

**Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
36th Anniversary of the Orme Dam Victory Days
Parade Entry Application**

Parade Participant,

The Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation proudly presents the 36th Anniversary of the Orme Dam Victory Days Parade. Thank you for your interest in this year's Parade. The parade will be held on **Saturday, November 18th, 2017 beginning at 10:00 am**. This year's theme for our celebration is "Celebrating 36 years of Yavapai land, culture, and traditions." For 36 years, the Fort McDowell Yavapai people have endured many struggles as well as many victories. Subsequently, today we celebrate our past and by honoring our land, culture, and traditions.

Attached is a parade entry form and a short history of why we celebrate. **Please send your entry form no later than November 2nd, 2017**. This year our parade route will begin at Fort Loop and Ft. McDowell Road. The parade route will run south of Fort McDowell Road for approximately ½ mile.

Line-up time is at 7:00 am. The registration table will be at the corner of Fort Loop and Fort McDowell Road; you must get your number from the registration table no later than 9:30am. All Scripts for announcers must be included in the application by November 2nd.

If you have any questions, please contact: Lieah Baptisto at 480-789-7107 / lbaptisto@fmya.org

Sincerely,

Lieah Baptisto
Orme Dam Victory Days Parade Coordinator
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

**36th Anniversary of the Orme Dam Victory Days
Parade Entry Form**

Entry Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ **Phone:** () _____

Parade rule(s) are follows:

- 1) All late entry application submittals or late entry arrivals to the parade will result in the placement or positioning of that entry at the rear of the parade procession.
- 2) All entries utilizing animals **MUST** provide their own animal waste removal (pooper scooper).

Entry Script for the Announcer

In 25 words or less please provide a script for the Announcer to read.

Signature

Date

Please send entries to:

Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Parade
P.O. Box 18641
Fountain Hills, AZ 85269
Email: lbaptisto@fmyyn.org
480-789-7107

Why We Celebrate

Victory for the Nation! The Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation marks this part of year as a time for everyone to come together in commemoration through celebration of the November 12, 1981 announcement that Orme Dam WILL NOT be a part of the Central Arizona Project. Victory for the Nation!

In September 1968, Congress passed the law authorizing the construction of the Colorado River Basin project that included the Central Arizona Project (CAP) and its main feature, the Orme Dam. In those days and in the years following, it was taken for granted that the Orme Dam was going to be built. Nobody questioned it. It was going to be built.

Orme Dam was to be built at the confluence of the Salt and Verde Rivers on the Salt River Reservation. But its big impact would be on the Yavapai tribe living on the Fort McDowell Reservation. Water would back up behind the proposed Orme Dam flooding two-thirds of Fort McDowell and the community would have to be relocated.

Arizona's business and political leaders wanted Orme Dam for many reasons. Orme Dam would hold the Colorado River water brought in by the Central Arizona Project for more economic development and it would be a flood control for Phoenix.

The Indians living at Fort McDowell did not want to move for the Orme Dam. Some said the tribe would cease to exist. Others pointed out that Phoenix already had several dams sitting on land taken in the past from the same tribe.

In December 1972, the first public protest was held at Fort McDowell so the people could be heard. Many who are gone today were heard that day. Robert Doka, the tribal council chairman, announced that a telegram had been sent to the U.S. Interior Secretary that the Indians of Fort McDowell were not willing to give up their land.

The CAP was first introduced to Congress in 1947 and passed in 1968 but in all the years of hearings, Congress never heard an Indian from Fort McDowell. It was not until February 1973, four years after the CAP law was passed, that the U.S. Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation met with the whole tribe at Fort McDowell and told them of the plans to relocate them and flood their reservation.

The struggle to hold on to Fort McDowell was long and hard. In September 1976, the Indians voted against selling their land. Heavy rains in 1978, 1979 and 1980 brought intensified cries from Arizona's governor and other business and political leaders that Orme Dam was needed for flood control. An editor from the Arizona Republic waged a coupon campaign which he took to Washington.

Earlier, a newspaper article, "LAST STAND OF THE YAVAPAI", had said, "As has so often been the case in the west, when Indian traditions come into conflict with the white man's urge for progress, it looks as though the Yavapai may be about to lose their last battle".

Fort McDowell Indians didn't lose the battle. We won the battle.

After many years, and after many efforts, it was finally decided by the U.S. Interior Secretary on November 12, 1981: NO ORME DAM!