

Induction Tips

The NTHS membership induction ceremony is an important event that will create lifelong memories for your members. Each local chapter is encouraged to plan an induction program for new members. A well-planned induction program will become a powerful image builder for your school within your local community.

No exact program outline is set by the national office. Member schools are encouraged to create a program suited to the individual needs of the membership and the uniqueness of the institution. Details of the ceremony are left to school faculty and administration. Remember, however, the goal of any induction program should be to bring maximum recognition to your school's outstanding students.

There are three important components of the induction ceremony that should be included:

1. The statement of the purposes of the organization to the candidates and audience.
2. The presentation of membership certificates and pins.
3. The administration of the official NTHS membership pledge

The following are induction ideas as practiced by numerous NTHS chapters and are suggested to help you in planning your ceremony:

- Display the NTHS banner on the podium or stage.
 - State the purposes of NTHS
- Designate a special seating area for candidates and guests
- Involve your membership. Introduce and use current members and officers as ushers, to help design programs, plan the reception, or help with the induction, etc.
 - Introduce and thank special guests for attending.
- Publicly recognize leaders from your community by presenting them Honorary NTHS memberships at the induction ceremony.
- Have certificates and pins neatly arranged on a table near the podium
- Ask a guest speaker to deliver a brief address to the members and guests.
 - Prepare an attractive program. **Proofread thoroughly.**
- Start your program with an invocation and/or the pledge of allegiance.
 - Call local newspaper(s) or other media for coverage of the event.
- Gather students and award recipients following the ceremony for news release or scrapbook photographs.
 - Send a photograph to NTHS for inclusion in *The Artisan*.
- Involve your faculty. Ask them to pin their students or have them to stand as their students are being pinned.

- Introduce and give special recognition to the candidate's family members in attendance. This is an important practice that adds meaning to the occasion.
- Keep a local registry of membership that can be signed by new NTHS members.
- Invite leaders from local business and industry and include them in the program. This is a good opportunity to showcase your students as potential employees.
- Personalize the event. As each candidate comes forward to receive their pin, introduce them by telling the audience some of their important achievements and their goals following graduation.
- A candle lighting ceremony is a very impressive part of any induction. Although optional, candles can be used to highlight the important personal values required of members. The seven attributes are: Skill, Honesty, Service, Responsibility, Scholarship, Citizenship, and Leadership. Some ideas for candle lighting ceremonies follow:

As each of the seven candles representing the attributes are lit, an advisor or NTHS member could explain to the audience the importance of that ideal, value, or characteristic.

One single candle can be used to represent the light of knowledge. A candle could then be passed from the main candle to a candle held by each member.

Follow the program with a reception. Encourage your students to introduce themselves to any business and industry leaders in attendance.