

**In order for the Central Alabama Caribbean American Organization's Carnival to be successful, all participants are required to adhere to the following guidelines:**

**Staging Area** - The Bessemer Hall of History Museum (Railroad Depot) 1905

Alabama Ave Bessemer, 35020. In order to be lined up properly by the **Parade Marshalls**, all parade participants must be at their designated staging area by **11:00am**

**Disbanding** : Debardleben Park in front of the gazebo.

**Parade** starts at **12pm** sharp, no insertions once the parade starts.

1. **Parade participants/vehicles** with parade permits should enter their assigned section according to the lineup map (enclosed in packet). Only participants with a parade permit will be allowed to enter blocked areas.
2. **Parade permits** should be displayed in the front windshield on the driver's side of a vehicular unit. All walking and band units should be able to provide the perforated portion of the permit. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** A parade permit is required for every unit and this is **STRICTLY ENFORCED!**
3. **Parade permits** CANNOT be duplicated or transferred. The entity listed on the permit **MUST** be the one participating in the parade.
4. The parade is a family-friendly event so no vulgar/offensive attire, language or signage will be tolerated.
5. **NO CANDY OR OTHER FAVORS** should be **thrown or handed** out by the parade participants. These practices can result in injuries to children scrambling for candy or falling under moving vehicles. Violators of this request will be removed from the parade and barred from future CACAO parades. **Remember candy/prize throwing/handing creates a safety hazard for our children!**
6. All cars and floats should be **fully decorated** with display signs on both sides stating the name of the organization.
7. **The Bessemer Police Department** will patrol all areas of the parade.
8. **Parade Marshalls** are assigned to each section to ensure that these instructions are followed.

**All participants MUST follow the orders of the Parade Marshals.**

9. The 2023 parade route is published on our website .
10. No vehicles are allowed in between the dancers in the parade, unless it's the parade truck. If your unit violates this rule, you will be removed from the parade immediately.
11. Dance groups are allowed to bring their Rolling Bluetooth Speaker
12. All dancing should be tasteful and family friendly. Violators will be removed and will be barred future parades with CACAO.
13. Costumes are welcomed but have to be tasteful and family friendly. No thongs, monkinis, g-strings nor any costumes revealing private parts are allowed. Violators will be removed from the parade, the festival, and barred from future parades with CACAO.
14. **Disbanding** – The parade ends at Debardleben Park. Once you've reached this area, please continue to walk straight to the staging area to avoid causing any stoppages in the parade. If you are a motorized unit, make a right on 16<sup>th</sup> Street and then make a left. If you need to adjust anything on your vehicle prior to departing, please do so in an area OUTSIDE of the parade route and staging area.

**We hope you have a great time and enjoy your experience, but most of all be safe and courteous to each other.**

**Participating in the parade means acceptance of all of these guidelines. Any violation to the guidelines or Parade Marshals' direction on parade day, will result in immediate removal from the parade and a cost of \$250. The cost to be in the parade is \$30 for individuals and groups while the payment for floats are \$50. The deadline for the payment is May 31<sup>st</sup>. NO refunds will be given in the event a participant breaks a parade policy, neglects to follow instructions provided by Parade Marshals nor cancelation by the participant(s).**