

**For Immediate Release**  
December 9, 2010



### **Fire Hydrant from World Trade Center Towers Featured on Float**

The 9/11 Heroes Tribute Float for the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade will feature a fire hydrant that was found all of one piece buried under the rubble and destruction of the New York World Trade Center Towers.

The parade float entry is being sponsored by the L.A. County Firemen's Benefit and Welfare Association, and is being built to honor all the fallen heroes and those that were first to respond to the crisis on September 11, 2001, making a difference for us all. 2011 marks the 10-year anniversary of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorists' attacks.

Every inch of a float in the Pasadena Rose Parade is required to be decorated with natural materials. Flowers, seeds, fruit, vegetables, and every kind of organic produce one can think of is used in very creative ways. Nothing is dyed or spray-painted; everything is natural. These kinds of requirements are part of what makes the Pasadena Rose Parade so prestigious. If its not decorated it must go through a special variance committee. Given the significance of this fire hydrant and how it's a piece of history in the midst of a moment of history, the fire hydrant was approved as an item that should not be decorated.

The fire hydrant was given to the Los Angeles County Fire Museum by FDNY, in appreciation of Los Angeles County's Firemen's commitment and help in the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York City. The fire hydrant was found in the rubble of the World Trade Center totally intact and nearly incinerated by the subsequent fires and the collapse of WTC 7, the 50-story building located by Tower One. Jerry Thomsen, organizer of this special entry in the parade, stated, "It stands as a mythological symbol of our country's strength; we won't be defeated."

Charisma Floats [www.charismafloats.com](http://www.charismafloats.com) is honored to build this float. Charisma Floats is an award-winning builder of parade floats for the Rose Parade in Pasadena, California, in addition to their floral display work for the annual Academy Awards in Hollywood.

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