



IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL INSTALLATION SERVICE
CREATING AN ARRANGEMENT
(With gratitude to St. Petersburg Chapter and Naples chapters)

AKEMASHITE OMEDETO GAZAIMASU

Note: As some of the materials suggested in this installation service may not be readily available, feel free to make substitutions to fit your needs.

Flowers have always been known to have a special language of their own. I'm going to ask our incoming officers to help me make a very special arrangement. We will start with a container—something that holds it all together.

As chairman of nominations (insert name) will you bring the bowl, symbolizing the best quality possible to fill the offices?

As President, (insert name), will you place a kenzan slightly off center and to the front? Your job is not so much to needle everyone, but rather to provide a base to hold the whole together. You shall preside at all chapter meetings, and the board of directors, and appoint all committee chairmen except the nominating committee. You will work, remembering to give support and encouragement at all times. This is the highest honor this club can bestow. Do you accept this duty?

Scissors are a very necessary part of this arrangement, (insert name) as Secretary, I'm asking you to bring the scissors, for sometimes it is necessary to snip here and there, clean up motions, help the president cut down on long, irrelevant discussion. You shall record and preserve the minutes of all regular and board of directors meetings. Will you please place the scissors along side the container, and accept this office?

The bamboo is known for its resiliency. No matter how much the wind might blow and bend the bamboo, it springs back straight and tall. As Treasurer, (insert name) can you bend with the wind and turn up straight and tall again? As you place the bamboo on the kenzan, you may have to take the scissors and snip off some of the leaves, as you might have to trim the budget here and there. The treasurer receives all monies collected and has custody of chapter funds. They shall abide by Article 5 section 8 of the Constitution and Bylaws of this Chapter. Will you be able to bounce like the bamboo when the going seems especially tough?

Sometimes the treasurer needs a little help, or maybe a lot. Would (insert name), put a little helper alongside the bamboo? Do you accept the duty expected of you?

The plum braves snow in the depth of winter, and puts forth its blossoms through the snow. Its sturdy trunk ages, but does not lose its vigor. An old branch shows its maturity and resistance to injury. Sometimes the issues that confront us from Headquarters may



not be the popular ones we might choose if we had a chance, but (insert name) as 1st Vice President, you may be able to overcome barriers like snow, and come forth showing true beauty that lies beneath. Will you place the gnarled plum in the container and accept this position?

The pine is known for its hardiness. It stays green through out the year. (Insert name), as 2nd Vice President, you are responsible for coordinating the program aspects of the chapter. Your programs like the pine branch need be clean cut, balanced, and interesting. Will you, like the pine, withstand the pressure and remain evergreen and beautiful in spite of diversities? If so, please place your branch with the bamboo.

(Insert name, is in charge of Membership as 2nd Vice President and these branches have many buds (or seeds) which indicate our members. The branch shows its maturity and has a sturdy trunk, which does not lose its vigor. It is green and blooms to symbolize new members. Will you place this in the container and accept this office?)

(Insert name) as 3rd Vice President, you are Exhibition Chairman. You represent and provide color to the arrangement, for it is only through membership participation in the exhibition that we can become Friends Through Flowers. As you place the roses in the container, do you accept these responsibilities?

Likewise, the Corresponding Secretary needs to be a part in providing color through the newsletter. You shall conduct all general correspondence, and maintain a correct and complete roster of all members. Will you accept this duty? Then place the remaining rose in the container.

The three branches, pine, bamboo and plum represent heaven, man and earth. Will the Historian (insert name) bring the water to complete this arrangement? As water preserves the flowers, you shall record the chapter events for posterity.

As you see, the arrangement turned out beautifully, but it required the commitment of each of you and so it is with the whole membership. It requires the dedication and skills of all the members to create a harmony of color and artistry, and show our friendship through flowers.

Though the calendar shows us that its is the month of May, we are starting a new organizational year with the newly installed officers. And so we greet you
AKEMASHITE OMEDETO GOZAIMASU