

Laura Cates – Worship Leader, Pianist, Singer, Songwriter, Psalmist  
[LauraCatesMusic@gmail.com](mailto:LauraCatesMusic@gmail.com) 512-202-6261



**Objective:**

Contemporary Worship Leader inspiring others to connect with the Lord Jesus in a very personal way that helps them to experience His presence.

**Overview and Background:**

Laura Cates is a Double Master Class Level Professional Musician, excellent in both Piano and Singing. Her complete mastery of both of these skills is truly a rare find. She is also a Vocal Coach and Piano Teacher.

Laura served as a Worship Leader at Bastrop Christian Outreach Center (BCOC), the fastest growing church in Bastrop County (Austin Texas area), where she was employed for twenty-six years.

She began taking piano lessons at the age of seven and soon started writing music, playing and singing in front of church audiences.

At age twelve, Laura's parents attended Christ For The Nations Bible Institute in Dallas Texas (CFNI). During her time at CFNI, the young talent shined in piano, singing and song writing skills well beyond her years and began leading worship for campus youth events. She became a student of virtuoso and world-renowned Pianist Anna Jeanne Price while at CFNI. Anna Jeanne, who traveled with T.L. Osborn, was a fourth generation student of Franz Liszt, the famous Hungarian composer, virtuoso pianist, conductor and teacher.

Laura further honed her skills throughout her teens playing and singing in worship bands, traveling around Texas. Laura has worked with some key ministries including Tommy and Rachel Burchfield Ministries who later founded Texas Bible Institute and B.J. Phillips Ministries, a worldwide youth evangelist, providing music for youth conferences and special events.

She is a prolific songwriter and psalmist having written over one hundred and fifty songs and has released multiple recordings over the years. Laura has a unique gifting to usher groups of all ages into deep, sincere worship. Although her gift is considered by many to be extraordinary in the field of Contemporary Worship, her humility and love for the Lord greatly overshadows her talent making her a true joy to work with and a tremendous asset to any church leadership team.

**"Laura is one of the best examples I know of a fit vessel whom the Lord uses greatly for His glory. Laura's transparency and heart for God is profoundly evident in her life and especially in her music. She has such a deep and abiding relationship with the Lord that when she sings, her music ushers worshippers into the very Presence of Jesus. Some of my most glorious worship experiences have occurred when Laura was leading worship. God has given Laura a magnificent musical gift, but she never uses this gift to draw attention to herself but to magnify and glorify the Lord Jesus!"**

**Paul Rogers – Director of Regional Promotion · Word Records [wordlabelgroup.com](http://wordlabelgroup.com)  
October 1983 to April 1987 for Amy Grant · Michael W. Smith · Sandy Patti · Petra**

**Work Experience:**

Worship Leader - Bastrop Christian Outreach Center - 1988 – 2014

Supervisors: Pastor Scott Stanek and Pastor Mary Jackson

**Responsibilities:**

- Prayerfully works closely together with Ministerial Staff to select music in line with what is on the minister's heart to share to prepare the hearts of the people for The Word of God
- Works closely with the Pastor to plan all worship services and special events
- Prayerfully selects a music list for services each week
- As Pianist, lead instrument in the worship team, she gives musical direction to the worship musicians
- As lead vocalist in the worship team, she gives musical direction to the worship singers
- Leads the congregation in meaningful, blended, multi-generational worship
- Exhorts the Church through worship services
- Selects songs for, rehearse, and lead the worship choir as a vibrant part of weekly services
- Works closely with and coordinates with sound team
- Handles organization and maintenance of worship music and preparation
- Leads and continually helps to develop the worship team, encouraging both musically and spiritually
- Has knowledge and experience with worship presentation software such as Media Shout.
- Assists in enlisting, training, equipping and encouraging volunteers to serve in all areas of music ministry within the church including youth worship teams, children's choir and special events.
- Worked together with other church worship leaders to establish and direct citywide choir and benefit concerts.

**"Laura's songs and performances are heartfelt, moving and uplifting. It's obvious she has a deep love for God and that love comes through in every note. Her worship is true and contagious - a beautiful voice that's a vessel for a beautiful love"**

**Dr. Rachel McInturff, Assoc. Director, Piano and Composition Faculty  
The Armstrong Community Music School - Austin, Texas**

Over the years, Laura has taken on some bright piano and vocal students and she has been able to impart her gift to them.

Laura has an extensive Private Vocal and Private Piano Education from some of the world's leading Master Class Instructors including:

Anna Jeanne Price – Piano

Suzi Stern – Voice - [suzistern.com](http://suzistern.com)

Gary Ferino - Piano

Gene Raymond - Voice - [octavehigher.com](http://octavehigher.com)

Jo Leslie - Piano

Lloyd Hess - Piano

Maria Schluter – Piano

**Laura Cates is the most anointed Christian singer/group leader I have ever had the blessing to be around. It has been my honor to record and work with Laura and her music for over 25 years. She is the best-of-the-best in Christian music.**

**Gary Schiff, PE, Sound Engineer, and Bastrop Christian Outreach Center Board Trustee**

