

INSTALLATION AND INDUCTION CEREMONIES

This brochure contains ceremonies for the Rings to utilize for the installation of Ring Officers and for the induction of members into the Ring. The ceremonies should be adapted and modified to each Ring's needs. There is no official version of such ceremonies; rather these are shown as models or examples of what some Rings have used.

Making the ceremonies specific to the Ring's objectives should enhance their meaning to the individuals and the overall Ring membership. The key is to keep the ceremonies dignified as befitting the occasions that they represent.

There are three versions of the Installation Ceremony presented. The first, designated as *Points of Light Ceremony* is a longer, more formal and symbolic presentation that some Rings like to use in a banquet setting. The other two, *Fellowship of the Ring* and *Dedication and Commitment*, are in increasingly abbreviated formats and serve well in a less formal setting or where time is more limited.

The person installing the officers should be as high an official within the I.B.M. organization as is available. It may be an Officer or Board Member of the I.B.M., a Territorial Vice President or it could be the Chaplain or a Senior Member of the Ring.

The President or Vice President would normally be the person that would conduct the Induction Ceremony. Further details about that Ceremony are found just prior to the Ceremony itself.

Ring Officer Installation Ceremony

Points Of Light Ceremony

Will the newly elected officers step forward to be installed? Please stand to the rear of the table (**a small magic side table with a large diameter candle in its center and candles for each person to be installed resting to the side of the larger candle**) -- May, I have the President next to me, then the Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt. at Arms and Directors. (**They stand in this order next to person installing**). Thank you.

Tonight we are here to install the new officers of Ring (*Ring No.*) for the term of the years (*period covered by their term*). However, before we proceed, let us express our appreciation to the officers of this past year who have contributed so much. Our thanks for their significant efforts and dedication to the Ring.

We have put our trust in our new officers as leaders of our community of magic. They and we have the common cause of working together through the Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians to the promote excellence in magic and to develop the magical knowledge and skills of our members and enhance their enjoyment of the magical arts.

As Territorial Vice President (*Officer/Member of Board of Trustees of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, a Senior Member or Chaplain of the Ring as the case may be*), I am lighting a special candle on this

table. (**after lighting**) The light from this candle represents the collective wisdom and true fellowship of our organization as we endeavor to strengthen the viability and foster the performance of the magical arts. The light of the candle is also warm and glowing, welcoming all interested participants into the fellowship of magicians.

Will members who are the new Directors step forward in order (*list names*) and light your candles, taking your light from the Ring fellowship candle and then return to your position (**Directors pick up an individual candle from table and light it from the main candle and return with lighted candle to his/her position with other officers. This procedure is repeated for each officer or set of officers**).

(**After they return**) Notice the light does not dim but grows stronger with each additional person. Directors, your candles symbolize your leadership in the growth of members of the Ring as well as the Ring itself and the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

The next two officers will light their candles. First, the Sergeant of Arms (*name*) will light his/her candle taking the light from the Ring fellowship candle. The light obtained symbolizes the duties to greet members, maintain order and enhance the meetings with support and development of the Ring's programs.

The new Treasurer (*name*), will now light his/her candle taking his/her light from the Ring candle. The Treasurer's candle represents the trust and responsibility the Ring has

placed in him/her to care for the finances of the Ring, collecting and dispersing funds in an appropriate and timely manner. **(after lighting)** Notice the light of the fellowship candle has not diminished. In fact the light has grown even stronger.

The Secretary (*name*) will now light his/her candle, taking the light from the Ring's candle. The Secretary's candle symbolizes the warmth and welcome of the one who communicates with members and prospective members of the Ring and the magic community and its public.

The Vice President (*name*) will now light his/her candle. The Vice President's candle represents the supportive and dedicated role of the Vice President, who is willing to learn and listen to the members, but also to be a leader in many of the Ring functions. The Vice President will serve in the absence of the President, while at other times working closely with him. **(after lighting)** Notice that the light does not diminish with each lighting but grows ever stronger.

Finally the new President (*name*) will light a candle, taking the light from the Ring fellowship candle. The President's candle represents strength and power, which is to be used in the best manner. It is the power to encourage and help others become better magicians and power to unite and help lead the Ring membership in all its activities; however, it also represents strength to uphold the integrity, the ethics and the prestige of the magical arts.

Now with all candles lit, we can see clearly that the fellowship, that is the light and the warmth of the Ring is much stronger than the single Ring candle. Each of our officers will be serving as guiding lights to our organization. However, each of member has their own responsibility in turn, to become points of light, spreading the fellowship of magic wherever they go.

Duly elected officers, as I read your commitment, signify your agreement with a simple I do. Elected officers, do you solemnly promise to fulfill the duties of the offices to which you have been elected, keeping in mind the light and fellowship that you are spreading and upholding your responsibilities to the best of your abilities. If so, please answer, I do. **(response)** Having heard these elected officer's testimony of dedication, I declare that the officers of Ring (*Ring No.*) are duly installed. Ladies and Gentlemen please greet the new officers of the Ring. Congratulations to you.

Ring Officer Installation Ceremony

Fellowship of the Ring

(a condensed format)

Will the newly elected officers, step forward to be installed. Please stand to the rear of the table (**a small magic side table with a large diameter candle in its center**) -- May, I have the President next to me, then Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt. at Arms and Board of Directors. (**they stand in this order next to person installing**). Thank you.

Tonight we are here to install the new officers of Ring (*Ring No.*) for the term of the years (*period covered by their term*). However, before we proceed, let us express our appreciation to the officers of the past year who have contributed so much. Our generous thanks for all their significant efforts and dedication.

We have put our trust in our new officers as leaders of our community of magic. They and we have the common cause of working together through the Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians to promote excellence in magic, to develop the magical knowledge and skills of our members, and enhance their enjoyment of the magical arts.

As Territorial Vice President (*Officer/Member of Board of Trustees of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, a Senior Member or Chaplain of the Ring as the case may be*), I am lighting a special candle on this table. (**after lighting**) The light from this candle

represents the collective wisdom and true fellowship of our organization as we endeavor to strength the viability and performance of the magical arts. The light of the candle is warm and glowing, welcoming all interested participants into the fellowship of magicians.

You (*list names*), as Directors have special responsibility for leadership in the growth of members of the Ring as well as the Ring itself and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Sergeant of Arms (*name*), your duties are to greet members and guests, maintain order and enhance the meetings through support and development of the Ring's programs.

Treasurer (*name*), you have the trust of and responsibility to the Ring to care for the finances of the Ring, collecting and dispersing funds in an appropriate and timely manner. Secretary (*name*) you have important responsibilities in welcoming and communicating with members and prospective members of Ring (*Ring No.*) and the magic community and its public. You must too keep an accurate record of the decisions of the Ring.

Vice President (*name*), you must be willing to learn and listen to the members, but also be a leader in many of the Ring functions. You will serve in the absence of the President, while at other times working closely with him.

Finally, President (*name*), you must exercise the strength and power of your office in the best manner. You must use the power to encourage and help others become better magicians and to unite and help lead the Ring membership

in all its activities. You must use the strength of your office to uphold the integrity, the ethics and the prestige of the magical arts.

As you assume your offices, you also assume a special responsibility for exerting dynamic leadership, reaching out to serve all members of the Ring. You will find strength in each other as you cooperate to guide Ring (*Ring No.*) in the year ahead.

Together you will find ways to unite the Ring in fellowship and lead its membership in advancing the magical arts. Each member has also a responsibility to help in their own way to bring leadership and participation to the Ring's activities and programs, while spreading fellowship of magic wherever possible.

Duly elected officers, as I read your commitment, signify your agreement with a simple I do. Elected officers, do you solemnly promise to fulfill the duties of the offices to which you have been elected, keeping in mind the light and fellowship that you are spreading, and upholding your responsibilities to the best of your abilities. If so, please answer, I do. **(response)** Having heard these elected officer's testimony of dedication, I declare that the officers of Ring (*Ring No.*) are duly installed. Ladies and Gentlemen please greet the new officers of the Ring. Congratulations to you.

Ring Officer Installation Ceremony

Dedication and Commitment

(an abbreviated format)

Will the newly elected officers step forward to be installed? May, I have the President next to me, then Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt. at Arms and Board of Directors. **(they stand in this order next to person installing)**. Thank you.

Tonight we are here to install the new officers of Ring (*Ring No.*) for the years (*period covered by their term*). However, before we proceed, let us express our appreciation to the officers of the past year who have contributed so much. Our generous thanks for all their significant efforts and dedication.

We have put our trust in these new officers as leaders of our community of magic. They and we have the common cause of working together through the Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians to the promote excellence in magic and the development of members in, and their enjoyment of, the magical arts.

As Territorial Vice President (*Officer/Member of Board of Trustees of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, a Senior Member or Chaplain of the Ring as the case may be*) it is my pleasure to take part in this recognition of commitment and dedication that these new Officers and Board of Directors bring to their positions. They bring a desire and collective wisdom to guide us in true fellowship as we endeavor to broaden members'

knowledge and skills in the magical arts while welcoming all interested participants into the fellowship of magicians.

Officers, you assume a special responsibility for leadership in the growth of members of the Ring as well as the Ring itself and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. You must exercise the strength and power of your offices in the best manner, by using your power to encourage and help find ways for all to become better magicians, uniting the Ring in fellowship and leading its membership in all its activities. You must use your strength to uphold the integrity, the ethics and the prestige of the magical arts.

Officers you will find strength in each other as you cooperate to guide Ring (*Ring No.*) in the year ahead. However, officers alone do not have the responsibility of the Ring's future. Each member of the Ring must help in their own way to bring their leadership and participation to the Ring's activities and programs while spreading the fellowship of magic.

Duly elected officers, as I read your commitment, signify your agreement with a simple I do. Officers, do you solemnly promise to fulfill the duties of the offices to which you have been elected to the best of your abilities. If so, please answer, I do. **(response)** Having heard these elected officer's testimony of dedication and commitment, I declare that the officers of Ring (*Ring No.*) are duly installed. Ladies and Gentlemen please greet the new Officers of Ring (*Ring No.*). Congratulations to you.

Ceremony for Induction Into Rings And The International Brotherhood of Magicians

Rings should acknowledge formally the acceptance of new members into the Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Depending upon the size of the Ring, this recognition may take place at a regular meeting, or a special evening specifically held to recognize all new members that have joined in the last year. It may also be coupled with the officer installation and/or an awards meeting or banquet.

If the induction ceremony is part of a regular meeting, many Rings use this opportunity to have the new members perform a routine or at least one magical effect as part of the evening's program. If the evening is combined with the new officers being installed, the new officers could also perform.

The Ring Secretary should maintain a record of those who have joined the Ring and the I.B.M. in the period since the last induction as well as any members who have not previously gone through the ceremony. This is also an excellent time to verify that the new members have indeed joined and have an active membership in the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

The new members should receive a written or oral request, usually from the Secretary, for their presence. The Secretary should also maintain a record of the age of Junior members. When they have reached the age of eighteen and become a regular member in the I.B.M. they

should be recognized formally for reaching this status. This can be either recognized in a separate ceremony, or as a part of this occasion of induction of new members. They too should be asked to perform if this is part of the meeting program for the new members.

The following induction ceremony is offered as an example for developing the Ring's own ceremony tailored to its particular circumstances. The words and props may vary from one Ring to the next; however, it is important to recognize this significant event in an individual's magical life with appropriate honor and dignity.

Induction Ceremony Arrangements

The ceremony should be presented with formality and dignity. The arrangement of the room and participants must be tailored to the situation. However in general the President will be at the head of the room behind a small table facing the Ring membership. The inductees should stand to one side of the table and face the president.

The table should be a fairly small table on, which is centrally placed a set of linked, rings (three rings one slightly in front of the other two). In the center of each of the two matching rings is placed a cup of a cup and ball set. Laying across the top of the cups is a wand with a silk tied around its center. The ceremony that is on the following page should be read by the Ring President or other senior officer.

The Ceremony

It is only fitting that we treat this occasion of the induction to active membership of Ring (*Ring No.*) with dignity and formality. While my words during this ceremony are directed to the inductees, it is appropriate that we all share in this moment and reflect on the meaning of our membership in the worldwide brotherhood of magicians.

In front of me, forming a symbolic grouping, are items in common use by magicians through out the world --- Cups and Balls, a Wand, a Silk and Linking Rings. I ask the inductees to reflect for a moment on their significance.

The cups and balls have become synonymous with our craft. They remind us of its ancient roots and the diligent practice and essential skills involved in the performance of magic.

The wand represents the special powers that we appear to possess in doing extraordinary feats of magic. It reminds us of the responsibility we have to fulfill the expectations of the audience. You also see that a silk is firmly tied to the wand, which signifies the bond that holds us together.

Finally there are the linked rings which represent the worldwide network of other individuals and Rings of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. They are, as Ring (*Ring No.*) is, dedicated to advancing and creating enjoyment through the magical arts.

In becoming an active member of Ring (*Ring No.*) you not only join and commit fully to our Ring but also to the

International Brotherhood of Magicians. Membership in our Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians is a privilege not to be taken lightly. With it comes the responsibility to actively support the objectives of the Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians in furthering the growth of the magical arts.

In recognition of this responsibility, I ask that the Inductees (*list names of the Inductees*) to say I agree after each statement of purpose of Ring (*Ring No.*) **(Ceremony, should incorporate into it each Ring's specific objectives)**

Do you agree to foster among our members the development of magic talent and to stimulate interest in the magical arts?

(Response) "I agree."

Do you agree to promote fellowship among those interested in magic and advance the ethics in magic?

(Response) "I agree."

Do you agree to encourage appreciation by the general public of magic as a performing art?

(Response) "I agree."

Congratulations, I am pleased to declare you (an) Active Member(s) of Ring (*Ring No.*) We look forward to your contributions and participation in our activities."

Recognition of Transition of Junior Members to Regular Membership

We are pleased to recognize at this time the advancement of (*names*) from Junior Member to Regular Member in the Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. The commitment of this/these member(s) has/have to the magical arts is most commendable.

It is indeed appropriate that our membership recognize *this/these* individuals not only for their improved magical knowledge and performance skills, but also for the fact that they now have the opportunity to enter into leadership roles in Ring (*Ring No.*) and the I.B.M.

As Regular Members you will now have voting rights as well as the opportunity to hold office. We offer you our best wishes and encourage you to participate fully in this new opportunity that you have in the Ring and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Congratulations.

