

Ceremony of Color

I stand before our sacred Altar, upon which lies the Holy Bible, the emblem of our Faith. The Altar is covered by a cloth of white, a symbol of the crystallization of the seven colors of our Rainbow.

In our Rainbow travels we are taught the beautiful lessons of each of the color stations. We travel around the assembly room, holding to the hand of Faith who is always there to guide us, passing by the stations of Hope and Charity. But at the center of our travels are the colors of the Rainbow, and the lessons they represent.

Red, representing Love, is the first color in our bow. We are taught to love each other, and that we are loved. That love is demonstrated to us by our parents, our families, and friends, and our Rainbow sister and advisors, through their constant support and dedication to our assemblies.

Religion is represented by the color of orange. Our Rainbow membership encourages us to be religious in whatever faith we may choose, and to respect the religious opinions of others.

Yellow symbolizes Nature which is all around us. We are taught to spend at least some of our time out of doors, to experience the glory of God's work- in the sunlight, in the trees and the animals, in the beauty of Nature that surrounds us every day.

Green is the color of Immortality. As the evergreen trees show there is an everlasting power of nature, we are assured that there is a promise for the future, if we hold firmly to the hand of Faith.

Blue symbolizes Fidelity and reminds us to be loyal to each other as members of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and loyal to the obligations we have taken.

Indigo is the color of Patriotism, and is the same rich, dark hue that is found in our country's flag. As members of Rainbow today, we learn to respect our flag and country, for we may some day be called upon as adults to help defend all that it stands for.

Violet, the last color in our bow, represents the station of Service, which is the foundation of our Order. Through service we reach out to our communities and help those in need. We assist our sponsoring organizations with service projects; we help other Masonic based charities such as the Shriners' Hospitals through the collection of materials, and we serve and help others.

As the light of the sun that shines after a rain is broken by the raindrops to form a bow of color in the sky, our bow focuses itself back to the center of our lives- the Holy Bible- and reminds us of God's promise that he will never again destroy the earth. As a symbol of that promise, He gave us the colors of the Rainbow.

May we all live our lives so as to be worthy of that gift and always remember our Rainbow Promise.

Presented to Windham Assembly #27 in Maine by Laurie Ann Knox, Grand Worthy Advisor, 1995-1996 and sent to Rhode Island with love.