

# ★ ROCK ISLAND LABOR DAY PARADE ★

## **SING!** Rock Island

Calling all families, neighbors, schools, churches, organizations, clubs and businesses! The 33rd annual Rock Island Labor Day Parade is scheduled for Monday, September 4, 2017.

Staging for the parade begins at 8:30 a.m. in the area around Washington Junior High School, located at 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The parade starts promptly at 9:30 a.m. and travels west along 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, turns south at 24<sup>th</sup> Street, then west on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue and disbands into the Rock Island High School lots. The route is two miles long, and takes 90 minutes to march.

The first Labor Day Parade was held in 1985 as part of Rock Island's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday or Sesquicentennial Celebration. Over the past 30 years, the parade has grown to average 150 entries and has become a popular event that draws thousands of spectators!

**SING! Rock Island!** This year's theme was selected to shine a spotlight on the all the music makers in the community. Entries could feature a soloist, a church choir or other musical group, those who sing movie soundtracks, karaoke enthusiasts or lip sync battle winners. An entry could also showcase something about Rock Island set to music, or a familiar tune with special lyrics about a local attraction...the possibilities are endless!

**Note:** families with children watch our Parade; please moderate the special FX and the horrific!

All parade entries are judged with winners selected from five different categories: Mayor's Choice, Marshal's Choice (favorite theme related entry), Council's Choice, Parade Committee's Choice and Neighbor's Choice. Winners are recognized at a September meeting of the Rock Island City Council.

Entries not theme related are always welcome in the parade! The Labor Day Parade offers a unique opportunity to promote your organization, to announce a special sale or to call attention to an upcoming event. **Please note:** candy and flyers must be handed out to the crowd and not thrown into the street during the parade.

To enter the 33rd annual Labor Day Parade please return an entry form with the participation fee to the City of Rock Island by **Monday, August 21, 2017**. Please contact Mary Chappell at 309-269-7944 or Art Milton at 309-788-6157 with any questions. Note: The contact person listed on the entry form will receive the final Parade Line-up information by mail the last week of August.

*Thanks for your interest and support of the Rock Island Labor Day Parade!*

**The 2017 Rock Island Labor Day Parade Advisory Board and Volunteers**