

PASSPORT TO POWER INFORMATION LETTER FOR PARENTS & KIDS

Dear Parents and Young Singers,

Thank you for your interest in this project. I really appreciate the time and effort you are taking to encourage your child's musical talent. The purpose of this letter is to answer some questions you may have. Please read this letter to or with your child.

First of all, a little background about me. I have been a Christian for over 37 years, and have been married to Pastor Tim Carpenter for over 35 years. I've worked with kids in the church for all my adult life. Pastor Tim and I have 2 married children. Teri and her husband are missionaries in Ecuador. Will and his wife and our grandbaby live in Marion, Indiana, where he is a college professor at Indiana Wesleyan University.

I've been writing songs for over 37 years, and have been performing professionally in secular & Christian venues for over 17 years. I have recorded 8 CD's, and have produced one children's music video so far. "Passport to Power" is my newest venture, and I'm really excited about it. "PTP" is a collection of 12 Christian songs for children. The kids chosen for my team will be recording vocal tracks on several songs. They are really catchy tunes and we're going to have a blast.

Being on my vocal team is fun, but it's also a commitment and a lot of hard work. On my team we don't gripe or complain when the going gets tough, and we don't entertain ego-trips. If your child is chosen for my team, **the practices have to take top priority**, even over sports teams. We are creating a work of art that will be here long after we leave this earth for our heavenly home. The loving labor we put into the practices and recording sessions will inspire, teach and benefit many people for years to come. This is a unique opportunity, and we want to do our very best.

I am working with Jamie DeFrates, an award-winning producer who has a studio in the Channel 4 building downtown. The kids will be recording in Jamie's studio. I hope to release this CD in 2010, Lord willing. **The current plan is to record the kids vocals during the month of November**. Rehearsals will be on selected Saturdays in September and October. Your schedule must be clear. If it isn't, please do not apply.

The children who make the team and complete the project will be compensated as "independent contractors." The kids and their parents will have to sign a release form, giving me all rights to use their audio tracks and any photographs taken for my CD. They will be paid as studio musicians after the last recording session. Each child will receive \$100 plus 5 CD's. There is no way I could ever compensate you for your time and gas money you'll spend driving to rehearsals. However, being a part of the "*Passport to Power*" Team will be an enriching and lasting memory of his/her childhood experience and a significant part of their musical education. Not too many kids get the chance to record on a real CD, so it will be a privilege that they can be proud of.

Please take time to carefully read each document posted on the web, including the lyrics to all the songs. If you have a problem with the religious content, please do not apply. Note that I require a check for \$20.00 to accompany your application. Please understand that I DON'T WANT YOUR MONEY. I only want you to be serious about showing up for your audition. The first thing I will do when you arrive at the audition is **hand that check right back to you**. (There have been no-shows in the past, and it drives me crazy.)

The audition will last for 15 minutes. Your child should come prepared to sing me a song, either a cappella or with a track CD (no cassettes, please). I am not looking for adult-sounding kids; I want kid-sounding kids. Choose your material accordingly. I will also ask your child to sing other things in response to me. The audition will be recorded. Wear comfortable clothes, pray before you come; relax and have fun!

What if your child doesn't get picked? I am sorry! I can only have 6 kids on my team. I hope that those who are not chosen will not be discouraged. I admire each child for trying. I wish I could pick them all, but I cannot. Thanks for taking the time to read this letter. I am grateful for the opportunity to audition your child.

Sincerely,
"Mrs. Kate"