

BIOGRAPHY.....A LITTLE ABOUT BRIAN AND TERRI

Brian Kinder is a singer/songwriter who, along with his wife, Ms Terri, performs rollicking goodtime concerts for kids. Their music is fun and invites audience participation, and is perfectly suited for libraries, schools, fairs, corporate family gatherings, churches, and birthday parties.

Yes, Kinder is their real name. (Kinder, German word meaning children as in kindergarten).

Brian grew up in Fredericktown, Missouri where as a youngster he sang in churches, school programs and other social settings. During his teen years he was the drummer of a hometown rock and roll band. After high school graduation Brian spent several years in the Air Force where he took up playing guitar and writing songs. Following his tour of service he joined a successful Christian singing group and traveled throughout the Midwest before moving to central Arkansas in the early eighties, releasing two solo albums and performing at churches and youth camps throughout the region. It was at this time that Kinder developed his recipe for a successful solo performance consisting of good music, humor, and lots of audience participation. At Brian's concerts, you didn't just sit and listen. You got involved, and it was fun.



Kinder graduated from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 1986 with a degree in music; in 2005 he received his masters in Liberal Arts. For more than 20 years he taught fine arts in the Little Rock public school district, where he distinguished himself, not only as a gifted teacher, but also as a talented songwriter. At the encouragement of a fellow teacher he auditioned and was accepted into the Arkansas Arts Councils roster of touring artists as a kid's concert performer. Brian and Terri are also members of the Midwest Arts Alliance. He quickly gained notice as an original and unique artist of children's music. His concerts are lively and interactive. Combining his guitar and banjo playing talent and his whimsical

song writing skills, he amuses and entertains children of all ages. He weaves together stories and music to stir the imagination with tales drawn from his own life as well as from the lives of his family and friends. He has the ability through his songs to bring both young and old together as they laugh and sing, dance and clap along with the music.

In 2002 Brian released his first album of twelve original kids songs, *Brian Kinder A Kid Like You*. Everybody loved it, kids, parents and grandparents. "GREAT", says Lauren Ashburn of **USA TODAY**. The song, *I Like Being A Kid*, became Kinder's trademark, and still happily announces the beginning of every concert. *Special Days*, came next with twenty-four songs, one for just about every holiday you can imagine. It was a project he had worked on for years, believing the collection was something school teachers and librarians needed. He was right. *Special Days* was released in June of 2003, and that summer was named *Audio Pick of the Week* by the national publication, **School Library Journal**. His third release, *Brian Kinder Again*, offered up another dozen fresh kids tunes, and also received high marks with **SLJ**. Kinder finished work on a fourth project, *Brian Kinder One More Time*, released to the public in September 2004. Like all of Kinder's releases, it's good clean fun. In 2006 "A" *I Ate an Apple* was nominated for Best children's song by the worlds largest independent music organization, **Just Plain Folks**. *The Robin Song* also quickly became a favorite concert staple as Ms Terri finally took a more visible role in the performance. As the icing on the Kinder cake, Ms Terri receives equal billing performing the lead vocals several times on their most recent Holiday release, *Joy to the World It's Christmas*. With 20 new songs this CD confirms Kinder as a prolific songwriter of music that appeals to all ages. John Woods reviewed the CD saying,

I've got my sights on Brian and Terri Kinder's *Joy to the World It's Christmas* (Brian Kinder Music, 2006, \$12.00 CD; www.kindersongs.com.) Twenty original Christmas songs! Now, that's hard to do without tossing in a Jingle Bells here or there. And these songs are fun - even old Ebenezer Scrooge will be dancing in the aisles.

Their newest CD, *Brian & Terri Kinder, Traveling On*, released in May of 2009 adds another fifteen songs is to their already impressive body of work.

Author, Robert Reid has written two books in which Brian's music is also featured.

Children's Jukebox, a subject index of children's recorded music, and *Something Musical Happened at the Library*.

He indexed over 540 recordings. In his *Core Collection* he recommended 46 recordings. *A Kid Like You* is on this short list. He also listed "Must Be Working" in his chapter *Rob's Favorite Original Children's Songs*.

For rollicking good time music for kids, there is non finer than Brian and Terri Kinder. For more information check out their web site at www.kindersongs.com.