

Ceremony for the Order of the Arrow Candidate Call Out



Wa-Hi-Nasa Lodge

Wewoapisk Chapter

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Edited by Keith Wamsley

OA CALL OUT CEREMONY

The Gathering

NOTE: Taping out candidates is prohibited. The ceremonial principal names of the characters (Allowat Sakima, Meteu etc.) should NEVER be mentioned during this ceremony. Characters come in from the woods so that it resembles the layout below:

Figure 1 (use on stage)

| | | | |
|------------|----------------|----------------|---------|
| Kitchkinet | Allowat Sakima | Meteu | Nutiket |
| (Guide) | (Chief) | (Medicine Man) | (Guard) |

Figure 2 (use around fire)

| | | | |
|------------|----------------|-------|---------|
| | Allowat Sakima | Meteu | |
| Kitchkinet | (fire) | | Nutiket |

Characters should arrive at their spots at the stage or fire circle at the same time. (While the characters are walking forward, drum beats, bullroarers, and woodsticks may be used to create a beat. This should be used as a time to enter Arrowmen working as guides in regalia or uniform).

Once all are in place, Meteu steps forward, waits a moment and speaks.

Meteu: O Great Spirit, look upon this meeting with favor. Bless those present, and give us your approval of this event through our reverence. *(Meteu bows his head and spreads his arms wide.)*

(The rest of the cast bows their heads with their hands together facing the audience. This position is held for about 25-30 seconds.)

(Meteu steps back, then Allowat speaks.)

Allowat: (speaking to Kitchkinet) My Brother, who has guided us here tonight, who are these that seek admittance to our Council Fire?

Kitchkinet: These are Scouts, Scouters, and guests of the Hermitage District. In their midst are those who have been chosen by their fellow Scouts as candidates in our Brotherhood of Cheerful Service.

Allowat: How are they worthy of this honor?

Kitchkinet: They have been chosen because they have upheld Scouting's Oath and Law, and show their worthiness and dedication to their units and fellow scouts.

Allowat: *(to Meteu)* **My Brother, is what has been said true?**

Meteu: **Yes it is, my Brother.**

Allowat: *(to Kitchkinet)* **Well, then. Seek them out, and bring those that have been selected before our Council Fire.**

Kitchkinet: **It shall be done, my Brother.**

Kitchkinet goes out and finds each candidate (standing near them and motioning for them to follow). He then leads the candidate back to Allowat. Allowat asks the candidate his name and then announces it to the audience. Kitchkinet shows the candidate where to stand and then goes back for the next candidate, continuing this until all the candidates are behind Allowat and the rest of the cast (if the number of candidates is large, Nutiket should also fetch candidates to save time). Now that all the candidates have arrived and everyone is situated, Meteu speaks.

Meteu: **For those of you, who have not been chosen tonight for our Order, you need not worry. One spring from now, we will once again come down from the mountains and the forests to our Council Fire, and choose those worthy of this honor. Meanwhile, hold fast to your Scouting Promise, work cheerfully, without begrudging, and help others, as you want them to help you.**

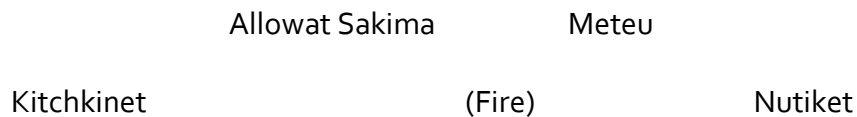
Allowat: **My Brothers, you know the way to the grounds of our ancestors. Lead these scouts there and prepare them to receive further knowledge.**

Kitchkinet: **It shall be done.**

The Commitment

Kitchkinet, along with the extra guides, position the candidates (and everyone else going to the grounds) in a straight line. The other characters then walk away together to the beat of the drum (or whatever). As soon as they are out of sight, the characters should hurry over to the burial grounds to prepare for the rest of the ceremony. Kitchkinet leads the candidates out, then takes them for a wild goose chase around the camp to give the other characters time to prepare. The burial grounds should look somewhat sacred and ghostly. Fires, skulls (animal, not human, please), fire pots, and candles (in globes) are essential to creating this effect. You may also (if possible) have drums beating or any other form of sound effect (good place for a bullroarer, if you have one). The characters (minus Kitchkinet) should be situated like Figure 3 below (with a roaring fire in the middle of the circle). When the candidates are brought into the circle, Kitchkinet should take his place in the circle.

Figure 3 – Burial Grounds (Guides and Arrowmen should assemble in a semi-circle behind the fire)



When everyone has arrived and everything is organized, Meteu speaks.

Meteu: Even though you have been chosen, you are still ignorant of the ways of our Order. We, of the Order of the Arrow, have chosen a life of cheerful service. This choice, you must also make, but in the face of a bitter west wind. Your willingness to live by and uphold the Scout Oath and Law is admired by others, but you must also prove this strength to yourself and make your commitment to a life of cheerful service.

Nutiket: The road ahead is long and hard. Only a few are chosen, even fewer go on to greater heights. All of your strength, wisdom, and commitment will be needed to be fully inducted into our order.

Allowat: You have listened to what we have said and should now understand what is expected of you. Now it is time for you to decide. If you feel undeserving, or doubt in undertaking this personal Oath, then you may leave now, without dishonor.

Allowat waits for about a minute. The principals may turn their backs on the candidates for the minute, then turn back around when it is time to restart.

As Allowat continues, the three other principals gather the arrows and get in place for Allowat to hand them out

Allowat: Very well, you have chosen to set upon this journey, a journey whose path leads through the leaping flames of the Council fire, through the rays of a dying sunset, and through your own heart.

Allowat places an arrow around each candidate's neck. Make sure the arrow head is pointed to the candidates right. Once complete, everyone returns to their starting position.

Allowat: Let this arrow represent your continuing journey and personal commitment to membership in the Order of the Arrow.

Kitchkinet: You will each walk the path of the candidate. This path will lead YOU west over the mountains and streams, till you come to our gathering grounds. There, you will meet other candidates like you. They too will be questing for knowledge of our Brotherhood of Cheerful Service.

Nutiket: But once you arrive, your journey will be far from over. You will use all of your strength, as it will be the difference between success, and failure. Still some will not follow this path; some will look for a shortcut, and lose the vision on the way. I challenge you not to be one of these. Strive to be better, and conquer the path, no matter how far and difficult.

Meteu: Share you, our secret, with the members of our Order in silence. Say you nothing to your fellow Scouts and Leaders. Let those ignorant of what has been said here wonder, in silent awe. It is your silence that will serve as the lifeblood for our Order's purpose, this being our purpose and intent, mark with silence, Reverent.

(Meteu holds his hands over his bowed head for about a minute. The rest of the characters bow their heads.)

Allowat: You have been called out as a candidate for membership in the Order of the Arrow. You can only obtain full membership by participating in an induction weekend. So, until we meet again, continue to live by the Scout Oath and Law and serve your fellow scouts.

Allowat: I now call this meeting of the Council Fire concluded. Candidates, my Brothers will guide you back to your campsites in silence, the same as the way you came in.

(Ceremony Ends and the candidates are lead back to camp)

Key Things to Remember:

1. SILENCE, throughout the ceremony.
2. Do not refer to the characters by their actual names (Allowat, Nutiket, etc.).
3. As always, MEMORIZE YOUR LINES.
4. Be Prepared. Work on all sites (Campfire and Burial Grounds).
5. Make sure guides know route to take Candidates (to and back).