



Dear All,

## **Ganapati Bappa Morya!!!**

We are reaching out to you on behalf of the Procession Committee for the **13th year celebration of the “Philadelphia Ganesh Festival” (PGF).**

The Philadelphia Ganesh Festival is known for Procession dance performances by Children/ Adults on the first and last days of the festival. You must have witnessed these fantastic and enthusiastic performances over the past 12 years. **We would like to invite groups to submit an entry to perform during these 2 procession events.**

### **The concept**

The concept of performing dance during Arrival procession is to Welcome Lord Ganesha to our temple and our lives during this 12-day festival. The concept of performing dance in Immersion Procession is to bid a happy and thankful farewell to Lord Ganesha with a sincere appeal to HIM to come back early next year.

### **Dates for this year:**

**(1) Ganesh Arrival Procession (First Day) is on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> 2017**

**(2) Ganesh Immersion Procession (Last Day) is on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> 2017**

We have established the following guidelines for this year's procession performance to manage procession time effectively:

### **Guidelines:**

1. Submit your entries by **July 30<sup>th</sup> 2017** using the following link:  
[www.PhiladelphiaGaneshFestival.org](http://www.PhiladelphiaGaneshFestival.org)
2. Only entries received by July 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 may be printed in PGF Boucher (We are working on this topic, however we cannot promise at this point of time).
3. We encourage and welcome performance entries from all age groups (Children, Adults, Senior Citizens)
4. All the entries will be collected by procession committee and will be given appropriate available spot on one of the days to perform.
5. In case of overwhelming response i.e. we get more number of entries than available spot, the entries will be selected based on a lottery system. All group coordinators are encouraged to attend the lottery draw which will be communicated later.

6. **Minimum no. of participants is 8 per group & maximum is ~20 per group.**
7. We will be playing these songs on the temple premises, so please make sure your song selection is appropriate for that setup. We encourage you to **select Ganapati Bappa or devotional songs only.**
8. Maximum length of the song should be **4 minutes.**
9. If there is a duplication of songs, the first two entries will get a chance to keep the song & other group(s) will be asked to change their song.
10. If we get too many entries then we may request you to merge with the other groups based on certain criteria,
11. Participation in Philadelphia Ganesh Festival Procession is FREE of any charge and open to ALL.
12. Each group will typically perform in one procession only (either on First or on Last Day). However, if we have some open slots on either day, we may accept some groups for both processions. Please therefore specify your choice of procession as **“Aug 24<sup>th</sup>”** or **“Sept 04<sup>th</sup>”** or “both” when submitting the procession entry.
13. Procession committee reserves the right to deny the entry if it is deemed inappropriate or not fulfilling the criteria listed above. Procession committee reserves the right to sequence the dances in the procession at its sole discretion.
14. In order to be fair and accommodative, PGF procession committee will try to offer you to perform at some different PGF event if a particular entry doesn't get selected in lottery draw.

**15. One individual is allowed to participate in ONLY ONE Performance.**

**If your group is selected via lottery system, you will be required to submit the song in MP3 format (length 4 mins or less) at [pgfprocessionteam@gmail.com](mailto:pgfprocessionteam@gmail.com) within FIVE days for final acceptance.** No groups shall be considered if they fail to submit song in MP3 format within five days after the selection.

Please visit [www.PhiladelphiaGaneshFestival.org](http://www.PhiladelphiaGaneshFestival.org) for updated information.

If you have any questions then please reach out to us at [pgfprocessionteam@gmail.com](mailto:pgfprocessionteam@gmail.com)

**Warm Regards,**

**PGF 2017 Procession Committee**