

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bicentennial Commission to announce parade sponsorship, encourage statewide participation

POLAND – The Maine Bicentennial Commission (Maine200) will announce the State of Maine Bicentennial Parade presenting sponsor on December 19, 2019, at 11:00 a.m., at the Poland Spring Museum, in Poland, Maine.

The parade will take place on May 16, 2020, in Lewiston and Auburn.

“We are very fortunate to have such an exciting Presenting Sponsor for this historic parade and to have the cities of Lewiston and Auburn as our co-hosts, allowing us to create a truly memorable event for the public in celebration of Maine’s 200 years of statehood,” said Commission Chairman Senator William Diamond.

The announcement of the presenting sponsorship is the first step in promoting statewide participation in this celebratory event.

“The Bicentennial Commission and the two cities have made great progress with the planning and preparations, and it is now time to share the excitement of this event with people throughout Maine,” Diamond said.

Representatives of Poland Spring, Auburn, Lewiston, and the Commission will speak at the Poland Spring Museum, 37 Preservation Way, to announce the partnership and the plans for the parade.

“Maine was 25 years old when Poland Spring was born,” says Heather Printup, Community Relations Manager for Poland Spring. “We are so thrilled to be a part of the bicentennial celebrating the 200th birthday of the great State of Maine which our company is so deeply rooted in.”

The Maine Bicentennial Commission is encouraging statewide participation in the parade and is accepting applications for floats and participating units via the parade website at www.Maine200parade.com.

The parade will also feature an inter-generational Bicentennial Marching Band, led by John Neal, music director at the Snow Pond Arts Academy. The Commission is inviting musicians from across the state (ages 13+) to learn two pieces of music, attend two rehearsals, and march in the parade as part of this once-in-a-lifetime band.

“Everyone who has ever been in a marching band knows the thrill of participating before an appreciative audience. This time, with the Bicentennial Parade, we hope to attract thousands of spectators to line the parade route. The band will be so important to this event that we are calling for musicians from all corners of the state to pick up their instruments and help fill the parade route with music,” Diamond said.

Full details and the registration form are available at www.Maine200parade.com. Neal will speak to the vision for the Bicentennial Marching Band at the event Thursday.

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