

United Way of Freeborn County

Gift of Lights

ENTRY DEADLINE IS FRIDAY DECEMBER 11th 2020 • ENTRY MUST BE RECEIVED WITH PAYMENT, NOT POSTMARKED

ENTRY NAME: _____

Contact Person: _____

Business/Organization/Individual: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Phone: _____ Category Chosen: _____

Email: _____

Location of Entry (Address) _____

Signature of Authorized Representative of Entry: _____

Please Print Name: _____ Date Signed ____/____/____

Registration: To compete in this contest, an entry form with payment must be completed, signed, and submitted to UWFC no later than **Friday, December 11th 2020**. Form may be mailed to the UWFC at P. O. Box 686, Albert Lea, MN 56007 or completed online at <http://unitedwayfc.org/giftoflights>.

Who Can Enter: Entrants must be a resident of Freeborn County. **Residential entry fee is \$15. Businesses and organizations fee are \$25.** All fees go towards supporting United Way of Freeborn County's annual campaign. Staff & Board of Directors and their families are welcome to participate, but not eligible for prizes.

Deadline for Decorating: Entries must be decorated and lit by 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 17, 2020.

Location of Entries: Entries must be within Freeborn County limits. If you live in a very rural location that may provide difficulty to get to, please consider a location within city limits such as a local business that may wish to partner with you. Businesses are welcome to allow school groups, organizations or individuals to decorate for them. The prize is awarded to the person whose name is listed on the registration form. Entrants are fully responsible for gaining permission to decorate areas that belong to someone else, whether it be the City, a business or property owner, etc. UWFC will not be responsible for making such contacts and/or arrangements.

Decorating Requirements: Entries will be judged on "curb appeal." Indoor decorations will not be included in the judging unless they can be viewed from outside, i.e., windows, doors, etc. All entries must include lights/illumination and be in good taste and family oriented. **All entries must remain lit (during waking hours) and decorated from December 17th-December 31.** Timers are highly encouraged to save energy. For example, lights on from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Entrants should monitor their displays to make sure lights are working and properly maintained during the timeframe. Entrants are responsible for being aware of and adhering to local rules and regulations regarding lights.

Sponsorship Opportunities: This is the first of what is hoped to be an annual event, with plans for expanding the holiday celebration in a way that benefits the community. We welcome discussion and participation from businesses and service clubs for this and future years.

Judging: A panel of judges will examine all entries during evening hours on an unannounced date between December 17-22, 2020, between the hours of 5:00 pm and 9:00 pm. Lights must be on to qualify for judging. Categories are the same for business and residential and are prized together. County Bests are divided by the i90-i35 intersection, outside of Albert Lea City limits. Entries will be judged, and winners chosen on the following categories:

- **County Best in the Northwest**
- **County Best in the Northeast**
- **County Best in the Southwest**
- **County Best in the Southeast**
- **Best of Town of Albert Lea**
- **Most Whoville**
 - *Over the top, Whimsical, as opposite from Grinchy as you can get!*
- **Christmas Comedy**
 - *Be inspired by your favorite FUNNY Christmas movie. Home Alone, Elf it up, show us your Christmas spirit through family friendly humor.*
- **Charlie Brown:**
 - *Decorate the dog house, the boat, the barn, the fence...anything but your house!*
- **Best of Show** *You blew the judges' minds!*

Judges: No interaction is allowed with the judges should you be at your location when they come around. Do not greet them, do not invite them inside. No contact is allowed, or you risk disqualification.

Entry Cards: All entrants will be provided with a United Way of Freeborn County sign which must be displayed in the yard. Contestants that wish to accept freewill donations are welcome to do so, but must notify UWFC for a discussion regarding how to securely collect the money. All monetary donations must be freewill, and must be towards United Way of Freeborn County. Contestants may also choose to collect items such as winter coats for our Winter Gear Drive.

PRIZES FOR RESIDENTIAL

BEST OF SHOW: \$500

CATEGORIES: \$200 + Local gift cards

Business & Organization Entrants Prizes: Entrants will receive a trophy and the amount of your prize will be purchased with gift cards at your local business or a business of your choosing and divided between the residential categories. Promote your business and help our local economy!

Announcement of Winners: Winners will be announced on the Power 96 Radio Morning Show with Jay Paul on Wednesday, December 23rd at 8:30 a.m. Results will also be posted on social media pages and the website.

Special Notice: Registration gives consent for entry photos to be featured in local media, UWFC's website and social media. Entrants by the signature of their representative agree to defend, indemnify, and hold the UWFC, its officers, officials, and volunteers harmless from any and all claims, injuries, damages, losses, or suits including attorney fees, arising out of or in connect with their participation.

Questions: Contact UWFC at 507-373-8670 or email GiftOfLights@unitedwayfc.org

Mail Completed Form & Payment to:

Gift of Lights
P. O. BOX 686 • Albert Lea, MN 56007
by Friday, December 11th, 2020.