

## **RIBBON CEREMONY (PUBLIC CEREMONY)**

Public ceremony such as Lodge, Chapter meeting or their Grand Installation

Participants: 1 Girl Ceremony should be memorized

Paraphernalia: Appropriate Ribbons

*(Lecture begins back of the Altar facing East)*

In the beginning, there was the Bible. It is the center of life, and we represent this center of life by placing a light on our Altar (*Altar light is turned on*), which is the center of our Masonic organizations. Each member of our Masonic family plays an important part. I (We) will represent each organization this evening by placing their colors upon our Altar.

*(Place each colored ribbon, with a pause, on the Altar in a circle around the Bible, using pauses and deliberate speech for effect, the lecture progresses around the Altar in counterclockwise fashion, ending by facing East in the starting position)*

First, the blue and white to represent the Master Masons. It is fitting that they be the first to be represented, for they are the beginning. None of the other organizations could have begun without them. They have built and maintained a temple for us to meet in. We call them our "Dads", for it is from the Master Masons that we of the Masonic Youth Groups owe our heritage.

Let us next add the five colors representing the Order of the Eastern Star. Blue, yellow, white, green, and red are the rays of the star, and give us guiding light. They are our mothers; in whose footsteps we are to follow.

The Order of the Amaranth has given us a guiding hand, and with their help we maintain our goals. Add now the colors of red and green. The red represents the crown and sword, and the green for the amaranthine wreath.

The Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem gives us guidance, and with their help we maintain our goals. Add now the colors of gold and white. The gold represents the star of Jerusalem, and the white for Peace on Earth, Good Will to men.

We add now the colors of Job's Daughters, purple and white. They must strive to learn, and as they learn, they teach others the way of God. They are daughters whom the Master Masons have guided faithfully through the years. Job's Daughters look for a worthy inheritance that they may truly say: "We hope to be known as the Fairest in all the Land".

The Rainbow Girls are represented by the seven colors of the Rainbow. Red symbolizing Love, Orange Religion, Yellow Nature, Green Immortality, Blue Fidelity, Indigo Patriotism, and Service symbolized by Violet. A Rainbow Girl learns to dedicate her current and future life to one of active service as exhibited by the culmination of the Great White Lights which rests upon the Altar of her Assembly. The Rainbow Girls enrich their communities by their outstanding volunteerism and contributions to those in need.

## **RIBBON CEREMONY – continued**

No family is complete without a son, and to complete our Masonic family, we add the colors of DeMolay: blue, red, and gold. They, too, play an important part in our family. They are the future Masons on which the strength of our Masonic family will depend. No group of Masonic Youth could ask for better support than Rainbow receives from DeMolay.

And now, as you behold our Altar, you will notice that a circle has been formed around the Bible. A circle is defined as an unbroken line. It is also made up of arcs. If one arc is separated from the circle, the remaining part is no longer a circle, for it has a gap in it. It was once said of a nation: “United we stand, divided we fall”.

So, may we compare this nation and this state with our circle. A circle means many things; friendship, love, unity, and infinity. Whichever word you choose to represent your circle, it must have a center, and that center is God. *(Lecturer exits the Altar)*