



PROVIDENCE '09
sound
session
JULY 5-11 GENRE-DEFYING MUSIC FESTIVAL
WWW.PROVIDENCESOUNDSESSION.COM

CARNIVAL PARADE BACKGROUND AND GUIDELINES

When:

July 11, 2009 at 10:00pm

Application Deadline:

June 30, 2009

Background:

The City of Providence Department of Art, Culture + Tourism in partnership with the Providence Black Repertory Company is proud to present the sixth installment of Providence Sound Session, a seven-day genre-defying citywide music festival from Sunday July 5 to Saturday, July 11. The festival week culminates with a parade inspired by carnival traditions of the African Diaspora that winds through the streets of downtown Providence.

In the fall of 2004, following the success of the first Sound Session, Black Rep Artistic/Executive Director Donald King explored different ways he might expand the scope of the organization's flagship summer event while paying homage to the cultures that birthed such celebrated fetes as Trinidad's Carnival and New Orleans' Mardi Gras. King began to imagine the possibility of translating the Trinidadian celebration of J'Ourvet (French for "day open") that marks the beginning of Brooklyn's yearly festivities, for a New England audience.

Black Rep's Sound Session Education and Community Engagement initiatives use the tools of Carnival celebrations to empower the diverse communities in all of Providence's neighborhoods, bringing residents from Olneyville, the South Side, the East Side and the West Side together in the city center, just across from the statehouse, to process in costume and "play Mas." Playing Mas not only gives Providence residents a venue to lampoon the Ocean State's sordid history, it also cultivates in them a sense of civic pride-pride in their neighborhoods, city and state.

GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

Please read the following information carefully. Even if you have participated in past Sound Session carnival parades requirements have changed and it's the responsibility of all section leaders to comply with and communicate these changes to their groups.

Late Applications:

Late application/registration forms will be placed on standby list and, if space permits, reviewed in the order in which they are received.

Distribution of Materials:

Sections can distribute materials relevant to their organizations by hand, BUT MAY NOT TOSS THEM to people along the carnival parade route. Sexually explicit materials may not be distributed. Please indicate on application form what materials will be distributed.

Order of Appearance:

The carnival parade staff will determine the staging order for the parade. The order in which sections are placed will be determined so as to establish variety. This order will not be given out prior to your arrival on carnival parade day. Your section's placement in the Carnival Parade is subject to change or cancellation if your group arrives in the assembly area late or at a time other than that established during the **mandatory orientation meetings** scheduled for **Tuesday, June 23 from 6PM-8PM at The Davey Lopes Recreation Center on 227 Dudley Street** or **Monday, June 29th from 5PM-7PM at The Vincent Brown Recreation Center on 438 Hope Street.**

Code of Conduct:

All individuals and organizations are expected to perform courteously, in good taste and with safety in mind at all times during the assembly, execution and dispersal of the parade. Participants are expected to be respectful to all, regardless of gender, age, race, culture, faith, and sexual orientation. Sexually explicit dress and behavior is prohibited & individuals will be asked to leave their section.

Non-Discrimination:

All individuals are welcome to participate in carnival parade.

Safety:

No alcoholic beverages or illegal substances are allowed before or during the carnival parade. We reserve the right to remove inebriated participants from the carnival parade.

Vehicles:

All drivers must be licensed and adequately trained to drive assigned vehicle. All vehicles MUST be insured. Tow vehicles should be decorated to accent or compliment section.

Towing Liability:

In case of breakdown, a tow truck will be used to remove vehicles from the parade route. Any towing beyond the dispersal area will be the responsibility of the section/organization. If a breakdown prevents the forward movement of a section, the offending vehicle will be removed from the parade route and towed to the nearest intersection. Any liability for the cost of towing vehicles after the breakdown will NOT be paid by the Department of Art, Culture + Tourism or by The Providence Black Repertory Company. The individual/organization responsible for the vehicle will be billed directly.

Assembly Area:

Cars, buses, trucks, and trailers must be promptly unloaded and should proceed to the dispersal parking area. No parking will be allowed in the assembly area. Once a section is positioned in the staging area, its section leaders must be in attendance and available to move the section as necessary. Your section should report to the assembly area at 8:00PM. The exact line up time will be provided at the Orientation Meetings. The carnival parade will begin promptly at 10PM.

Carnival Parade Movement:

The carnival parade staff has worked very hard to ensure that the route is free of interruptions; therefore, no section will be permitted to stop and perform. All maneuvering, choreography, marching styles **MUST BE PERFORMED WHILE MOVING FORWARD** in the carnival parade. All action must be executed at the speed necessary to maintain the specified distance between parade sections. Any section violating parade movement requirements will not be considered for future Sound Session Carnival Parades.

Dispersal Area:

Please continue moving throughout dispersal area until a carnival parade marshal shows you where to stop. A First Aide Station will be stationed in the dispersal area should any participant need help.

Inclement Weather Policy:

The Sound Session staff plans to proceed with the carnival parade regardless of inclement weather and we request that you make preparations for such. If severe inclement weather occurs, the staff will determine whether it is deemed necessary to cancel or delay the carnival parade. Participants may decline to march if weather threatens to damage instruments, props and costumes.

Section Leaders and Carnival Parade Marshals:

All organizations need to provide at least two (2) Section Leaders to assist and direct section on carnival parade route. The Section Leaders **MUST ATTEND** one of the orientation sessions scheduled for **Tuesday, June 23 from 6PM-8PM at The Davey Lopes Recreation Center on 227 Dudley Street** or **Monday, June 29th from 5PM-7PM at The Vincent Brown Recreation Center on 438 Hope Street.**

Directions During Carnival Parade:

Carnival parade manager, Marshals and Section Leaders are authorized to provide placement, movement and dispersion directions. Participants shall follow all directions provided by the Manager, Marshals and Section Leaders, Police and/or Fire personnel.

Application Submission Instructions

Faxing is the preferred method of submission to expedite the process. If not available, applications can be mailed or dropped off in person to the address below.

Contact Information:

Email: soundsessioncarnivalparade@gmail.com

Phone: 207.951.5373 Fax:401.455.8824

Providence Sound Session '09 Parade

C/O Department of Art, Culture + Tourism

25 Dorrance Street - Room111, Providence, RI 02903

