



P.O. Box 75
Long Beach, WA 98631

Attention Band Directors;

The Loyalty Days Foundation wishes to invite your Middle or High School Marching Band to participate in the 67th Loyalty Day Festivities. May 5th, 6th & 7th 2017, are the dates of the 2017 year's salute to patriotism which was initiated in 1950 by the V.F.W.'s, and has continued as an annual event on the Long Beach Peninsula. Long Beach has developed this event into a "Historically Rich Celebration of Patriotism", by recognizing and honoring this great nation of ours. We look forward in preparation for your schools participation.

Our theme for the 67th annual parade is, "I Pledge Allegiance"

The Parade each year has consisted of approximately 120 units, ranging from floats, bands, drill teams, to equestrian units, clowns, and novelty attractions. Enclosed you will find an entry blank to register your school band. The make-up of High School and Middle School Bands has always been a winning combination of excellence in youth achievement, and their commitment to patriotic efforts in our country. 2016 parade was honored to have 19 Middle & High school bands, registered for the parade. W.I.A.A. qualified judges do a terrific job in critiquing participating the bands in their school size. Each School gets a copy of the judging sheets to help their students understand areas of strengths and weaknesses. Judging is based according to school size, as set by sports grouping, (B, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A). **Please indicate your official enrollment as of Jan. 1st, 2017, (students 9-12 for high school)** when filling out your entry form. It is important for accurate judging and overall fairness that your entry is filled out **completely**. We make every effort to present awards according to equal competition levels, therefore school units with mixed High School and Middle School, students participating in a school band will be judged as a High School unit. Bands and Marching units will be judged 60% on performance, 40% on appearance.

Please contact us if you are interested in participating in other activities on Saturday May 6th 2017.

Saturday morning there will be a Kiddie's Parade in the neighboring city of Ilwaco. Immediately following the parade is the annual Blessing of the Fleet. The public is invited by the Ilwaco Charter Association to come aboard their vessels for the short boat ride to the mouth of the Columbia. This is a traditional ceremony remembering those lost at sea. We also have band performances located at Veterans Field Stage, in downtown Long Beach during the day on Saturday. You are invited to participate in these events by contacting us in advance.

Check in for parade participants will be located at 5th Street So. And Oregon. The check-in booth opens promptly at 9 A.M. Sunday May 7th, 2017. Parade formation will begin at 11 A.M. The parade will start exactly at **1:00 p.m.** All units will have an assigned position. **There will be a light lunch served to parade participants starting at 10:00 A.M. Located at Long Beach Fire Station, before the parade. Lunch Serving stops at Noon** to assure participants adequate time to get into their line up position for parade start.