



May 8, 2011 (rev)

Dear S.Y.M. Advisor:

We've talked for a while about an Achievement Pin Program for S.Y.M. members, and here it is!

The Achievement Pin Program allows kids to earn bronze and silver pins in nine areas of magic and gold "Excellence in Magic" pins. They also will receive a certificate for each pin they earn.

The basic requirements are as follows.

Bronze: Present an effect (not just a move) with skill; know and explain the effect and the S.Y.M. pledge.

Silver: Earn two bronze pins in one category; present a routine (emphasis on skill and presentation) using at least two effects from a bronze pin; write an essay on a magician; know and explain the S.Y.M. Pledge.

Gold: Earn three silver pins in different categories; present an eight-to-ten-minute act using one silver routine; organize and present a public service show and give a talk about some area of magic.

Fees: We are charging a nominal fee for each pin: \$4 for bronze and silver, \$5 for gold. (Compare that to \$50 to earn a Karate belt!) We are not requiring that assemblies pay for the pins; you may, if you like and are able to, but that is entirely up to you. The S.Y.M. Achievement Pin Program is open to all S.Y.M. members. Many don't belong to assemblies, and those kids will pay for their own pins.

What are we asking of you?

1. Promote the program.
2. Supply judges when your members test for a pin.
3. Submit necessary paperwork for your members to the Pin Program Coordinator.

How you embrace this program is up to you, but I believe it enhances and expands the S.Y.M. mission and makes S.Y.M. membership more attractive to young people.

On the local level, the pin program can enhance your meetings. You can hold a pin test night when members test for pins and an award ceremony when they receive them. You can turn these events into shows!

Soon, I will post the S.Y.M. Achievement Pin Program on the S.Y.M. website. It also will be featured in the *Magic SYMBOL*. Your members will have questions about it, so please read through the enclosed program guide. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

I'm excited about and proud of the pin program. I hope you are, too.

Sincerely,

Marlene Clark
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