INSTITUTING CEREMONY

The Presiding Officer of the Sponsoring Body calls the meeting to order. She/He is assisted by the Instituting Marshal, and they assume their stations together.

Presiding Officer: "We are assembled for the purpose of **i**nstituting _____ Assembly, under the sponsorship of **[insert name(s) of sponsoring body/bodies]**. I am happy to present our Instituting Officers."

"Instituting Marshal, you will please present our Instituting Officer, _____, back of the Color Stations."

Instituting Marshal: "**[Insert title of Presiding Officer]**, I have the pleasure of presenting our Instituting Officer, _____."

(Presiding Officer extends a gracious welcome and then asks the Instituting Marshal to conduct the Instituting Officer to the East for introduction.)

Presiding Officer: *(Three raps of the gavel.)*
"I have the honor of introducing our Instituting Officer, _____. You will join with me in giving her/him a hearty welcome."

(One rap of the gavel.)

Presiding Officer: "Instituting Marshal, you will present the Instituting Recorder, Instituting Chaplain, Instituting Marshal, and Instituting Musician, back of the Color Stations."

(After the Presiding Officer introduces them and bids them welcome, she/he will ask the Instituting Marshal to conduct them to their stations.)

Presiding Officer: (*After the Instituting Marshal has returned to her/his station.)*
"Instituting Marshal, is the Assembly room prepared?"

Instituting Marshal: "**[Insert title of Presiding Officer]**, the Assembly Room is in order."

(A large White Altar Bible, a small White Bible and an Altar Jewel should be on the Altar. All other Rainbow paraphernalia should be in its proper place.)

Presiding Officer: "Instituting Officer, I present you with the gavel that you may proceed with the Instituting Ceremony."

Instituting Officer:

(Read Section 33 Assembly, Witnessing Exemplification of the Book of Traditional Instructions, Who is Entitled of UNIFORM CODE OF BY-LAWS For Subordinate Assemblies International Order of the Rainbow for Girls)

"All persons entitled to attend a closed meeting of Rainbow according to Section 33 just read, or parents, grandparents, or legal guardians of candidates for this Instituting Ceremony, will please remain seated; all others will please retire."

(Pause a moment for those who may be misinformed as to who could attend and witness the exemplification of the Ceremony, to retire. Those remaining should be proved if this has not been done at the door.)

"All adults who are attending a closed meeting of Rainbow for the first time will please stand. You will each take upon yourself at this moment an obligation. You will raise your right hand and repeat after me.

(Instituting Officer raises her/his hand also.)

"I promise upon my honor, that I will never reveal any of the traditions of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and that the cause of this Order shall have my earnest support."

(One rap of the gavel.)

"By authority vested in me by the Supreme Assembly as Instituting Officer, I declare this session open for the purpose of **i**nstituting _____ Assembly, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

(Three raps of the gavel.)

"Instituting Chaplain, you will attend the Altar."

(Instituting Chaplain enters the Bow from the South, opens the Bible, places the Altar Jewel on the lower right-hand page of the Bible, then returns to her/his station by leaving the Bow from the South. Give one rap of the gavel.)

Instituting Officer: "Instituting Marshal, you will conduct the prospective members of Rainbow into the Assembly, and seat them on the North side of the room."

(Instituting Marshal proceeds to the Preparation Room door and conducts the prospective members along the North marching lane to seats East of Charity's station. She/He returns to her/his station by marching West, South, and East along marching lanes.)

Instituting Officer: "Instituting Recorder, who sponsors the **i**nstitution of this Assembly?"

Instituting Recorder: "Instituting Officer, **[insert name(s) of sponsoring body/bodies]** sponsor(s) the **i**nstitution of this Assembly.

Instituting Officer: "Instituting Recorder, please read the Conditional Letters Temporary, authorizing the institution of an Assembly at this time and place."

(Instituting Recorder reads the Conditional Letters Temporary and if someone, other than the Presiding Supreme Officer is the Instituting Officer, the Instituting Recorder will also read her/his commission.)

Instituting Officer: "It is so ordered and so let it be done. *(One rap of the gavel.)*

"I am delighted to have the privilege of instituting this Assembly and thank you for the courtesy**,** and assure you that I appreciate the honor. That our work may be clothed in beauty and inspiration, and create within us a new understanding and new ideals, we will stand, bow our heads in reverence**,** and ask the blessing of our Heavenly Father to rest upon our work."

(Three raps of the gavel.)

Instituting Chaplain: *(gives prayer from her/his station)*
"Our Father, we pray Your blessing to rest upon us at this time. Grant Your protecting care over these girls who are to be organized into a fraternal band of sisters. Give them a knowledge of the responsibilities they assume and especially, grant to those who are to have official authority, the spirit of love and appreciation of service freely given. Endue them with wisdom to discharge the various duties assigned to them. May peace and harmony prevail in the hearts of all the members. May they grow in knowledge of You, in reverence for Your law, and in giving loving obedience to it. May we praise and glorify You for the work accomplished this day. Amen."

Response by all: "Lord, help us to keep our promise.**"**

(One rap of the gavel.)

Instituting Officer: "We have met in accordance with action taken by **[insert name(s) of sponsoring body/bodies]**, and on order of the Supreme Assembly**,** to perform the very pleasing duty of organizing the girlhood of your city (or community) into an Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. We have for our organization a very noble aim, that of teaching young girls fraternal life and leadership, that they may be led to a higher plane of endeavor and accomplishment. Between the ages of 11 (or 10) and 20 is the most impressionable time of a girl's life. It is also the age of important development of girlhood into responsible womanhood. The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls can be made such a splendid factor in this development as our ceremonies teach and exemplify the fact that the Bible and its purpose must be the standard upon which girls build character. They are, therefore, encouraged to read and study its pages. Rainbow has become international in its scope and the Order has the approval and endorsement of many Grand Lodges and other Grand Bodies. These Grand Bodies are doing a noble work in giving our girls the advantage of such information and training as shall fit them for better service to mankind.

(Turn to the prospective members) "Girls, the purpose of Rainbow is to impress your mind with the first covenant God made with man. He set His Bow in the clouds, with the assurance that He would look upon it and remember the Everlasting Covenant. Thus, you are dedicated to the same holy task: that you may set against the time of trouble, storm, grief, and pain in this life, the lessons of perfection and idealism as given to us in the beautiful Rainbow. God took the Rainbow, which had until then been but a beautiful object shining in the heavens when the sun's rays fell on falling drops of rain, and sent it as a sign of His

love, and a witness to His promise that the world would never again be destroyed by flood, signifying to girlhood everywhere, that through the storm will come the White Light of Promise, and after the storm the Victory.

"As colors play an important part in influencing the mind, Rev. Sexson, the Author and Founder of the Ritual, took the name Rainbow and applied it to the Order, believing that girls everywhere would strive to typify in their lives the virtues of love and service, thus turning the colors of Rainbow into art, beauty, and usefulness. He would not be disappointed, for girls everywhere are using these gorgeous tints to blueprint the trends of tomorrow with virtues that shall stand as beacon lights, and govern from the dawn of a perfect day to the glowing red of sunset at eventide.

"Instituting Recorder, please call the roll of prospective members of Rainbow. Each girl, as her name is called, will stand, answer present, and remain standing until all names are called."

(Instituting Recorder calls names)

Instituting Officer:
"**[Insert title of Presiding Officer]**, since **[insert name(s) of sponsoring body/bodies]** sponsor(s) this Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, do you vouch that these girls are of proper Rainbow age, and that they have paid the required fees? Have they been properly recommended and vouched for?

(Presiding Officer answers each question.)

"Instituting Recorder, please read the names of the girls selected to serve as officers of this Assembly for the ensuing term."

(Instituting Recorder reads list of officers.)

"Instituting Marshal, you will please assemble all of these girls in Rainbow formation West of the Altar to receive the Obligation."

(Instituting Marshal places the prospective Worthy Advisor at the Altar. Kneeling, she holds the small White Bible in her right hand, over her heart, and in her left hand the Jewel of the Order. After girls are in proper position, Instituting Marshal reports and steps slightly back.)

Instituting Marshal: "Instituting Officer, all are in order and await your pleasure."

Instituting Officer: *(Gives three raps of the gavel and approaches the Altar.)*
"Girls, the Obligation you are about to take will in no way conflict with your duties to your home, your place of worship, your school, or your country."

Obligation

Instituting Officer:
"Say I, and each of you pronounce your own name; in the presence of Almighty God, in whom I believe and trust, and upon my honor as a young woman, solemnly promise to ever hold sacred the teachings of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls; to never reveal to anyone, except those entitled to receive the same, the Traditions of the Order. I promise to uphold the principles of my school; to be loyal to the Constitution and Laws of my country, and to respect its government and its Flag, for only by so doing may I hope to become a true-hearted citizen, and a loyal Rainbow Girl. May God help me to keep my promise."

(The Bible and the Jewel are removed by the Instituting Marshal)

Instituting Officer: "Arise, my friends."

(Return to station in the East and give one rap of the gavel.)
(Instituting Marshal conducts the girls back to their seats.)

Instituting Officer: *(Turn to the prospective members)*
"Girls, in the Ritual, your ideals are put into words and made into a beautiful legend and through it, your subtle, intangible ideals may be strengthened into time-conquering ideals or uplifting purposes. Your Ritual also deals with the symbolism of the colors of Rainbow. These seven colors blend, or crystallize, into each other, thus producing the Great White Light, represented by the Holy Bible placed upon the Altar of your Assembly, as a symbol of the presence of God. May God bless each and every one of you and give you strength and vision that your life may be worthwhile to the end.

(Three raps of the gavel.)

"The **[insert name(s) of sponsoring body/bodies]**, having voted to sponsor an Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, having petitioned the Supreme Assembly for Conditional Letters Temporary, and having received such Letters, having appointed an Advisory Board, and having complied with all other requirements of the Supreme Assembly, as its representative, I do here and now**,** by the high power and authority in me vested by the Supreme Assembly, whose seat of authority is in McAlester, Oklahoma, pronounce and declare _____ Assembly, in the state/country of _____, duly instituted.

"You are henceforth empowered to meet as a conditionally instituted Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, dedicated to God in Love and Service. You will work under Conditional Letters Temporary until such time as the Supreme Assembly shall grant you Official Letters Temporary and, in due time, permanent Charter.

"Instituting Chaplain, you will attend the Altar."

(After the Instituting Chaplain returns to her/his station, Instituting Officer gives one rap of the gavel, closing the ceremony of Institution.)

Exemplification of the degrees will follow the Instituting Ceremony.

The Bible should be closed if there is a recess to prepare for Initiation and Installation.

INSTRUCTIONS

The Instituting Officer may be the Presiding Supreme Officer or anyone commissioned by the Supreme Assembly.

The Presiding Supreme Officer is the liaison between the Instituting Officers and the prospective Mother Advisor of the Assembly. All arrangements should be coordinated with the Presiding Supreme Officer.

The Instituting Officer should communicate with the presiding officer(s) of the sponsoring body/bodies to ascertain his/her/their wishes regarding officers to exemplify the degree work of Rainbow. If there is a Rainbow Assembly near the city in which the new one is to be organized, invite the officers of the neighboring Assembly to confer the degrees for the new Assembly.

The doors should be tiled. Those not having satisfactory documents to verify their membership in one of our Sponsoring Orders must pass an examination as is customary for the Order to which they belong, or be vouched for by some member of one of the Orders. Refer to Section 33 Assembly, Witnessing Exemplification of the Book of Traditional Instructions, Who is Entitled of *UNIFORM CODE OF BY-LAWS For Subordinate Assemblies International Order of the Rainbow for Girls* to determine who may attend and witness the exemplification of the Ceremony.

The Instituting Officer will see that the room is properly prepared for Rainbow by having all the furniture, paraphernalia, and supplies in proper position.

The Presiding Supreme Officer may adjust wording for this ceremony with reference to National Flag, salute, tributes, or history of the homeland. The audience is referred to as “Assembly.” References to insert title of Presiding Officer or insert name(s) of sponsoring body/bodies should be adjusted to recognize the appropriate officer(s) and Order(s).