

PAM's Newsletter

Summer 2009

PamAndrewsMusic.com

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Welcome to PAM's Newsletter! Within this **SPECIAL** issue you will find...

New Product Information

AND

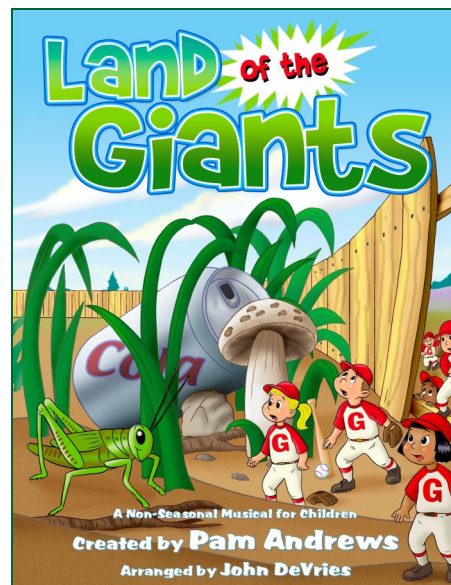
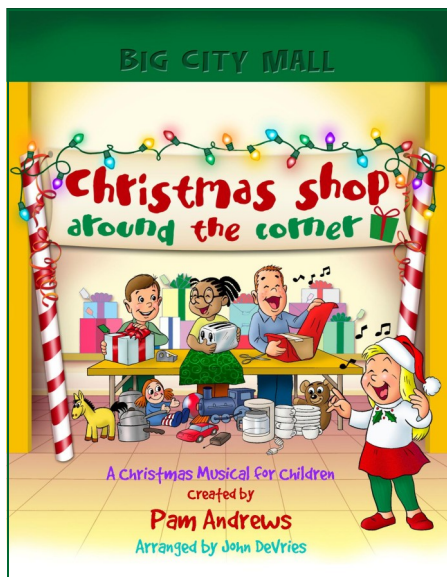
Forms for your Auditions, How to Use a Cue Card System and
Ideas for a Fun Summer Music Camp!

It's been a fantastic summer season. Lots of conferences...meeting new friends...leading children's music camps...and premiering 2 new musicals.

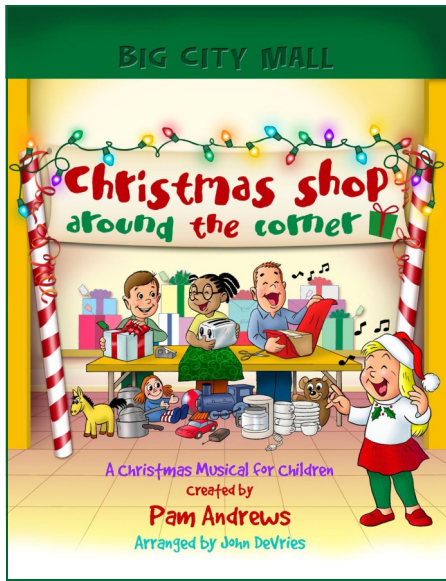
Thanks for all your support and words of encouragement as we enter year two of our company. You all are the best! We've been very busy at PAM and are happy to introduce you to our new products.

Pam

New for Christmas



Coming this fall!

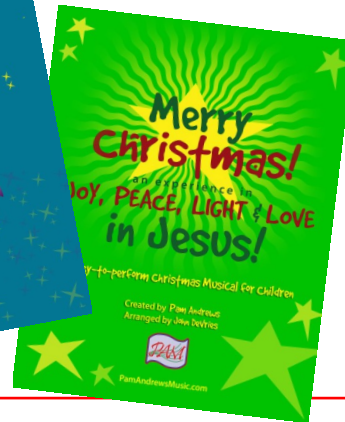


Christmas Shop Around the Corner

A Christmas Musical for Children

begins in front of Stone's Department Store where owner, Harry Stone, has lost his heart for Christmas. With the assistance of two colorful mall cops, the children of First Church choir decide to open the **Christmas Shop Around the Corner** to raise money to surprise Emily (a choir member) and her family with Christmas gifts. Emily meets Mr. Stone and brings encouragement to his heart. Unknowingly, Emily even donates money to the choir's cause providing a wonderful display of **Mark 12:42-44**. Mr. Stone prays for forgiveness and once more has a "heart of Christmas." With songs that are both hip and fun, come join us in the **Christmas Shop Around the Corner!**

Also
available
for
Christmas

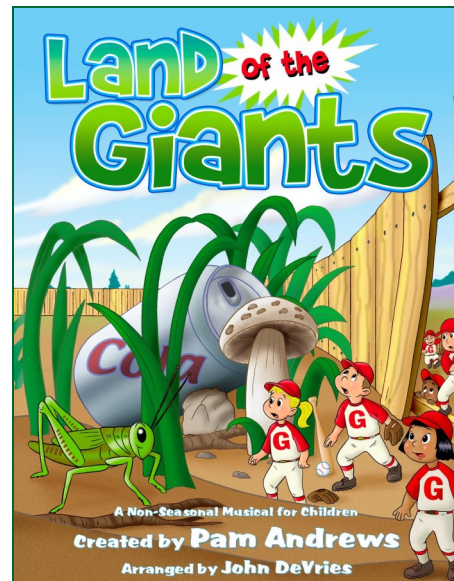


Land of the Giants

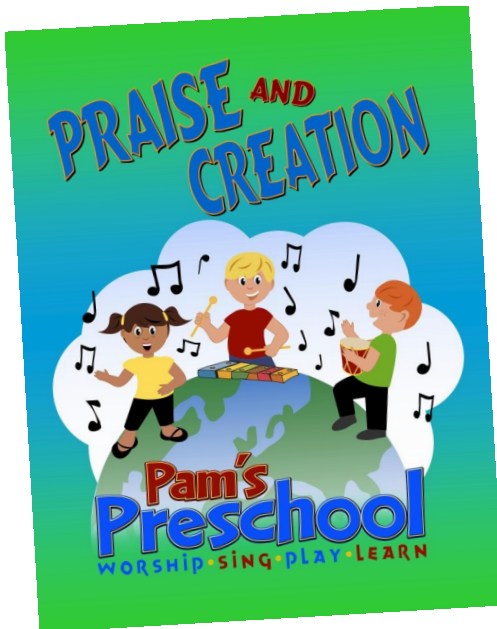
In **Land of the Giants** everything is larger than life.

The Giants, a little league team, realizes their chances of a winning season seem unlikely due to their inexperience and lack of talent. They are especially worried about facing the Phillies-Team, who have the biggest, baddest, batting line-up in the area. As they begin practicing, their ball accidentally flies over the fence. They climb through a loose board and discover the **Land of the Giants**—a land where grass towers over their heads and soda cans are bigger than barrels. They meet Hopper, a cool critter from this new world who introduces the kids to great faith lessons from the Bible using some interesting Bible

personalities. The message of courage and faith in God as well as some of the coolest songs ever.

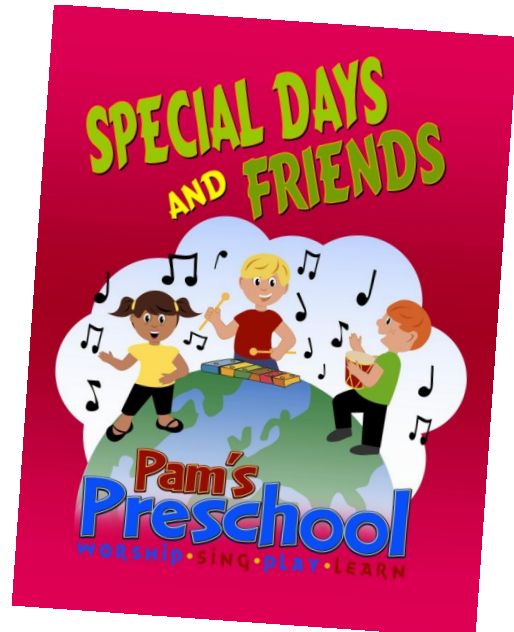


AND we have recently introduced three collections for your preschoolers.

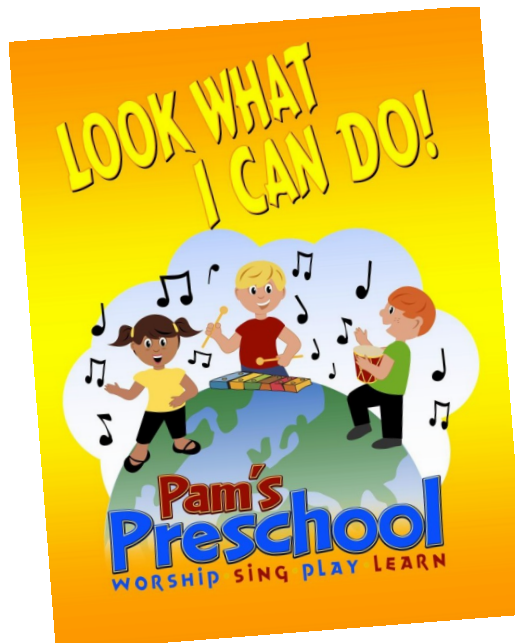


Teach your young children the truths of God's Word through these 10 easy-to-sing songs just for them.

Teach your young children the principles of the Christian life through these 10 easy-to-sing songs about friends, family and special holidays.



As with all our collections, a Movement DVD, Listening/Split Track CD, Resource Materials CD (which includes Spiritual Lessons with activities, and Musical Lessons) are all available as Companion products to these books.

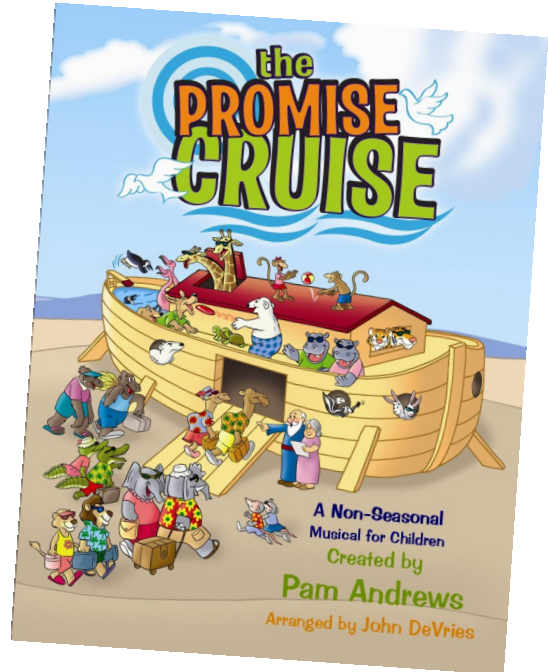


Teach your young children about living in God's world. Get the wiggles out with these 10 easy-to-learn, clap, snap and sing songs.

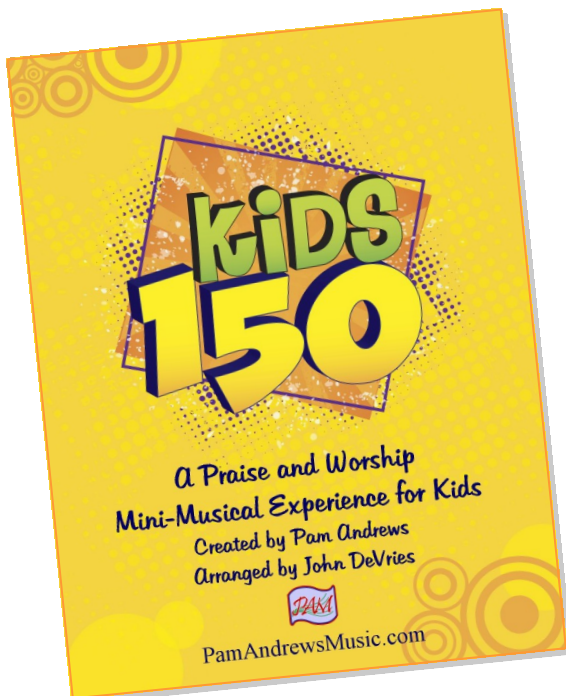
The PROMISE CRUISE

Non-Seasonal Musical for Children

Join the **Wake Up! World** television news show hosts as their guests tell the story of God's saving grace—a message just as relevant today as in Noah's time. Through the flood, God preserved Noah in the ark, a picture of our life in Christ. These fun songs will help your children remember the redeeming love of our Lord long after your production. From talking animals to power tools, this musical will appeal to everyone.



Download Samplers are always FREE



KiDS 150

A Praise and Worship

Mini-Musical Experience for Children

KiDS 150 provides a fun and rockin' praise and worship experience for your children. They will enjoy the contemporary sound of the music and you will love the hopeful and positive message the lyrics express. There is also an optional congregational ending.

Performance time is approximately 20 minutes.

Now for what many of you have been asking for! What follows are sample forms and ideas that will help you with your auditions along with suggestions for letters to parents and coaches. Make these forms your own by adapting them to fit your choir's needs.

Audition Tools

- Prepare for Audition Night
- Audition Sign-Up Sheet
- Enrollment Record
- Permission Slip
- Rating Sheet
- Speaking Parts
- Creative Movement Team
- Solos
- Final Musical Information
- Letters to Coaches and Parents

How to Use a Cue Card System

Fun Summer Music Camp Ideas

Audition Night

To the Director

A. Prepare the Children

1. Say to the children:
 - a. *Each part is equally important.*
 - b. *Don't be disappointed if you don't get the part you want. I might want you to try something new and different. You might be best suited for another part.*
2. Optional statements:
 - a. (Director's choice) *Everyone will get a special part. It might be a short solo, a group singing part, or movement part.*

Participation, not perfection, is the goal.

- a. *Remember that our musical is a gift to God.*
 - b. *He knows that we are not perfect.*
 - c. *He wants us to do our best. He is more interested in our participation than our perfection.*
3. Choose the appropriate casting sheet for your choir.
 4. Use the Audition Sign-up Sheet to call children to audition.

B. Audition Needs:

- ___ *Book of Scores for the musical, 1 per child*
 (You should have extra copies of the script and lyrics for those who audition.)
- ___ Split-channel CD
 (Cue the track to the song you want to use for auditions or dub the song onto a separate CD.)
- ___ CD player

Directions

1. Have the children audition for parts.
2. Make notes on the rating sheets and use them as guides for making selections.
3. After casting parts, mail out the Final Musical Information Sheet, highlighting the part you are asking the child to take. *(Be sure to block your musical ahead of time, assigning cue card numbers so you can include this on the Final Musical Information Sheet for each child.)* Cast members should receive their parts quickly in order to be prepared for the next rehearsal.

YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE A FEW EXTRA REHEARSALS WITH THE CAST IN THE PLAY AS WELL AS WORK PRIVATELY WITH THOSE WHO HAVE SOLOS.

Audition Sign-Up Sheet

Instrument/Movement/Speaking/Singing/Acting

Name

Phone #

| | |
|-----|-------|
| 1. | _____ |
| 2. | _____ |
| 3. | _____ |
| 4. | _____ |
| 5. | _____ |
| 6. | _____ |
| 7. | _____ |
| 8. | _____ |
| 9. | _____ |
| 10. | _____ |
| 11. | _____ |
| 12. | _____ |
| 13. | _____ |
| 14. | _____ |
| 15. | _____ |
| 16. | _____ |
| 17. | _____ |
| 18. | _____ |
| 19. | _____ |
| 20. | _____ |
| 21. | _____ |
| 22. | _____ |
| 23. | _____ |
| 24. | _____ |

Enrollment Record

Grade _____

Choir Year _____

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Birthday _____

Mother's Name _____ Phone _____

Mother's Employer _____ Phone _____

Father's Name _____ Phone _____

Father's Employer _____ Phone _____

Parent's Email _____

Medical Information

Sizes: Shirt _____ Dress _____

Pant _____ Shoe _____

 Fees Pd: _____ _____ _____ _____
 Date paid Date paid Date paid Date paid

Location of parents during children's choir practice:

What instrument(s) can your child play? _____

Parent can assist with:

_____ Refreshments _____ Telephone _____ Costumes

_____ Substitute _____ Driving _____ Crafts

_____ Art/Set Construction/Props

Permission Slip

My child _____

(Name)

has permission to be in the musical _____

and will be at all remaining rehearsals.

Signed _____

(Parent Signature)

Please list any conflicts

Auditions are next week! Get ready!

Permission Slip

My child _____

(Name)

has permission to be in the musical _____

and will be at all remaining rehearsals.

Signed _____

(Parent Signature)

Please list any conflicts

Auditions are next week! Get ready!

Rating Sheet

Name: _____ auditioned for the following part

Movement

Singing

Instrument

Acting

Speaking

Items to consider

Circle the appropriate rating

Attendance



Participation



Speaking Ability



Singing Ability



Acting Ability



Movement Ability



Instrumental Ability



Comments

I recommend _____ for the part of :

_____.

Speaking Parts

Cast/Character

Child's Name

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

| |
|-------|
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
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| _____ |
| _____ |

Optional Cast

Remember, the cast list is only a guide. Feel free to divide parts and solos to create more parts for your children. If you have a large choir, you may cut the parts any way you would like to create more opportunities for the children. Be creative. The following blanks are for you to create new parts for your choir.

Additional Character

Child's Name

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

| |
|-------|
| _____ |
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| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

Creative Movement Team

For each song complete the following:

Song _____

The props and worship tools are only suggestions. You may have different ideas. They are options to enhance your movement teams actions or could be used additionally with the whole choir. Do what works best for your choir.

If a movement DVD is available for the musical you have chosen, it will give you many ideas for both movement and worship tool / props. In my resource notebooks you will also find the suggestions written in the movement script with each song.

Make the worship tools easy and fun. A whole choir shaking craft sticks with simple metallic streamers attached makes quite a visual impression and the kids love them.

Worship tools / props _____

Movement Team(s)

The movement team can be the same children each time or they can be different for each song.

Child's Name

Child's Name

Special Parts

These can be designed for a single child or a small group. If a song lends itself to special costumes or action. Dressed as a present at Christmas for example, or a banner carrier, etc.

Special Part

Child's Name

Solos

The solos listed in a musical are just suggestions. Feel free to add or subtract solos to fit your needs. To add solos using the split track, simply turn down the fader on your sound board that controls the recorded vocals.

| | Titles | Solo(s) |
|----------|--------|---------|
| Overture | _____ | _____ |
| Song 1 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 2 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 3 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 4 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 5 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 6 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 7 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 8 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Song 9 | _____ | _____ |
| | | _____ |

Additional Solos

Child's Name

| | |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Final Musical Information Sheet

Dear Parent:

Your child, _____, has been given a part in our upcoming musical. The part he/she will be performing is highlighted. The part involves...

| | |
|------------|-------|
| Movement | _____ |
| Instrument | _____ |
| Speaking | _____ |
| Singing | _____ |
| Acting | _____ |
| Other | _____ |

Your child's special part: _____.
 Please help your child memorize this part. Your child has also been given the following symbol, color, or cue card number: _____.
 It is very important to have this memorized as well to assist in staging our musical.

The following is more important information:

| | |
|------------|-------|
| Theme | _____ |
| Date | _____ |
| Time | _____ |
| Place | _____ |
| Costume | _____ |
| Cost | _____ |
| Rehearsals | _____ |

Please note that if your child is a main character, he/she will need to attend extra rehearsals. Each rehearsal is essential.

Extra Rehearsals

Time:

Place:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Letters to Coaches and Parents

Dear Coach:

I wanted you to know that I will be missing my (game/practice) on (date) _____ because I am in an important performance at my church. I am in a musical and this experience is a gift I can give to God. I hope you will understand. I appreciate all you do for me and I thank you for supporting me in this decision.
Thanks again!
(Name) _____

Dear Parents:

Children's choir is about to begin! This year will be so much fun! We will play instruments, experience movement, and of course sing...sing...sing! I wanted to remind you that the activity that is the most fun for your child will occur at 6:01 each Wednesday night. Please try hard to get your child to choir on time so they can participate in this activity!

God bless YOU and see you at choir!
Miss Pam

Dear Parents:

I will be giving out parts in the musical in a few weeks. I wanted you to know that as I seek the special part for your child I will consider...

1. What the Lord wants for your child.
To do this I will seek the Lord in prayer.
2. What your child wants to do.
I will have your child choose three activities in the musical that they would like to do. I will try to choose at least one of those activities for your child.
3. I will make sure your child has a special part.
I choose parts based on commitment first and ability second.

This musical is going to be a great experience for your child. What a blessing to give Jesus a wonderful gift of song! Please pray for me, the workers, and especially your child that we will all have our eyes and hearts turned to Jesus as we experience worship!

God bless YOU!
Miss Pam

Cue Card System

The cue card system is an aid to the “blocking” of the musical. Each solo, movement team, special part and character part is assigned a number or word cue. Just before time for the solo or special part to occur, raise the cue card (*larger number or words written on poster board*) signaling the soloist or character to come to the microphone or find their place on stage.

Make large half poster size numbers which can easily be seen by each child from the choir. To assist in blocking, list all special parts in order and assign a cue card number to each part. Place the number on the *Final Musical Information Sheet* which is given to the children listing their special part encouraging the child to memorize their number or numbers. On the blocking rehearsal day, place the number assigned as a necklace on each child’s neck. Block the stage movements first with no singing or acting...just use the numbers to help the children come forward and find their positions. Then, as the children actually become comfortable with the blocking begin to add the music and choreography. **Tell the children to anticipate the cue cards to make sure they are in place at the appropriate time.**

Using cue cards may cut your “blocking” time in half!

Fun Summer Music Camps

The reason we sing

Psalms 33:1-4 (NIV)

- 1 Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.*
- 2 Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.*
- 3 Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.*
- 4 For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.*

Psalms 89:1-2 (NIV)

- 1 I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.*
- 2 I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.*

Psalms 98:1-8 (NIV)

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.*
- 2 The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.*
- 3 He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*
- 4 Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;*
- 5 make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,*
- 6 with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn-- shout for joy before the LORD, the King.*
- 7 Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.*
- 8 Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;*

Psalms 144:9 (NIV)

- I will sing a new song to you, O God; on the ten-stringed lyre I will make music to you.*

Why a summer music camp?

- It is fun.
- It is great outreach.
- It is educational musically and spiritually.
- It is a great mission activity.
- It gives children a chance to perform.
- It is sometimes more fun for the older children than VBS.
- It helps kids grow in the Lord.
- It allows the children to have a music experience in the Lord at a more relaxed time.

How to Get Started—Music Camps

- Work with each of the performance and camp helpers to establish each person's role in the success of the music camp.
- Order tapes and books that the children can study prior to the camp. (Test the children and give prizes to all who know their music).

Enlist **performance** helpers

Set designers—Try to find someone in your church who will create your set. Have all sets ready before the camp begins.

Choreographers—Find someone...possibly a youth...who can either copy the movements found in the resource kit or create movement for the choir as well as some specialty groups.

Drama Director—Find someone to direct the drama. This will allow those children to be pulled out of the choir setting to practice lines and blocking alone.

Costume Creators—Find a costume person. Have them pull together the costumes for the performance. I like to keep it simple in the summer. This makes the camp more fun for everyone. Have all costumes ready before the camp begins.

Sound and Lighting People—Find someone who can come during the day to rehearse for your performance. Meet with the sound and lighting person in advance providing for them a script and cast lists and a basic layout of what is happening on stage each song and each scene. You will find this in most resource kits. Have them tell you what you have at your disposal in the lighting and sound department. There have been times I have rented special effect items for a performance, but again I say keep it simple in the summer.

Props Person—Before you can decide on the props, you should meet with your choreographer. They might have special needs for particular songs. Give the Props person a list of props for your performance. Have all props ready before the camp begins or make the props as a craft activity during the camp. Be sure to shop early for prop and craft supplies.

Solo Instructor—Try to have a solo instructor available. Have the children meet early to try out for solos. I have found that it is generally best to stick to the script in a summer music camp. There is just not enough time for too much splitting of parts or changes.

Cue Card Coordinator—Help the director with blocking and staging. This person will be at your right hand during the performance. They will follow the script and action closely, actively facilitating the flow of the program by holding up cue cards during all blocking and performances.

Enlist **Camp** Helpers

Food—Have a mom or two in charge of lunch.

Secretary/Treasurer—This person should keep all written records for you. This should include rolls, room requests, purchase orders, camp fees, etc. Keep this area organized. Always be a good steward of our Lord's money.

Discipline—It would be great to have a few ram rod style people to help you with discipline. They can move among the children and sit near problem behavior.

Recreation—Make sure you give the children breaks. Have someone in charge of some play time.

Bible Study—Make sure you are spending time in the word of God in your summer music camp. Make sure the children understand the Biblical meaning of the musical.

Craft Person—The craft person should work with the props person to see if any props can be made during the craft activity time. Be sure to shop early for prop and craft supplies.

Find a place

Try to get plenty of room.

Organize your day

Make a schedule that will work for you. Try to stay with your schedule, but be flexible.

Sample Schedule

8:30-9:00 a.m. Early Bird Activity—This is an activity the children can do as they arrive. Most resource kits have these types of activities which can assist you.

9:00-9:15 a.m. Opening—Have some fun songs for the children to sing and do a short devotional.

9:15-10:30 Rehearse Songs (Day 1-Songs 1-3, Day 2- Songs 4-6, Day 3, Songs 7-9, Day 4 & 5 Review All Songs with movement)—During this time you might allow your drama team to leave to work with the Drama Director and you might also allow the specialty movement people to work with the Choreographer.

10:30-11:15 Craft Time—The Props Person and Crafts Person should coordinate this activity.

11:15-12:15 Rehearse Songs (Day 1-Songs 1-3, Day 2- Songs 4-6, Day 3, Songs 7-9, Day 4 & 5 Review All Songs with movement)—During this time you might allow your drama team to leave to work with the Drama Director and you might also allow the specialty movement people to work with the Choreographer.

12:15-12:45 Lunch

12:45-1:15 Recreation

1:15-1:45 Bible Study Discussion

1:45-3:00 Joint Rehearsal. Rehearse all you have learned for the week.

3:00 Dismiss main camp

3:00-4:00 Drama, Groups, solos, having problems. Tell the children that if they have a special part, they may be required to practice for an hour after camp. This special rehearsal could accommodate different children in different parts each day.

Putting it all together

On the 4th day, you might begin blocking, depending on the progress of your children. Definitely block the morning of the 5th day and the afternoon of the 5th day do a run-through. Remember to practice your bow music. Now, you should be ready for a performance on Friday night.