

DESTINY CALLING: SCOUTING AND BEYOND

2018 National Order of the Arrow Conference



Destiny Calling: Scouting and Beyond: Scouting After Graduation

Session Length: 45 Minutes

Through this session, you will:

Explain that after high school, youth need to transition into different Scouting roles

Demonstrate various opportunities for a youth to register as a Scouter after age 18

Guide the learning group in a discussion about how to spend quality time during college

Enable the learning group to understand how to remain part of Scouting over their lifetimes

Learning Outcomes:

- Recall your most fulfilling Scouting experiences
- Recognize that graduating high school will still allow you to maintain ties to Scouting
- Discuss ways to spend time during college to develop expertise, hobbies and pursuits that Scouting introduced you to
- Identify outlets to nourish one's body, mind and spirit that you can enjoy for life

Theme Connection:

The theme of NOAC 2018 is "Decide Your Destiny," emphasizing the message that today's decisions shape tomorrow's reality. This session will relay this theme in the following ways:

- (You) Decide Your Destiny - Explore how a seasoned BSA volunteer can proactively step back from the Scouting program and nourish oneself in Body, Mind, and Spirit without abandoning the BSA and remain a registered member

This session will help the ****Lodge/Chapter/Section**** with the Journey to Excellence

Requirement(s): N/A

Required Materials:

- Laptop
- Projector and pointer
- Screen



Session Narrative

Introduction

5 minutes

- Instructor introduces himself to audience
- Show and Review Learning Objective Slide on screen
 - Recall your most fulfilling Scouting experiences
 - Recognize that graduating high school will still allow you to maintain ties to Scouting
 - Discuss ways to spend time during college to develop expertise, hobbies and pursuits that Scouting introduced you to
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What Have You Enjoyed Most in Scouting?

10 minutes

- **Ask Audience to Stand**
 - Identify Who in the Audience Has Earned the Most Merit Badges (Ascending countdown of badges)
 - Start at 0, thank these adults for joining the BSA to serve us youth
 - From 10 badges - 36+ badges, audience members sit
 - Recap by pointing out how many different interests these merit badges represent and how many different requirements and meetings were completed to earn them
- **ASK QUESTION – What Has Been Your Favorite Scouting Experience So Far?**
 - Give Audience 1 minute to think about this question
 - Ask audience to share their answers
 - When finished with sharing, show Powerpoint summary with these highlights and ask if their experiences fit into any of these categories
 - Troop Meetings
 - Camping
 - High Adventure
 - Order of the Arrow
 - Community Service
 - Merit Badges
 - Leadership Role
 - Board of Review
- Ask audience to consider how much they prefer different types of experiences
 - Use Powerpoint page to list how each of us has different preferences based upon our personalities and backgrounds
 - Individual Activities vs. Group Activities
 - Knowledge vs. Entertainment



- Required Commitments vs. Fun Pursuits
- Planned vs. Spontaneous
- Perfectly executed vs. Improvised
- Ask audience to take another minute and consider whether they have had any regrets spending so much time in Scouting growing up
 - Rather than go around the room, show Powerpoint slide that summarizes some common gripes some youth have occasionally made about being very active in BSA
 - Too Busy to Savor Experiences
 - Checked the Box to Earn the Badge
 - Did Everything Because it was Expected or Required
 - Got Bored, Started Phoning it In
 - Didn't Make Enough Friends
 - Collected Patches Instead of Memories
 - Ask audience to consider that after high school, many Scouts go to college and have a fresh start
 - The BSA can still be a part of your life once you graduate high school, and as an adult, you have the opportunity to choose how to participate

Continuing Your Journey

15 minutes

- Everyone knows that High School Commencement means “Start” or “New Beginning”
- Opportunity to sample new experiences
- Time to develop expertise or proficiency in areas of interest
- Scouting skills will provide an invaluable advantage in college
 - Self reliance (used to taking care of yourself)
 - Confidence (have already been successful)
 - Perseverance (know that hard work leads to achieving result)
 - Goal-oriented (can create a plan to get what you want and then make it happen)
- Scouting Has Given You Strengths to be successful in Life, but especially college
 - Scouting is a values-based program with its own code of conduct (Hopefully by now you have adopted it as well).
 - The Scout Oath and Law help instill the values of good conduct, respect for others, and honesty (this will set you apart from many other people in your life)
 - Scouts learn skills that will last a lifetime, including basic outdoor skills, first aid, citizenship skills, leadership skills, and how to get along with others (you know things, and you know how to behave – this will serve you well as you join a new community and have something to offer others in a dorm setting or in new groups of friends).
 - For almost a century, Scouting has instilled in young men the values and knowledge that they will need to become leaders in their communities and country (you know



that more is being expected of you, and you know that college can be a significant part of developing yourself more fully as a person to be a stronger leader later in life)

- Welcome to One Hour a Week
- **ASK QUESTION – Show of Hands, How Many of Us Intend to Remain Part of the Scouting Program for the Rest of Our Lives?**
- Tough to remain active in home units when you are at college
 - Far from hometown
 - Need to concentrate on coursework
 - Need to spend time developing other interests outside of Scouting
- The BSA understands these challenges, and there are several options for 18 year olds to remain part of the program. If you are able to fully commit to your home unit and serve as an active, trained Assistant Scoutmaster, this doesn't apply to you
 - Unit College Scouter Reserve
 - Merit Badge Counselor
 - District
 - Campmaster
 - Any Others?
- Remember you need to remain registered in the BSA for participate in the OA going forward
- Unit College Scouter Reserve
 - Unit College Scouter Reserve exists for college students at least 17 years of age to maintain a Scouting affiliation.
 - These individuals should be registered on a unit roster, but are not required to have any training other than Youth Protection.
 - Use regular adult application submitted through unit
 - Applicants should use position code 92U.
 - Ask audience whether they have had members of their units remain connected through this Unit College Scouter Reserve registration
 - Will also allow a Scout to remain part of the OA, since we all need to be registered in the BSA to remain registered in the Order of the Arrow
- Don't Use the College Reserve as Just a Formality
 - Commit to attend a favorite Scouting program once each year
 - December Court of Honor
 - Conclave
 - Council Annual Dinner
 - Summer Camp Visit
 - Make a Pact with your Buddies to Meet IRL At Least Once Each Year
 - The younger Scouts who look up to you need to see you remain committed to the BSA after graduation, you will always be a role model



How To Spend Your Free Time Wisely in College

10 minutes

- Colleges have entire departments devoted to offering opportunities for students to learn and have fun outside of the classroom
 - Recreation - Usually free or significantly discounted (learn SCUBA for \$100)
 - Clubs and Organizations
- This is great chance to learn and grow in ways that YOU want to
 - Decide Your Destiny is not just the NOAC theme, you can make it your Mantra for life
 - Remember the list of merit badges you earned that we covered at the beginning of this session? Imagine a chance to pursue 20 new things from experts in college that may change your life, just like merit badges did for you as a Scout
 - Let's talk about ideas that can help your body, mind and spirit when you are in college
- Maintain Your Fitness and Health
 - Intramural Sports
 - Walking and Bicycling around campus
 - Gym routine that you can be consistent about, usually free on campus
 - Tough Mudder Obstacle Race or some other challenging goal
 - 5-K race you can do with friends, often these support a cause to help raise \$\$
 - Martial Arts – you can learn self-defense and discipline for life while at school
 - Audience Ideas?
- Feed Your Mind
 - TED Talks or something like them on campus about things that sound interesting
 - Online Learning about almost anything you might want to explore
 - Non-core College Classes (SCUBA, computer programming, foreign language etc.)
 - Campus Lectures (politics, arts and entertainment, military, protests, celebrities etc.)
 - Pleasure reading (libraries full of books), remember reading??
 - Newspapers (always in the library)
 - Common interest groups (campus clubs are always posting signs and fliers about events)
 - Information Interviews (identify who you want to meet, contact them, buy them coffee, ask them questions, learn something) Professors, politicians, business leaders etc.
 - Audience Ideas?
- Nourish Your Spirit
 - Remain active in church community, why would you not just because you are away from home
 - Scripture readings can refresh your soul



- Therapy/counseling – invaluable inexpensive resource on many campuses, you can work through issues and problems and get mentally healthier in complete privacy while at college
- Campus Service Clubs – continue to serve others with like-minded students, very good way to get to know professors too
- Fraternities – bonds of brotherhood, lifetime community
- First responder support – volunteer to work phones etc if you don't want to be a firefighter or EMT, both of which you can become while in college!
- Audience Ideas?
- Start Your Bucket List While In College
 - Travel – students get great deals
 - Socialize and Date IRL
 - Paint or Sculpt
 - Foreign Language
 - Toastmasters – practice public speaking with small groups every month
 - Musical instrument
 - SCUBA
 - Shooting Sports
 - Launch Blog
 - Master Video Games
 - Photography
 - Hunt/Fish
 - Conservation Causes
 - Red Cross Training – develop expertise that will be invaluable for life
 - National Outdoor Leadership Skills
 - Backpacking – explore different parts of the USA
 - Audience Ideas
- Serve Others and Make New Friends
 - On campus, there are so many organizations that would love to have you with a strong Scouting background
 - Campus Clubs – some colleges have 100+ different clubs
 - Civic Organizations – Local Rescue or Fire Dept, American Legion
 - Fraternal Groups – Knights of Columbus, Lion Club, etc.
 - Religious Activities – committees and events at church
 - Community Events – town celebrations, 5-k runs, litter clean-up
 - Political Campaigns – local, state, national
 - Outdoors Programs – hiking clubs, etc,
 - Audience Ideas?

