



***Amy Heidemann
Member of the band Karmin, Singer, Songwriter,
Musician, Great-Great Granddaughter of
Homesteaders
1986-
Seward, Nebraska***

Amy Heidemann, a member of the pop duo Karmin, is a fourth generation descendant of Homesteaders from Seward, Nebraska. Amy's great -great grandparents, John and Ellen Chirnside, filed their homestead claim in Jefferson County, Nebraska on May 31, 1869. Like many homesteaders, the Chirnside's probably didn't realize they were making history, but today we are able to respect and appreciate their contributions to a growing nation. Furthermore, they left a legacy that has resonated down through their descendants like Amy.

Amy discovered her own voice in sixth grade after performing for her classmates who thought she was lip-synching. Upon graduating from Seward High in 2005, her classmates voted her "Most Likely to be a Rock Star." Amy was accepted to Berklee on a scholarship to study songwriting, performance, and business, and worked as a wedding singer at night and on weekends. At Berklee she met fiancé Nick Noonan and the two decided to try making music together. Their rise to stardom truly began after they posted a YouTube cover of Chris Brown's single, "Look at Me Now."

Karmin has since been known for their song "Brokenhearted," which reached the top 20 in the United States, and the top 10 in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom. The song "Hello" reached number one on the Dance Billboard Chart in the United States. "Acapella" is a recent single constantly rising in popularity. In 2012, Karmin was musical guest on Saturday Night Live, and Amy was featured on the cover of Rolling Stone as the winner of the "Women Who Rock" contest.

Amy is proud of her homesteading roots, and also proud to be from Seward and Nebraska as a whole. Like her ancestors before her, she hopes she is making history without knowing it, and challenges us all to do the same.