



The NC State Alumni Association founded the Caldwell Fellows and supports its scholarships, stipends and programming.



See Kyler England perform live on Oct. 2 in Thompson Hall's Titmus Theatre on NC State's campus. Visit ncsu.edu/centerstage for more information.

>> redandwhiteforlife.com: Music by Kyler England '98 and The Rescues. **KEYWORDS:** Kyler England

Christmas. Playing with The Rescues is so rewarding these days, and things are really going well with my songs being used on TV. I want not just to make a living, but to make a life in music. And that's where I'm at now. That's an incredible feeling because I just don't know what else I'd do.

An Indie Super Artist

Kyler England '98 is making a name for herself in alternative rock.

Since her days as a Caldwell Fellow, Kyler England '98 has flourished in the alternative rock music scene in Los Angeles, Calif. She was named one of *Music Connection* magazine's Hot 100 Unsigned Artists of 2007, and the songs from her latest album, *Simple Machine* have popped up on numerous TV shows such as *Grey's Anatomy* and earned her a spot as a finalist for Indie Acoustic Project's 2008 Best Female Songwriter.

She's also a member of The Rescues, a band that the California-based *Easy Reader* independent newspaper described as the "first Indie supergroup." Their sophomore album, *Let Loose the Horses*, will be released this year.

How did you become interested in music?

My dad [William Austin England '72] was a trombone player in the NC State Marching Band. When I was a little kid, he still had his trombone and he would get it out sometimes and play for us. He would march up and down the hallway, and we would follow him as if we were part of the marching band. I started writing songs in high school. [One night] I picked up my dad's old guitar. I was procrastinating on my calculus homework. I was like, "I think I'm just going to play guitar." I started gigging when I was at NC State, doing things like the Coffee Shack on campus. I got the bug! But I can't look back and say I had a plan, because for a career like this, there's no set path. You have to blaze your own path. So I just went for it.

What do you enjoy about your work? I still am always excited about writing a song that I love. That's like opening a present on

How did your Caldwell experience benefit you?

You've got to be stubborn and brave. You have to not take no for an answer. I've always been super driven and overachieving. [The Caldwell Fellows] definitely brought those qualities out in me. It's made me strong and hardworking and disciplined. Thinking outside of the box and being open-minded are things I learned and have continued to live by. —Ryan Greene

A CORE CALDWELL VALUE:

BREADTH Two-thirds of Caldwell Fellows are double majors or have a minor in a foreign language. About 20 percent are also active in visual and performing arts groups on campus, including the NCSU Dance Company, Raleigh Civic Symphony and the Grains of Time or Ladies in Red a cappella groups.

PHOTOGRAPH BY LINCOLN HANCOCK