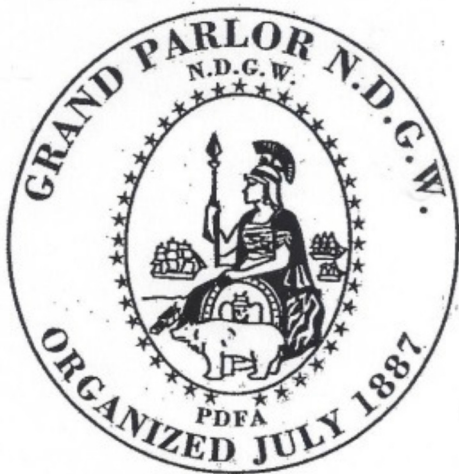


# DEDICATION CEREMONY

## NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

We do hereby Certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the Dedication Ceremony of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, adopted June 2019.



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Karen Fini, Grand President  
Native Daughters of the Golden West

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Dominique A. Acevedo, Grand Secretary  
Native Daughters of the Golden West

## **DEDICATION CEREMONY**

### **NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST**

In preparing a program for the dedication of a building or marker, appropriate music may be selected.

A speaker conversant with the historic significance or community interest greatly increases the importance of the occasion.

### **PREPARING THE MARKER OR PLAQUE**

On opposite sides of the marker or plaque, the American flag is placed to the left of the assembly, and the California Bear Flag is placed to the right.

The marker or plaque is covered with an appropriate cloth before the Dedication Ceremony begins.

### **THE UNVEILING**

At the conclusion of the Dedication Ceremony on page 5, the President removes the covering from the marker or plaque, after which the National Anthem or our State Song is played by an individual or group, or sung by the assembly.

Continue on page 5 of the Dedication Ceremony for the concluding charge.

## **NATIVE DAUGHTERS PRESENTATION**

Whether a local Parlor or Grand Parlor is conducting the Dedication Ceremony, the President extends an appropriate greeting to the assembly, introduces herself and states whether the Grand Parlor or a particular Subordinate Parlor will be conducting the Ceremony. The Ceremony then begins as follows.

### **PRESIDENT**

The Past President will lead us in Prayer.

### **PAST PRESIDENT**

Divine Father, we thank Thee for the many blessings shared by all in our great State of California. Give us grace to perpetuate the noble qualities of the men and women of our Golden State. Make us aware of the duties we must embrace to fulfill our community and civic responsibilities. We cannot live by patriotism alone, but also by the guidance and the teaching of Almighty God. We thank Thee for our heritage of loyalty and courage, which have allowed us to develop our glorious State of California. Through this heritage grant us the strength of character to follow the exalted ideals of compassion for one another, honesty toward mankind, and courage to face adversity. Guide us to be loyal to the principles of the Native Daughters of the Golden West so we may render dedicated service to our God, our State, and our Country. May God bless our Nation and State and preserve the reverence of our people for the laws of our land. Amen.

### **PRESIDENT**

The Vice President will now address us.

## **VICE PRESIDENT**

Through our interest and participation in every phase of community life the Native Daughters of the Golden West have been a driving force in the communities in which we are established.

Loyalty to our flags and duty to citizenship have enabled our State and Nation to grow and prosper. The California Bear Flag symbolizes the courage and strength of our ancestors, who assured the fulfillment of Manifest Destiny. We live true to the significance of our Star-Spangled Banner, which symbolizes our Union. Our Members value the many blessings guaranteed by the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States, and through dedication to forming a more perfect Union, we enjoy justice, tranquility, safety, welfare, and liberty.

## **PRESIDENT**

The Order of the Native Daughters of the Golden West honors loyalty, cooperation, and service, building on the principles of our Order – “Love of Home, Devotion to our Flag, Veneration of the Pioneers, and an Abiding Faith in the existence of God.”

California has passed through several interesting eras in its progress. California Indian tribes led lives of plenty and tranquility, utilizing our bountiful natural resources, but leaving a light footprint on Mother Nature. The soldiers and colonists from Spain and Mexico, led by Franciscan missionaries, built a chain of twenty-one Missions along El Camino Real, from San Diego to Sonoma. These Missions are among California’s first landmarks, and their majestic beauty pays tribute to a serene pastoral period. The heritage we have from these Spanish and Mexican periods are the foundation of much of

our California hospitality and architectural beauty, beginning with the presidios, missions, and pueblos, and then extending to the ranchos and mission towns. In this Empire of the West contentment and great joy reigned supreme, and on September 9, 1850, California became the thirty-first State of the Union. The Marshal will now address us.

## **MARSHAL**

After Marshall's discovery of gold, the great influx of "Forty-Niners" led to California having the distinction of being the only state to enter the Union without a territorial form of government. Many of these miners did not find the gold they sought but realized there was gold in our fertile soil and sunshine, so they remained to be the builders of our great social, religious, educational, agricultural, and commercial life. The California pioneer woman, when she reached her journey's end, changed the mining camps into cohesive communities. She was brave, determined, and resourceful, and through her influence came social responsibility, which prepared the future settlers of California for the greatness we now enjoy. We perpetuate in memory the achievements of the California pioneers, and we respect these adventurous people who blazed the trails and laid the foundation of our Golden State of California. Many visionaries say that the California of the future will far surpass the California of today. We must contribute only our very best to our culture and society so that California will always merit her world-wide reputation of being the Greatest, the Best, the Most Glorious State of the Golden West.

**UNVEILING OCCURS AT THIS TIME FOLLOWED BY THE PLAYING OR SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM OR OUR STATE SONG.**

**PRESIDENT**

(If Grand President): We commend (Name and Number of Subordinate Parlor), Native Daughters of the Golden West, for their efforts in preserving the history of California through this dedication.

**OR**

(If President of a local Parlor): We (Name and Number of Subordinate Parlor), Native Daughters of the Golden West, offer this dedication to help preserve the history of California.