



MEDIA ADVISORY

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THE PARADE COMPANY ANNOUNCES GRAND MARSHALS FOR 82ND AMERICA'S THANKSGIVING PARADE®

Several Olympians to Participate as Legends and Lollipopers on Thursday, November 27, 2008

DETROIT (07 November 2008) – The Parade Company is pleased to announce the following Olympians will be Grand Marshals and will ride on the *Let Freedom Ring* float for the 82nd America's Thanksgiving Parade®:

- **Peter Vanderkaay** – world record holder in the 800m Free Relay, set at the 2008 Olympic Games
- **Cheryl Angelelli** – two-time silver medalist swimmer at 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing
- **Garrett Weber Gale** – 2008 Olympic Games gold medalist and world record holder in the 400m Free Relay
- **Lindsay Tarpley** – member of the 2004 and 2008 Olympic Gold Medal winning Women's Soccer team

“We are excited to have four world class Olympian athletes participating in America's Thanksgiving Parade®,” said Matthew P. Cullen, Chair, Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation. “These Olympians represent the best of America and what better way to celebrate them than as Grand Marshals in America's Thanksgiving Parade®.

The 82nd America's Thanksgiving Parade® will step-off at Woodward Avenue and Mack on Thursday, November 27 at 9:20 a.m. and end at Woodward Avenue and Congress in downtown Detroit. More than one million people will be watching America's Thanksgiving Parade®, one of the country's oldest and most celebrated, as it makes its way down Woodward Avenue.

See The Parade up close and personal from the comfort of the Grandstand seats. Grandstand tickets range from \$24 – \$48 each. Group rates are also available at discount prices. Grandstand tickets are non-refundable and can be ordered at www.theparade.org or by calling Jennifer at 313.923.7400 x231.

The two-hour Parade will be featured on WDIV-TV Local 4 including a one-hour national broadcast reaching nearly 65 million households nationwide. NewsTalk 760 WJR will also broadcast live from the Parade.

For more information on The Parade Company, visit www.theparade.org or call 313.923.7400.

About The Parade Company

Founded in 1984, The Parade Company is a not-for-profit organization governed by the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation whose board of directors is comprised of key civic and corporate leaders in the greater Detroit region. The Parade Company is celebrating 82 years of Parade tradition in Detroit. The mission is to fund, create and execute the best family events in metro Detroit. The Parade Company staff, the board of directors and thousands of parade volunteers work year-round to bring a wide variety of magnificent events to the City of Detroit each year including the Target Fireworks, GM River Days and America's Thanksgiving Parade®.

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