

September 8, 2026

Hello All Stars!

This will be the Mid American Pompon All Star Team's 40th year participating in America's Thanksgiving Day parade, which will take place in downtown Detroit on Thursday, November 26th, 2026! We hope that many of our All Stars will be able to participate in what is one of our favorite days of the entire year at Mid American Pompon!

Thanksgiving Parade reservations will be due on November 2nd at 8:00 pm. Due to the various arrangements that need to be made for this event, **late registrations are not accepted.** Please keep this in mind and register early as no exceptions will be made. Note that if you are participating in the parade, **you will have to miss school on Wednesday, November 25** (for the parade rehearsal).

Attached to the email is the waiver from the Parade Company that must be signed by your parents and submitted to Mid American Pompon on or before November 2, 2026. Please be sure that the All Star member and a parent both sign the waiver. If this form is not filled out properly, it will not be accepted. **Forms are to be submitted via google drive that will be shared with you once you register for the Parade.**

YOUR RESERVATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL YOU HAVE REGISTERED ONLINE AND SUBMITTED YOUR PARADE CO. WAIVER. *If you do not fully complete the registration process, you will not be registered to perform. Thank you for your attention to this.*

When registering, you must use the profile you created when you registered for the All Star Team. Be sure to choose the correct package, parade only or opening show/parade.

There are two separate performance packages that you may purchase for this event. **The first package is open to 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year members ONLY! FIRST YEAR ALL STARS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PERFORM IN THE OPENING SHOW.** This package will allow you to participate in both the 90-second television broadcast opening number on WDIV prior to the parade, as well as the actual parade performance. Due to the size of the performance area for the opening show routine, we cannot have the entire team perform this routine. This year, the Opening Show Performance must be limited to 75 performers, based on eligibility and taken on a first come, first serve basis. **The cost for this package, "OPENING SHOW/PARADE" is \$310 per person.**

The second package is open to ANY All Star member and does not include the opening number performance. The difference in price is that if an All Star is not participating in the opening number, they will arrive later at the hotel on Wednesday, November 25, will have less rehearsal time, and will not be served lunch. **The cost for this package, "PARADE", is \$285 per person.**

The cost of both Thanksgiving Packages includes:

- Hotel accommodations at the Novi Sheraton Hotel (Wed. Nov 25)
 - * Rental of rehearsal space
 - * Dinner (Nov. 25) and breakfast to go (Nov. 26)
 - * Deluxe Coach Bus transportation to the parade and back to the hotel
 - * Professionally recorded and produced memory thumb drive of the Thanksgiving rehearsal, opening show, and parade performance

For those purchasing the “**OPENING SHOW/PARADE**” package, your fees also include rental space for rehearsal for the opening number, and lunch at the Novi Sheraton, and separate Deluxe Coach bus transportation down to the parade and back.

GENERAL SCHEDULE FOR THE EVENT

(**Tentative**; final schedule will be emailed at least one week prior)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

***OPENING SHOW PARTICIPANTS**

8:00-9:00a.m. **Opening Show participants only** - Check in with Mid American Staff at the Novi Sheraton; receive room keys, report to the ballroom to pick up merchandise, etc.

9:15-12:00p.m. Opening show rehearsal

12:00-1:30p.m. Lunch, relaxation (Lunch served 12:00-1:00)

***PARADE PARTICIPANTS NOT PERFORMING IN THE OPENING SHOW -**

12:45-1:30p.m. Check in with Mid American Staff at the Novi Sheraton; receive room keys, report to the ballroom to pick up merchandise, etc. Please eat lunch on your own before arriving.

1:30-4:15p.m. Parade rehearsal for **ALL** participants

4:15-4:30p.m. Opening Show rehearsal

4:30-5:00p.m. Get ready for group picture and dress rehearsal

5:00-6:00p.m. DINNER served

4:45-6:15p.m. Individual / small group pictures in ballroom hallway
(See schedule outside Ballroom)

6:15-6:30p.m. Pose for Group Photo

6:30-7:00p.m. Group picture

7:00-8:30p.m. Three Year Member Awards, Dress rehearsal

9:00 p.m. Staff Applicant Meeting – anyone who is interested in applying for MAPP summer camp staff should attend this short meeting (Main ballroom, front platform)

10:45 p.m. ROOM CHECKS

11:00 p.m. QUIET – Must be in assigned rooms

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

• Schedule is subject to change

5:30 a.m. Load Bus with **Opening Show participants**

5:45 a.m. Depart for downtown Detroit

6:30 a.m. Opening show spacing rehearsal on Woodward Ave.

6:55 a.m. Load Bus #3 and #4 (**Remainder of All Star Team**)

7:00 a.m. Depart for parade staging area

TBD Opening show performance for WDIV (Channel 4)

10:15 a.m. All Stars begin Parade Route

TBD Parade performance to air on WDIV

12:00 noon Return to Novi Sheraton and check out

Hotel Accommodations

Hotel arrangements have been made with the Novi Sheraton Hotel for the **mandatory** parade practice on Wednesday, November 25 by having every All Star at the hotel; it assures us that all members will be at the hotel in the morning, eliminating the possibility of all stars being late because of oversleeping, traffic, etc. All Stars will **not** be allowed to room with family or friends on the night of November 25, only other All Star Team members. Room assignments are based on four to a room by school. If there are less than four from your school, we will pair you up with other All Stars from other schools. Room requests are not accepted due to the size of the team, and All Stars must stay in their assigned rooms.

You must provide your own transportation to and from the hotel. Parents are welcome to stay at the hotel the night prior to the parade performance. However, they must make their own reservations by following the link below. You will be required to give a credit card number for your room. Parents are welcome to come and watch the dress rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, as well as to attend the actual performances in downtown Detroit on Thanksgiving morning. However, family and friends are not permitted on our chartered buses on Thanksgiving Day.

Reservation Link

Opening Show Rehearsal

In addition to the parade, we are hoping to be given the opportunity to perform the opening number for the local television viewing audience. We have yet to be notified one way or another by WDIV. As soon as we receive confirmation, we will let you all know.

Due to the size of the performance area for the opening show routine, we cannot have the entire team perform this routine. This year, the **Opening Show Performance must be limited to 75 performers, based on eligibility and taken on a first come, first serve basis.** This is the ONLY performance that we should have to limit performers. Those who are eligible to perform in this routine are:

- **2nd, 3rd, or 4th Year All Stars**

You will be wearing the same outfit for both performances. Rehearsal for the opening number will be held from 9:15a.m.-12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 25 at the Novi Sheraton Hotel. ***Payment and rehearsal attendance does NOT guarantee that you will perform in this routine. Upon arrival, team members must have perfect knowledge of the routine, as well as flawless form and kicks in order to perform. Due to the short rehearsal time for this event, those who do not meet our expectations upon arrival will be pulled from the routine and will be asked to come back for parade rehearsal later in the afternoon.***

****All Star items that have been ordered in advance, i.e. All Star performance top, poms, pants, etc., will be passed out at Thanksgiving rehearsal on Wednesday, November 25.**

All Star Team Photos

The All Star Team photo will be taken on Wednesday, November 25 at the hotel. All Star members in the parade will have the option of purchasing a team photo – this is NOT included in your package. Once again, this year our photographer will be Jeff Garland. All Stars who are interested may have individual or small group pictures taken in your All Star uniform. Individual photo packages are payable to Jeff Garland Photography on November 25 by cash or check. Payment envelopes will be available at check-in at the hotel. An order form is also available to be printed off in advance from the All Star section of our website. Prices are listed below so that you can have the payment ready when you arrive.

Package A: 4 Wallets, 2 4x6 \$18.00

Package B: 4 Wallets, 1 3x5, 1 5x7, 1 Photo Button \$27.00

Package C: 8 Wallets, 2 3x5, 2 5x7, 1 Photo Button \$32.00

Package D: 1 Photo Button \$8.00

Package E: (All-Star Template) 1 5x7, 2 4x6 \$26.00

Digital File \$35.00

All Star Template Digital File \$45.00

8 x 10 All-Star Group Photo (with an above package) \$14.00

8 x 10 All-Star Group Photo (without ordering another single package) \$16.00

***** PLEASE NOTE ALL DEADLINES!** We ask that every All Star register online and return the reservation forms **prior** to the deadlines that are set - we have many arrangements to make with over 195 team members! There is also a mail slot at the east end lobby of the building if we are not open. Be sure that you inform your parents about this information and be sure they read this letter. As you can see, this letter contains a great deal of important information. Please read it carefully! All correspondence pertaining to the All Star Team will also be emailed to the team as well as posted on our Facebook & Instagram pages.

***** REFUND POLICY:** Once you have registered online for the Thanksgiving Parade Package, you have until **NOVEMBER 6TH to cancel and receive a partial refund.** A \$50 processing fee will be charged for cancellations. Cancellations on or after November 6 are non-refundable or transferable. Team sweatshirts, body suits, etc. are considered special orders and are non-refundable.

Upon completion of registration, a link will be sent to you via email with the choreography for both the parade and opening show from which you will learn the routines.

After the reservations are complete, you will receive another letter with specifics **by e-mail.** This letter will include a list of what to bring, a map to the Novi Sheraton Hotel, and other details.

THANK YOU!

**We are looking forward to a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!
And we look forward to spending it with you!**

Questions??? Julie@pompon.com or visit www.pompon.com/all-stars