

Wachtschu Mawachpo Lodge No 559 Bow String Society Honor Requirements

The Bow String is an element of the Lodge's Inductions and Ceremonies development program. Its purpose is to recognize outstanding ceremony team members who have given distinguished service to the lodge in the area of inductions and ceremonies. The Bow String Society also serves as a resource pool of knowledgeable ceremonialists who should coach and develop future ceremonial teams.

The Bowstring Society is an honorary organization only. There is no significant organizational structure, other than oversight provided by the Vice Chief of Indian Affairs and his Adviser. Candidates for the Bowstring must meet the following requirements and take part in the Bow String Induction Ceremony to become full members of the Bow String Society.

1. Attain Brotherhood Membership in the Order of the Arrow.
2. Have a thorough understanding of the Principles of the Inductions, including the 10 Induction Principles, the ceremonies, and have actively participated on an OA ceremony team for at least one year.
3. Have publicly performed a minimum of two principal parts and be learning a third part from the following list, in any combination of parts or ceremonies, including different principals' parts in the same ceremony or the same principals' parts but in different ceremonies:
 - a. Allowat Sakima / Chief
 - b. Meteu / Medicine Man
 - c. Nutiket / Guard
 - d. Kichkinet / Guide
4. Ceremony performances must be full OA Induction Ceremonies of genuinely high quality and limited to the OA Induction Ceremonies listed below for Bowstring qualification purposes:
 - a. Lodge or Chapter Callouts
 - b. Pre-Ordeal (Ceremony for the Ordeal)
 - c. Ordeal (Ceremony for the Ordeal)
 - d. Brotherhood
 - e. Vigil
5. Be under the age of 21 at the time of Bowstring induction.
6. Adult Advisers (21 years old or older) who have significant and distinguished service to Inductions and Ceremonies may be admitted on a case-by-case basis. They must be at least Brotherhood members with a year or more service to a ceremony team, including being a ceremony team adviser or team coach. They should have a deep understanding of the principles of the Inductions and Ceremonies.
7. Be current in Lodge membership dues payment at the time of Bow String induction.

Once an Arrowman is a member of the Bowstring Society, he is expected to observe and abide by the Lodge's Bow String Society Rules.