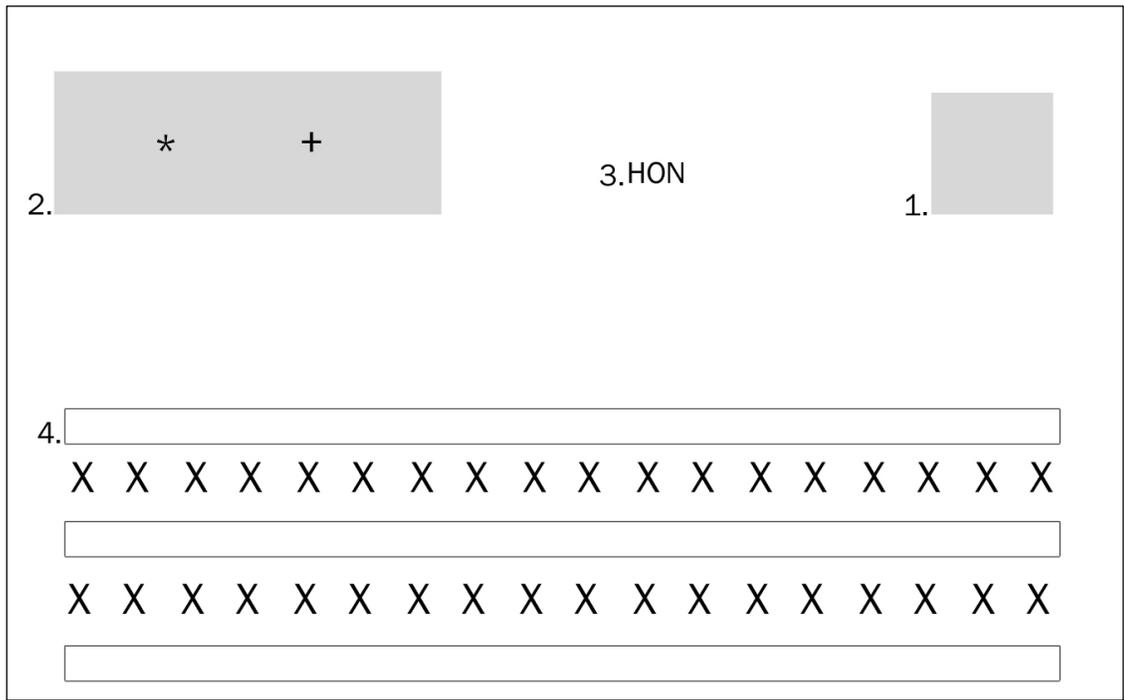


Instructions – Sweetheart Ceremony



Key | 1 - Podium // 2 - Table // 3 - Honoree // 4 - Rows of Chairs
 * - Bouquet of Flowers // + - Sweetheart Lapel Pin

EQUIPMENT

- Candle (1 - large white; with *the letters $\Lambda\Sigma\Phi$ down the front*)
- Candle Holders (2)
- Candle Snuffer (Silver)
- Candles (2 new, tapered)
- Greek letter t-shirt or Sweatshirt or Similar Gift
- Draping/Linen (White)
- Red and Yellow Roses (1 dozen)
- Song Cards with Sweetheart Song
- Sweetheart Lapel Pin
- Table

The Sweetheart Ceremony is an **EXOTERIC CEREMONY** and can be conducted in front of non-initiated guests of the Fraternity.

ROBES

- None used.

BACKGROUND

In advance of the Fraternity's 175th anniversary, the undergraduate delegates at the 53rd Grand Chapter in Orlando, Florida voted to create a ceremony that could be conducted to officially recognize a chapter sweetheart.

PURPOSE

The term 'Sweetheart', is a term of endearment and meant to be a token of appreciation similar to that of our Milestone Service for alumni. This term (a.k.a. award) recognizes the contributions of a particular individual for having enhanced the experience of all collegiate members during a particular academic year. It is recommend that the chapter choose one per academic year in the same that other chapter awards of distinction are chosen. Once this honor is bestowed, like other awards it cannot be taken away – essentially this individual is viewed as a 'sweetheart' for the remainder of their undergraduate tenure and acknowledged at national programs and events when possible. It should be noted that this recognition ceremony does not grant the 'sweetheart' any of the privileges that an initiated member of the Fraternity is granted during initiation. This recognition is limited to individuals who have no direct affiliation with the Fraternity.

LAVALIERE CEREMONY

As noted above, the Sweetheart Ceremony should really be viewed as an award, given by the chapter each academic year to a specific individual. The Lavalier Ceremony is conducted to symbolize a member's involvement in an ongoing romantic relationship, which may have been a long-term relationship, resulting in becoming "pinned" (a woman receiving the man's fraternity badge or a lavalier necklace that contains the fraternity letters as part of or within a pendant) to signify that he plans to propose and someday marry the woman receiving his letters. Please see the Lavalier Ceremony within the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity ritual book for information on how to conduct that ceremony.

SETTING

- This ceremony can take place at a chapter meeting, a formal or semi-formal, Founders Day dinner, or can be a stand-alone ceremony. This means that the ceremony can take place whenever the chapter decides.
- Officers participating in the ceremony should be in a shirt and tie.
- Brothers attending the ceremony should be dressed in business casual attire.
- Please allow 10-14 days for the Sweetheart Pin to be shipped from Headquarters.

The Sweetheart Ceremony

For this ceremony you will need a podium and table draped with a white cloth. On the table should be the bouquet of flowers and the Sweetheart Lapel Pin. The table should be set at the front of the room or on the stage (if the ceremony is being held at a dinner). There should be a large gap of space between the table and the podium. This is where the Sweetheart will stand once announced. The President steps up to the podium.

HSP: Brothers.

Once per academic year, the [Insert Greek Chapter Designation] chapter selects from among its most loyal supports, someone who has represented the ideals of our Coat-of-Arms and lives Alpha Sigma Phi's core values of Silence, Charity, Purity, Honor, and Patriotism, while making personal contributions to our chapter. It is our duty then, to officially recognize her as our Sweetheart.

It is with great honor and pleasure that I call upon [insert first and last name of Sweetheart] to come forward and join me at the front of the room.

Once named, the new Sweetheart than comes to the front of the room. The President is waiting for her in the gap area between the table and the podium. He hands her the bouquet of flowers and then returns to the podium.

HSP: [Sweetheart's first name], we have chosen you from among our closest friends, to call you our Sweetheart. Your accomplishments and contributions are many, including...

Provide a 2-3 minute recap of her contributions to those present. Include information about how she supported the chapter, the Greek or campus community, as well as a general introduction to those that that may not know her extremely well.

HSP: I now call upon the Secretary to come forward and discuss what this recognition means to our chapter.

HS: Sweetheart [Sweetheart's first name], first and foremost, you should always expect to receive a warm welcome from our Brothers. Even long after your term ends one year from today, you will maintain a special place in this chapter's history and within the fraternity as a whole for the rest of your life.

In due time, you will be asked to sit for our composite picture, so that history can record the contributions that you have made toward making all of us *better men*.

And as before, you are welcome to attend any all chapter functions or ceremonies that are not restricted to initiated brothers only.

I now call the Vice President of our Chapter to present you with the insignia of our chapter.

HJP: Sweetheart [Sweetheart's first name], our President has already presented to you our flowers, the cardinal and yellow tea roses – the red symbolic of our brotherhood and the yellow symbolic of the friendship that we now share with you.

It is my honor to present to you this Sweetheart Pin. The pin is contained within a border of gold and was once the Fraternity Badge of Alpha Kappa Pi, a fraternity that consolidated with Alpha Sigma Phi in 1946. It symbolizes true and lasting brotherhood, honor, service to another, and loyalty to your alma mater. It is fitting then that we should present this to you – because you represent all of those things to us.

Let this pin and the other gifts we've given you today be a reminder of this moment in your life and recognition of the kindness and joy you brought to our life.

The Vice President then pins the Sweetheart Pin onto the Sweetheart. If the Sweetheart is the significant other of someone in the chapter then the Vice President can call them forward and ask them to pin the Sweetheart Pin. The President then retakes the podium.

HSP: Finally, Sweetheart [Sweetheart's first name], we would like to present you with our Greek letters – Alpha, Sigma, and Phi. These can be worn by you at any time as an outward symbol of our recognition of you and the contributions you have made to our chapter.

Brothers, we have presented [insert first name of Sweetheart] with our official flowers, the Sweetheart Pin, and our Greek letters. Please come forward, kneel, and sing to her our Sweetheart Song.

All brothers present then come forward (or gather in a circle around the new Sweetheart), kneel and sing the Sweetheart Song. Following the song, the President says the following:

HSP: This concludes our ceremony. Thank you for your attendance.

End of the Sweetheart Ceremony.