

## Alumnae Ceremony

### History:

The alumni ceremony was written in 2001 by Kara McIntyre, founding mother. In Spring 2010, sisters of the Beta chapter felt as though the ceremonies should remain as special for incoming members as they were for them. Because of this, the alumni ceremony was rewritten by Sister Krystina Christiansen in 2011 to be updated, extended and more thorough.

### Items Needed:

- Recording of “Sigma Bonds”
- Wooden “O”, “M”, “E”, “G” and “A”
- Table
- Alter
- Purple Cloth
- Crest
- Parts of crest from Induction Ceremony
- Purple tape for star
- Five candles for each point of star
- Candles for each alumni and speaking part
- Alumna pin
- Rose(s)

**Dress Code:** All actives and alumni should be dressed in black and purple

### **Speaking parts:**

Parliamentarian\*\*

Sigma 1-5

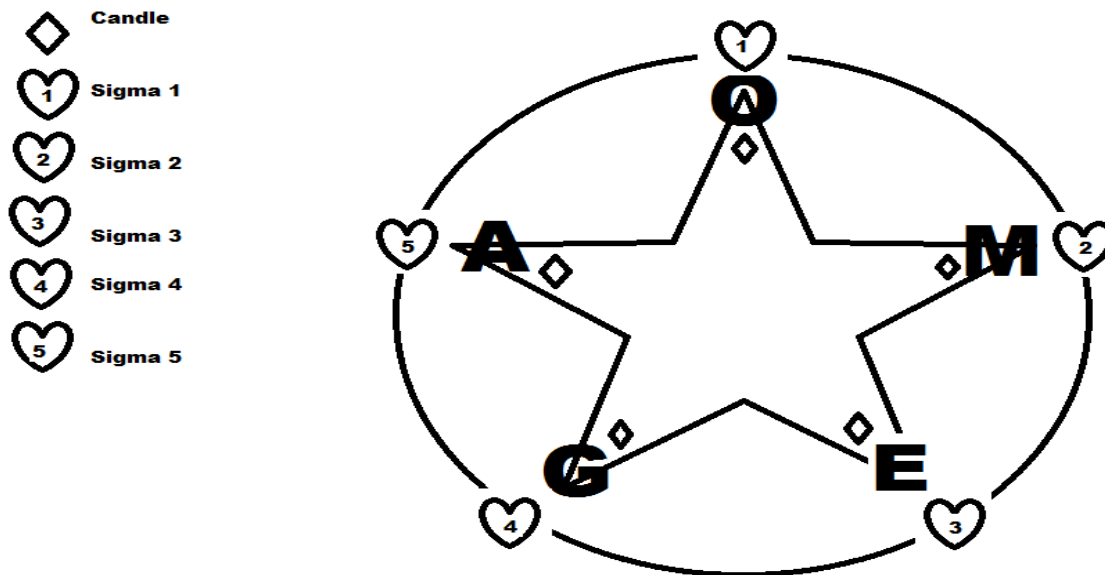
President\*\*

Chosen Guide

Eldest Member

**\*\* Follow chain of command if this representative is graduating**

## **Alumnae Ritual Floor Set-Up**



## **Alumnae Ritual Alter Set-Up**

Ritual may be decorated according to liking. Required items:

Sigma, Kappa & Omega

Crest

Chapter Scroll Book

### **Set Up**

*Sisterhood is to stand on the outside of the star facing in.*

*Sigma 1 through 5 should be at their stations*

*Sigma 1: Opportunity*

*Sigma 2: Memorable*

*Revised at Infinity Weekend 2014*

*Sigma 3: Endless*

*Sigma 4: Guidance*

*Sigma 5: Alpha*

*Alumnae are to be lined up outside of ritual door in alphabetic order. Leading them will be their guide of choice.*

**RITUAL:**

*Sigma Kappa Omega knock exchange*

**Parliamentarian:** “Who seeks entrance to the ceremony of Sigma Kappa Omega?”

**Chosen Guide:** “A guide of sisterhood.”

Music starts

Door opens

Guide and Parliamentarian embrace with Sigma Kappa Omega official handshake.

*Each alumna will walk in one after the other being led in by the guide. The guide is to have a lit candle. The alumna candles (lit) are to be held by a sister within the “sisterhood circle”*

*Alumnae are led to stand back to back facing the outside of the star.*

*Guide then joins the sisterhood on the outside of the star.*

*The sisters will then hand the alumnae their candle*

*Sisters (non-alumnae) join the rest of the sisterhood in the outer circle.*

**President:** “Sisters, we welcome you to the alumnae ceremony of Sigma Kappa Omega.

Sigma’s please step forward and light your candle to represent the everlasting path of sisterhood.”

**Sigma 1:** *Light candle and say “Opportunity”*

**Sigma 2:** *Light candle and say “Memorable”*

**Sigma 3:** *Light candle and say “Endless”*

**Sigma 4:** *Light candle and say “Guidance”*

**Sigma 5:** *Light candle and say “Alpha”*

**President:** Sisters, at initiation, you pledged yourself to promoting the ideals of life-long friendship, intellectual and spiritual fulfillment, true sisterhood and service for the greater good of the sorority and community. As your sisters we have watched you grow and fulfill this promise. We hope that all the lessons you've learned in Sigma will help you in your future endeavors.

“Sisters, if you are ready to cross as alumnae of Sigma Kappa Omega, please repeat after me.

I, of my own free will and accord,

In the presence of the sisters of Sigma Kappa Omega

Do hereby declare

That as an alumna of Sigma Kappa Omega

I solemnly swear

To uphold the honorable traditions of the Sorority and University

As well as the traditions of our founders

Imbued by the spirit of their endless mission

To serve true meaning of Sigma

I promise that as an alumna of this Sorority

I will continue to faithfully adhere to these ideals

Continuing to endeavor in perfecting myself morally,

Intellectually and socially.

I do solemnly swear

To commit myself to the highest standards of womanhood

And present myself as the greatest of examples

As a now true guide of life-long sisterhood

I promise to provide moral and intellectual support

To the Sorority

Most importantly I promise

To remember that as sisters

We are forever bonded

By the ideals of Sigma Kappa Omega

I promise to

Remember the true meaning of Sigma Kappa Omega

And keep it close to my heart throughout my life

All this I solemnly promise upon my honor,

Without any equivocation

I will forever be my sisters keeper

**President:** At initiation, you came into the sorority on Sigma. You will now leave us on Omega which stands for Os-toe-Tay-yos meaning “until the end of time”. Omega represents not only the end of your college experience at [SCHOOL NAME] but the beginning of your new life.

**Sigma 1:** “O” stands for the opportunities that will present themselves in life. We hope that you will make the most of them as you did with your time in Sigma.

**Sigma 2:** “M” stands for all the memorable occasions we shared as sisters and all the memories you are about to make.

**Sigma 3:** “E” stands for the endless love that you have for Sigma and the love that your sisters will always have for you.

**Sigma 4:** “G” stands for guidance. As you have offered your guidance in Sigma, let the star guide your way throughout life.

**Sigma 5:** “A” stands for alpha, for the beginning of your new life as an alumnae of this great Sisterhood.

**President:** As you once did at Initiation, you will now cross over to the outside of the star. With this you are leaving behind your active status of Sigma Kappa Omega, and becoming our new alumnae.

*President will move behind the alter and call up the alumni one at a time to sign the Alumni Book.*

[NAME], Please come to the alter and leave any words of wisdom for your fellow sisters.

As you leave the table, please take a rose to signify your alumnae status.

*After all names have been read read:*

Congratulations! You are now official (YEAR) alumnae of Sigma Kappa Omega. To represent your time in Sigma and the love, bonds and cherished memories you’ve acquired, we’d like to present you with your Sigma Kappa Omega alumna pin.

*Revised at Infinity Weekend 2014*

*Guides present the pin*

Now, our eldest member [name of eldest sister in ceremony alumni or active] will read a poem to celebrate your new status.

**Eldest Member:** While I read this poem, please join hands and think about what our sisterhood has meant to you. This poem is entitled “Sigmas.”

*Make sure to read slowly for words to be heard*

Sigmas,

No matter where our paths may wind

Those Sigma days we left behind

Are with me in my heart and mind

As I remember you..

Each memory I'll hold so near

Of my sister's love most dear

To ever relish through the years

As I remember you...

For time can't change the bond we share

Miles can't change how much I care

You're always with me everywhere

As I remember you...

**President:** “Congratulations on becoming our newest Alumni! We hope you continue to prosper in your new life as you have done in Sigma.”

*Sisters should be in official “connect” and will then turn out to face the outside of the circle.*

*Music starts*

*Senior wills and/or alumna roast can take place after the ceremony.*