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# Cleveland Daily Banner

Cleveland, Tennessee

## Kaylee Radzyninski to take Tunes 4 Troops to Montel Williams Show

By WILLIAM WRIGHT Banner Staff Writer

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Montel Williams has invited 15-year-old Kaylee Marie Radzyninski of Cleveland to be the guest on his talk show next Friday.

The studio is flying Kaylee and her mother, Stephanie, to New York on Thursday. The airing date of the show will be announced later.

Kaylee is the brainchild behind the "Tunes 4 the Troops" international movement. She spoke to the Sunrise Rotary Club Thursday about Montel Williams being interested in her concept of supporting troops through CD and DVD donations.

"I'm not sure how they found out about me," Kaylee said. "I got an e-mail from them saying they heard about my project, they're interested and want to learn more. I e-mailed them back with the information and my mom's cell phone number. They called her and offered to fly us out there on Thursday. I was excited and shocked."

Kaylee, the recipient of the Tennessee Youth Achievement Award from Gov. Phil Bredesen last year, has sent more than 25,000 CDs, DVDs and books on CD to troops in various combat zones all around the world.

"I only have 475,000 to go toward making my goal of 500,000 by Christmas of 2008," Kaylee said. "It would not be possible if all the people in the community didn't help out."

More businesses, colleges and individuals are expected to join in and donate.

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“Hollywood Video did a big drive for me. They raised more than 1,000 CDs,” said Kaylee. “They’ll do it again around the 4th of July.”

According to Kaylee, the most requested CDs are R&B music but all CDs are welcome and appreciated by the troops.

“They have laptops, Ipods, portable CD and DVD players,” she said.

“What they need are batteries,” Stephanie added. “They’re always in need of batteries. If Duracell wants to make a donation we’d be happy to talk to them about that.”

Kaylee shared how her idea blossomed and its impact on her personally.

“I came up with the idea during the summer of 2005,” she said. “I’m in a program called the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps. I was talking to some military personnel and they said they craved entertainment. So I started gathering my CDs and when my friends heard about what I was doing they gave me theirs.”

Although some youths reportedly make fun of her project, Kaylee said, “Surprisingly that does not bother me. I know I am making a difference and brightening the days of the men and women who fight for our freedom. Our troops give so much. They’re sacrificing their lives. Why can’t we do something for them?”

With internet capabilities, 27 satellite locations and world wide interest, “Tunes 4 the Troops” is mushrooming into an international phenomenon, drawing the interest of Talk Shows and celebrities such as Tim McGraw.

Kaylee, the youngest person to ever win the National Society of The Daughters of The American Revolution Award for excellence in community service, has a very soft spot for those in the military.

“My great-great-great-uncle Charles Radyminski was an officer with Robert E. Lee before the Civil War,” said Kaylee. “He was a dragoon and helped map the border from Mexico to Texas for the department of interior.

My great-grandfather was a colonel in the army. He fought in World War I, World War II and the Korean War. In WWII he ran a mash unit as a mash doctor. He was also the chief of staff for the VA hospital in Cleveland, Ohio.

Then my grandfather was a major in the Marine Corps and served in the Vietnam War. My uncle was one of the Marine guards at the White House under President Reagan. So I think it might be in my genes. But it’s where my heart is.”

Kaylee said her goal is to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and serve in the Navy. In the meantime she is extending an open invitation for anyone to send their new and used DVDs, CDs and books on CD via media-mail to P. O. Box 2008 Cleveland, TN 37320 or go to [www.tunes4thetroops.20m.com](http://www.tunes4thetroops.20m.com) for more information.

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