



For Immediate Release

**CUE THE CONFETTI!
IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE WITH
THE 96TH MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE®**

The holiday season's biggest stage for entertainment will feature performances and appearances from Paula Abdul; Big Time Rush; Cam; Jordan Davis; *Blue's Clues & You!* host Josh Dela Cruz; Broadway's *A Beautiful Noise*, *Some Like It Hot* and *Disney's The Lion King*; Gloria, Sasha and Emily Estefan; Jimmy Fallon & The Roots; Fitz and the Tantrums; Kirk Franklin; Mario Lopez and family; Ziggy Marley; Lea Michele and the cast of Broadway's *Funny Girl*; Miss America 2022 Emma Broyles; the cast and Muppets of *Sesame Street*®; Sean Paul; the cast of Peacock's *Pitch Perfect: Bumper in Berlin* (Adam Devine, Sarah Hyland and Flula Borg); the Radio City Rockettes®; Joss Stone; Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue; Jordin Sparks; Dionne Warwick; and Betty Who

New York, NY – November 1, 2022 – The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®, the nation's most beloved holiday event returns to usher in the start of the holiday season at the sound of *5, 4, 3, 2, 1...Let's Have A Parade™!* On Thursday, November 24 at 9:00 AM, the 96th edition of Macy's iconic spectacle will bring the nation together in celebration with a dazzling lineup featuring giant character helium balloons, fantastic floats, showstopping marching bands, high-spirited performance groups, whimsical clowns, music stars and the one-and-only Santa Claus.

"Since its first march in 1924 and through the decades, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade has served to bring joy to the millions who gather nationwide each year to experience it with friends and family," said Will Coss, Executive Producer of Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. "This November, as we once again set the stage for the start of the holiday season, we are thrilled to showcase another spectacle full of magic and wonder that will help create everlasting memories with loved ones during this special time of year."

The magic comes together with Macy's signature ingredients. This year's 96th Macy's Parade will feature more than 5,000 volunteers, 16 giant character balloons, 28 floats, 40 novelty and heritage inflatables, more than 700 clowns, 12 marching bands and 10 performance groups, a host of musical stars, and the one-and-only Santa Claus.

Stars on 34th Street

The holiday season's biggest stage for entertainment is the Macy's Parade and this year a host of stars will join the lineup to celebrate with the nation. Joining the festivities will be Paula Abdul; Big Time Rush; Cam; Jordan Davis; *Blue's Clues & You!* host Josh Dela Cruz; Gloria, Sasha and Emily Estefan; Jimmy Fallon & The Roots; Fitz and the Tantrums; Kirk Franklin; Mario Lopez and family; Ziggy Marley; Miss America 2022 Emma Broyles; the cast and Muppets of *Sesame Street*®; Sean Paul; the cast of Peacock's *Pitch Perfect: Bumper in Berlin* (Adam Devine, Sarah Hyland and Flula Borg); Joss Stone; Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue; Jordin Sparks; Dionne Warwick; Betty Who; and Santa Claus. With additional talent to be announced.

Ballooning Icons

Conceived during the Parade's infancy, the giant character balloons have become a signature of the annual celebration. Since 1927, the world's most popular characters have been transformed into high-flying art in the sky. Originally inspired by marionettes, the Parade's balloons first debuted as upside down puppets filled with air which were carried down the Parade route on sticks. The design later evolved to include helium, making them high-flying giants. Over time Macy's artists innovated creating several types of inflatables including balloonheads (inflated heads sitting atop of a costumed participant), balloonicles (hybrid inflatables with vehicles inside) and most recently, trycaloons (tandem tricycles with an inflated balloon character).

New giants joining the line-up this year include *Bluey* by BBC; *Diary of A Wimpy Kid*[®] by Abrams Books; *DINO* and *Baby DINO* by Sinclair Oil; and *Stuart the Minion* from Illumination.

Making return appearances to the skies above New York City are giant balloon favorites including *Ada Twist, Scientist* by Netflix; *Astronaut Snoopy* by PEANUTS Worldwide; *The Boss Baby* from DreamWorks Animation; *Goku* by Toei Animation; a Funko Pop!-inspired *Grogu*[™] by Funko and in partnership with Lucasfilm; Chase from *PAW Patrol*[®] by Nickelodeon; *Pillsbury Doughboy*[™] by Pillsbury[™]; *Red Titan* from "Ryan's World" by Sunlight Entertainment and pocket.watch; *Ronald McDonald*[®] by McDonald's[®] USA; Papa Smurf from *The Smurfs*[™] by Nickelodeon; *Pikachu*[™] & *Eevee*[™] by The Pokémon Company International; and *SpongeBob SquarePants & Gary* by Nickelodeon.

The inflatable lineup also includes a new balloonicle of *Striker, the U.S. Soccer Star* by FOX Sports. Returning inflatables include Sinclair's *Baby DINOs*, the *Go Bowling*[™] balloonicles; *Hot Air Dolly* by Universal Orlando Resort, *Smokey Bear* by the USDA Forest Service; and Macy's very own special reindeer *Tiptoe* and *Toni the Bandleader Bear*.

Floating Fantasy

The Parade's signature floats transport spectators to magical worlds. These creations take a theme to new heights bringing magic to the streets of New York City and into homes nationwide. Conceived and crafted by the incredible artisans of Macy's Parade Studio – a design and production facility that includes carpenters, engineers, electricians, painters, animators, balloon technicians, sculptors, metal fabricators, scenic and costume designers – this year's line-up of floats showcase the animated theatricality that the Macy's Parade has become world-famous for.

This year five new floats will debut in the Turkey Day celebration. The floating wonders along with their scheduled performers include *Baby Shark* by Pingfong and Nickelodeon (Ziggy Marley); *Geoffrey's Dazzling Dance Party* by Toys"R"Us (Jordin Sparks); *People of First Light* by Macy's; *Supersized Slumber* by Netflix (Ballet Hispánico); and *The Wondership* by Wonder (Cam).

The returning float roster and its scheduled performers include *1-2-3 Sesame Street*[®] by Sesame Workshop[™] (The cast and Muppets of *Sesame Street*); *Big City Cheer* by Spirit of America Productions (Miss America 2022 Emma Broyles); *Big Turkey Spectacular* by Jennie-O (Paula Abdul); *Birds of a Feather Stream Together* by Peacock[®] (Adam Devine, Sarah Hyland and Flula Borg); *Blue's Clues & You!* by Nickelodeon (Josh Dela Cruz); *The Brick-changer* by The LEGO[®] Group (Fitz and the Tantrums); *Celebration Gator* by the Louisiana Office of Tourism (Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue); *Christmas in Town Square* by Lifetime[®] (Kirk Franklin); *Colossal Wave of Wonder* by Kalahari Resorts and Conventions (Sean Paul); *Deck the Halls* by Balsam Hill[®] (Gloria, Sasha and Emily Estefan); *Elf Pets*[®] by The Lumistella Company[®]; *Everyone's Favorite Bake Shop* by Entenmann's[®]; *Fantasy Chocolate Factory* by Kinder[™] (Big Time Rush); *Harvest in the Valley* by Green Giant[®] (Jordan Davis); *Heartwarming Holiday Countdown* by Hallmark Channel (Joss Stone); *Her Future is STEM-Sational* by Olay (Betty Who); *Macy's Singing Christmas Tree* (Macy's Choir); *Magic Meets the Sea* by Disney Cruise Line (Captain Minnie Mouse

and Friends); *Santa's Sleigh* (Santa Claus); *Snoopy's Doghouse* by PEANUTS Worldwide; *Tom Turkey* (Mario Lopez and family); *Toy House of Marvelous Milestones* by New York Life (Dionne Warwick); and *Winter Wonderland in Central Park* (Jimmy Fallon & The Roots).

Strike Up the Band

Bringing the beat to the holiday revelry will be a selection of the most gifted marching ensembles. Joining the line-up are *Benedict College* (Columbia, SC), *Bourbon County High School* (Paris, KY), *Carmel High School* (Carmel, IN), *Clovis North Educational Center* (Fresno, CA), *Delfines Marching Band* (Veracruz, Mexico), *Macy's Great American Marching Band* (United States), *NYPD Marching Band* (New York, NY), *The Queer Big Apple Corps* (New York, NY), *South Dakota State University* (Brookings, SD), *Tarpon Springs High School* (Tarpon Springs, FL), *University of Missouri* (Columbia, MO), and *Vandegrift High School* (Austin, TX).

Performance Spotlight

Taking entertainment to the next level will be the Parade's beloved performance groups who bring joy to the masses. This year's lineup will feature performances from the dazzling dancers of *Ballet Hispánico*, the hilarious *Big Apple Circus*, the rhythmic movement of *Boss Kids*, the artistry of the *Fusion Winter Guard*, two-steps and high kicks from the *Kilgore Rangerettes*, the puppeteering skills of *Phantom Limb*, the iconic stepping of *The Sigma Gamma Rho Centennial Steppers*, the energetic moves of the *St. John's Dance Team*, and the exuberance of *Spirit of America Cheer* and *Spirit of America Dance Stars*.

See the Magic Live

For spectators wishing to enjoy the live spectacle in New York City, the 96th Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade kicks off from its traditional starting line at 77th Street and Central Park West. From there the procession will march down its signature 2.5-mile route taking it from Central Park West to Columbus Circle, turning onto Central Park South and then marching down 6th Avenue/Avenue of the Americas. At 34th Street, the Parade will make its final turn west and end at 7th Avenue in front of Macy's Herald Square.

Public viewing will be set up along designated portions of the route and managed by the NYPD. Spectators should avoid bringing large bags, umbrellas, backpacks, and strollers. The public entering viewing streets may be subject to security search. For additional viewing information, please visit [macys.com/parade](https://www.macys.com/parade).

A Nationwide Spectacle

For decades, the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade has been one of the nation's most anticipated and watched holiday celebrations. Viewers nationwide can catch all the action via a special presentation on NBC and streaming on Peacock, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., in all time zones. The TODAY Show's Savannah Guthrie, Hoda Kotb and Al Roker will be back to host the Emmy®-Award winning celebration.

In order to create a more inclusive experience for blind and visually impaired viewers, NBCUniversal is proud to present the full NBC broadcast with live audio description on the Secondary Audio Program channel (SAP), provided by Descriptive Video Works. The broadcast will be available with additional audio narration, describing the rich visuals of the Parade.

The pomp and pageantry marching down the streets of New York City is only a portion of the day's entertainment. Broadway's best shows will also perform for the national broadcast audience. The show will kick off with a spectacular opening number from Lea Michele and the cast of Broadway's *Funny Girl*. With additional Broadway performances from showstoppers *A Beautiful Noise*, *Some Like It Hot*, and in celebration of its 25th anniversary *Disney's The Lion King*. Rounding out the theatrics will be the iconic *Radio City Rockettes*®.

And the treats keep coming when the stars of *Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock* on Apple TV+, appear throughout the broadcast. Join Uncle "Travelling" Matt as he goes on an epic journey away from Fraggle

Rock friends and family to learn the meaning of the “Macy’s Thanksgiving Day” holiday and the impossible to answer question: “What is a parade?”

#MacysParade

For an insider’s look at the holiday procession, fans nationwide should visit macys.com/parade for regular updates including behind-the-scenes content, interactive historical information, educational activities, and more. Fans can also follow @macys on various social media networks and join the conversation using #MacysParade.

Ram is the official truck of the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.
Remo is the official drumhead provider of the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

All information included in this release is subject to change.

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PLEASE NOTE: Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade media materials including images, video and archival content is available at macyseventmedia.com.

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