

Phi Beta Delta, Honor Society for International Scholars

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The Harriet Mayor Fulbright Initiation Guide

I. The Harriet Mayor Fulbright Service.

This is the first of twelve possible or suggested initiations ceremonies for Phi Beta Delta. Remember that we are a nonsectarian organization, so no initiation should have religious or philosophic symbols, which would make someone uncomfortable because of their faith or indeed their lack of specific denominational affiliation. The initiation should be ecumenical and embracing. Unlike other Greek societies we do not require a set initiation service of chapters, but rather leave to each chapter its induction format. What we do require is that the initiation be conducted with considerable honor, that the history and symbols of the society be explained thoroughly to the candidates and that the ceremony be memorable and meaningful.

Some chapters have their classes of initiates named after individuals, or even have one distinguished candidate present for whom the class is named. Each of the twelve suggested initiations in this series is dedicated to an individual who has a connection with, or whose life has a message for, Phi Beta Delta, but that does not preclude naming a class using this initiation after a worthwhile personality on your campus. Each service of initiation can include readings from the [Fifty-two Phi Beta Delta Weekly Thoughts](#) and the three hundred and sixty-five Phi Beta Delta Daily Meditations. Taken along with the twelve initiations, the thoughts, and daily meditations constitute the Phi Beta Delta Book.

Setting: Chapters should hunt for a suitable room for the initiation. Perhaps a faculty club or alumni house room or the lodge room of a fraternal society. In any event, the room should be appropriate and have an atmosphere of dignity and distinctiveness. In conducting the initiation, if the service is read rather than memorized, it should be contained in handsome folders.

II. THE HARRIET MAYOR FULBRIGHT INITIATION

President. Raps for order with the gavel. Harriet Mayor Fulbright, the exemplar for this service, was Executive Director of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. She taught at Ewha Women's University in Seoul, Korea and American University in Washington. As Director of the Fulbright Association, she moved the association from Bryn Mawr to Washington, giving it more visibility and professionalism. Ms. Fulbright has a BA from Redcliffe College and an MFA from the George Washington University. She is a member of our George Washington University chapter.

Optional: The specially honored candidate for this initiation is ..., accomplishments include ...

President. The Marshal will ascertain if there are any candidates for the society.

The Marshal goes of the room and returns.

Marshal: I find without I candidates for Phi Beta Delta.

President: Have their qualifications been confirmed and their applications been properly received?

Marshal: They have.

President: Then you will again retire and bring the candidates into the chapter room.

The Marshal from outside the room gives five knocks.

President: Who knocks?

Marshal: The Marshal of the Chapter Initiation, with ... candidates.

President: Then enter. Raps gavel and gestures to bring audience to its feet.

Marshal and candidates enter and stand before the President.

Marshal: It is my pleasure to introduce the candidates. The Marshal then introduces each member of the class.

President: Welcome, Please be seated. Gavels and gestures and both candidates and audience are seated.

President: I now wish you to pay close attention to the Historian, who will give you the background of our society.

Historian's Address. The Historian for the service will have drawn material from the website of the society. The history should include the background of Greek honor societies, the history of Phi Beta Delta, and the history of the chapter.

President: Thank you. Now please heed the explanation of our symbols by I

Another Officer: Another office of the chapter, possibly the membership director, should explain the symbols of Phi Beta Delta, again drawn from the website. A large picture of the Phi Beta Delta shield, or a PowerPoint-like [presentation](#) taken from the society website should be used. A pointer may be used.

President: Thank you. It now become our great pleasure and honor to invest each one of you with the medal of the society, and with your diploma of membership. The Marshal will organize the class. Assisting me will be I. and I.

The Investiture: A group of three officers go to each candidate. The President will take the medal from another officer and decorate the candidate. The medals are held by one of the officers and a third officer holds the membership diploma and hands it to the initiate. At the end of the investing the President return to the chair and the candidates are seated. A gesture of seating by the President is helpful.

President: This being a most special occasion, we have asked I. to address the Chapter.

THE INDUCTION ADDRESS. By an outstanding speaker, hopefully.

President: Thank you so much. My friends, this has been a brief service. I urge you to learn more about Phi Beta Delta in the days ahead, and to be members who are proud of the society and of whom the society can be proud. I now declare this special induction meeting of I Chapter of Phi Beta Delta to be closed, and invite you all to a collation where we can celebrate our friendship.

Gavels the close.

Remember that these initiations are only suggestions and each chapter should work on its initiation to make it distinctively its own, and worthy of Phi Beta Delta.