



## AMERICAN IDOL'S AMY ADAMS PARTNERS WITH GARDEN PATHWAYS Garden Pathways Singing Camp

06-24-10 BACKGROUNDER

### Garden Pathways Singing Camp

**WHO:** Amy Adams, American Idol, Season 3

**WHAT:** **Garden Pathways Singing Camp** – Amy Adams is partnering with Garden Pathways to mentor youth through the arts.

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

**WHEN:** Auditions: July 6; 7:00 p.m.

Camp Sessions: July 12-16 and August 9-13; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Showcases: July 16 and August 13; 7:30 p.m.



American Idol's **Amy Adams** and **Garden Pathways** are partnering to host the second annual "**Garden Pathways Singing Camp**" for young people, ages 9-18. As part of an ongoing initiative to mentor youth through the arts, Adams and Garden Pathways are offering two camp sessions: **July 12-16** and **August 9-13**; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at The Garden Community Center (900 22<sup>nd</sup> Street).

Adams joins Garden Pathways to guide youth to expand their dreams and translate them into reality. Adams seeks to open doors of opportunity for youth as she combines her experience and extensive relationships in the music industry with inspiration, skill-building, and practical strategies.

Youth will engage in a broad array of developmental activities that promote artistic and personal growth:

- Private and group vocal lessons with **Amy Adams**;
- Staging with a professional choreographer;
- Harmony techniques and music theory;
- Professional recording techniques;
- Mentoring on setting goals and achieving dreams;
- Insights into the music industry; and
- Spotlight performance during showcases on July 16 and August 13 at 7:30 p.m.



All youth, ages 9-18, are invited to audition for the limited spaces. Admission is by audition only.

**Auditions** with Adams will be held on **Tuesday, July 6 at 7:00 p.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 Garden Pathways' E3 Performing Arts at **323-8311**. Tuition is \$175. Some scholarships are available with verification of need. Youth selected for the camp will be assigned by Garden Pathways to one of the two camp sessions.



**“Garden Pathways Singing Camp”** continues an emerging **community-wide initiative to provide mentoring through the arts**. Garden Pathways’ partnership with Amy Adams 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. The 2009 inaugural singing camp garnered rave reviews from youth participants and their families.

**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.

**Garden Pathways, Inc.**, a community-based non-profit organization, changes lives from the inside out through hope and relationship. Garden Pathways 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** connects people seeking a fresh start with caring mentors who guide and encourage. Through the power of relationship, young people and adults find lasting freedom from poverty and at-risk conditions as they discover dignity and self worth, take responsibility for their choices, and develop life skills. 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 wholesome 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](http://www.gardenpathways.org)

**CONTACT:** For information about how to become involved as a mentor, sponsor, or partner, contact **Karen Goh**, Executive Director, Garden Pathways at (661) 633-9133 or [kareng@gardenpathways.org](mailto:kareng@gardenpathways.org)



Family to Family Mentoring ■ The Garden Christian Preschool ■ E3 Performing Arts ■ The Gate

900 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Bakersfield, CA 93301  
(661) 633-9133 phone ■ (661) 633-9134 fax  
[www.gardenpathways.org](http://www.gardenpathways.org)