

BIO – PETER & ELLEN ALLARD

PETER & ELLEN ALLARD, nationally recognized multi award-winning Children’s Recording Artists, Performers, Early Childhood Music Specialists, and Keynote Presenters charm audiences with their interactive, infectious, and entertaining music. They are natural-born performers whose outstanding musicianship, clever songwriting, and personal charisma are front and center whether they’re performing for an intimate audience or in a large concert hall. They possess a keen understanding and feel for developmentally appropriate music for young children and are able to communicate this clearly to their audiences.

Drawing on a rich tradition of musical experiences, they present captivating family performances, keynote presentations and teacher workshops for audiences all throughout the United States. Peter and Ellen are enthusiastically committed to helping children and families use music to strengthen and build a strong sense of community. During their high energy concerts, this duo playfully shares a potpourri of easy-to-sing songs and chants. As performers, they exude warmth and excitement, inviting audiences to “perform” with them. As songwriters, they create clever lyrics and singable melodies that reach right into the lives, hearts, and minds of their listeners. As educators, they present material that is informative and inspiring, as well as extremely entertaining. Since 1994, this duo has performed for daycare centers, nursery and elementary schools, synagogues, churches, libraries, museums, community centers, festivals, and park & recreation programs, and has made numerous appearances on TV and radio. Peter & Ellen have released seven recordings and five songbooks, and have received eight national awards for their music.

Peter & Ellen have gained widespread and critical acclaim for their recordings and teacher songbook/manuals which are used by teachers and parents throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia. Their three volumes of **Sing it! Say it! Stamp it! Sway it!** recordings contain easy-to-learn songs, chants, finger plays and singing games which have quickly become children’s classics and have received the highest praise from teachers, parents and children alike. **Raise The Children** and **Good Kid** include songs like “Driving In My Car” and “Rattlin’ Bog”, often requested favorites at their children’s and family concerts. **Sing Shalom: Songs for the Jewish Holidays** and **Bring The Sabbath Home** are unique collections of original songs that are regularly sung in synagogues and religious schools

across the country and abroad. Their recordings have been recognized with awards from Children's Music Web, Parents' Guide to Children's Media, and Parents' Choice. One of the most often comments heard about Peter & Ellen's recordings is that parents enjoy listening to them even after their children go to bed!

Peter & Ellen have made significant contributions in the field of Early Childhood Music and continue to help parents and educators understand the importance that music has in Early Childhood Education. They are very much in demand as keynotes and workshop presenters, sharing their music and insights, and empowering teachers to return to their classrooms ready to integrate music into their curriculums. Their focus on music, math, and literacy and the use of homemade Make-&-Take Tactile Props has earned them a reputation as Early Childhood Music Specialists who are highly skilled at helping teachers understand how music strongly supports the work they are doing in their classrooms.

These two dynamic performers have emerged as leaders in the field of Jewish music for young children and families. Their work in the Jewish world includes family concerts as well as full weekend artist-in-residencies. One of their fans recently wrote "THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for the amazing Shabbos program Friday night. Wowee!...Friday night brought me to a new experience in our temple and I thank you for the opportunity to have it. What a wonderful way to begin Shabbos." In addition to performing concerts, they lead Tot or Family Shabbat services, appear as guest cantorial soloists for adult services or life cycle events, facilitate songwriting workshops, and present teacher workshops.

Peter & Ellen live in Central Massachusetts. Their blended family includes Ellen's two children, Sara and Jessica, and Peter's three children, Amelia, Miles, and Luke.