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## Award Winning Singer-Songwriter Amber Lawrence to visit McCarthy Catholic College

AUSTAR for schools are very excited to announce that Country Music Channel (CMC) singer-songwriter Amber Lawrence will be travelling to schools in Armidale, Tamworth and Gunnedah as part of the AUSTAR for schools Music Month in October.

Amber has won a host of awards including Independent Artist of the Year and Independent Album of the Year at last year's APRA Music Awards. Amber has also recently released her highly anticipated second album "When It All Comes Down" in August 2009.

Amber will host music workshops for music students at **McCarthy Catholic College in Tamworth on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of October**. Students will be treated to a special acoustic performance by Amber, giving students an insight into music, performance and song writing. Amber will also discuss opportunities for students to get involved in the music and entertainment industry and encourage school students to pursue their goals.

Amber says she is delighted to be involved in the AUSTAR for schools program and is looking forward to visiting schools in Armidale, Tamworth and Gunnedah with the AUSTAR for schools program in October.

*"I'm going to visit schools in regional New South Wales and sing some country songs. I'm a country singer so I'm excited to be getting out into the country and talk to kids about how I've chased my dreams and goals. I have played at a few schools in the past and it's definitely one of the highlights of being an artist. I love signing at schools", said Amber.*

The AUSTAR for Schools Music Month is proudly supported by CMC and is an expansion of the existing curriculum based schools program including a subscription of 20 educational channels provided to schools in the AUSTAR service area free of charge. The program also includes exciting extracurricular activities with AUSTAR personalities visiting schools across the country helping to inspire students and further bring education to life as well as making learning fun.

One of the main objectives of the AUSTAR for schools program is to recognise and support the important issues and interests of the students, teachers, parents and wider community from a grassroots education perspective and address these with initiatives that are in line with the core values of the AUSTAR brand.

Upon completion of each school visit, AUSTAR will present a \$2000 grant to the participating school to be used by the school towards educational resources for students. The participating schools will also receive their very own acoustic guitar for the music department on behalf of AUSTAR for schools and CMC.

AUSTAR believes that quality education for regional Australian children is integral to the bright future of Australia and AUSTAR for schools is our way of making a positive contribution to this future.

### **AUSTAR for schools channels**

- The History channel
- Discovery Channel
- National Geographic Channel
- The Weather Channel
- Sky News Australia
- ABC 1
- SBS
- BBC World News
- CNN
- The Lifestyle Channel
- Lifestyle Food Channel
- Ovation
- Discovery Travel and Living
- Discovery Home and Health
- Discovery Science
- Aurora Community Television
- National Indigenous Television
- Sky News Business
- Animal Planet

To find out more about the AUSTAR for schools program and the other exciting interactive activities planned for 2009, visit the AUSTAR for schools website [www.schools.austar.com.au](http://www.schools.austar.com.au)

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