



Wheat Ridge Carnation Festival Call for Artists

Carnation Parade Plate Design Celebrates City's 50th Anniversary

WHEAT RIDGE, Colo. *April 9, 2019* – Artists with a connection to Wheat Ridge are invited to create an image celebrating the City's 50th anniversary to be featured on the commemorative plate presented to this year's annual Carnation Festival Parade winners. The top three designs will be awarded cash prizes and recognition in City and Carnation Festival literature and local media.

The Carnation Festival was started to commemorate the founding of Wheat Ridge in August 1969, and the awarding of the commemorative plate to parade winners is part of the tradition. Top entries into the parade receive commemorative plates for the best use of carnations, best overall and use of theme, best craftsmanship and workmanship. Entries must meet the submission Guidelines to be considered. A copy of the plate is also presented to the City for display in the Council Chambers in City Hall.

The contest is open now, with a submission deadline of June 1, 2019. Entries will be reviewed by members of the Wheat Ridge Cultural Commission with recommendations to the Carnation Festival committee, which will make the final selection. Winners will be announced on June 15, 2019.

Prizes for Artist Designs (Provided by the Carnation Festival):

1. First place: \$250 and artwork will be displayed on 50th Carnation Parade plates, and widely throughout Carnation Festival promotions and literature.
2. Second place: \$100 and artwork displayed in Festival literature
3. Third place: \$50 and artwork displayed in Festival literature

Guidelines:

1. Artwork must relate to the theme: "Wheat Ridge 50th Anniversary"
2. Must be family-friendly
3. Format for submission: jpg @ 300 dpi scale. (Designs are laser-printed onto the ceramic plates.)
4. Submit artwork, brief resume and letter of interest that includes information about the artist's connection to Wheat Ridge by midnight June 1, 2019 to cultural@ci.wheatridge.co.us

More information about the Carnation Festival and the contest at thecarnationfestival.com.

The Carnation Festival pays tribute to the history of Wheat Ridge as Carnation Capital of the World. During the 1960s, the City boasted 32 different carnation growers and sent a bouquet to the White House every Monday morning. The bouquet was displayed in the front foyer of the White House with a card stating: "With compliments to our nation's capital, Wheat Ridge Colorado, Carnation City." The first Carnation Festival was held in August of 1970, on the first year anniversary of the incorporation of the City, and to celebrate and honor the carnation industry's accomplishments.

The festival also helps raise money for a variety of causes, including scholarships for Wheat Ridge High School students as well as funding for the school's STEM program and cheerleader and pom squads. The Big

Wheels on the Farm Car Show, which is slated for Sunday, August 12, benefits the WRHS Quarterback Club. The Wheat Ridge Rotary and Optimists service clubs also receive proceeds from the festival's bar sales.

With limited parking available on site, visitors are encouraged to use the free shuttle service available until 11:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, to and from four stops along 44th Avenue. To view the shuttle stops, visit:

Free bicycle parking is also available in the on-site parking lot.

For more information about the festival and a full schedule of festival hours and activities, visit www.thecarnationfestival.com.

About The City of Wheat Ridge

The City of Wheat Ridge, located west of Denver with a population of 31,000 residents, is home to a mix of retail/commercial businesses and unique residential neighborhoods. Wheat Ridge is a vibrant community in a prime location, providing easy access to the Denver metro area and to recreation west into the mountains. The City was recently ranked Top Smallest City by the Economic Development Council of Colorado. Info about Wheat Ridge ci.wheatridge.co.us

###