

The Familie To Establish Nashville HQ, Led By Royce Risser



Royce Risser

The Familie, a sports and music agency, has arrived in Nashville with the addition of two new hires.

Royce Risser, previously EVP of Promotion at Universal Music Group, has been hired as The Familie’s Head of Nashville and EVP of Country Music. He will be leading the company’s expansion into Music City. Additionally, The Familie has added artist manager **Chase Berlin** to the team.

As The Familie prepares to make Nashville its national headquarters, Risser will be overseeing and executing Nashville office operations. He will also be leading the development of The Familie’s new country division. The Familie’s roster currently includes artists such as **Machine Gun Kelly, Avril Lavigne, Jaden Hossler, Games We Play** and **sombr**.

Steve Astephen, Co-founder and CEO at The Familie, says, “We’ve been eyeing Nashville as the home for our new HQ since 2019, and Risser was the missing link we’d been waiting for. He’s a veteran on Music Row, has worked with most of the top names in country and is the perfect person to not just open a Familie office in Nashville, but to truly make us a Nashville firm. We’re thrilled to have him.”

Risser’s over three decades of experience includes a significant stint leading all promotion efforts at UMG Nashville. Risser played an integral role in the release of over 200 No.1 singles for artists such as George Strait, Vince Gill, Reba McEntire, Luke Bryan, Keith Urban, Chris Stapleton, Sam Hunt, Eric Church, Carrie Underwood, Dierks Bentley, Jon Pardi,

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THIS WEEK’S HEADLINES

The Familie To Establish Nashville HQ, Led By Royce Risser

Endurance Music Group Elevates Lauren Funk

Chris Fabiani Joins Leo33 As VP, Promotion & Marketing

Graham Barham Signs With Sony Music Nashville & Disruptor Records

Governor Bill Lee Introduces ELVIS Act

Shane Stevens Inks With Spirit Music Nashville

Dan + Shay Celebrate 10th No. 1 Single

City National Bank’s Martha Henderson To Retire

Cole Phillips Signs With Why&How, Records Nashville

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews

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a short film *becoming THE CROW* out now

HARDY

CURRENT SINGLE

TRUCK BED

TOP 15 AT COUNTRY RADIO



BIG LOUD

Brothers Osborne, Jordan Davis, Parker McCollum, Lee Ann Womack, Gary Allan, Josh Turner, Sugarland, Billy Currington, Kip Moore, Lady Antebellum, Little Big Town, the Mavericks, David Lee Murphy, Trisha Yearwood, Marty Stuart, Wynonna Judd, Mark Chesnutt, Tracy Byrd and many more.

“It’s been immediately clear to me that The Familie does things differently,” he shares. “I appreciate the team’s non-transactional approach to management, thoughtfully building artist brands and legacies through collaboration and a vast network of cross-industry alliances. Steve Astephen could easily be the smartest, most connected person I’ve ever met and can’t wait to work alongside him in this role. I know this team will be a refreshing addition to the Nashville scene while also integrating with and honoring the history and pedigree of Music Row. I’m absolutely fired up and honored to be at the helm of The Familie’s arrival in Nashville.”

Berlin, The Familie’s first artist manager in Nashville, will work under Risser to sign and develop promising country artists and build out the genre’s division for the company. He began his music industry career at WME before joining The AMG as an artist manager, working with artists like Kat & Alex and Jordan James. **MR**

Endurance Music Group Elevates Lauren Funk To VP Of Publishing



Lauren Funk. Photo: Ed Rode

Endurance Music Group (EMG) has elevated **Lauren Funk** to newly created position of Vice President of Publishing, effective immediately.

Funk joined EMG from Big Yellow Dog Music, where she spent seven years on the creative team working with Grammy winners **Maren Morris, Meghan Trainor, Josh Kear, Daniel Tashian** and more. She began her tenure as an intern in 2014, and was hired as Creative Manager upon graduation from Belmont University. In the following years, she secured cuts with artists including **Little Big Town, Blake Shelton, Josh Turner, Alan Jackson, Dustin Lynch** and more. In 2022, Funk was a member of the inaugural class of the CMA’s Women’s Leadership Academy.

Since joining EMG in 2021, she has been instrumental in the signing and/or retention of award-winning, multi-Platinum songwriter **Jordan Schmidt**, hit songwriter **Scotter Carusoe** and acclaimed singer-songwriter and producer **Jake Rose**. She will continue to manage the company’s relationships with its roster of hitmakers, including Records artist **Matt Stell**, songwriters and producers **Seth Alley** and **Paul Sikes**, among others, while identifying and signing promising new talent.

“I’m so proud to work with Lauren. It has been incredible to witness her growth as a creative leader and experience the impact she has made on the writers and artists at Endurance over the past couple of years. Her passion for the song and the songwriter is vital for the health of our creative industry, and we are lucky to have her on our team,” says **Michael Martin**, EMG President.

“The last two years at Endurance Music Group have been nothing short of amazing, and I am thrilled to take on this new role. I am so proud to work alongside our songwriters and creative team, who inspire me every day,” Funk adds. “I am beyond thankful to Michael Martin for his leadership, passion, and encouragement. I know 2024 is going to be our best year yet!” **MR**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

- Halfway To Hell/Jelly Roll/Broken Bow - 55
- Puttin' Up Hay/Alex Miller/Billy Jam Records - 77
- Go Find Less/Kayla McKinney/Twisted Trail Records - 78
- Gonna Love You/Parmalee/Stoney Creek - 79

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

- Man Made A Bar/Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church/Big Loud - 232
- One Bad Habit/Tim McGraw/Big Machine Records - 188
- Halfway To Hell/Jelly Roll/Broken Bow - 182
- Wildflowers and Wild Horses/Lainey Wilson/Broken Bow Records - 182
- Mamaw's House/Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen/Valory - 159

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

- One Bad Habit/Tim McGraw/Big Machine Records - 16
- Halfway To Hell/Jelly Roll/Broken Bow - 11
- Your Place/Ashley Cooke/Big Loud Records - 9
- Devil Had Blue Eyes/Julianna Rankin/17th Avenue - 9
- This Is My Dirt/Justin Moore/Valory - 8

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

- Same Bar, Different Town/Ryan Jewel/Ryan Jewel Music - 143
- Ready To Go/Lefroy/Stallion Records - 143
- Devil Had Blue Eyes/Julianna Rankin/17th Avenue - 136
- Drunk On You/Rob Fitzgerald/Riverbend Recordings - 133
- Boys Back Home/Dylan Marlowe & Dylan Scott/Columbia Nashville - 132

NO. 1 SONG



Luke Combs maintains his spot at the top of the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart this week with "Where The Wild Things Are."

Written by **Randy Montana** and **Dave Turnbull**, the song is about a set of brothers who, despite their differences, share a deep connection. The track appears on Combs' *Gettin' Old* album.

Next month Combs will compete for Best Country Solo Performance at the 66th annual Grammy Awards for his version of **Tracy Chapman's** song "Fast Car." In April, he will return to the road with his "Growin' Up and Gettin' Old" U.S. stadium tour, which sold over a million tickets in the first weekend on-sale.

"Where The Wild Things Are" currently sits at No. 8 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart and No. 7 on the Mediabase chart.



Each songwriter and artist earning No. 1 credit on the *MusicRow* Chart receives a *MusicRow* Challenge Coin. Click [here](#) to view a full list of recipients.

MusicRow CountryBreakout Chart Reporting Stations

WHMA Anniston, AL	WOOZ Carterville, IL	KYSM Mankato, MN	KPNC Ponca City, OK	KLLL Lubbock, TX
WXFL Florence, AL	WALS Peru, IL	WTCM Traverse City, MI	KWEY Weatherford, OK	KXOX Sweetwater, TX
KQUS Hot Springs, AR	WAAG Galesburg, IL	KZPK St. Cloud, MN	WCJW Warsaw, NY	WAKG Danville, VA
KDXY Jonesboro, AR	WYOT Rochelle, IL	KFAV Warrenton, MO	KWOX Woodward, OK	WAXX Altoona, WI
KBOD Mountain Home, AR	WRTB Rockford, IL	WBBN Laurel, MS	KRKT Albany, OR	WJVL Janesville, WI
KWCK Searcy, AR	WFMB Springfield, IL	WFAY Fayetteville, NC	KRWQ Medford, OR	WGLR Platteville, WI
KRAZ Santa Barbara, CA	WIFE Connorsville, IN	KZZY Devils Lake, ND	WVNW Lewistown, PA	WQPC Prairie du Chien, WI
WCTY Norwich, CT	KAIR Atchison, KS	KYCK Thompson, ND	WNBT Mansfield, PA	WJMQ Shawano, WI
WPPL Blue Ridge, GA	KQZQ Pratt, KS	KRVN Lexington, NE	WCFT Selinsgrove, PA	WCOW Sparta, WI
WUBB Savannah, GA	WKDZ Cadiz, KY	KFGE Lincoln, NE	KZZI Spearfish, SD	WDGG Huntington, WV
KXIA Marshalltown, IA	WDHR Pikeville, KY	KBRX O'Neill, NE	WUCZ Carthage, TN	
KIAI Mason City, IA	KRRV Alexandria, LA	KQBA Santa Fe, NM	WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN	
KTHK Idaho Falls, ID	KQKI Morgan City, LA	WDNB Monticello, NY	KFTX Corpus Christi, TX	
KKMV Rupert, ID	WKPE Hyannis, MA	KITX Hugo, OK	KYKX Longview, TX	

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
11	1	1	Where The Wild Things Are / Luke Combs / River House Artists/Columbia Nashville	1893/57	3	54
14	3	2	I Can Feel It / Kane Brown / Zone 4/RCA Nashville	1786/58	9	149
23	2	3	White Horse / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville	1773/51	0	2
20	5	4	The Painter / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville	1684/53	6	93
24	6	5	Pretty Little Poison / Warren Zeiders / Warner Records	1660/56	8	121
39	4	6	Creek Will Rise / Conner Smith / Valory	1642/58	1	18
28	9	7	Burn It Down / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	1515/57	6	88
12	10	8	Mamaw's House / Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen / Valory	1507/64	12	159
19	8	9	Cab In A Solo / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	1480/58	2	33
38	11	10	23 / Chayce Beckham / BMG	1242/43	2	22
28	12	11	We Don't Fight Anymore / Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton / Big Machine	1233/58	2	25
27	7	12	Mind On You / George Birge / RECORDS	1208/37	-18	-257
7	16	13	Wildflowers and Wild Horses / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow Records	1170/57	18	182
7	18	14	Man Made A Bar / Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church / Big Loud	1150/59	25	232
7	15	15	Take Her Home / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville	1118/55	11	115
52	13	16	Fearless / Jackson Dean / Big Machine	1112/49	8	80
19	14	17	Tucson Too Late / Jordan Davis / MCA Nashville	1077/54	7	73
32	19	18	Truck Bed / HARDY / Big Loud Records	1043/45	17	148
15	22	19	Back Then Right Now / Tyler Hubbard / EMI Nashville	956/47	12	102
8	17	20	Rodeo Man / Garth Brooks and Ronnie Dunn / Big Machine Records	936/53	-1	-12
29	21	21	Glory Days / Gabby Barrett / Warner Music Nashville	916/44	5	45
27	20	22	Wine Country / Hannah Ellis / Curb Records	884/48	-1	-5
11	24	23	Cowboys and Plowboys / Jon Pardi and Luke Bryan / Capitol Nashville	880/47	7	59
22	23	24	I'm Not Pretty / Megan Moroney / Arista Nashville/Columbia Records	837/48	-2	-15
11	25	25	Under this Ole Hat / Sawyer Brown / Curb Records	834/53	2	20
6	26	26	Let Your Boys Be Country / Jason Aldean / Macon Music/Broken Bow	817/46	15	108
6	32	27	This Is My Dirt / Justin Moore / Valory	714/50	25	143
13	33	28	Can't Break Up Now / Old Dominion with Megan Moroney / Columbia Nashville	709/46	25	141
37	27	29	Nobody's Nobody / Brothers Osborne / EMI	702/34	0	-2
15	28	30	I Remember Everything / Zach Bryan feat. Kacey Musgraves / Warner Records	687/40	2	16
12	29	31	Two Dozen Roses / Shenandoah & Luke Combs / 8 Track Entertainment/ADA	675/47	8	48
31	35	32	Out Of That Truck / Carrie Underwood / Capitol Records	606/31	11	59
9	34	33	Outlaws and Mustangs / Cody Jinks / Late August Records	606/43	9	52
12	31	34	Where It Ends / Bailey Zimmerman / Warner Music Nashville	594/37	4	22
20	30	35	Wait Til I'm Gone / Donice Morace / Bad Jeu Jeu Records/CDX Records	557/32	-4	-24
15	36	36	Young Love & Saturday Nights / Chris Young / RCA	523/31	2	12
3	44	37	Your Place / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud Records	496/36	43	150
25	38	38	Drinkin' Problems / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records	494/31	11	47
12	37	39	I'm In Love / Hailey Whitters / Pigasus/Big Loud Records/S&D	472/34	6	25



Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
22	39	40	Outskirts / Sam Hunt / MCA Nashville	464/29	16	63
13	41	41	Vertigo / Morgan Myles / KZZ Music/Blue Élan Records	398/27	6	24
17	40	42	Always You / Trey Lewis / River House Artists	390/28	4	15
12	42	43	A Man Like You / American Blonde / American Blonde Music	383/30	4	13
10	45	44	Tractors And Trucks / Dave Wilbert / Wilbilly Records	347/24	5	16
13	47	45	Thicc As Thieves / Lauren Alaina / Big Loud Records	339/22	7	23
3	52	46	Chevrolet / Dustin Lynch feat. Jelly Roll / Broken Bow Records	333/26	15	44
9	48	47	Drink About That / Ken Domash / Thunder Mountain Records	333/26	6	18
2	79	48	One Bad Habit / Tim McGraw / Big Machine Records	331/27	127	188
6	50	49	Love You Again / Chase Matthew / Warner Music Nashville	319/25	7	20
13	51	50	You Or The Whiskey / Sydney Hansen / Sydney Hansen Music	312/18	6	19
44	46	51	We Ride / Bryan Martin / Average Joes Entertainment	309/22	-3	-11
24	49	52	Something's Gonna Kill Me / Corey Kent / RCA Nashville	301/20	0	0
10	54	53	Get Me Now / Matt VanFossen	289/16	18	44
14	55	54	He Don't Mind / Waylon Hanel / Waylon Hanel Music	256/16	5	13
1	106	55	Halfway To Hell / Jelly Roll / Broken Bow	253/17	127	182
14	53	56	Rough Around The Edges / Exile / Clearwater Records	252/15	1	3
2	65	57	Love You Back / Lady A / BMLG Records	232/18	29	52
10	56	58	Lovin' Not Leavin' / Wade Bowen / Bowen Sounds	227/15	-2	-4
6	66	59	Back At The Bar / Landon Parker / Bad Ass Records	221/12	23	41
7	59	60	Before You / Glen Shelton / Jordash	220/14	8	17
9	57	61	Extra / Katie Linendoll	220/12	-2	-4
5	60	62	Pickup Man / HIXTAPE ft. Post Malone/Joe Diffie / Big Loud Records/Mercury	209/16	3	7
7	63	63	He Himself & Him / Annie Vander / VanderFire Records	206/8	11	21
11	61	64	Spirits and Demons / Michael Ray ft. Meghan Patrick / Warner Music Nashville	200/14	2	4
10	62	65	Certified / Laura Bryna	196/18	1	2
5	64	66	Amazin' What Just The Right 3 Minutes Can Do / Larry, Steve and Rudy The Gatlin Brothers / CDX Records/Sony Orchard	191/12	5	9
3	69	67	God Bless the Radio / Flat River Band / Early Bird Records	189/14	12	20
2	78	68	Jack and Diet Coke / Redferrin / Duncan Music Group/WMN	184/17	25	37
8	67	69	Front Porch Swing / Luke Kelly / General Records	182/12	2	3
23	74	70	Dance With You / Brett Young / BMLG Records	179/13	12	19
3	68	71	Small Town Famous / Bowman / Reviver/Nine North	179/13	1	1
2	73	72	New Neon / Cliff Dorsey / Black Sheep Records	172/11	8	12
7	77	73	Love Is Real / Shelley Lynch / CDX Records	171/9	13	20
4	70	74	Be The Whiskey / Julia Cole / Smokeshow Music	171/14	3	5
6	76	75	True Story / Jon Brennan / CDX Records	165/10	7	11
17	72	76	In Your Love / Tyler Childers / Hickman Holler Records/RCA Records	163/12	0	0
1	89	77	Puttin' Up Hay / Alex Miller / Billy Jam Records	162/13	40	46
1	82	78	Go Find Less / Kayla McKinney / Twisted Trail Records	158/11	23	30
1	88	79	Gonna Love You / Parmalee / Stoney Creek	154/10	25	31
28	71	80	Something Real / Dierks Bentley / Capitol Nashville	147/9	-11	-19

No. 1 Song
 Greatest Spin Increase
 Highest Debut

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Chris Fabiani Joins Leo33 As VP, Promotion & Marketing



Chris Fabiani has joined the Nashville-based independent label Leo33 as Vice President, Promotion & Marketing.

With a career spanning over 16 years in the music industry, Fabiani brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his new role at the label. The MTSU graduate started at Universal Music Group (UMG) Distribution in 2006, before transitioning into promotion as a coordinator at UMG. In 2012, Fabiani was promoted to a regional position with EMI Nashville, where he spent six years working with artists including **Eric Church, Brothers Osborne, Brandon Lay, Gary Allan, Jon Langston** and more. In 2019, he entered the role of Director of Promotion & Artist Engagement. In this capacity, Fabiani led the development of innovative marketing opportunities, in partnership with the marketing team, and explored various ways to connect with diverse audiences.

In 2020, he joined Warner Music Nashville as a regional for the WEA team, leveraging his expertise to contribute to the success of artists under the label umbrella. In 2022, he ascended to National Director, overseeing campaigns for artists such as **Blake Shelton, Cody Johnson, Cole Swindell, Ashley McBryde** and **Breland**.

“We are thrilled to welcome Chris Fabiani to the Leo33 family,” says **Katie Dean**, Head of Leo33. “His extensive industry experience, strategic acumen and proven ability to connect with artists aligns seamlessly with Leo33’s vision of fostering innovation and artistic growth. We are confident that Chris will play a pivotal role in elevating our artists and contributing to the continued success of Leo33.” **MR**

Graham Barham Signs With Sony Music Nashville & Disruptor Records



Graham Barham. Photo: Jesse DeFlorio

Singer-songwriter **Graham Barham** is starting 2024 by sharing the news of his signing with Sony Music Nashville and Disruptor Records as well as his latest single “Lights On Nobody’s Home,” out last Friday (Jan. 5).

“I’m so grateful for the opportunity to work with the incredible teams at Sony Music Nashville and Disruptor,” he says. “It really is a blessing to partner with companies who have such a long history of developing artists and innovating musically. I couldn’t be more excited or grateful to have them in my corner.”

The Oak Ridge, Louisiana native draws inspiration from the imagery of his small hometown. He began singing in church when he was little, and had taught himself to play guitar and write music by the age of 10. At age 18, Barham made his way to Music City and began penning tunes for artists in town, working to hone a balance of compassion, honesty and humor in his songwriting, while pulling elements of classic country influences like George Strait and heavy hitters in the pop space.

Written by Barham, **Beau Bailey, Will Bundy** and **Brad Clawson**, “Lights On Nobody’s Home” is a playful take on drinking away heartbreak. The track is the first taste of all the new music the artist plans to release this year.

Additionally, Barham will join **Adam Doleac** on select dates of his [“Wrong Side Of A Sunrise 2024 Tour”](#) this spring. **MR**

Governor Bill Lee Introduces ELVIS Act For Likeness, Voice & Image Protection



Pictured (L-R): Majority Leader of the Tennessee Senate, Jack Johnson; Tennessee House Majority Leader, William Lamberth; songwriter Jamie Moore; CEO of Sound Credit, Gebre Waddell; Governor of Tennessee, Bill Lee; singer-songwriters Michael W. Smith and Lindsay Eil. Photo: Ed Rode/Getty Images for RIAA

At a press conference at Studio A in Nashville on Wednesday (Jan. 10), Tennessee Governor **Bill Lee** introduced bicameral legislation alongside State Senate Majority Leader **Jack Johnson** (R-27) and House Majority Leader **William Lamberth** (R-44) regarding concerns about creators' voice, image and likeness rights.

The Ensuring Likeness Voice and Image Security (ELVIS) Act updates Tennessee's Protection of Personal Rights law, making it the first state in the nation to preserve individual voice, image and likeness against irresponsible and unethical artificial intelligence (AI) in the form of deepfakes and audio cloning. The ELVIS Act seeks to protect the future of Tennessee creators from the harmful misuse of technology on some online platforms, such as computer-generated recordings that resemble artists' voices or deepfake videos.

Christian music icon **Michael W. Smith** welcomed the artists, songwriters, music industry folk and legislative leaders gathered at the press conference. He shared, "As a working artist and songwriter, I know how vital it is to build a creative environment that protects the work and individuality of future generations of dreamers. While I am grateful for existing tools that have helped me craft both my music and my message, even more personal gifts and attributes have a right to be protected from digital manipulations. I'm honored to be here today as a voice supporting the ELVIS Act to protect my fellow musicians today and in the future."

Governor Lee said, "From Beale Street to Broadway and beyond, Tennessee is known for our rich artistic heritage that tells the story of our great state. As the technology landscape evolves with artificial intelligence, we're proud to lead the nation in proposing legal protection for our best-in-class artists and songwriters."

Other attendees supporting today's update to Tennessee's Right of Publicity law include artists, songwriters, producers and engineers such as **Ruby Amanfu, Steve Cropper, Tom Douglas, Lindsay Eil, Matt Maher, Jamie Moore, Ari Morris, Lawrence "Boo" Mitchell** (Royal Studios), **Maggie Rose, Joanne Shaw Taylor, Gebre Waddell, Matthew West** and **Lainey Wilson**.

Artist and songwriter advocacy organizations have come out in support of the ELVIS Act, including NSAI, NMPA, RIAA, the Recording Academy, A2IM, Artist Rights Alliance, SAG-AFTRA and SoundExchange.

Notably, RIAA Chairman & CEO **Mitch Glazier** also released a statement [earlier on Wednesday](#) in support of the No Artificial Intelligence Fake Replicas And Unauthorized Duplications Act of 2024 (No AI Fraud Act). The bipartisan legislation introduced by Representatives **María Elvira Salazar** (R-FL-27), **Madeleine Dean** (D-PA-4), **Nathaniel Moran** (R-TX-1), **Joe Morelle** (D-NY-25) and **Rob Wittman** (R-VA-1) also aims to combat abusive AI deepfakes, voice clones and exploitive digital human impersonations. **MR**

Shane Stevens Inks With Spirit Music Nashville

Shane Stevens has signed a worldwide publishing deal with Spirit Music Nashville.

Stevens has co-written No. 1s including **Lady A**'s "American Honey" and the massive 2021 smash "Fancy Like" by **Walker Hayes**, which hit No. 1 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart, No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot Country Songs chart and No. 3 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart. The track is certified 6X Platinum and was nominated in 2021 for a Best Country Song Grammy Award. "American Honey" hit No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot Country Songs chart and won NSAI's award for "Songs I Wish I'd Written." The song also garnered Millionaire and Most-Performed Country Songs of the Year awards from BMI. Stevens has also had cuts with **Selena Gomez, Ariana Grande, Carrie Underwood, Jesse McCartney, Sara Evans, Jordin Sparks, Meghan Trainor** and more.

"Shane is a force of nature! He is a multi-talented singer, songwriter, TV personality, stylist, antique furniture restorer and hundreds of other things that I continue to learn about daily," says **Frank Rogers**, Chief Creative Officer, Spirit Music Group/Chief Executive Officer, Spirit Music Nashville.

"We are thrilled to welcome Shane to the Spirit family and are excited about the music he is making and is going to make! This is going to be a fun ride!"

"I couldn't feel more honored or more blessed to be a part of this team at Spirit," shares Stevens. "I can feel it in my bones that we have just entered into what will be an abundant partnership for years to come. I've found my people."

MR



Pictured (L-R, back row): Leisl Eschbach, Milom Crow Kelley Beckett Shehan PLC; AJ Burton, Fluid Music Revolution; David Crow, Milom Crow Kelley Beckett Shehan PLC; Matthew Beckett, Milom Crow Kelley Beckett Shehan PLC; Brian Bradford, Spirit Music Nashville; Andy Hodges, Spirit Music Nashville; (L-R, front row): Derek Wells, Spirit Music Nashville; Kara Jackson, Spirit Music Nashville; Shane Stevens; Frank Rogers, Spirit Music Group/Spirit Music Nashville; Kennedy Murphy, Spirit Music Nashville. Photo: Courtesy of Spirit

Dan + Shay Celebrate 10th No. 1 Single 'Save Me The Trouble'



Pictured (L-R, top row): Michael Chase, Connor Brock, Kristen Williams, Tom Martens and Lisa Ray; (L-R, middle row): Kayla Burnett, Sam Nepsa and James Marsh; (L-R, bottom row): Dan + Shay

Dan + Shay recently celebrated their 10th No. 1 single "Save Me The Trouble," which is featured on their fifth studio album *Bigger Houses*, with the Warner Music Nashville radio team.

Co-written by **Dan Smyers** and **Shay Mooney** alongside **Ashley Gorley, Jordan Minton** and **Jordan Reynolds**, the track entered country radio as the highest *Country Aircheck* debut since June 2022 and marked multi-Platinum pair's largest career add day ever. "Save Me The Trouble" also topped the [MusicRow CountryBreakout Radio Chart](#) in October.

Additionally, the superstar duo recently joined the Spotify Billionaires Club with "10,000 Hours," the smash single they recorded with Justin Bieber. They will hit the road on "The Heartbreak On The Map Tour" next month and will become the first-ever coaching duo on NBC's [The Voice](#) this spring. **MR**

City National Bank's Martha Henderson To Retire



Martha Henderson

Longtime leader at City National Bank, **Martha Henderson**, will retire from her position as Vice Chairman of Entertainment Banking on Feb. 2.

She has served the entertainment industry for more than 40 years at the bank.

“Since our founding in 1954, City National has had an unparalleled history of support for the entertainment industry, which is personified by Martha Henderson,” says **Kelly Coffey**, CEO of City National Entertainment. “Martha is an institution at City National and I am grateful for her extraordinary service—her decades of leadership and the profound impact she has had are felt throughout the organization.”

Henderson joined City National in 1983 from Wells Fargo, where she launched her career in its private bank unit serving the entertainment industry. When she joined CNB, she was just one of 16 colleagues on the Entertainment Banking team.

Named Head of the Business in 1989, CNB’s team serving the entertainment industry has grown substantially under Henderson’s leadership.

According to CNB, the bank now provides financial expertise to more than 90% of entertainment business managers, more than

half of all Broadway shows, more than 80% of the country music industry in Nashville and some of the biggest names in the sports and Latin entertainment industries.

Henderson led the strategic expansion of Entertainment Banking into New York, as well as the opening of the bank’s first offices in Atlanta and on Music Row in Nashville in 2011, and most recently, in Miami in 2019. Her impact and influence has made her widely recognized as one of the most powerful executives in the entertainment industry.

“Martha leaves a legacy of City National leaders poised to move the business and industry forward thanks to her long-standing commitment to colleague development and client-focus,” says **Howard Hammond**, CEO of City National Bank. “As she prepared for retirement over the last several years, Martha invested herself in ensuring the continuing Entertainment Banking leadership team is well prepared to support our clients. Those leaders include **JaHan Wang**, Executive Vice President of Entertainment Banking—we are fortunate to continue to benefit from his deep experience.”

“I deeply appreciate my decades-long career at City National, and the meaningful and rewarding relationships I have built here and across the entertainment industry,” shares Henderson. “Among the career highlights I am most proud of is the opportunity I had to grow and develop the next generation of leadership at the bank to continue our focus on serving clients. I’m confident City National’s unwavering dedication to the industry will only grow.”

Henderson is a long-time supporter of Project Angel Food, where she is a member of its Circle of Angels. She serves on the boards of the Friends of Saban Community Clinic and the Geffen Playhouse, for which she was previously a co-chair. She also volunteers her time to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles. **MR**

Cole Phillips Signs With Why&How, Records Nashville



Cole Phillips

Cole Phillips has signed management representation and record deals with Why&How and Records Nashville.

The 18-year-old Oklahoma native drew significant attention with his breakout song, “Drinking Alone,” which went viral on TikTok and has amassed 15 million audio streams in the United States.

Phillips is a self-taught singer-songwriter and guitarist whose musical influences range from Zac Brown, Zach Bryan, Cody Jinks and David Allan Coe to Metallica and Nirvana.

“Cole has a remarkable ability to capture emotion and storytelling beyond his 18 years. His debut song, ‘Drinking Alone,’ gained organic virality, resonating deeply with a broad audience. That kind of talent can’t be taught,” shares **Bruce Kalmick**, Founder & CEO, Why&How. “We are thrilled to be collaborating with the Records Nashville team to champion such an enthusiastic and gifted musician, and can’t wait to see what we build together in the years ahead.”

“Cole Phillips is the real deal. His music is authentic and honest. From the moment we heard him, we wanted to work together. The whole team at Records Nashville is thrilled to partner with Cole as well as Bruce’s team at Why&How,” says **Josh Easler**, EVP of Promotion & Commercial Strategy, Records Nashville.

This year, Phillips has plans for multiple live shows and the release of his forthcoming debut album.

MR

Warner Chappell Music & Space Colonel Publishing Sign Joey Green



Joey Green. Photo: Brofoto Productions

Warner Chappell Music and Space Colonel Publishing have signed NBC’s *The Voice* season 15 contestant **Joey Green** to a global publishing deal.

Green has released eight albums throughout his career, his latest being *Heart Lessons*, which he debuted while opening for **Lainey Wilson** in November at Billy Bob’s Texas in Fort Worth. *Heart Lessons* blends rock, soulful country and ’90s alternative sounds. Multiple singles released from his last two albums have landed Green spots on Spotify’s New Music Friday, Fresh Finds Country and New Music Nashville playlists, among others.

The singer-songwriter has shared the stage with other artists including **Parker McCollum**, **Eli Young Band**, **Randy Rogers**, **Kevin Fowler**, **Sean McConnell**, **Sam Riggs** and **Giovannie & The Hired Guns**. Green was also a part of the 2023 “Texas Music Takeover Tour,” where he performed with **Pat Green**, **Koe Wetzel**, **Vaden Todd Lewis** of **Toadies**, **Casey Donahew**, **Cody Canada** and **Wade Bowen**.

“Joey Green has been a top-tier songwriter for years, and I am beyond excited to have him join our team,” says **Beau Bedford**, Partner, Producer & Songwriter at Space Colonel Publishing. **MR**

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Chris Young Delivers Smoldering New Track



Chris Young. Photo: John Shearer

Vintage artists vie with contemporary country acts today in DISCLAIMER.

Wade Hayes, Sawyer Brown and Billy Dean are still singing fine. But so are Brian Kelley, Gabby Barrett and Chris Young. Mr. Young easily takes home a Disc of the Day award for his stunning “Right Now” performance.

Lizzie No is one of three Black country stylists in today’s column. She competes for a DISCOVERY Award alongside Jessie G and The Castellows. In a tough, all-female contest, The Castellows earn the honor.

[Click here to read Robert K. Oermann's weekly single reviews.](#)

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[Gabby Barrett Reveals Track List For Upcoming New Project ‘Chapter & Verse’](#)

[Weekly Register: Luke Combs Takes Back Top Five Slot On Country Songs Chart](#)

CALENDAR

Single/Track Releases

January 12

Ryan O’Neill/*Fly*

January 15

Robert Bacon/*Out of the Blue*/Thrive Label Group

Amy Sheppard/*Overthinking*/Empire of Song

January 19

Matt Jordan/*The Greatest Story* (feat. Kayley Bishop)/ONErpm

Album/EP Releases

January 12

Hannah Ellis/*That Girl*/Curb Records

Ian Yates/*Battleands Vol. 2*/Core Music

Kyle Park/*All Nighters*

January 19

Brittney Spencer/*My Stupid Life*/Elektra

Colby T. Helms/*Tales of Misfortune*/Photo Finish Records

Niko Moon/*Better Days*

Chase Bryant/*Summerville*

Industry Events

February 4

66th Annual Grammy Awards

February 28 – March 1

CRS