

250th PCFC – PARADE DIVISIONS BY HISTORICAL PERIODS

These Divisions of the parade are based on historical periods. You are part of Allentown's history, so as you think about your participation in the parade, you may want to add an event to this time line that is important to you as a group or individual. We offer this list of events – by no means comprehensive of everything that has happened in Allentown in 250 years – to be suggestive of possible themes for participants, group activities and floats for the parade.

Division 1: 1762-1811

Founding by William Allen -1762

Reading of Declaration of Independence - 1776

Liberty Bell hidden at Zion's Church during Revolution 1777-1778

Division 2: 1812-1861

Named Lehigh County Seat 1812

Lehigh Canal Opens - 1828

Iron Industry Begins - 1840

Lehigh County Fair 1854

Allen Infantry is among the First Defenders to go to Washington at the onset of Civil War 1861

Allentown - Iron Making Center of the Nation 1850's -1870s

Division 3: 1862-1911

Rise of Silk Industry 1881

Great Allentown Fairgrounds opens 1888

First Jewish Synagogue - Agudas Achim 1892

Future Hess's Department Store opens 1897

Soldiers and Sailors Monument Oct 19 1899

Allentown Hospital founded 1899

Teddy Roosevelt visits Allentown 1905

Mack Trucks Comes to A-town 1905

West Park A-town's first park opens 1908

First regular scheduled color movies in U.S. A-town 1910

Allentown Flag Day Association is founded 1907

First airplane flight over Allentown 1910

Division 4: 1912-1961

Allentown Library founded 1912
Sacred Heart Hospital founded 1912
St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church built 1915-16
World War I 1917-1918
PPL created by General Harry C Trexler 1920
PPL Tower Building completed 1928
Allentown Park System created 1935 - 1939
St. James AME Church, first Black church in Allentown, founded 1936
World War II Allentown Arsenal of Democracy 1940-45
Kennedy/Nixon campaign visit 1960

Division 5: 1961-2012

Allentown Bicentennial Parade 1962
First Spanish mass held at Sacred Heart Parish 1965 (Spanish Speaking Apostolate)
Hispanic American Organization founded 1976
Liberty Bell Trek 1976
Hess's Heyday
Millennium 2000
Roberto Clemente Charter School founded 2000
PPL Center Plaza 2003
Allentown Celebrates 250th Anniversary

Proposed Division 6: Looking to the future!
