



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the experience needed and age requirement to be a Petal Pushers® ?

- **No prior experience is needed** because you will be instructed by experienced float crew chiefs and decorators. There is no upper age limit. Due to insurance regulations and safety concerns **Petal Pushers® must be at least 13 years old to decorate.**

How or where do I register to volunteer?

- You may register on-line at: **Volunteer Sign-Up**. Shortly after registration, you will receive a confirmation email listing your decorating site location, date, and shifttime.

What do I do after receiving my email confirmation?

- Go to the **Check-In** information on the PetalPushers® website to learn what to do before coming to your assigned decorating site location.

Where will I be working?

PHOENIX DECORATIONG COMPANY

5400 Irwindale Ave.
Irwindale, CA 91706

Where do I park?

- Follow parking signs.

What should I wear?

- Wear closed toed shoes. Sandals or flip-flops are not acceptable.
- The dress is “socially grubby.” This means you don’t come smelling bad, however, it does mean you might get dirty. During decorating days (Dec. 26th through Dec. 31st) Petal Pushers® must wear a Petal Pushers® tee shirt or sweatshirt from the current year or any prior year. These shirts identify you as an official Petal Pusher® among the many volunteers and are your “entrance ticket” into the decorating facility.
- Petal Pushers® tee shirts and sweatshirts can be purchased at the decorating locations (full price) or discounted pricing on-line. **PetalPushers®Store**
- December mornings can be chilly in Pasadena (temps in the 40’s) so dress warm in layers but, **the Petal Pushers® shirt must be worn as the outer-most garment.**

What time do I report to work?

- You should **arrive no later than 30 minutes before** the beginning of the shift you are assigned. All volunteers have to be signed in and given instructions prior to going into the building to decorate.

What will I be doing?

- All Tournament of Roses Parade Floats are decorated with materials that were once living (organic material). These items include the traditional roses, many types of flowers and even fruit but, also dry materials are used like rice, seeds, corn husks, straw flowers and tree bark. The materials are applied to the float based on the projected life of the item. On detail decorating days dry materials are prepared and applied to the floats. Closer to the date of the parade, live flowers are prepared and applied to the floats. Petal Pushers are involved in all aspects of the float decorating process from cutting dried flower petals, to cutting and inserting live flowers into water vials, to decorating on the floats. Petal Pushers® also are needed to clean up at the end of your shift.

Can I select which float I work on?

- **No**, the Petal Pushers® volunteer coordinator at each location assigns you to a float based upon decorating schedules and needs.

What is available for lunch or dinner?

- The LHMFC sells a combo meal with an individual Pizza Hut® pizza and a canned soft drink or bottled water for \$4.00. These are ordered before your shift or you may bring your own lunch.
- If you are part of group of five (5) or more it is requested you complete a pizza order form prior to coming to decorate. **PIZZA ORDER FORM**

What should I bring or not bring with me?

- Please **do not bring** MP3 players, iPods, radios, or ear bud listening devices as these are not permitted for use while decorating for safety reasons.
- Please **do not bring** large bags, purses or back packs as there is no lockable storage area.
- Please leave valuables and expensive jewelry at home.
- Bring some money to purchase lunch, souvenirs, pins, candy or snacks from the LHMFC booth. Picture taking is permitted but, remember your primary responsibility is to work decorating the assigned float.

How long will I work?

- Work shifts are 8 hours in length and you are expected to work an entire shift and expected help with clean up at the end of the shift.
- When you volunteer you select a date(s) and shift time. You will be assigned a decorating location upon acceptance.
- Detail Days (dry work) on the Saturdays before Christmas in December is from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm.
- Decorating Days after Christmas in December is a double shift.
 - Shift 1: 8:00 am until 4:00 pm
 - Shift 2: 4:00 pm until 11:00 pm
 - Shift 2: December 30th the shift continues until all floats are completed.
 - December 31st 6:00 am until 11:00 am
- You may request multiple shifts.
- Warning: Many Petal Pushers® came into work one shift years ago and are still “hooked” and volunteer every year on multiple shifts.

When does work begin on the floats?

- Building a float is a year around project. Work begins in January when Phoenix Decorating takes the float back to their workshop to tear down the old float and prepare the chassis for the coming year. Meanwhile, the designers begin developing concepts and sketches for the next year as soon as the theme is announced by the Tournament of Roses Association in mid-January. When the drawing concept is approved construction begins early in the year.

Do all 4,500 to 5,000 Petal Pushers® volunteers work on the Lutheran float?

- No. Petal Pushers® decorate as many as 10 different floats for Phoenix.

How does decorating other floats help the Lutheran float?

- Phoenix Decorating, our float builder, makes a donation to the Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee (LHMFC) in proportion to the number of hours worked by our many volunteers. It is very important you are signed in with the **Petal Pushers®** volunteer coordinators at both decorating locations so we are credited for your work.

Are all the volunteers working on floats Petal Pushers® ?

- No, Petal Pushers® is a registered trademark of the Lutheran Hour Ministries Float Committee. Committee members are identified with red jackets or shirts with the Petal Pushers® logo. Most of the other volunteer decorators are from service organizations (Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.) or employees of cities and corporate float sponsors (City of Alhambra, Farmers Insurance, City of Hope Cancer Center, etc.).

THANK YOU FOR DECORATING AS A PETAL PUSHER®
YOUR FLOAT COMMITTEE WANTS YOU TO HAVE A GREAT TIME!
MAY GOD ALWAYS BLESS YOU!