

2026 PARADE OF LIGHTS

Human-Powered “Paddle” Parade Route & Information

Date: Sunday, December 13, 2026

Theme: Hawaiian Holiday

Rules and Regulations:

- All paddlers must wear USCG-approved Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs).
- Operating a vessel while under the influence of any intoxicant is strictly forbidden by law: Harbors and Navigation Code 655(b).
- All participants must complete and sign the [parade entry form](#) with the waiver before the start of the parade.

Staging from 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.:

- The staging area will be at the Travel Hoist Pier, indicated by the red star in the Parade Route Map on the back side of this document.
- At 1:45 p.m., a safety briefing by [Santa Barbara Paddle Sports](#) will occur on the Travel Hoist Pier. Please be on time.

Parade Competition and Judging:

- All participants who wish to compete for prizes must obtain a bib number from the Paddle Director at the staging area. Groups in the same kayak or canoe only need one bib number for their whole group.
- The Parade Director will photograph all participants at the staging area who wish to compete in the parade.
- If needed, groups starting at the Boat Launch Ramp can send a photo with their team to ARodriguez@SantaBarbaraCA.gov by 5:00 p.m. Photos must include the parade bib number to be judged.
- At 5:30 p.m., the Parade Judges will begin reviewing the human-powered participant photos to determine the winners.
- Parade results will be announced at the Awards Ceremony at Anchor Rose restaurant following the boat parade.

Paddle Instructions:

- At 2:00 p.m., the Parade Director will announce the start of the parade, and paddlers will enter the Harbor water at the Fish Float North and Launch Ramp, as indicated by the green stars in the Parade Route Map on the back side of this document. Please be on time.
- Paddlers should stay on the eastern side of the Harbor main channel and out of vessel traffic.
- At Stearns Wharf, paddlers will proceed around the Wharf in a Counterclockwise direction, then loop the Wharf Wye, where the Christmas tree is, and return to the Harbor.

Human-Powered Parade Route Map located on the back

