

Hickories Ward Young Women
New Beginnings 2011
“Hats of Value”

WELCOME

OPENING SONG: Choose the Right (1st Verse)

OPENING PRAYER:

YW THEME: Please stand. “We are daughters...”

INTRODUCTION OF HAT THEME

Narrator:

Tonight our theme for the evening is “Hats of Value.” To kick off our “Hats of Value” program, a poem will be read that was the inspiration for tonight’s program

POEM: A Woman’s Hats (by Howard J. McOmber I)

Narrator:

A very busy person is often said to “wear many hats.” For example a busy mom may claim to wear a chauffeur hat, a chef hat, a nurses hat, and even a Queen’s crown. The “hats” we wear are a statement of who we are and what we choose to do with our time. Tonight you will see many different types of hats. Each hat symbolizes a value, a symbol or a choice.

CLASS PRESENTATIONS

Beehive Class President (Wearing Bee hat or antennae)

I am the Beehive Class President. Young women ages 12 and 13 are Beehives. For the early pioneers of the Church, the beehive was symbol of hard work. As a member of a Beehive class today, a young woman strengthens her faith in Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ.

Mia Maid Class President (Wearing hat decorated with a rose)

I am President of the Mia Maid Class. Young Women ages 14-15 are Mia Maids. The emblem of the Mia Maids is a rose, which is a symbol of love, faith, and purity. As Mia Maids, we strengthen our testimony of Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ and act upon the Young Women values.

Laurel Class President (Wearing Laurel wreath)

I am the Laurel Class President. Young Women ages 16-17 are Laurels. For centuries, the leaves of the laurel tree have symbolized honor and accomplishment, especially when woven into a crown. As Laurels, we prepare to make and keep sacred covenants and receive the ordinances of the temple.

2011 Mutual Theme

The 2011 Mutual Theme is the 13th Article of Faith. Please repeat it with me: We believe in being honest, true, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to all men. Indeed

we may say we follow the admonition of Paul. We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things.”

Tonight we will focus on this last phrase of seeking after those things that are virtuous, lovely, of good report and praiseworthy.

“HATS IN TRAINING”

This is all of the girls turning 12 this year. Each mom and daughter comes up to the front. The mother has chosen a hat that represents her personality and then gives a 30-second spotlight introducing her daughter. Some examples were bumblebee hat for a girl who was always busy and very sweet, a “Cat in the Hat” hat for a girl that loved to read, etc.

“NEW HATS”

This is the same as above, except it is those girls who turned 12 last year or new girls who have moved into the ward.

“TOP HATS”

The YW President recognized the girls who received their Personal Progress medallion in the last year and gave them all top hats.

HATS OF VALUE PROGRAM & PARADE

Elder Joseph B. Wirthlin said: “The last section of...the Articles of Faith, is a concise statement of fundamental beliefs of the Church. The 13th Article concludes: “If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things.” The word “seek” means to go in search of, try to discover, try to acquire. It requires an active, assertive approach to life...This is the opposite of passively waiting for something good to come to us, with no effort on our part. We can fill our lives with good, leaving no room for anything else. We have so much good from which to choose that we need never to partake of evil...If we seek things that are virtuous and lovely, we will surely find them. Conversely, if we seek for evil, we will find that also.”

As states earlier, the “hats” we wear are a statement of who we are and what we choose to do with our time. We can choose to wear virtually any hat that we want to. Do we choose to wear the hat of laziness, disobedience or impurity? Or do we strive to seek to wear only those hats that provide things that are virtuous, lovely, of good report or praiseworthy?

The Personal Progress Program aids in helping us seek for the best “hats” that we can by completing experiences and projects in each of the 8 values, which are: Faith, Divine Nature, Individual Worth, Knowledge, Choice & Accountability, Good Works, Integrity, and Virtue.

It is now time for the “Parade of Hats” where each Young Women will show off their hats of value. I will announce the value. Young Women and Leaders, when your value

is called, please come up to the front with your hats. I will hand you the microphone and then you can explain how your hat relates to your value:

FAITH

Having faith in Jesus Christ helps us to seek after those things that are considered praiseworthy. I have faith and confidence that things will work for my good if I am seeking after the best things.

[Weeks before this program I assigned each leader and several girls a value. They then had to find a hat that corresponded with it. At this point in the program, each person that had been assigned “Faith” comes up to the front and explains their choice of hats.]

[Some examples of faith hats were head lamp (Faith in Christ lights our way), gardening hat (plant a garden, have faith that it will grow), a pioneer hat (faith of the pioneers), etc.]

DIVINE NATURE

Understanding my divine nature and knowing that I am a daughter of God helps me realize that only those things that are virtuous and lovely have a place in my life. I have inherited divine qualities, which I will strive to develop.

[YW and leaders with this value come up to the front and explain their hats. Some examples of “Divine Nature” were a birthday hat (of royal birth), tiara (princess, daughter of a King), combat hat (as a daughter of God I am part of His army), etc.]

INDIVIDUAL WORTH

I am of infinite worthy with my own divine mission, which I will strive to fulfill. I am worth too much to engage in worldly activities that will only bring me down. I will value my worth by choosing only those things of “good report.”

[YW and leaders with this value come up to the front and explain their hats. Some of the examples of “Individual Worth” were a hats with “diamonds” or other “jewels” (worth a lot of money), a very unique hat (unique individual), etc.]

KNOWLEDGE

There are so many things to learn and do in this life. I will pursue learning by seeking knowledge out of the best books and places.

[YW and leaders with this value come up to the front and explain their hats. Some of the examples of “Knowledge” were a graduation cap (school), “Cat in the Hat” (seeking knowledge from good books, wiseman hat (seeking knowledge makes us wise), dunce cap, scarecrow hat (If I only had a brain...), etc.]

CHOICE & ACCOUNTABILITY

I must use my gift of agency wisely. To seek after lovely and praiseworthy things, I must choose those activities that fall into the “best” category spoken of by Elder Dallin H. Oaks. I am accountable for what I choose to do with my time.

[YW and leaders with this value come up to the front and explain their hats. Some of the examples of “Choice & Accountability a hard hat (good choices protect me from harm), pilot (good choices keep me on course), etc.]

GOOD WORKS

Thinking of others and serving them helps me to put my life into perspective. It is hard to get in trouble when you are going about doing good.

[YW and leaders with this value come up to the front and explain their hats. Some of the examples of “Good Works” were bee hat (busy serving), tinman hat (heart to love others), Santa Claus hat (represents spirit of giving and serving), nurses hat (help others feel better), etc]

INTEGRITY

I show integrity by seeking after things of good report. This helps me to keep my actions consistent with my beliefs.

[YW and leaders with this value come up to the front and explain their hats. Some of the examples of “Integrity” were Abraham Lincoln hat (honesty), Patriotic hat (obeying laws of land), and Darth Vader helmet (integrity helps keep me from going over to the Dark Side), etc.]

VIRTUE

Much of the world regards virtue as “old fashioned” but I know that seeking after virtuous things helps me to stay worthy to enter the temple.

[YW and leaders with this value come up to the front and explain their hats. Some of the examples of “Virtue” were a wedding veil (stay worthy to enter temple), Fireman’s hat (being virtuous protects me from “fire”, combat hat (combat evil by remaining virtuous), etc.]

CLOSING STATEMENT (this was tailored to the YW who has narrated the program]
From an early age, I loved wearing a tiara and imagining I was a princess. In my heart I have always known that I am a princess of the eternities.

Part of the poem “A Woman’s Hats” says:

Do you wear a hat of value?
Do you wear a hat of grace?
Do you wear a hat of honor?
That will show the world your place?

So when you choose the hats you wear
That go with what you do
Make sure the hats are used with prayer
And joy will come to you

These lines inspire me to seek for the best things in life. I know that because of the Savior's atonement, wearing a crown of thorns, and shedding blood on my behalf, He did indeed wash my stains away and that if I live righteously and follow Him, I will someday be able to wear a "crown of jewels" and become a Queen. In the name...

WE SEEK AFTER THESE [HATS] SLIDESHOW

[I collected hats from every YW and leader in the ward. If the moms couldn't easily locate any, I went to Facebook and found a ton of hat pictures, then I went to past YW Girls camp and activity pictures. If I still didn't have at least 2 pictures of each girl in a hat I went to their house or took one at an activity. I used 3 songs: "We Seek After These Things" from Brand New Year 2010, "We Seek After These Things" from Jenny Phillips 2011 CD, and "Seeking What's Good" from 2011 Mutual CD.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[YW President wore a hat made from newspaper to give the upcoming news of activities, Girls' Camp, etc.

CLOSING REMARKS: Bishop

[Our bishop used the talk from Pres. Uchtdorf about staying on course and not altering by even one degree and he wore a pilot's hat]

CLOSING PRAYER

REFRESHMENTS

HANDOUTS

We found some adorable mini straw hats, hot glued ribbon around it and tied a small bow. Then I put a card on it that said “Do you wear a hat of value?” We glued a magnet on the back. I found cheap ribbon (3 for \$1, so I was able to use ribbons with each of the 8 value colors)

Hat Assignment Ideas for “Parade of Value Hats”

Below is the chart I handed out the YW leaders. For our ward it worked out to assign one leader several. The leader was then in charge of making sure the girls found hats and that no hats were duplicated within a value.

We had some of the same hats, but they were different values so it didn’t matter. The key here is for the girls and leaders to BE CREATIVE. The girls had so much fun with it. For example, one girl REALLY wanted to wear her skunk hat and she had been assigned “Virtue” so I told her she could as long as she could related it to her value. She ended up saying “I wore a skunk hat because it really stinks when someone is unvirtuous.”

I found with some of the girls, particularly the Beehives, they needed help knowing what to say and some even had it written down.

I encouraged the girls to find a hat in their home, borrow one or make one. I didn’t want people having to buy any, although some did go to a local party store and found some hats for under \$1.

| Value | Assigned YW & Leader | Ideas |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Faith | | Gardening hat, head lamp, fishing hat, pioneer hat, sun bonnet, etc |
| Divine Nature | | Tiara, birthday hat, train conductor’s hat, chauffer’s hat, marching band hat, chef’s hat, any hat that involves developing a talent or skill, etc |
| Individual Worth | | Crown of jewels, a hat with pearls, hat with diamonds, English judge’s wig, sheik hat, a very unique or individual hat, etc |
| Knowledge | | Graduation cap, dunce cap, wiseman hat, Dr. Seuss, Sherlock Holmes, Scarecrow, etc |
| Choice & Accountability | | Bike helmet, pilot, hard hat, chauffer, prisoner’s hat, gardening hat etc |
| Good Works | | Bee antennae, camouflage or army hat, nurse, Santa Claus cap, Police, Tin Man’s hat, Mailman hat, etc |
| Integrity | | Abraham Lincoln top hat, gas mask, dunce cap, George Washington 3-point hat, patriotic hat, etc |
| Virtue | | Veil, old-fashioned hat, fireman, sun visor, ruby hat, combat hat, etc |

Hat Slideshow

This was one of the highlights of the program. I collected hats from every YW and leader in the ward. If the moms couldn't easily locate any, I went to Facebook and found a ton of hat pictures, then I went to past YW Girls camp and activity pictures. If I still didn't have at least 2 pictures of each girl in a hat I went to their house or took one at an activity.

At first I was afraid to ask people for pictures until I went and searched through my stash. With Halloween costumes, hats worn in the winter, Girls Camp skits and newborn/baby caps, I found a TON of pictures. I also included the leaders in the slideshow as well as the bishopric. I specifically told the mothers to not look hours through 1000's of pictures. But to give them to me if they were in their computer or if they knew exactly where some hard copies were located.

I used 3 songs: "We Seek After These Things" from Brand New Year 2010, "We Seek After These Things" from Jenny Phillips 2011 CD, and "Seeking What's Good" from 2011 Mutual CD. There were a lot of laughs during this one and a lot of "ahhhs" when the girls were babies or small children.

Poem

“Hat” poem which was the inspiration behind this program

A Woman's Hats

By Howard J. McOmber I

There are hats for every occasion.
They are made to accomplish a goal
They assist in the art of persuasion
They are varied according to role

The hat for a miner is lanterned
She can see through the gloom of the pit
The hat for a huntress is patterned
The camouflage disguises it

A stocking cap's warm in the cold night
A baseball cap's great at the game
A cowgirl's steson seems so right
As the rodeo roundup proclaim

A bonnet topped with a feather
Attracts an admiring gaze
A tartan scarf on the heather
Turns heart, puts heads in a daze

A broad brimmed gardener's headgear
Can save a sunburn face
A swirl of flowers and gosmere
Add such a touch of grace

A woman's hats are many
They match the life she lives
For a diamond of a penny
she can value what she gives

Do you wear a hat of value
Do you wear a hat of grace
Do you wear a hat of honor
That will show the world your place

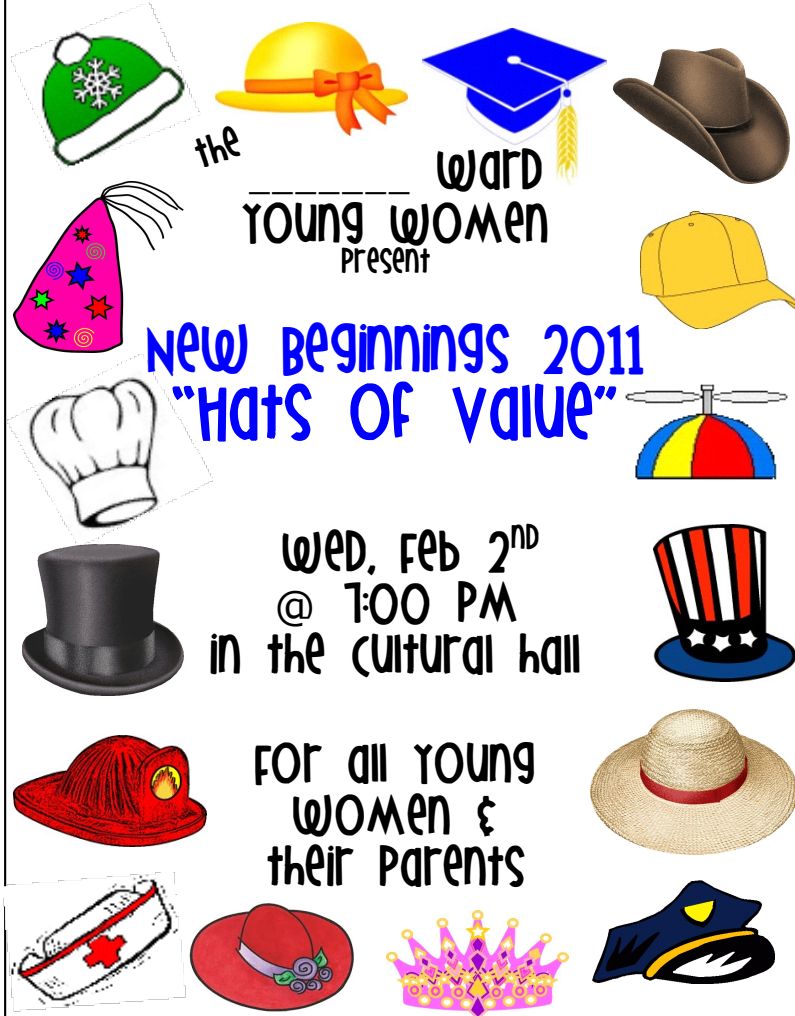
Someday a crown of jewels

Will proclaim that you're a queen
And you will be called blessed
Because the robes you wear are clean

And the one who washed your stains away
And blew the golden horn
Is the one laid in a manger's hay
And wore the crown of thorn

So when you choose the hats you wear
That go with what you do
Make sure the hats are used to prayer
and joy will come to you.

Invitation Example



the Ward
YOUNG WOMEN
Present

**NEW BEGINNINGS 2011
"HATS OF VALUE"**

WED, FEB 2ND
@ 7:00 PM
in the Cultural Hall

FOR ALL YOUNG
WOMEN &
their Parents

"If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things."

Decorations

We decorated the cultural hall with all sorts of hats. They pinned to the wall (the carpeted kind). We also had hat racks with hats on them. We scattered hat boxes around as well.