

MAGNOLIA'S *next*

Kayli is 15 yrs. old, a Sophomore at Clay High School. She has a 3.73 GPA, A/B Honor Roll, and performed 90 hours of community service last school year. Her favorite class is Chorus. As a Freshman she was selected for Chorus Honors. For her

KAYLI SCOTT

Sophomore year she has been appointed as the Section Leader for Sopranos. "As a Soprano Section Leader, I have the opportunity to mentor my peers as we prepare for recitals and special events. I get to take what others have taught me and pay it forward."

Music is her passion. She began singing at 10. Last month she experienced her first opportunity in a recording studio. The sound engineer said, "I have to remind myself she's 15. She has the voice and control of someone who does this for a career."

Kayli also began decorating cakes at 10 yrs. old. She taught herself by watching YouTube videos. She has a full book of business with family and friends, usually booking out 4-6 weeks. She recently made a wedding cake of which the owners of the venue said, "We see a lot of cakes and many from high end bakeries and hers was every bit as professional as theirs."

Kayli is very active in our church and youth group. She enjoys volleyball and spending time with friends at the lake and shopping.

At her next recital she will perform Adele, One and Only, then record it in the studio.

"I'm so proud of her cake decorating, vocal abilities, grades, work ethic, but I'm most proud of her heart



and compassion toward others." Marlene says. She recalls an incident from when Kayli was 7: "She wanted a large, expensive Lego set. It wasn't exactly in my budget, but I managed, and got it for her. I hoped that it would mean as much to her as it did to me. She was very happy to get it. But when she told me she'd given it away to a friend, I was

livid, and making that clear to her brought her to tears. "But Mom, Maleah has *never had* a Lego set! I didn't want you to buy me another one, I just wanted to give her something that she has never had. And she really loves it!"

"Then and there my young daughter demonstrated that it's not what you get but what you give that blesses you with deep gratification. Kayli often makes me want to be a better person."

To that, Kayli adds being a better singer.

"It's all I want to do," she said while posing with the assignment she aced for this issue, the Magnolia-themed cake that graces our cover. She speaks glowingly of her voice coach, Edwin Rivera of Wehner's School of the Arts, in Middleburg. "He teaches me a lot about music theory. He believes in my ability and pushes me past what I think I can do. I have my eyes set on Berkley School of Music and Edwin is helping me prepare."

