

SILVER KEY CEREMONIES

For Bridging Juniors

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In each of the ceremonies present each girl a silver key on ribbon symbolizing the key to the Silver Award and Cadette Girl Scouts. Miscut silver keys are often available free at hardware stores.

KEY TO THE SILVER CEREMONY

LEADER:

Tonight we gather to honor those girls that have completed their journey in Junior Girl Scouts. The girls are ready to accept the challenges offered to them in the Older Girl Scout program. The challenges are great, but the rewards are even greater. As they shed their green and don the khaki and light blue of the Cadette Girl Scout program they enter a world of new friends, new travels, new discoveries and new dreams. This is not the end of their Girl Scout journey, but rather the beginning of a whole new journey, and tonight we offer them the keys to unlock doors to the world of Cadette Girl Scouts.

Have 11 silver candles (or white candles tied with silver bows) arranged in a straight line on a table. 11 keys are cut from silver poster board (or white covered with foil). On these are written: PERSONAL GROWTH, UNDERSTANDING, FRIENDSHIP, VALUES, INTEGRITY, RESPECT, CHOICE, LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, THE WORLD, SILVER AWARD. As each candle is lit, the key (taped to the table) is flipped over the side of the table, so the audience can see it and what it says. Or, 12 Cadette girls may hold up the keys. Or, if you have a lot of girls, one may light the candle, while one reads the part taped to the back of the key she is holding up.

GIRLS:

#1 - I light this candle to represent the key to PERSONAL GROWTH. As I discover and develop my talents and abilities may I always try to help others to discover theirs.

#2 - I light this candle to represent the key to UNDERSTANDING. As I learn to accept who I am, may I always be accepting of who others are, no matter how different they may be.

#3 - I light this candle to represent the key to FRIENDSHIP. As I make new friends, may I never forget the old, for one is silver and the other gold.

#4 - I light this candle to represent the key to VALUES. As I discover what I value most, may I always protect my own values while respecting the values of others, no matter how different from my own.

#5 - I light this candle to represent the key to INTEGRITY. As I learn to always "do the right thing" may I remember to be honest and fair in all my dealings.

#6 - I light this candle to represent the key to RESPECT. As I learn to give respect to those around me, and respect the rules I am given, may I gain the respect of others.

#7 - I light this candle to represent the key to CHOICE. As I make more choices in my life, may I always be guided by the Girl Scout Promise and Law and my own values.

#8 - I light this candle to represent the key to LEADERSHIP. As I learn to lead others, may I always lead them down the right path and remember that one day they shall also become leaders.

#9 - I light this candle to represent the key to SERVICE. As I learn that I can do no greater good in this world than to give of myself to others, may I never forget those less fortunate than myself.

#10 - I light this candle to represent the key to THE WORLD. As I learn to protect it and its resources may I better understand it and improve it through my words and actions.

#11 - I light this candle to represent the key to the SILVER AWARD. As I work hard to achieve the highest award available to a Cadette Girl Scout may I never forget those who helped me along the way.

LEADER:

As your name is called please cross over the bridge and receive your cadette vest and your silver key.

(all girls cross the "bridge" and receive a silver key from the leader or older Cadette scouts, and have their green vest replaced by a khaki one)

LEADER:

You have each received a silver key. Protect it and cherish it for it is your key to a whole new world. The key represents your challenge to look wider still in all you do while always remembering to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, responsible for what you say and do, respectful of yourself and others, respectful of authority, wise in your use of resources, and always trying to make the world a better place while being a sister to every Girl Scout. If you are willing to accept this challenge please raise your right hand in the Girl Scout sign and repeat the Girl Scout promise with me. *(all girls and leader say the promise together)*

WELCOME TO CADETTE GIRL SCOUTS, YOU HOLD THE KEY TO YOUR FUTURE!

By Kathy Little

NEW JUNIOR TO CADETTE CHALLENGE

Each part read by the girls

#1 As we enter this new level of Girl Scouting - this higher level, we'll find ourselves stepping out of our childhood and entering a world of new experiences. In this new world, we will gain more of an understanding of our own self worth and individuality. As we accept more responsibility, we will experience growth. Growth in knowledge, growth in abilities, growth in judgement, and growth in maturity.

#2 We'll join the ranks of the "older girls" in Girl Scouting. We'll be given more opportunities to try more things. We'll be given more responsibility and we'll be given more freedom to accomplish the things we want to accomplish on our own.

#3 Proficiency badges give way to Interest Patch Projects, or IPPs. Our green vests are shed for new khaki uniforms. New doors open. The rules are different for older girls. We're going to love this!

#4 Cadette Girl Scouting is the time to begin combining our Girl Scout life with our personal life. We'll try some high-adventure things. Plan trips. Explore careers. Volunteer for something. It's the best of both worlds.

#5 Are we ready and willing to accept the challenges and responsibilities of a Cadette in Girl Scouting?

(Response: Yes)

#6 As we commit to the challenges of Cadette Girl Scouting, we will light the candles before us in order. We'll light one candle for each challenge as a symbol of our acceptance. Please repeat each part of the challenge. (use any color candles you choose for #7-11)

#7 - I challenge myself to a greater understanding of Nature, Science and Health (repeat)

#8 - I challenge myself to learn and use new Life Skills (repeat)

#9 - I challenge myself to seek new means of Communications (repeat)

#10 - I challenge myself to have a better insight and appreciation of the Arts and History (repeat)

#11 - I challenge myself to understand and try new adventures through Sports and Recreation (repeat)

#12 - I challenge myself to continue to develop my leadership skills, to give service where and when I can, to continue to accept and live the Girl Scout Promise and Law. (green candle) (repeat)

#13 - I challenge myself to accept and live the challenge of being a Girl Scout and I challenge myself to achieve the highest award as a Cadette, the Silver Award. (silver candle) (repeat)

EVERYBODY RECITE THE PROMISE

Leader: As you cross the bridge from Juniors to Cadettes and officially become a Cadette Girl Scout we will present you with a symbol of this transition, a Silver Key. This Silver Key will symbolize that you are seeking to unlock the door to Cadette Girl Scouting and experience all that lies behind. Wear it as a symbol of pride for Girl Scouting. Wear it as a symbol of friendship for each other. But most of all, wear it as a symbol of admiration and support from us to you. Not as your parents, but as your advisors.

Col-Leader: Wear your key to symbolize all that is yet unknown in the world of "older girls" and in your individual world. This silver key should remind you to do your best, try your best and be your best. Your key is your link to this troop and all of us who are a part of it. Treat it as if it were a one-of-a-kind treasure. In time, you'll come to realize that it is.

Repeat after me as I light the last silver candle:

I challenge myself to unlock all that is possible as a Cadette. I challenge myself to reach for the highest award as a Cadette, the Silver award.

Each girl should now walk over the bridge and receive their silver key as they reach the other side.

From Barb Mahan Hunter

JUNIOR TO CADETTE CHALLENGE USING THE WORLDS

PART #1

We present to you a silver key, which will symbolize that you are seeking to unlock the door to Cadette Scouts as you begin your work on the Silver Leadership and Silver Award. Wear it as a symbol that you are in pursuit of the gold at the end of the Rainbow of the Girl Scout worlds.

You are about to enter another phase of Girl Scouting. You will find yourself entering a world of new experiences where you will gain an understanding of your own self worth and individuality. As you accept more responsibility you will experience a growth in your knowledge, abilities and judgment. In these tools place your new enthusiasm for the future -- use them wisely.

To the new Cadette (or group, if you have more than one):

Are you willing to accept the challenges and responsibilities of a Cadette Girl Scout?

The girls say: I AM

Put the necklace around each girl.

PART #2

You need a table with candles -- different colors. You also need one white candle to light first -- you use this to light the other candles, and if you have more than one girl, she passes this candle to the next girl. You can divide up the girls to light several, all or whatever it takes so that all participate. If you have more than one girl present, change the "I CHALLENGE MYSELF..." to "WE CHALLENGE OURSELVES..."

Leader:

As you say the challenges, light the candles before you as a symbol of this acceptance.

Girls:

I challenge myself to a greater understanding of the World of Well Being (red candle)

I challenge myself to better serve the World of People (blue candle)

I challenge myself to accept the changing World of Today and Tomorrow (orange candle)

I challenge myself to have a better insight and appreciation of the World of the Arts (purple candle)

I challenge myself to understand and preserve the World of Outdoors (yellow candle)

I challenge myself to accept and live the challenge of living the Promise and Law (green candle)

I challenge myself to learn leadership and give service, and to achieve the Silver Award (silver candle)

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