

Seven Lakes sophomore and recording artist
Macy Medford proves you are never too
young to pursue your dreams

Introducing Macy Medford

On the cusp of stardom, 15-year old singer, songwriter, and Seven Lakes student is grateful for the support of the Katy community

Written by Cherri Northcutt | Photography Courtesy of Macy Medford

For 15-year-old Macy Medford, life is a juggling act. Between her advanced placement classes at Seven Lakes High School, theater work, and her singing career, Macy doesn't have a lot of free time. She recently took home the grand prize in the Dallas Songwriting Association contest for her single, "Just Me and You." The song was #1 on Tween Pop Radio's Top 40 charts in its first week of release. Macy was also nominated for Pop Artist of the Year at the Los Angeles Music Awards. While her music career is skyrocketing, Macy remains a down-to-earth Katy gal, committed to keeping her grades up and staying connected to the friends who have supported her along the way.

A Star on the Rise

Born and raised in Katy, Macy has always enjoyed singing and performing. While in the second grade, she appeared in the title role of *Annie* in a production for the Children's Arts Alliance in Houston. "In just five days, I had memorized the entire script and all the songs," Macy remembers, "I knew right then, that's what I wanted to do with my life."

From there, Macy sang and performed in talent shows and contests, even traveling to Los Angeles for meetings with talent scouts. In the seventh grade, Macy started writing her own music. "My first big break was a Disney commercial when I was 12," Macy recalls.

Crazy 'Bout You

In January 2012, Macy realized her dream when she released her first album *Crazy 'Bout You*. "Recording was my favorite part of the whole process," Macy shares, "We spent long

hours working from 6 p.m. until 2 a.m. the next day." During recording, Macy, her manager/co-writer Jonathan George, and the producer Anthony Mazza tried a variety of sounds, taking the time to get the recording just right. "It was the most creative process deciding how we wanted the songs to come off," Macy says.

From the album, her single "Just Me and You" went viral on Facebook and Twitter and debuted at #1 on Tween Pop Radio. "That first week," Macy remembers, "I beat out Demi Lovato." Macy made a music video for the song, which was filmed at Marilyn Monroe's house in Los Angeles. Her musical style is fresh and upbeat with instruments like the ukulele and guitar. Macy describes her style as, "pop with a jazzy edge." Her musical influences range from Colbie Caillat and Jason Mraz to Nora Jones and Michael Bublé. "My favorite song of all time though, is 'Let it Be' by the Beatles," Macy says.

Among her album tracks, Macy finds that adults enjoy the soft but soulful ballad "Stronger," while her teen friends are partial to "Sidelines," an edgy number with a dance beat. All of the music for the album is original.

Friends, Family, and Community Support

Macy is grateful to her friends and family for supporting her in her music career. They helped make her CD release party a success. "My friends passed out invitations in all their classes and made announcements at school," she explains. Macy was surprised to see several of her teachers at the party. "Even teachers from elementary and junior high school showed up," she says.

Macy's parents, Stacy and Terry Medford, have always supported Macy's dreams. "My parents are awesome," Macy shares, "always taking me to different appearances." Her brothers, Trey and Grayson, bring friends to Macy's performances to help cheer her on. "My brothers know all of my songs by heart," she says.

The Katy community has embraced Macy's talent as well. "Several restaurants have offered to play my CDs," Macy says. "I've loved playing at the Katy Rice Harvest Festival for the past five years." Macy enjoys the sense of community in Katy. "It has a small town feel," Macy says, "and all the people are really supportive." Macy also appreciates that Katy has several good music and theater programs.

"I knew right then, that's what I wanted to do with my life."

- Macy Medford

What happens next?

For now, Macy is concentrating on her school work and writing new songs. "I keep a pad of paper near my bed," Macy shares, "so if I wake up at 3 a.m. with a lyric idea, I can write it down. Inspiration comes from what's going on in my life; boys, changes, and everything I'm going through." Macy plans to record a second album soon and continues to make appearances.

Macy hopes that her music helps listeners feel empowered for everyday life. "One girl who gets my songs from iTunes said she listens to me every morning that it puts her in a good mood for the rest of the day," Macy shares. "That's the feeling I hope to give people." KM



CHERRI NORTHCUTT is a freelance journalist. She has lived in Katy with her husband and two daughters for over twelve years.

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Get to Know Singer/Songwriter Macy Medford

School
Sophomore, Seven Lakes High School

Musical style
Pop with a jazzy edge

First gig
Played Annie, in a performance by the Children's Arts Alliance, age 7

Favorite song
"Let it Be," by The Beatles

Goals
Record a second album, sing at the Hollywood Bowl, open for the band One Direction, and win a Grammy



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