



Naming-ceremony Preparation

- 1. First image:** This is the first theme that caught your imagination as a child, the story you theme you returned to over and over. It is important that your love was natural, before anyone told you what was 'cool'. It can be a fairy tale, song, story, video, movie, game. The signature of this symbol is the constant return and in its unchanging stability. You may have driven adults crazy with it, gotten into trouble, lost time, gotten lost, etc. You could have been attracted by desire, but also by joyful fear - You would scream, but then return to what scared you.
- 2. Earliest work:** Some of your creative works from nursery school, or before - - before an inner or outer critic was in your world.
- 3. Soundtrack of life:** What song speaks to you the most? Bring a copy of it, or perform it, if there are lyrics, bring copies to share.
- 4. Life-changing Book/Concept:** Bring a book that has had a strong influence on your life. Be prepared to read a page from it.
- 5. Ancestor story:** Bring a story of one of your ancestors and a photo, if you have it.
- 6. Film/drama:** Bring your favorite film or play. Be ready to share/perform a section of it.
- 7. Poetry:** Bring in a piece of poetry you love and/or poetry of your own.
- 8. Most recent work:** Bring in what you have been working on/at over the years, where is your growing edge - bring all of this.
- 9. Dream/Vision:** Bring in a dream or vision that is important to you, that guides your life, or a recurring dream.
- 10. Unexplainable occurrence:** Share an experience of Mystery, with the big "M" from your life.
- 11. Your nature:** Bring a story of a place in nature that takes care of you, helps you feel better - or an Enchanted Land Experience.

12. Pieces of you: Bring in several objects that are symbolic of who you are, what/whom you are passionate about, awards, videos, etc.

13. Unexpected: Bring or prepare something unexpected to share for the good of the group.

14. The endless struggle: What part of your life comes up when you think of this title? Share it in a good way.

15. Stilled and chilled: Create a work based on a time you experienced the chills, or awe, aesthetic arrest, epiphany,

16. Humor: Bring something that made you laugh till you cried.

17. Inside out: using finger paints, or any simple media - pour all of your emotions into it, feel everything and let it out.

18. Unanswered questions/questions of the dead: What questions have you been driven to answer, yours or of a deceased person.

19. What matters most, what's the matter? Using clay, think on these 2 questions, let your emotions move through your hands. Let the images come. Try to keep working until you are arrive at a form that seems to answer both questions at once.

Recognizing the patterns that repeat, the symbol that is your "name":

Collect/Create at least 4 of the above, especially the first image in #1. Ideally, if you do 10, it helps others see you more clearly as they offer you a name.

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from **Honoring and Suffering the Thorn: Marking, Naming Eldering** by Reynolds and Piirto, 2007, Roper Review

