

2010 Newyorker of the Year Presentation

Setting:

NYY dressed in colorful robes (bed sheets?) & funny hats. One holds a large pot & wooden spoon; one holds a large book entitled "What Women Really Want. A Speaker (NYY) steps up to the front.

Speaker: "The world believes they know how the Newyorker of the Year is chosen. We are told that past recipients of the award gather and decide who, among the Newyorkers, is worthy of such a high honor. The past Newyorkers are held in high esteem due to this belief. Unfortunately, the world is ignorant of how the name of the Newyorker of the Year is actually chosen. On this evening we have been granted a unique opportunity to see what transpires within the Inner Sanctum of the Newyorkers of The Year, that unknown place where the Newyorkers of the Year gather to ponder the question of the moment, who will be the next Newyorker of the Year. We now look in on the assembled past honorees as they prepare to debate over who will next be granted the great honor."

NYY 1: "We are assembled here tonight in this great place of harmony, its secret location unbeknownst to the outside world, to determine the next Newyorker of the Year. We acknowledge that the individual we seek, for whom the title of Newyorker of the Year 2010 will be granted, must meet the stringent requirements established so long ago by those who have gone before us. While we have been granted accolades for our past accomplishments, we ourselves know that others greater than we guide our hands in this quest."

NYY 2: "We come together, clothed in our majestic robes and headdresses asking the great past Newyorkers of the Year to look down upon us. We strike the sacred gong (bang pot with spoon) to summon the power of the great ones. We read the great mystical text of our forefathers in the hopes its words will enlighten our minds (One holds book open while two peer in). We speak the great mantra of our order."

ALL NYY: "You Can't Have a Quartet Without a Baritone!"

NYY 3: (looking up) “Oh Great Ones, we your humble servants, beseech you to guide our thoughts and actions. We implore you to grant us the wisdom only you in your infinite power and knowledge may dispense. We have only you to thank for our place in the history of the New Yorkers. Without your guiding hands we cannot hope to continue your great work. We raise our eyes and voices to you in the hope you will provide us with the name of the 2010 New Yorker of the Year.”

Voice from above: “What? Again? Why is it every year you come together and ask of us that which is obvious. Have you not kept the insight we have granted you in the past, the knowledge to see before you the person for whom you seek? He is there among you every Wednesday evening, always believing in the New Yorkers and their quest for perfect harmony. He has been with you for over 15 years. He has provided the chapter with his energy and musical acumen in numerous chapter quartets; He has successfully chaired the New Yorkers annual show on multiple occasions, and provided support for many others. He continuously encourages other New Yorkers to follow him, and his loyalty to the chorus and the chapter through the years is beyond reproach. Can you not see him there before you?” (NYY look left) “No, over there!” (NYY look right)

NYY 4: (Looking up) “Oh Great Ones. Please, we implore you to give us the name. We alone cannot hope to know the one we seek without your help.

Voice from Above: “OK, OK. (exasperated) We have conceded to your request yet again! But this shall be the last time. We expect you to keep the knowledge we have granted this day, and we trust that the 2010 New Yorker of the Year will guide you in the future. We send the name to you from beyond, across the ether, by the most mystical means. (Voice from Above hands FedEx letter to NYY)”

NYY 4: (Looking up) “Oh thank you, Great New Yorkers of the Year”. (to NYY) “Very well. Let us gaze upon the name of he who is to be included among us.” (All gather around in a huddle. One or two look around). “Our work here is complete. Let us go to announce this name to the world.” NYY remove robes and hats.

Speaker: “And now is the time we have all been waiting for. The past Newyorkers of the Year have assembled to make the grand announcement.”

NY 1: (To audience) The Newyorker of the Year is a member of the Poughkeepsie, NY, Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society who has exhibited sustained, unselfish service to the chapter, usually but not necessarily peaking in the award year. He or she epitomizes the spirit of the Newyorkers by cheerfully assuming and discharging many chapter responsibilities resulting in the short and long term health and success of the chapter. The award was founded by 1972 Chapter President Joe Alber who, at his passing, was memorialized in it.

The Newyorker of the Year for 2010 is John Chisholm

