



# **DeMolay Installation Planning Guide**

**DRAFT 04/10/2021**

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## Installation Guide

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Congratulations on your advancement in DeMolay!

If you're reading this guide, you've probably been elected Junior or Senior Councilor for your Chapter, and it's not too early to start planning for your term as Master Councilor. Among the many things you will plan and carry out, a quality Installation of Officers is one of the best opportunities to "show off" your Chapter to the larger community. Well planned, it can be a terrific public relations tool for you. Poorly planned, it can be an embarrassment!

This guide will guide you through the various elements of preparing for your Installation. It is intended as a guideline. Not everything in this outline will apply to your particular situation. You should also consult the DeMolay Leader's Resource Guide and the various policies, rules and regulations of the Executive Officer for New Hampshire DeMolay. Of course, your Chapter may also have some traditions that have been approved for use at your Installations.

You have the opportunity, as in so many things in DeMolay, to make your Installation your own. As you work through this guide, be sure to talk with your Chapter's Advisors, your fellow Councilors, your family, and others. If you have questions or special needs, you can contact the Executive Officer or, e-mail your questions at [info@nhdemolay.net](mailto:info@nhdemolay.net)

Have a great Installation and a great term!

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Make the Most of Your Big Day!

## Step 1: Create the Plan

Decide on the general plan for the evening:

- When and where will it be?
- Will there be a dance?
- A reception? Will you have pictures taken?
- Will there be any special ceremonies besides the Installation (i.e. Flower Talk)?
- Who will perform the Installation?
- Will there be a vocalist or musician performing?
- Will any special dignitaries be present?

Write your plans down. This will help with the rest of the planning process.

## Step 2: Set the Date

This is the first thing you should do after being installed as Senior Councilor. Many Chapters have installations on weekends, which allows out of town Chapters to travel to your event. Other Chapters choose to use their regular meeting night. Choose the best fit for your Chapter's schedule.

1. Check your Masonic Building calendar for available dates.
2. Check Jurisdictional and website calendars to see what the state and other Chapters are doing on those dates. Check with surrounding Chapters, Lodges and Assemblies to avoid conflicts.
3. Select a date that seems most convenient and get the opinion of the other Councilors, your family, and the Chapter Advisor.

## Step 3: Create the Budget

A budget must be prepared for the Installation and submitted to the Advisory Council. Some Chapters have a policy on the amount of money that can be spent on an Installation. Check with your Chapter Councilors and Advisors to see if such a policy exists. Sometimes Chapters put a limit on the amount of money that will be contributed by the Chapter.

Most budgets indicate Income and Expenses of an event. Very rarely, though, is Income involved in an Installation, unless contributions are received (for example, from your sponsoring body) to sponsor the event.

To create your Installation Budget, detail all of the items that will cause an expense. Talk with your Advisors to find out about how much you might plan to spend on the event. A good installation is worth spending some money on, but you don't need to spend a lot to have a quality event.

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List the following, if they apply to your Installation.

## Budget

1. Rent of the Building
2. Refreshment Costs
3. Decorations
4. Music (D.J. or Band)
5. Invitations (printing and postage)
6. Programs (printing)
7. Flowers (boutonnieres, corsages, presentations)

*Remember that Chapter funds may not be spent on personal gifts, whether to ingoing or outgoing officers, or others (DeMolay International Rules and Regulations, 322.8). Although it is common to present the new Master Councilor with a gavel of his own, this is usually a gift from his family or friends, not from the Chapter.*

Present the budget to the Advisory Council at the time the Program is presented. A sample Installation Budget is provided in the Appendix.

## Step 4: Reserve the Building

Once you have decided on a date, confirm the date with the proper person at the Masonic building, or other location where you'll be holding the installation (your Chapter Advisor or Chairman can help you determine who the proper contact person is).

Once the date is on the Masonic building calendar, send a letter to the contact person confirming the date, time, cost, and any special arrangement or requirements. Keep a copy of the letter for yourself, just in case there is any confusion over the use of the building on that day.

Put the date into your term program. (Don't forget to be making a term program too!)

## Step 5: Select the Installing Team

The selection of an Installing Team is very important. They will be the ones "on display" during the event, and the impression of our Order made on guests will largely be a result of how they perform. The team can make the difference between a great Installation or a poor one.

There are six officers on an Installing Team:

1. Installing Officer
2. Installing Senior Councilor
3. Installing Junior Councilor
4. Installing Senior Deacon
5. Installing Chaplain
6. Installing Marshal

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When choosing Installing Officers, you will want to select only individuals that you are sure will perform the ceremony from memory. It is **STRONGLY** recommended that the Installation be performed by Active DeMolays, rather than by Advisors. DeMolay is about the members, and the members should be performing the work for their fellow brothers.

Remember, the State Officers can perform as your Installing team, provided you give ample notice. A minimum of **6 weeks' notice** is required for the State Officers to provide an Installing Team for your event.

If you decide to handpick your Installation Team, make sure to give them ample time to learn their ritual (see appendix for breakdown of what team member installs what offices). You should determine a date and time to practice with the Installation Team and your Chapter members. Practices should be held a few days before the event or the day of (provided it is scheduled early enough so no guests are present during the rehearsal). Rehearsals should be away from the guests so they don't see you working out all the kinks in the ceremony.

A State Officer Installing Team will take responsibility for arranging their own rehearsal, though you'll still want to set aside a time to practice the mechanics of the Installation with your Officer Corps.

### Step 6: Assign Tasks

Select individuals to assist you in the following positions:

1. **Greeters:** Individuals to greet guests and have them sign the guest book and introduction cards (if used). They may also pass out programs and direct guests to seats.
2. **Photographer:** If you've planned the Installation well, you'll want to remember it. Have someone, amateur or professional, take photos. Arrange a time that day, before or after the Installation, to take posed group photos. Inform Chapter members and Advisors of this time. Be sure to give the photographer proper instruction, especially if he or she is unfamiliar with the ceremonies. Some digital cameras may "beep" or make other sounds when shooting—remind your photographer to turn the sound off so as not to create a distraction. Suggest the best location for photos during the ceremony. Specify times during the ceremony (such as during the Master Councilor's vow or during prayers) when flash should not be used (to avoid detracting from serious portions of the ceremonies). Although some organizations prohibit photos being taken any time the Bible is open on the altar, that prohibition does not apply to DeMolay events.
3. **Musician and/or Vocalist:** It is always a nice touch to have someone play the piano or organ during the Installation. You may also want a vocal selection during the program. See the Appendix for suggestions on using music in your Installation. Be certain to inform these individuals of the date and time of all practices and, of course, the installation. Call and write them before the installation to confirm their participation.

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## Step 7: Create the Invitation

Mailing out invitations is very important. If you want to have people present for your installation, the best way is to mail out an invitation. A printed invitation is important and makes the invitee feel special and important.

There are many styles to use for your invitations. You'll find examples in the Appendix. Make sure to include all the necessary information:

1. The date and time of the Installation
2. The location (include street address and/or directions)
3. Whether a reception and/or dance will follow, and when it will end.
4. The appropriate attire

People to invite to the Installation include:

- Family of Chapter members
- Advisory Council members
- Sponsoring body
- Masonic bodies
- Other DeMolay Chapters
- Rainbow Assemblies
- Other community organizations
- Friends
- Prospective members
- Community leaders

It is important that you print and mail the invitations four to six weeks before the Installation. Remember that other youth groups (whether DeMolay or Rainbow) may need time to have the event approved by their Advisory Council/Board, which often meets only once a month. All your guests need time to plan to attend. Late invitations can mean poor attendance!

## Step 8: Publicity

Don't let the Installation just come and go without letting the community know what is happening. Publicity of an Installation is a great marketing tool for establishing an image in the community and recruiting members and Advisors.

There are at least two opportunities to publicize the Installation in your local paper:

1. After Elections of Officers. Let the community know who the new leaders will be and inform them of the Installation date, time, and place. Include a picture of the elected Councilors or just the Master Councilor.

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2. After the Installation. Inform the community of what took place, who attended and who was installed. Include photos from the night, posed group photos and candid.

### Step 9: Appoint Officers

Work with the other Councilors and the Chapter Advisor in appointing Chapter members to serve as Officers for the next term.

You may want to start by surveying the Chapter members to determine who is interested in doing a particular office. Remind them that they must know the ritual for that office before they are installed.

Schedule an Advancement Night or a Step-Up Night before the Installation to give the new officers a chance to do the ritual in that office before the first meeting of the new term. Many times this night is scheduled on the regular meeting night before the Installation.

### Step 10: Create a Program

Whether or not you have a printed program for the event, you'll need a printed agenda to follow. You as Master Councilor, as well as other program participants, must always know what's supposed to happen next.

Avoid the temptation to include multiple public ceremonies, unnecessary introductions, repetitive program elements, long remarks, and so on. If your Installation (from the entrance of the Installing Team to the dismissal) runs over an hour, it is too long. This is an opportunity to impress the community, your families, and prospective members. People who are bored are rarely impressed!

Items you'll want to include on your agenda are:

**Opening** (by the Installing Team)

**Reception of Distinguished Guests** (see the Protocol Manual in the Appendix ... *only ranking DeMolay and Masonic Dignitaries should be escorted into the room. Don't overdo this.*)

**Installation of Officers.** This is the formal ceremony, done by the Installing Team. See the Optional Modification for Installing Officers in the Appendix.

**Master Councilor's Remarks.** Your first chance to shine! You MUST write out what you will say ... if you don't, you're likely to find the only thing you can think of is "Uhh...." —or you may find you ramble on without end. Index cards work well to keep you on track. Be sure to thank all those who have helped you prepare for the Installation, and for your term. Outline your plans for the term. Thank your guests. Your remarks needn't be more than 1 or 2 minutes long.

**Introductions.** DO NOT introduce everyone in the room or have members of various visiting groups stand to give their names! It is proper to thank various other organizations for



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their support, but they should not be called on for introductions ... this eats time and is not interesting to anyone.

**Presentations.** This is an ideal opportunity to give public recognition to your members and others who have earned it. Presentations may be made by the Chapter Advisor, Awards Advisor, Master Councilor, or others. They might include:

- PMC jewel/pin
- MC pin/gavel to new MC
- Flowers to parents of Councilors
- Flowers to Chapter Sweetheart
- Chapter awards such as merit bars, BHK's and so on.
- In most cases, the conferral of an honor or award like the RD or Chevalier is best reserved for a separate special event.

Naturally, all presentations must be appropriate to the ideals of DeMolay and the dignity of the occasion. Avoid presentations that involve an "inside joke." Inside jokes make some guests outsiders, which is not acceptable!

**Remarks.** As in the formal reception of guests, only the ranking dignitaries should be called on for remarks. Only the head of an organization should be called upon to speak (i.e. Worthy Advisor of an Assembly, Master Councilor of a Chapter, Worshipful Master of a Lodge, ranking State Officer, Executive Officer or Deputy, ranking officer of Grand Lodge). They should speak in that order, and it is strictly improper for anything but the ritual closing to follow remarks by the Grand Master of Masons or his representative.

**Closing and Dismissal.** (generally by the Installing Team)

Most Chapters choose to create a printed program of the main agenda items listed for distribution to all guests. You may want your printed program to include a list of the officers being installed, a list of the Advisors of the Chapter, some basic information about DeMolay and your Chapter, and thanks to people who helped with the Installation. Don't clutter the program with too much information. (*and remember to check the spelling!*)

### Step 11: Plan the Reception

With planning, your reception can be first class! For most attendees, what happens after the ceremony will be the really FUN part of the day!

You will want to meet with the other Councilors and the Chapter Advisor to discuss the details of the reception. You might need to appoint one or more committees to help. This is a good opportunity to get your family in on the planning, as well.

Things to plan for include:

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- Food:** This may be anything from snacks and finger food to a full meal, depending on the time of your installation and the budget available. Many Chapters order a large cake from a bakery with the DeMolay emblem decorated on top, and the names of the new Councilors and the date of the installation.
- Drinks:** Know your guests. Mountain Dew Code Red might be a Chapter favorite, but might not suit all your guests. Punch, iced tea, and so on are good choices.
- Decorations:** Balloons, streamers, tablecloths, centerpieces, and so on, may be desirable. Simple decorations may add as much color and class as elaborate ones.
- Plates, Napkins, Utensils, etc.:** Paper goods are available from the DeMolay and More Store with the full color DeMolay emblem on them. Or, you may want to choose plain ones in the colors of the decorations. Napkins can be custom printed for a special anniversary or extra-classy event.

### Step 12: Plan the Dance

If you're having a dance, you should publicize it in the invitation and follow-up with the local girls' youth groups to find out if they're attending. If you don't get girls to attend, it won't be a very successful dance!

You may need to plan additional setup and decorations, depending on whether the dance is being held in a separate room from the reception.

Find a DJ well in advance. If you wait until the last minute, you may find that all available DJ's are already booked. If you choose to use an Advisor or member as the DJ, be sure you know that they have appropriate equipment, music selection, and so on. Just because someone volunteers to DJ does not mean they're capable of doing a good job. It's always wisest to use someone you've seen before.

Make sure the DJ knows what type of music and lyrics are acceptable to play. Obscene or violent lyrics are never acceptable at a DeMolay dance.

Be sure to get a signed contract with the DJ or Band stating the date, times, and cost of their service. This is just good business practice, even if the DJ is an Advisor or DeMolay member.

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### **Step 13: Clean-Up**

Make sure you approach the Installation with a plan to clean the building afterwards and put all of the equipment back where it belongs. This is something that is easy to forget when you're caught up in the excitement of the evening.

Assign a committee or group of people to insure that everything is clean and neat before you leave the building for the night. This will help greatly with your relations with the other groups who use the Masonic building during your term.

### **Step 14: Thank Those Who Helped**

It is very important to thank all of the people who helped out with the Installation. Quite frankly, this step usually gets skipped. You'll be surprised how much people will appreciate a simple written note.

Within a week after the installation, send personal thank you cards or letters to the following:

1. Greeters
2. Installing Team
3. Photographer
4. DJ or Band
5. Those who helped with Reception
6. Musician/Vocalist
7. Sponsoring Body
8. Special guests who attended
9. Your family and friends who helped or were present
10. Others who helped make the day a success

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## Checklist

Check each item off as it is completed. Use the Planning Calendar to determine exactly what the completion date should be.

### After Your Installation as Senior Councilor

- Confirm the date of the next installation with the Advisory Council.
- Reserve the Masonic Temple for that date.
- Confirm dates for Nominations and Elections.

### Three Advisory Council Meetings Before Elections

- Develop Installation Budget.
- Confirm a D.J. for the dance (if a dance is scheduled).
- Select the following people to assist in the installation:
  - Installing Team
  - Photographer
  - Greeters
  - Musician/Vocalist (if desired)
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

### Two Advisory Council Meeting before Elections

- Submit Installation Budget, Invitations, Program, and planning guide contents to the Advisory Council together with your Program Plan.

### One Advisory Council Meeting before Elections

- Tie up any loose ends
  - Budget
  - DJ
  - Assisting People

### One Week Before Nomination Night

- Select someone to nominate you for Master Councilor.

### Immediately After Election

- Meet with other Councilors and select appointed officers.
- Print and mail invitations.

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## Two Weeks Before Installation

- Set up time for a practice with the Installing Team/Officers.
- Finalize plans for refreshments.
- Order cake (if one is desired).
- Order flowers (if used).
- Purchase guest book and pen. (optional)
- Begin preparation of your remarks for the installation.

## One Week Before Installation

- Confirm arrangements with Installing Team and all others who are assisting with the installation:
  - Greeters
  - Refreshments Assistants
  - Photographer
- See that all equipment is in working order (candles, sound system.)
- See that the Altar cloth is clean, have it pressed, and check for any needed cleaning or repair of Officer Capes.
- Prepare and print Programs.

## Two or Three Days Before the Day of Installation

- Review your Installation remarks with the Chapter Advisor.
- Prepare for Introductions and review what you will say as guests are introduced.
- Make arrangements and/or plan for the pick up of the cake, flowers, refreshments, or anything else that needs to be picked up the day of the installation.
- Review the check list to insure that everything has been completed.
- Conduct a practice with Installing Team and Officers (if not day of).

## Day of Installation

- Conduct a practice with the Installing Team and Officers (if not a few days before).
- Pick up flowers, cake, refreshments and anything else that is needed.
- Set up Chapter room.
  - Altar cloth, Bible on altar
  - Candles around the altar
  - Flag at the right of the Standard Bearer's station
  - School books in the East next to the podium
  - Chapter Banner/Charter in the East
  - Officer's Jewels/Capes set out at their stations (if that is your Chapter's practice)
  - Signs, banner, or ribbon to reserve seats (if desired)

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## Just Before the Installation

- Make sure that everyone who is to assist is present.
- Distribute Flowers.
- Greet Guests.
- Line up Officers ten minutes before the Installation is scheduled to begin.
- Start on time!

## Within 10 Days After the Installation

- Send thank you cards to all who assisted and to any special guests who attended.
- Complete and mail the first letter of the PMC-MSA.
- Send news release and pictures to local newspapers.

## Things to Order

- Gavel and sounding block. There is also a plaque that can be purchased. Limited engraving is done for free by the DeMolay and More Store.
- Invitations and/or Programs (if having a commercial company print them.)
- Awards or presentations (optional)
  - Flowers for parents, sweethearts, friends
  - Hats Off! Award(s)
  - Locally established awards and recognitions (order certificates and plaques as needed)
  - Merit Bars
- Reception/Dance Items
  - Cake
  - Refreshments
  - Decorations
- Other Optional Items
  - "My Term as Master Councilor" Scrap Book
  - Cups, Plates, and Napkins with full color DeMolay emblem

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## APPENDICES

### Sample Letter of Intent

123 Street Address  
City, ST Zip Code  
January 1, 2015

"Dad" Gorman McBride  
Chairman of the Advisory Council  
123 Street Address  
City, ST Zip Code

Dear "Dad" McBride and the members of the Advisory Council:

I am writing to inform you of my intent to run for the office of Master Councilor in the next Elections of Officers that our Chapter will hold on January 10, 2015.

I have been in DeMolay for three years. During that time I have held the offices of Chaplain, Marshal, Senior Deacon, Junior Councilor, and Senior Councilor.

It has been my responsibility to plan several events over the last three years. I was the chairman of the Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast in 2012. I developed a timeline and budget for this activity and it was successful. I have also been in charge of the Masonic Service Project in 2011, and the Winter Carnival which was held this year and was the most successful activity of the year.

I have successfully completed the first lesson of the Leadership Correspondence Course and I am a Representative DeMolay. I attended the Leadership Conference in 2010 and 2011. I was awarded our Chapter's DeMolay of the Term Award in 2012 and have earned merit bars in Ritual, Journalism, Visitations, Conclave, Merit, Masonic Service, and Attendance.

I am a Junior at Saugus High School. I maintain a 3.0 grade point average each semester. I am a member of the Spanish Club and I participate in school plays.

If I am elected Master Councilor of our Chapter, I will make membership a number one priority. I will help the Chapter strive to improve communications and plan successful activities. I will commit myself 100% to completing my term plan.

I have discussed the responsibilities with my parents and they approve of my running. Please feel free to contact them to discuss the responsibilities of my office.

I really look forward to serving our Chapter as Master Councilor next term.

Sincerely,

David Smith  
Senior Councilor

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## Sample Installation Budget

**Frank S. Land Chapter  
Order of DeMolay  
Installation of Officers  
January 20, 2023**

BUDGET

EXPENSES

Building Rent	\$50.00
Refreshments (cake, all other food has been donated)	\$40.00
Decorations	\$20.00
DJ	\$100.00
PMC Pin	\$20.00
Flowers	\$50.00
Trophies	\$50.00
Invitation Printing	\$25.00
Invitation Postage	\$34.00
Program Printing	\$25.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$414.00</b>



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### Sample Invitation

<p><b>Frank S. Land Chapter, Order of DeMolay</b> requests the honor of your presence at its 125th Installation of Officers on Saturday, January 20, 2023 at 3 o'clock PM Masonic Building Street Address, City, ST <b>David A. Smith</b> Master Councilor-elect</p>	
<p><b>Ronald A. Davis</b> Senior Councilor-elect</p>	<p><b>Bryan J. King</b> Junior Councilor-elect</p>
<p>Light dinner and dance to follow</p>	<p>Dress is coat and tie</p>

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## **OPTIONAL MODIFICATION OF THE INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

The Public Installation of a Chapter's Officers is one of the few times when we can display the ritualistic abilities of many of our members to those who are not entitled to attend our private ceremonies. It is also a time to put our best face on our Chapter programs, while being good stewards of the time our audience has lent to us. Therefore, the following modifications have been authorized, and will be implemented by the State Officers.

**Marshal's Floor Work:** The Installing Marshal should use the most direct route, following the walking bands, to move around the Chapter room, rather than following a continual clock-wise movement, as a timesaving courtesy to our public audience. Immediately following the delivery of the last installed officer to his station, the Marshal shall go to the west side of the altar and make the required proclamation, eliminating the time for him to return to his station, and receive instruction from the IO that is redundant to his proclamation.

**I.O. Questions:** Because they are confusing to both members and spectators, the Installing Officer is authorized to eliminate the 4 questions asked of members and officers, and his response, as printed on pages 43-44 of the 5th Edition of the Monitor of Ceremonies. Effectively, after the Marshal reads the names of the officers to be installed, he should immediately present the MC-Elect for Installation, without waiting for direction from the Installing Officer.

**Dividing the Installation Ritual:** To facilitate the public performance of more than just a few individuals, and to provide a more balanced performance burden to each team member, the actual installation of specific officers will be divided among the installing team members. This is permitted to allow the other members of the team an opportunity to learn more parts, to showcase their abilities, and to encourage them to learn more, eventually serving as Installing Officers themselves. In any case, the Installing Officer must be able to perform the entire ceremony from memory in the event that a junior officer does not know the work or cannot attend.

### Installation Chart

**The Installing Officer Installs:** Master Councilor

**The Installing Senior Councilor Installs:** Senior Councilor, Preceptors, Marshal, Sentinel

**The Installing Junior Councilor Installs:** Junior Councilor, Scribe, Standard Bearer

**The Installing Marshal Installs:** None

**The Installing Chaplain Installs:** Chaplain, Orator, Treasurer, Almoner

**The Installing Senior Deacon Installs:** Deacons, Stewards

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## DeMolay Protocol

Updated 2012

### **I. Introducing Special Guests**

- A. Distinguished guests and visitors are always welcome at DeMolay functions. These are the rules for formally receiving special guests at ritual and ceremonial meetings.

Use common sense regarding introductions. Nobody wants to sit through hours of introductions or speeches. Most guests should be greeted personally, after the program, not formally in the meeting.

At Chapter meetings (closed meetings), DISTINGUISHED GUESTS are introduced right after the Chapter is opened. Record these introductions in the minutes. The guests should be in the room for the opening ritual, since they may not often get to see our ceremonies.

The Marshal leads guests from their seats to a place West of the Altar. If they are not in the room, the Marshal may leave (without going to the Altar) to bring them into the room and to the Altar.

At installations and other public ceremonies guests should be received before the ceremonies begin (as soon as the officers take their stations). The Marshal brings them from outside the room to the Altar for introduction.

- B. Introductions are made as follows:

The Marshal brings the guest, accompanied by fellow officers, to the Altar, and announces all of them to the presiding officer and guests. The presiding officer welcomes them and leads applause, and has the Marshal conduct the distinguished guest to the East, along the North side of the room.

The guest is greeted by the presiding officer and given an appropriate seat. (He is not introduced again in the East.) Only the highest-ranking distinguished guest is presented the gavel of authority, (see below.)

Visitors with the distinguished guest are directed to seats in the Chapter room. The Marshal either returns to his seat or prepares to present the next guest.

- C. The order of introductions is:

The New Hampshire State Master Councilor or the ranking elected state officer AND the Executive Officer of New Hampshire or his representative, are presented together. (All other state officers and EO Leadership Team members may be introduced at their seats, during remarks by the SMC or EO.) Officers of DeMolay International and the

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International Congress may be introduced with this group. Do not “rap up” the room for these introductions.

The Grand Master of Masons of New Hampshire or any Grand Lodge officer designated to represent him. Other Grand Lodge officers or Past Grand Masters, and the ranking officers of any statewide or national Masonic body may be introduced with the Grand Master.

These guests are recognized because of the outstanding support they give DeMolay in New Hampshire. Three raps of the gavel direct everyone to stand when the Grand Master enters. Only the Grand Master is seated in the East. Others are offered seats reserved for them.

Other guests may be introduced at their seats, but not called on to speak.

- The presiding officer of the sponsoring body.
- The presiding officer or designated representative of any local Masonic body.
- Advisory Council members.
- Visiting state appointed officers.
- Visiting Master Councilors or designated representatives.

D. Some others may be introduced at their seats at public ceremonies, but don't “drag on” the program to introduce these people. They aren't asked to speak. Those who have asked to make a presentation should be asked to come to a microphone, if there is one. These groups are:

1. All visitors listed in section C above.
2. Visiting community officials, clergy, or school officials.
3. Officers of Eastern Star or other adult organizations.
4. Rainbow Girls

E. Here's an example, for presenting the State Master Councilor and a Deputy Executive Officer:

**Marshal**-“Brother Master Councilor, it is my privilege to present to you Brother John Smith, State Master Councilor, and "Dad" Harold Jones, Deputy Executive Officer.”

**MC**- Brother Smith and "Dad" Jones, it is a privilege to have you in our Chapter on this occasion. If you will continue under your present escort I will be happy to formally welcome you.” (Guests are escorted to the East by the Marshal, via the North to be greeted by the presiding officer who may offer a seat in the East, or on the sidelines, depending on their availability.)

Substitute the right titles for your situation. The Marshal should always be dignified and efficient in making introductions.

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## II. Presenting the Gavel of Authority

The gavel of authority is presented only once during a meeting, and only to the Grand Master of Masons or the Executive Officer or their designated representative, or in the absence of these, to the ranking elected state officer. Nobody else should EVER receive the gavel from the Master Councilor.

It is a symbol of loyalty, and is given while everyone is still standing. Say this: "In token of our allegiance to 1 and to you as 2 we present you with the gavel of authority."

### Corresponding Inserts

1	The Grand Lodge of Masons of New Hampshire	DeMolay International	New Hampshire DeMolay
2	Right Worshipful Grand Master ( <i>or the Representative of...</i> )	Executive Officer ( <i>or the Representative of..</i> )	(State Officer's title)

The gavel is presented when the guest is greeted, and he may speak or preside until he gives the gavel back, but we hope he speaks later. When called on to speak at a later time, the gavel is NOT presented again.

## III. Order of Speaking

The order for calling on guests for remarks is the same as for introductions. Remarks should be the last thing you do before the closing ceremony. No one is to speak after the Executive Officer or the Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons, unless they ask to speak earlier in the meeting (for example, if they have to leave early).

## IV. Honor Guards or Uniformed Escorts

Honor guards of Commandery (Knights Templar) officers may be used during the introduction of distinguished guests, only if the Advisory Council agrees it will lend dignity to the program.

## V. Time Schedule

Begin programs on time. Wasting our guests' time is not courteous. Our programs should be well run and brief. Guests should remember programs as worth attending, professional and enjoyable.

## VI. Questions

Executive Officer [ed@nhdemolay.net] will answer your questions about this protocol or specific situations.

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## Installation Guide

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### New Hampshire DeMolay

#### Policy Reminder:

#### **DO NOT PASS A COLLECTION BASKET!**

In years past, Chapters traditionally had an Almoner's Fund, or a charitable fund of the Chapter supported by money collected through fund-raising and voluntary donations at Stated Meetings. Most Chapters don't call it this anymore, but still set aside money for charitable purposes, sending flowers and get-well cards, and the like. Chapters are permitted to set a "box of fraternal assistance" or a collection basket out at Installations and other public functions to take donations to the Almoner's Fund, as long as there is a card or announcement that all donations will be used for charity and relief. **HOWEVER, CHAPTERS ARE PROHIBITED FROM PASSING ANYTHING THROUGH THE CROWD TO TAKE UP A COLLECTION.** (This practice, perpetuated in other organizations, is not appreciated by family and visitors, and is the source of severe public criticism against our Order; hence it must cease immediately.) The money collected should be turned over to the Scribe and may be kept, either as a separate account, or as a line item in the Chapter's operating fund. It must not be kept in cash.

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## Installation Guide

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### Using Music to Enhance an Installation

Music, when properly used, can greatly enhance the impact and class of DeMolay ceremonies. Since the Installation of Officers is an important opportunity to make a positive impression on families, Masonic sponsors, and the general public, music is especially appropriate on this occasion. It is important, however, that appropriate music is chosen, and used well, to make the proper impression. Here are some suggestions:

1. Music can be used to set a mood, reinforce a point, or create transitions between elements of the ceremonies. It also helps the event to flow, and prevents “dead times” of silence during the ceremony.
2. Music should accompany the ceremonies, not overpower them. Well-chosen and well used music will not draw too much attention to itself.
3. Live music is not necessarily better than recorded music. If you intend to use live musicians, ALWAYS “audition” them first. Using a musician you are unfamiliar with is a bad gamble.
4. If you will use recorded music, be sure to test all equipment first, and check volume levels and room acoustics beforehand. Remember that sound will be somewhat different in a full room than an empty one.
5. Try to put the audio equipment and person playing the music more or less out of sight... they’re not the show.
6. Be sure that recorded music is organized in such a way that it can be accessed quickly and controlled properly. The ceremonies should never be held up waiting for music to start or stop. It is wise to create a “mix” tape or CD with all the music for the event on it, in the order it will be used.

When choosing appropriate music, keep these things in mind:

1. Familiar music comes with associations. You can’t play the “Superman” sound track and expect people not to think of Superman. Be aware of the images your music conjures. Sometimes, it is better to use music that is unfamiliar.
2. Instrumentals are often safer than music with lyrics. If there are lyrics, people tend to try to listen to them, which may distract from your program. If you use music with lyrics, it should not be used at a time when it will be “competing” with any part of the ceremony.
3. A variety of types of music may be appropriate. Classical music, of various types, is a good bet for bringing class to the event. Music appropriate to a holiday season, patriotic music, or other theme, may also be appropriate for your occasion.
4. Remember that you have guests of various ages and interests. Be careful of choosing contemporary music that may be unpleasant or even offensive to guests. This doesn’t mean that contemporary and popular music CAN’T be used, only that it must be chosen carefully. Obviously, any music that has offensive or rude lyrics must never be used.

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## Installation Guide

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5. Light and fast moving music should predominate, since it helps to keep up the pace and mood of the ceremonies. This is particularly true of music played for movement on the floor. If the music is very slow, people will tend to move slower and slow down the ceremonies.
6. Somber music can be used very effectively to change the mood of the ceremonies at serious times, but should be used very sparingly.
7. Using music which will create a "humorous" reaction is okay on occasion, but should not be overdone. If guests begin to wonder "Gee, what funny song will they play next?" then the music has detracted from the ceremony instead of adding to it. Musical "jokes," if used, are best left for the end of the ceremonies, or for a single event during the ceremony.
8. Music playing behind a speaker can be a blessing or a curse. It can lend drama to a speech like the Flower Talk or the Ceremony of Light, or it can distract both the speaker and the listener. Choose very carefully whether to use such music, and which music is used. Never play music with lyrics behind a speaking part. If you will use instrumental music while someone is speaking, always make sure the speaker is aware that music will be playing while he speaks, and that he is comfortable with this.

### Suggested types of music for the ceremony of Installation.

1. Soft background music playing as guests arrive sets a nice atmosphere for the Installation. Similar music can also be played as guests dismiss.
2. Processional music can be used for the entrance of the Installing Team, the Chapter Officers, and any dignitaries being formally received into the room. It is also fitting for times when the Installing Marshal is moving to present Officers for Installation or guests for introduction.
3. Reverent, prayerful music is fitting when the Chaplain is traveling to and from the altar for prayer, when the Bible is being opened, while the altar is attended to, or during ceremonies like memorial services.
4. Patriotic music can be used for processions, and is especially appropriate for use when the flag is being presented. The National Anthem must not be used as "traveling music." If the anthem is to be used, the flag must be stationary at the altar, and the room raised to attention and salute. Use of the anthem during the flag ceremony is encouraged. It should follow the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Special music by a soloist or other musician(s) may be inserted at appropriate points in the ceremony, if desired, but keep the schedule in mind and don't over-extend the program with added music and ceremonies.
6. Somber music, as mentioned above, should be used sparingly. Portions of the ceremony like the Master Councilor's obligation, a Flower Talk or Ceremony of Light, or a Memorial Service may call for more serious music, but do not overuse it.
7. Fanfares have limited usefulness. They may be used for reception of a high dignitary, or during ceremonies to confer honors (there is a designation in the Legion of Honor Conferral for a fanfare). Overusing fanfares (like overusing the calling up of the Chapter or the "standing ovation") destroys their significance.



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# Installation Guide

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## Installation Agenda Worksheet

Entrance of Chapter Officers

Entrance of Installing Team

Reception of Distinguished Guests

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Opening Ceremony

Installation of Officers

Master Councilor's Remarks

Introductions

1. Parents
2. Advisory Council
3. Special Guests
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_

Awards and Presentations

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

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# Installation Guide

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## Remarks

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Closing Ceremony (Installing Team)

Installing Team Retires

Chapter Officers Retire

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# Installation Guide

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Other Questions or Needs for Planning Your Installation?

Contact:



**NEW HAMPSHIRE DEMOLAY**  
info@nhdemolay.net

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