



American Idol's Amy Adams partners with Garden Pathways and American Sound Recording Studios

BACKGROUNDER

Garden Pathways Singing Camp

WHO: Amy Adams, American Idol, Season 3

WHAT: Garden Pathways Singing Camp — Amy Adams is partnering with Garden Pathways and American Sound Recording Studio to **mentor youth through the arts.**

WHERE: The Garden Community Center 900 22nd Street in Bakersfield, CA (entrance on P St.)

WHEN: August 10-14; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Auditions: August 1 at 9:00 a.m.)

American Idol's **Amy Adams** is partnering with **Garden Pathways** and **American Sound Recording Studios** to mentor youth through the arts. "Garden Pathways Singing Camp" for young people, ages 12-18, serves as the launch of the partnership.

Adams joins Garden Pathways and American Sound Recording Studios to guide youth to translate their dreams into reality. In conjunction with Garden Pathways' E3 Performing Arts program, Adams will open doors of opportunity for youth as she combines her experience and relationships in the music industry with inspiration, skill-building, and practical strategies. Youth will engage in a variety of developmental activities:

- Private and group vocal lessons with **Amy Adams**;
- Staging with a professional choreographer;
- Harmony techniques and music theory;
- Professional recording techniques at **American Sound Recording Studio**;
- Mentoring on setting goals and achieving dreams;
- Insights into the music industry; and
- Spotlight performance during a showcase on August 14.



All youth, ages 12-18, are invited to audition for the limited spaces. Admission is by audition only. **Auditions** with Adams will be held on **Saturday, August 1 at 9:00 a.m.** at The Garden Community Center. Youth should be prepared to sing two songs a cappella.

For information and to reserve a spot for the audition, call E3 Performing Arts at **323-8311**. Some scholarships are available with verification of need.

“Garden Pathways Singing Camp” is the inaugural event for an emerging **community-wide initiative to provide mentoring through the arts**. Garden Pathways’ partnership with Amy Adams and American Sound Recording Studio builds upon the non-profit’s success as a premier provider of both *comprehensive mentoring services* through its **Family to Family Mentoring** program and *arts-based afterschool and day camp activities* through its **E3 Performing Arts** program. The ongoing mentoring partnership infuses arts instruction with the fostering of life skills and the broadening of healthy perspectives of options and opportunities.

Amy Adams has selected Garden Pathways as the means by which she will give back to the community through mentoring, as well as inspire others to do likewise. To expand experiences and opportunities for youth, Adams is calling upon other “Idols” and associates in the arts and entertainment industry to **invest in the lives of Kern County’s youth**. Adams’ infectious passion to help youth achieve their potential, particularly those who are **underserved** and **at risk**, has already resulted in the commitments of “surprise guest artists” who are joining the ongoing endeavor. Adams seeks to enable local youth to learn from and interact with professionals in the industry with whom they otherwise never would encounter.

Adams rose to national prominence as a finalist on America Idol, Season 3. She grew up in Oildale as a latchkey kid who raised her siblings. Having never met her father and living with a mother who battled illness, Adams faced the challenges of poverty and relied on public assistance. She always dreamed of “making it” in this world. American Idol gave Adams a chance to start that journey and experience a world of opportunities far beyond her imagination. Since 2004, Adams has toured the country twice and is on the verge of releasing a much anticipated country album. Adams now is zealously committed to igniting hope and opening doors of opportunity for less fortunate youth – mentoring them to set goals and achieve their dreams.

American Sound Recording Studio launched a totally new and all-inclusive approach to studio recording in 2008. ASR Studios offers the **pinnacle of quality** and luxury in recording:

- professional recording with state-of-the-art equipment;
- a studio specifically designed for kids;
- music instruction and education; and
- a musically-inspired café.



The **premier professional recording studio**, located one block from The Garden Community Center, has been likened by visiting artists and trade publications to professional studios in major cities, such as Los Angeles, Nashville, and New York. ASR was the winner of the **2009 Beautiful Bakersfield “Chairman’s Award”** presented by the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce.

ASR Studio’s community-focused vision guided its inception and now compels the studio to increased innovation to inspire creativity and advance personal and community growth through the impact and power of music. ASR’s partnership with Garden Pathways provides youth with professional recording experiences in a facility built on quality and excellence. www.asrstudios.com



Garden Pathways, Inc.



a community-based non-profit organization, provides innovative opportunities for families and individuals of all ages to discover their unique purpose, activate their personal creativity, live in health and safety, and develop skills for success in life. Through collaborative efforts with community agencies, community service groups, and faith-based organizations, Garden Pathways offers **mentoring, training, and education** in the arts and the art of living. Innovative mentoring interventions for adults, youth, and children build productive lives and lead at-risk families to self-sufficiency. Programs include Family to Family Mentoring, The Garden Christian Preschool, E3 Performing Arts, and The Gate.

- **Family to Family Mentoring** helps grow healthy families by providing mentors to guide and encourage those who are trying to overcome poverty and at-risk conditions. Family to Family’s broad range of mentoring services covering essential life skills, effectively strike at the heart of issues that keep people from reaching their potential. Participants served include families in welfare-to-work and child protective services programs, as well as emancipating and emancipated foster youth, pregnant and parenting youth, truant youth, gang-impacted youth and their parents, and other at-risk youth. In their naming of Family to Family Mentoring as a **statewide “promising practice,”** the University of Southern California and California Council of Churches recognized Garden Pathways as an **exemplary model of collaboration.**
- **The Garden Christian Preschool** nurtures comprehensive readiness for success in school and life in all areas — intellectual, physical, social, emotional, spiritual, and artistic.
- **E3 Performing Arts** provides a creative alternative to traditional day care. Students discover and develop their unique purpose and creativity as they engage in a broad spectrum of the arts, academic enrichment, physical activities, and character education. E3, a **fully-licensed child care center**, provides innovative **after-school day care and summer day camp programs.** (California Day Care Center License #153801819). E3 Performing Arts was honored with the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce’s **“Beautiful Bakersfield Award.”** Garden Pathways’ commitment to serve students from at-risk and low-income families brings enrichment and advancement to those who otherwise would not have the opportunity.
- **The Gate** provides a safe venue for young people to listen to and perform the music that they love under mature mentoring influences.



Garden Pathways, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization in Bakersfield, CA founded in 1997 by local individuals seeking to translate their faith into effective community building. Garden Pathways offers its services without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, or any other classification protected by law. www.gardenpathways.org

CONTACT: To learn how you or your organization can become involved or be a mentor or sponsor, contact **Karen Goh**, Executive Director, Garden Pathways at (661) 633-9133 or kareng@gardenpathways.org

