

What is a Passage Ceremony?

A Passage ceremony is one that marks the moment within time when changes are witnessed and agreed upon. One of the most common passages is the bonding ceremony between couples. Like a change in seasons, a bonding ceremony is full of sensory colors, smells, tastes, sounds and the touches of wind, water, earth and with a little help, sunshine.

What is a Medicine Wheel?

A medicine wheel, or sometimes called a Sacred Hoop, is a circular design that represents and reflects all aspects of life. In a sense, it is like a container or a nest that is used for birthing the new passage of the relationship. Every medicine wheel is built with four elements: water, earth, air and fire. The bonding ceremony takes place with the couple inside a medicine wheel that is specifically constructed in a sacred manner for each union.

“As an event host, the nature-based bonding ceremony inspired and beautifully highlighted the features of our property for all of the guests.”

**Vera and Drayton Dunwoody
Owners of Lower Lake Ranch**

**For more information
contact us directly to
discuss further.**

Braided Traditions LLC

PO Box 3789
Durango, CO 81302

www.BraidedTraditions.com
E: info@BraidedTraditions.com
P: 303.345.1450



Braided Traditions LLC

**Providing Your Unique
Bonding Marriage
Ceremonial Experience**

www.BraidedTraditions.com

Request Protocols

Bonding ceremonies of older traditions are very sacred and will be only provided with the care of Nature's blessings. This is a covenant being held by The Renewal Trails Tradition and the providers that carry the knowledge. The exchange and cost can only be determined when these areas have been discussed and agreed upon.

The protocol for requesting a bonding ceremony is that the couple speaks their intention and wraps a tobacco offering in red cloth and offers the request and tobacco to the provider. A phone call can initiate this request and we will follow-up with a response call.

Other protocols will be taught during the preparation summary for such movements as renewing of vows or for changes of vows.

Bonding Ceremony Services

- Ceremony preparation, consulting, and educational meetings.
- Event day coordination and ceremony.
- Traditional and/or non-traditional musicians as desired. For example, sacred medicine drummers, singers, acoustic guitarists.
- Pricing varies based on which service provided and other factors such as required travel, etc.



What's Involved?

The bonding ceremony is prepared for with several consulting and educational meetings. The preparation takes the couple through the learning of each other's strengths, challenges and goals. There is the learning of the medicine wheel ceremony, creating of vows and procedures of the ceremony. The next stage of preparation is the making of a marriage basket and the gathering of special items to symbolize and hold the intents of the vows.

On the day of the event, the ceremonial medicine wheel itself is prepared in a sacred manner and the service provided and performed by a trained minister that holds the knowledge, wisdom, and protocols of the bonding ceremony to be in harmony with nature's ways.

What is a Marriage Basket?

A marriage basket is a container, in the old way, which acts like a womb or nest; however most couples choose a type of chest that will be placed within the medicine wheel where the ceremony is held. Each item that is gathered will be exchanged in a sacred way after the speaking of each vow. The items will be placed within the chest or basket and will go with the couple on their journey through life together.

“Our bonding ceremony was a unique and inviting way to open the worlds of nature with our family and friends.”

Karen and Mark Matthews

Bonding Ceremony

What Makes This Different Than a Typical Marriage Ceremony?

The answer to this question is simple enough and yet the levels of intimacy and potency of the journey together that follows can be quite different. Bonding ceremonies are witnessed by all of Earth's children. They are plants, minerals, animals and humans. The ceremony is typically outdoors. Therefore the union is governed by the movement of all Earth's children.

There is a relatedness that is recognized at a Nature-based ceremony that announces the vows to all that lives on earth. Most weddings are usually witnessed by humans only and therefore governed by Human laws alone. This is the major difference.

Is This a Faith Specific Ceremony?

This is a ceremony based on nature. A ceremony of nature's ways welcomes all faiths. Each couples personal requests and faiths are welcomed and infused into the ceremony. Each ceremony performed is unique to that couple.

Braided Traditions LLC