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Coming this November, a Remarkable and Moving Chronicle of America's Premier Folk Trio

PETER, PAUL AND MARY:

Fifty Years in Music and Life

Featuring an Introduction by John F. Kerry, US Secretary of State

What you need to know about the book, Peter Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey and Mary Travers:

- ***Peter, Paul and Mary: Fifty Years in Music and Life*** (Imagine/Charlesbridge; November 4, 2014; \$29.95 Hardcover, 128 pages; ISBN:978-1-936140-32-9, E-Book: 978-1-60734-801-6) Written by Peter Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey, and the late Mary Travers, with a foreword by John Kerry; readers are invited to delve into this iconic folk group's 50-year personal, public and musical journey. For the first time ever, the public will be treated to an intimate view of their lives together, their special relationship with one another, and their personal reflections on their success, music and the life they shared.
- Selected from thousands of photographs taken over five decades by some of the world's most esteemed photographers, these pages of stunning, evocative images—many rare and never before published—follow Peter, Paul and Mary from their earliest performances in the 1960s (when Mary was not only a strikingly beautiful and charismatic performer but a new role model for empowered women) through the successive milestones of their career. From anthems like “If I Had a Hammer” to children’s songs like “Puff, The Magic Dragon,” the trio’s music struck a chord with millions of Americans. Folk music became the soundtrack of their quest for peace and equality, with Peter, Paul and Mary helping to give voice to our country’s new hopes and dreams. For five decades, they touched hearts, opened minds and changed lives. Peter, Paul and Mary won five Grammy Awards, produced thirteen Top 40 hits, and received eight gold and five platinum albums.
- In the foreword, John Kerry eloquently expresses how Peter, Paul & Mary defined a generation as well as how they affected not only the country but him, personally. He goes on to reflect on the group’s timelessness and the questions they raised that are still relevant today.
- **ABOUT THE AUTHORS:** Peter Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey and Mary Travers made their national debut as folk music legends in 1962 with the release of their first album. Simply titled *Peter, Paul and Mary*, the album remained in the Top 10 for ten months and in the Top 20 for two years. Since Mary Travers’ passing in September 2009, Peter, Paul and Mary’s legacy of hope and activism lives on through the musical performances and passionate advocacies of Peter Yarrow and Noel Paul Stookey. They have published illustrated children’s books with CDs, carrying the music forward. Along with their musical careers, solo touring and occasional concerts together, Peter and Noel Paul are both actively involved in continuing the trio’s legacy of advocacy.

**Peter Yarrow and Noel Paul Stookey will be available for media appearances in
New York City from Wednesday, November 5 through Friday, November 7.**

**To book an interview with these legendary musicians and activists, please call us at
212-260-7576 or email Media@MouthPublicRelations.com**



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From the Turbulent Sixties through the Dawn of the New Millennium, an Epic Chronicle of the Uplifting Music, Powerful Activism, and Resounding Spirit of an Iconic Folk Trio

PETER, PAUL AND MARY: Fifty Years in Music and Life

By Peter Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey, and Mary Travers

“This book is not a tribute to any ‘time that was,’ or even to three incredible people who changed music and our lives forever. Instead, it is a testament to what they achieved with their audience, both as musicians and as individuals, as artists and as activists, as Americans and as citizens of the world... The questions that Peter, Paul and Mary posed more than fifty years ago at the March on Washington—how many roads, how many years will it take?—these are still our questions and we still have a responsibility to answer. That is why the power of Peter, Paul and Mary’s music and their work in the world is enduring. That is why it remains an inspiration for the work to come, for our work together, and for all we hope to leave behind.”

—From the Foreword by **John F. Kerry, US Secretary of State**

Their first unofficial session took place in a grungy, fifth-floor Greenwich Village walkup. To test the chemistry of their voices, they chose a simple nursery rhyme, “Mary Had a Little Lamb.” Within moments, Peter **Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey, and Mary Travers** knew: when they sang together, there was magic in the air.

Half a century and worlds of change later, ***PETER, PAUL AND MARY: Fifty Years in Music and Life*** (Imagine/Charlesbridge; November 4, 2014; \$29.95 Hardcover, ISBN: 978-1-936140-32-9) celebrates the songs, vision, and conviction that fueled the folk trio’s impressive success and ignited the nation’s conscience. On every page, what Peter, Paul and Mary stood for, lived for, and shared comes alive through remarkable images—taken by many superbly gifted professional photographers (Annie Leibovitz among them), as well as some of the trio’s talented friends, who, as amateurs, captured private moments with taste and sensitivity. Drawn from interviews and personal writings, including diaries, the accompanying narrative merges each artist’s words and perspective, reflecting Peter, Paul and Mary’s commitment to consensus, in their social-political advocacies as well as their musical choices and efforts.

Offering a rare and wonderfully intimate view of the trio’s collaborative work process and unique relationship, ***PETER, PAUL AND MARY*** takes readers not only backstage but deep into the group’s beliefs, emotions, and passions. Among many milestones and memorable encounters, the book vividly captures:

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- The dramatic, deeply moving event that affirmed Peter, Paul and Mary's activism in the Civil Rights Movement and, in turn, established the trio as a voice for justice and freedom: the 1963 March on Washington, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his legendary "I Have a Dream" speech. In their words: "When we sang 'Blowin' in the Wind' and 'If I Had a Hammer' that day, it changed the way we saw the world...and our role in it.";
- How their performances continually blurred the lines between the stage and the struggles in the streets, exemplified at the 1963 Newport Folk Festival in Rhode Island, when The Freedom Singers—the four African-American activist-singers at the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement who were physically attacked and beaten by both policemen and those opposed to integration – along with Peter, Paul and Mary, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger, and Theo Bikel sang "We Shall Overcome";
- Their outspoken support of and powerful singing at rallies to end the Vietnam War, as well as their trip, also in the late '60s, to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where they met with Vietnam veterans, severely wounded in body and spirit, who asked them to sing "Leaving on a Jet Plane" and "Where Have All the Flowers Gone," and thanked them for their opposition to the war;
- Their impact across the country in the 70s and 80s—from their 1978 Hollywood Bowl concert for Survival Sunday, launching an international anti-nuclear, pro-environment movement, to their year-long celebration of their 25th anniversary as a trio, kicked off with a concert at The Bitter End, the Village coffeehouse that hosted their first "gig," and continued with a hugely successfully PBS pledge special, a two-week run on Broadway, and an ambitious campaign to raise awareness, compassion, and funds for New York City's homeless.
- Their exhilarating tours to France, Germany, and Japan, and their courageous stands for international causes, including the Sanctuary Movement for El Salvadorans and the Anti-Apartheid Movement—marked by their rally with Bishop Tutu where they debuted their newly written song, "No Easy Walk to Freedom," honoring Nelson Mandela followed by their civil disobedience and arrest in front of the South African Embassy in Washington, DC, in support of the US boycott of South Africa.

From singing to rapt crowds of thousands to inspiring time with friends, family, and each other, their book dramatically reveals the story of Peter Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey and Mary Travers: three gifted musicians who called for a more caring and compassionate world. Their music and their message lives on.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Peter, Paul and Mary became famous for their ability to convey powerful, personal, and political messages through songs that touched the minds, hearts, and conscience of millions of Americans. Released in 1962, their self-titled debut album remained in the Top 10 for ten months and the Top 20 for two years. Their first hit single, "Lemon Tree," was swiftly followed by "If I Had a Hammer," which became an anthem of the Civil Rights Movement, performed by the trio at the 1963 March on Washington. Five Grammy Awards, five successful PBS TV specials, thirteen Top 40 hits, eight gold and five platinum albums, decades of touring, and global recognition for their advocacies secured Peter, Paul and Mary's place in history as true music legends. Since Mary Travers' death in 2009, the group's legacy of hope lives on through the musical performances and missions of Peter Yarrow and Noel Paul Stookey. Under his own imprint at Imagine/Charlesbridge Publishing, Yarrow has published illustrated children's books with CDs by celebrated artists, including Judy Collins, Kenny Loggins, Carly Simon, and Peter, Paul and Mary. The book version of "Puff, The Magic Dragon," a Peter, Paul and Mary favorite of children for almost half a century, was a number-one bestseller. Yarrow is also the founder of Operation Respect (OR), a globally recognized nonprofit organization dedicated to overcoming the toxic culture of bullying in schools and beyond. Stookey is the founder of Music2Life, a nonprofit committed to providing a digital home for songs with the enduring power to inspire acts of service, love, and peace.

Title: ***PETER, PAUL AND MARY: Fifty Years in Music and Life***
Author: **Peter Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey and Mary Travers**
Foreword by John F. Kerry, US Secretary of State
Publisher: **Imagine/Charlesbridge**
Price/Format: **\$29.95 Hardcover**
Pages: **144, with black & white and full-color photos throughout**
Publication Date: **November 4, 2014**
ISBN: **978-1-936140-32-9 (also available as an E-Book: 978-1-60734-801-6)**
Author Publicity: **New York City, November 5-7**

**MEDIA AND EVENT DATES
FOR
PETER, PAUL AND MARY: Fifty Years in Music and Life
By Peter Yarrow, Noel Paul Stookey and Mary Travers**

Media Dates – Wednesday, November 5th – Friday, November 7th: New York, NY

****Please note all times and event locations are subject to change without prior notice**
For further information, please contact Mouth Public Relations at 212.260.7576 or
Media@MouthPublicRelations.com.**

Suggested Interview Questions for
PETER YARROW and NOEL PAUL STOOKEY
Members of the Legendary Folk Trio **Peter, Paul and Mary**
And Authors of ***Peter, Paul and Mary: Fifty Years in Music and Life***

(Contact: Mouth Public Relations at 212-260-7576 or Media@MouthPublicRelations.com)

1. Your new book, ***Peter, Paul and Mary: Fifty Years in Music and Life*** (Imagine!-Charlesbridge; November 2014) is a truly stunning record of your remarkable life. Tell us how long you've been working on this project?
2. Talk to us about the early years, how did you come together as a musical group, and what are some of your first memories as performers?
3. Let's look back and talk about your activism during the Civil Rights era. Why do you think your songs, particularly songs like "If I Had a Hammer" and "Blowin' in the Wind," spoke to and moved so many Americans? Do you think of your iconic songs as a force for social change?
4. You've been so very active over the years with your social activism, both here in the U.S., and at so many locations around the globe. What drives you to be so involved, and what keeps you "active," even today – 50 years later?
5. In our age of rap and pop, does folk music still have the power to touch and inspire young people? Are you fans of any young, up-and-coming pop singers or songwriters?
6. For your own musical legacies, would you like to be remembered first and foremost as folk singers for your music or for the message that folk songs send to the world?
7. Mary, your longtime musical collaborator, passed away in 2009. Over the course of the years since her death, how have you two endeavored to continue the legacy of Peter, Paul and Mary without Mary?
8. Tell us some of your favorite memories of Mary. Why do you think she was such a trailblazer?
9. For several years, you have both been activists against bullying through the organization founded by Peter, Operation Respect. Why do you think bullying has become an epidemic? Are school-based zero-tolerance policies the answer? Are legal penalties?
10. You've both had great success collaborating on children's books. Talk to us about that, and also the importance of reading and music in children's early life.
11. You are both parents. As very active veterans of the turbulent 1960s, do you think America is a better place for young people today than it was when you were young? In terms of justice, peace, and tolerance, what have we gained? What have we lost?
12. What's next on your collaborative agenda?

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