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### Balko Resident Competes For Amarillo Star

In the third grade, Kyla Cowan opened her mouth and let out a tune while at church.

Never in nine years did she imagine what she learned to do that day could change her life.

Local girl Kyla Cowan is now in the regional spotlight as she is in the top three for the Amarillo Star contest.

The Amarillo Star competition traveled all across the Texas Panhandle earlier this summer via KFDA NewsChannel 10's 2010 Summer Celebration Tour. Contestants were given two ways to audition. They could either record themselves on to a CD or they could audition at one of the local tryout locations.

Cowan, a senior at Balko High School, traveled to nearby Canadian, Texas, and did a live tryout as well as sending in a CD. She learned about the contest while competing in another singing contest, Amarillo Idol.

"After making top 10 in that last year, I decided to give Amarillo Star a shot," said Cowan.

Locals wanting to vote in the competition may do so by logging on to [newschannel10.com](http://newschannel10.com) and scrolling down to "Amarillo Star." There, voters can view each of the top three contestants and vote for who they think should be the 2010 Amarillo Star. Each person can only vote one time each day until this Friday, September 10.

Live voting will also take place at the upcoming Little Big Town concert. Votes will then be counted and tabulated there. The winner will receive \$1000 and the opportunity to open at the Tri State Fair in Amarillo.

"I'm extremely excited about the upcoming contest," said Cowan. "This has been a really fun journey. I've had a lot of support from family and friends and I really appreciate it."

Cowan is the 18-year-old daughter of Kim and Shane Cowan. In school she plays basketball and runs track.. She is also involved in choir, student council and the FFA (Future Farmers of America) there. Cowan attends Balko Baptist Church.

"Honestly, I never thought I'd make it this far," said Cowan. "I told myself I was just going to take it one round at a time. Here I am at the final round. It's crazy."

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