

# Rispetto

## Oregon 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parades

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### 23<sup>rd</sup> All American, Anyone-Can-Join, Fabulous, Fantastic 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Corvallis, 2012

Corvallis is a university town.  
Some students back home to their community.  
We parade together today town and gown—  
a great red, white and blue opportunity.  
We line streets on warm, summer-sunny morning.  
Folding chairs edge curbs and give traffic warning  
to stop and park elsewhere—we have a parade.  
Participants gather, march and masquerade.

Bystanders wave flags, patriotic-dressed dogs  
shout to paraders, text, take photos for blogs.  
Husband pushes wheel-chaired friend, hullabaloo.  
My cranky knees prevent marching along too.  
Red, white and blue clothes, beads, headpieces and on bikes,  
on marathon runners finishing route, tikes  
on trikes, children in street, catch candy and cheer,  
those on roller skates, bikes, strollers, scooters here.

Lots of llamas, docile dogs, white dove peace plan,  
old car contingent, tractor, truck, bike for two.  
Some politics- Democrats, Republican—  
rear end. Occupy. Hand out Bill of Rights; rue  
“Corporations are not people”. Superman,  
Statue of Liberty, “I love this land”. Can  
hula-hoop, play banjo, squirt guns, hand out beads.  
Ends with fire truck, balloons. A banner leads.

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### 18<sup>th</sup> “Probably Annual” Yachats 4<sup>th</sup> of July la-de-da Parade Yachats, Oregon

Yachats is small, quiet, sea community.  
Means “dark waters at the foot of the mountain”.  
Artistic folks express creativity.  
Once Chinook and sea-loving people remain.

One stoplight town, Mushroom Fest activity.  
La-de-da parade with dogs march right down Main.  
Food, fireworks, yellow rubber duckie race  
Yankee Doodle Dandies have la-de-da place..

**Rispetto:**

1. Eight lines One or two stanzas.
2. Eleven syllable lines. Hendecasyllabic.
3. Rhyme Scheme: a-b-a-b-a-b-c-c- or a-b-a-b-c-c-d-d
4. One stanza uses a-a-b-b-c-c-d-d variation.