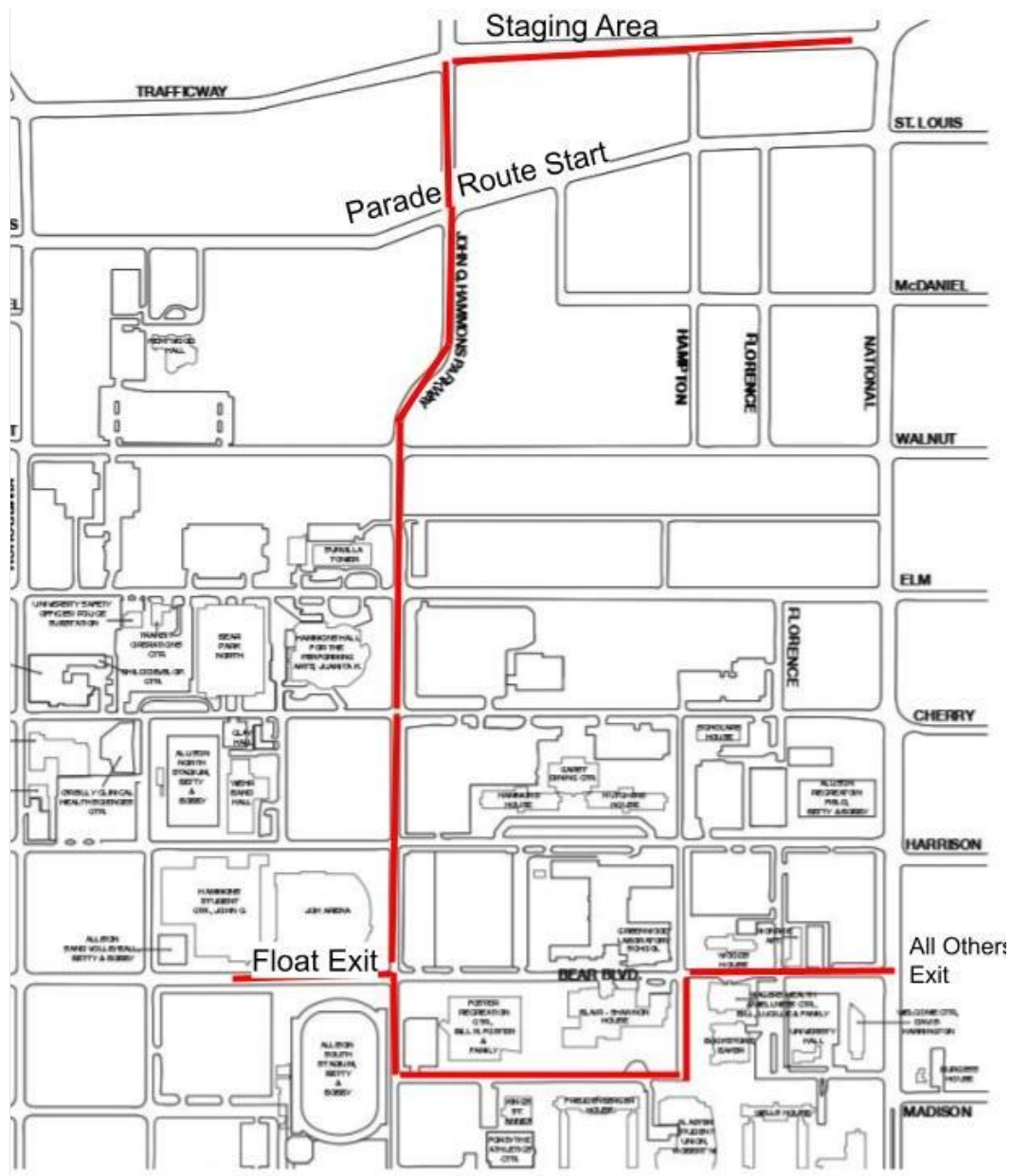
Creativity	Visually stimulating and inventive; they have been unique and imaginative
Relation to Theme	Design relates to MSU's Homecoming Theme "To Maroon and Back"
Presentation/Eye Appeal	Overall appeal of the entry to spectators

Movement or Choreography	Movement or choreography of group is coordinated
Dress Style/Costumes	Appearance of the group is unified and relates to the theme

Note: Each parade entry will be judged before and during in case of a tie between categories. If a tie were to occur, the rankings of the parade entries before the event will be taken into consideration.

Parade Route Information

The parade route will start at the corner of St. Louis and John Q. Hammons Parkway and will continue John Q. Hammons Parkway until Madison (except for floats, exit on Grand).



8:45 AM closure for the parade route