

BMG Promotes Jon Loba To President Frontline Recordings, North America



Pictured (L-R): Jon Loba, Thomas Coesfeld and Thomas Scherer. Photo: Courtesy of BMG

BMG is now increasing investment in its U.S. record labels as it “doubles down” on its North America operation, which already accounts for more than 50 percent of its revenue. As part of the plan, BMG Nashville President **Jon Loba** will become President Frontline Recordings, North America, taking charge of BMG’s entire North American frontline records business across Nashville, Los Angeles, New York and Canada. His other responsibilities include the Rise (Spiritbox, Sum 41) and RBC (Chief Keef, Run The Jewels) imprints as well as the main BMG label.

Additionally, **Thomas Scherer**, who oversaw publishing and recordings in Los Angeles and New York, will become President Global Catalog Recordings, while retaining his responsibilities as President, Music Publishing, North America. Alongside CFO North America **Joe Gillen**, they will comprise BMG’s U.S.-based leadership.

BMG CEO **Thomas Coesfeld** says, “We are making good on our promise to double down on our U.S. operation with a distinctive new approach: an integrated frontline operation spanning the whole of North America plus a Global Catalog business steered from Los Angeles. BMG is stepping up. This is an integral part of our new strategy to deliver for artists and songwriters and go for growth.”

Loba joined BMG in 2017 when the company acquired Nashville-based BBR Music Group. He has since grown a roster that already included country superstars **Jason Aldean** and **Dustin Lynch** to breakout artists such as **Blanco Brown**, **Parmalee** and 2024 Grammy nominees **Jelly Roll** and **Lainey Wilson**. In 2023, Loba played a key role in BMG receiving its

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THIS WEEK’S HEADLINES

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first *Billboard* Hot 100 No. 1 with Aldean's "Try That In A Small Town," and Jelly Roll and Wilson accounted for six of the 12 awards presented at the CMA Awards.

"Under Jon Loba, BMG Nashville has exceeded our expectations year after year. Jon is not only one of the most accomplished record executives in Nashville, the multi-genre success he has achieved with Jelly Roll makes him the ideal person to take additional responsibility for our Los Angeles, New York and Canada recordings business as we further pursue our objective of making BMG the most effective and artist-friendly destination for artists, both established and new," says Coesfeld. "Jon is a true entrepreneur and combines music savvy with an instinctive and well-rounded managerial style. I am delighted he is stepping up to take on this challenge."

"We have created something special with our artists in Nashville. I am excited at the opportunity to apply the timeless formula we have employed there—genuine partnership with authentic new artists—to BMG's broader North American recorded business," shares Loba. "I am grateful to Thomas Coesfeld for his constant inspiration and trust and to the broader BMG team. It's been an exciting six months since Thomas was named CEO. His energetic and strategic approach to the business has been very inspirational for all of us, because that's the way our Nashville team runs. I'm looking so forward to working even closer with our staff throughout North America and as important, helping bring the visions of our amazing artists to life." **MR**

Lisa Harless Retires After More Than 38 Years With Regions Bank [Exclusive]



Lisa Harless

Music Row veteran **Lisa Harless** has retired from her position as Sr. VP/Wealth Advisor, Entertainment and Sports Division of Regions Bank. She was with the company for more than 38 years.

"When I reflect on the past three and half decades, I am incredibly blessed to have known and worked with the legendary and incredibly talented individuals I have worked with—and how fulfilling to have been involved in helping them achieve their financial and career goals," Harless tells *MusicRow*. "How fortunate I have been to work with a company like Regions which gives back to our community in countless ways, is an annual corporate sponsor of key music industry organizations, and is the title sponsor of the NSAI's Tin Pan South Songwriters Festival."

Harless, a graduate of Lipscomb University, joined Regions in 1985 following time at Aetna Casualty and Surety. In her executive post at the bank, she assisted clients with a wide range of financial services including deposit and credit needs, investments and estate and financial planning.

Private Wealth Advisor **Chase Chapman** and Music Row Branch Manager **Melodie Zack** will now head Regions' Music Row leadership team.

"I have tremendous confidence in our Regions Music Row leadership team," Harless says. "Chapman and Zack share my passion for meeting the financial needs of those in the entertainment industry, and this is the ideal time to turn the banking leadership reins over to them to carry on our tradition of outstanding client service!"

In retirement, Harless will enthusiastically continue her involvement with music and songwriter events, supporting the non-profits close to her heart and serving on Boards and Advisory Councils of key organizations. She also plans to travel with her husband and spend time with her family.

In recognition of her retirement, the Regions Foundation of TN has honored Harless with a \$10,000 donation to W.O. Smith Music School in her honor, an organization she holds dear. **MR**

Chris Young's Attorney Releases Statement



Chris Young. Photo: Jeff Johnson

Chris Young's attorney **Bill Ramsey** has issued a statement denouncing the singer's arrest earlier this week, when he was charged with disorderly conduct, assaulting an officer and resisting arrest after an altercation at a bar in Nashville.

After his arrest on Monday night (Jan. 22), Young's mugshot was shared across social media and national media outlets. Reports shared that he had allegedly assaulted a Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) agent who was checking IDs at a downtown bar in Nashville.

Video evidence that surfaced on Wednesday (Jan. 24) seemed to show that the agent initiated the physical altercation with Young.

Though the singer has been unable to comment directly on the incident, his attorney has spoken out.

"What happened to my client Chris Young at a bar in Nashville on Monday night was wrong and he never should have been arrested and charged in the first place," Ramsey says. "In light of the video evidence, Tennessee ABC needs to drop the charges and apologize for the physical, emotional and professional harm done towards my client." **MR**

Beville Dunkerley Joins Maverick As VP, Marketing



Beville Dunkerley

Beville Dunkerley has joined management company Maverick as VP of Marketing.

In the newly created role, Dunkerley will lead the marketing and creative efforts for Maverick's roster that includes **Jason Aldean, Brooks & Dunn, Darius Rucker, Hootie & the Blowfish** and more.

"**Clarence Spalding** and **Chris Parr** have assembled a top-notch team of not only innovative thinkers but also salt-of-the-earth, kindhearted people," she says. "I am incredibly excited to join this team, collaborating on a roster of artists who've adorned my personal playlists for decades. (Let's be honest, they had me at Hootie & the Blowfish!)"

Dunkerley started her music career at WSM Radio, and previously served as Head of Country Music Talent & Industry Relations at SiriusXM/Pandora. [She exited the position in March of last year.](#)

Dunkerley is also the Co-Founder of both *Rolling Stone Country* and *The Boot*. **MR**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

- Sounds Like The Radio/Zach Top/Leo33 - 53
- Bigger Houses/Dan + Shay/Warner Music Nashville - 75
- Beat You There/Will Dempsey - 77
- Overthinking/Amy Sheppard/Empire of Song - 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

- Sounds Like The Radio/Zach Top/Leo33 - 147
- Wildflowers and Wild Horses/Lainey Wilson/Broken Bow Records - 115
- Halfway To Hell/Jelly Roll/Broken Bow - 110
- Man Made A Bar/Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church/Big Loud - 93
- Can't Break Up Now/Old Dominion with Megan Moroney/ Columbia Nashville - 72

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

- Sounds Like The Radio/Zach Top/Leo33 - 11
- Halfway To Hell/Jelly Roll/Broken Bow - 7
- Bigger Houses/Dan + Shay/Warner Music Nashville - 5

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

- Wheels/Bucky Covington/BareFootin Inc. - 141
- My Type/Hunter Lott/Duncan Music Group - 132
- You Don't Know Me/Dianña/Billieegee Productions - 131
- I Ain't Been Drinkin'/Brian James/Belle Chasse Records - 125
- Right Now Kinda Girl/Billie Jo Jones/Get Joe Records - 122

NO. 1 SONG



Luke Combs' "Where The Wild Things Are" has notched its fourth week at No. 1 on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart this week, making it Combs' longest consecutive run at No. 1 on the *MusicRow* chart. His hit "The Kind Of Love We Make" spent four non-consecutive weeks at No. 1 in 2022.

"Where The Wild Things Are" is also Combs' 20th *MusicRow* No. 1 as an artist, including collaborations. It was written by **Randy Montana** and **Dave Turnbull** and appears on Combs' *Gettin' Old* album.

Combs will perform on the annual Grammy Awards telecast on Feb. 4, where he is also up for an award for Best Country Solo Performance with "Fast Car."

"Where The Wild Things Are" currently sits at No. 7 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart and No. 5 on the Mediabase chart.



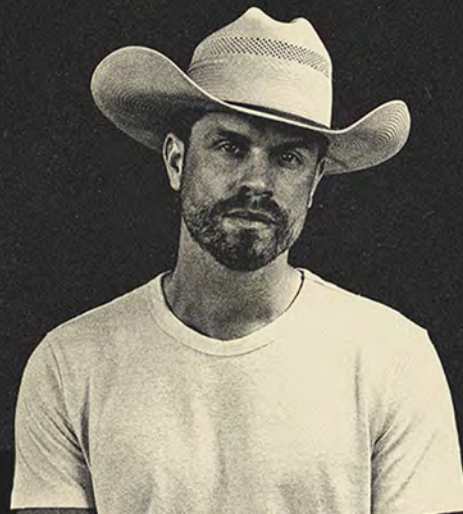
Each songwriter and artist earning No. 1 credit on the *MusicRow* Chart receives a *MusicRow* Challenge Coin. Click [here](#) to view a full list of recipients.

MusicRow CountryBreakout Chart Reporting Stations

WHMA Anniston, AL	WOOZ Carterville, IL	KYSM Mankato, MN	KNPC 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 +/-
13	1	1	Where The Wild Things Are / Luke Combs / River House Artists/Columbia Nashville	1995/56	-1	-22
16	2	2	I Can Feel It / Kane Brown / Zone 4/RCA Nashville	1912/58	1	21
26	3	3	Pretty Little Poison / Warren Zeiders / Warner Records	1855/57	1	16
25	4	4	White Horse / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville	1831/50	0	9
22	5	5	The Painter / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville	1811/53	2	32
41	6	6	Creek Will Rise / Conner Smith / Valory	1699/57	1	17
14	7	7	Mamaw's House / Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen / Valory	1675/64	4	58
21	8	8	Cab In A Solo / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	1570/60	0	3
30	9	9	Burn It Down / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	1568/57	2	34
9	10	10	Man Made A Bar / Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church / Big Loud	1415/61	7	93
9	12	11	Wildflowers and Wild Horses / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow Records	1412/59	9	115
40	13	12	23 / Chayce Beckham / BMG	1344/44	5	61
30	11	13	We Don't Fight Anymore / Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton / Big Machine	1312/58	0	1
9	14	14	Take Her Home / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville	1211/58	2	18
54	15	15	Fearless / Jackson Dean / Big Machine	1209/48	2	22
21	16	16	Tucson Too Late / Jordan Davis / MCA Nashville	1161/55	5	50
34	17	17	Truck Bed / HARDY / Big Loud Records	1097/47	4	40
31	18	18	Glory Days / Gabby Barrett / Warner Music Nashville	1031/48	6	58
13	19	19	Cowboys and Plowboys / Jon Pardi and Luke Bryan / Capitol Nashville	996/51	3	33
17	20	20	Back Then Right Now / Tyler Hubbard / EMI Nashville	984/48	3	30
13	24	21	Under this Ole Hat / Sawyer Brown / Curb Records	910/54	7	61
15	26	22	Can't Break Up Now / Old Dominion with Megan Moroney / Columbia Nashville	908/53	9	72
24	25	23	I'm Not Pretty / Megan Moroney / Arista Nashville/Columbia Records	901/48	7	57
10	21	24	Rodeo Man / Garth Brooks and Ronnie Dunn / Big Machine Records	898/54	-3	-25
8	22	25	Let Your Boys Be Country / Jason Aldean / Macon Music/Broken Bow	882/52	2	20
29	23	26	Wine Country / Hannah Ellis / Curb Records	857/48	0	-3
8	27	27	This Is My Dirt / Justin Moore / Valory	799/52	6	44
17	28	28	I Remember Everything / Zach Bryan feat. Kacey Musgraves / Warner Records	773/43	5	34
14	29	29	Where It Ends / Bailey Zimmerman / Warner Music Nashville	766/47	4	28
14	30	30	Two Dozen Roses / Shenandoah & Luke Combs / 8 Track Entertainment/ADA	740/47	3	24
11	32	31	Outlaws and Mustangs / Cody Jinks / Late August Records	657/46	4	24
5	33	32	Your Place / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud Records	656/46	8	46
33	34	33	Out Of That Truck / Carrie Underwood / Capitol Records	623/29	4	25
17	35	34	Young Love & Saturday Nights / Chris Young / RCA	565/34	6	30
14	37	35	I'm In Love / Hailey Whitters / Pigasus/Big Loud Records/S&D	523/38	2	8
27	36	36	Drinkin' Problems / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records	517/33	0	1
4	38	37	One Bad Habit / Tim McGraw / Big Machine Records	516/31	13	58
24	39	38	Outskirts / Sam Hunt / MCA Nashville	449/30	-1	-6
15	40	39	Vertigo / Morgan Myles / KZZ Music/Blue Élan Records	440/30	4	17



Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
3	47	40	Halfway To Hell / Jelly Roll / Broken Bow	430/31	34	110
14	41	41	A Man Like You / American Blonde / American Blonde Music	418/32	7	26
19	42	42	Always You / Trey Lewis / River House Artists	413/31	7	26
12	45	43	Tractors And Trucks / Dave Wilbert / Wilbilly Records	398/29	11	39
5	44	44	Chevrolet / Dustin Lynch feat. Jelly Roll / Broken Bow Records	391/32	7	24
8	43	45	Love You Again / Chase Matthew / Warner Music Nashville	359/26	-5	-18
11	46	46	Drink About That / Ken Domash / Thunder Mountain Records	342/26	1	2
15	49	47	You Or The Whiskey / Sydney Hansen / Sydney Hansen Music	336/19	8	26
26	48	48	Something's Gonna Kill Me / Corey Kent / RCA Nashville	327/22	5	17
46	50	49	We Ride / Bryan Martin / Average Joes Entertainment	288/20	-2	-6
16	51	50	Rough Around The Edges / Exile / Clearwater Records	278/16	0	0
4	59	51	New Neon / Cliff Dorsey / Black Sheep Records	270/18	35	70
4	53	52	Love You Back / Lady A / BMLG Records	267/20	11	26
1	87	53	Sounds Like The Radio / Zach Top / Leo33	266/22	124	147
9	54	54	Before You / Glen Shelton / Jordash	251/16	7	16
12	56	55	Lovin' Not Leavin' / Wade Bowen / Bowen Sounds	246/16	8	19
11	55	56	Extra / Katie Linendoll	243/14	7	15
4	63	57	Jack and Diet Coke / Redferrin / Duncan Music Group/WMN	236/22	23	44
10	67	58	Front Porch Swing / Luke Kelly / General Records	232/12	27	49
7	57	59	Amazin' What Just The Right 3 Minutes Can Do / Larry, Steve and Rudy The Gatlin Brothers / CDX Records/Sony Orchard	222/13	7	14
3	68	60	Gonna Love You / Parmalee / Stoney Creek	220/16	22	39
25	58	61	Dance With You / Brett Young / BMLG Records	219/16	9	18
13	60	62	Spirits and Demons / Michael Ray ft. Meghan Patrick / Warner Music Nashville	213/15	8	15
19	70	63	In Your Love / Tyler Childers / Hickman Holler Records/RCA Records	210/15	21	36
7	61	64	Pickup Man / HIXTAPE ft. Post Malone/Joe Diffie / Big Loud Records/Mercury	204/17	3	6
2	72	65	Devil Had Blue Eyes / Julianna Rankin / 17th Avenue	196/17	20	33
3	69	66	Puttin' Up Hay / Alex Miller / Billy Jam Records	195/17	12	21
12	62	67	Certified / Laura Bryna	195/18	-1	-2
2	78	68	Boys Back Home / Dylan Marlowe & Dylan Scott / Columbia Nashville	190/12	34	48
2	75	69	Easy Loving You / Ty Gregory / Ole Buster Music	190/14	23	35
9	64	70	Love Is Real / Shelley Lynch / CDX Records	188/9	1	2
6	65	71	Be The Whiskey / Julia Cole / Smokeshow Music	187/15	2	3
5	66	72	Small Town Famous / Bowman / Reviver/Nine North	187/14	2	3
8	71	73	True Story / Jon Brennan / CDX Records	178/11	7	12
2	73	74	Same Bar, Different Town / Ryan Jewel / Ryan Jewel Music	174/15	7	11
1	95	75	Bigger Houses / Dan + Shay / Warner Music Nashville	164/13	78	72
29	77	76	Brokenhearted / Joe Nichols / Quartz Hill Records	162/9	5	7
1	82	77	Beat You There / Will Dempsey	160/13	24	31
2	76	78	Drunk On You / Rob Fitzgerald / Riverbend Recordings	156/11	1	1
2	74	79	Sea of Heartbreak / Mustangs of the West / KZZ Music/Blue Élan Records	154/13	-1	-2
1	85	80	Overthinking / Amy Sheppard / Empire of Song	153/14	23	29

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ACM Taps Gil Beverly As Executive Vice President/Chief Business Officer



The Academy of Country Music has added to its leadership team with the hiring of celebrated sports and entertainment executive **Gil Beverly**. He joins the team as Executive Vice President and Chief Business Officer.

“Gil Beverly is a proven leader who has ushered in new levels of success for numerous category-leading organizations, and we can’t wait to tap his exceptional expertise, passion, and drive at the Academy of Country Music to help us continue to innovate, grow and succeed, particularly as we look ahead to our landmark 60th anniversary awards show celebration in 2025,” says **Damon Whiteside**, CEO of the Academy of Country Music. “In his role, he will play an integral part in shaping the future of the Academy from financial, strategic and organizational standpoints, and Gil exemplifies all the traits that power the ACM to reach new heights and support our industry. On behalf of our Board of Directors and Officers, as well as our Members and staff, I couldn’t be more excited to welcome him to team ACM!”

Beverly joins ACM after spending more than four years with the Tennessee Titans, serving as Chief Marketing and Revenue Officer. In his role with the Titans, he led the organization to four successive years of record revenues across corporate partnerships and ticket sales while revitalizing the Titans brand through lifestyle marketing and activations tied to music, fashion, art and fitness, along with effective advertising and social media campaigns. Beverly also served as Executive Project Lead for the preliminary stages of the [new Titans stadium plan](#).

Prior to joining the Titans, Beverly served as Vice President of Partnership Solutions at Learfield Sports in Plano, Texas, after a 13-year stint at ESPN. The Evanston, Illinois native graduated from the undergraduate division of the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania before securing his MBA at the Warsaw Sports Marketing Center at the University of Oregon.

At the ACM, Beverly will supervise and manage the Academy’s business operations and manage all revenue streams, play a key role in shaping the Academy’s growth strategy by identifying and evaluating business opportunities and will work with Whiteside to oversee and manage staff.

“I am extremely honored and excited to join Damon Whiteside and his team at the Academy of Country Music. The Academy has proven to be a visionary organization through its premium content and events and groundbreaking partnerships with Amazon and the Dallas Cowboys, among others,” shares Beverly. “I believe the organization is poised for significant growth and will continue to be a powerful leader in the music industry in the future. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to play a role in that going forward.” **MR**

Dean Dillon Signs Publishing Deal With River House Artists & Sony Music Publishing



River House's Zebb Luster, Dean Dillon and River House's Lynn Oliver-Cline

Iconic country songwriter **Dean Dillon** has signed a worldwide publishing deal with River House Artists, in partnership with Sony Music Publishing.

Dillon is a member of the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Country Music Hall of Fame. Having penned many iconic hits for chart-topping artists including **George Strait, Kenny Chesney, Lee Ann Womack, Toby Keith** and many more, Dillon was named the BMI Country Icon in 2013 and has amassed a combined total of 31 BMI Country and Pop Awards.

His association with Strait over the years has brought him to an icon status in country music with over 76 hits together, including the Grammy-nominated "Breath You Take" as well as "The Chair," "I've Come to Expect it From You," "Easy Come, Easy Go," "She Let Herself Go," "The Best Day" and endless more.

"We are thrilled to have Dean Dillon join our River House roster. His songwriting is unparalleled, and this is such an exciting time for us," says **Zebb Luster**, VP/GM of River House Artists. "I have been a true fan of his songwriting for years and how it has forged a path in country music history. We are honored that he trusts us to continue to further his incredible songwriting legacy."

Dillon adds, "I'm so excited to be part of the River House family. The team has an excellent track record and are such thoughtful stewards of great songs. I'm looking forward to working with them to further my lasting legacy as a songwriter." **MR**

CMT Reveals Next Women Of Country Class Of 2024



CMT has revealed the Next Women of Country Class of 2024. For 11 years, the Next Women of Country program has worked to promote female country artists and fight systemic gender disparity within the country music.

The Class of 2024 includes **Anne Wilson, Denitia, Ella Langley, Emily Ann Roberts, HunterGirl, Karley Scott Collins, Kylie Frey, Lauren Watkins, Madeline Merlo, Mae Estes, Tanner Adell, The Castellows, Tigirlily Gold** and **Twinnie**.

In a ceremony hosted in Nashville, CMT SVP of Music & Talent **Leslie Fram** revealed the new artist class alongside **Kimberly Perry** and **Colbie Caillat**. Perry and Caillat will serve as mentors to this year's class.

"For the past 10 years, this franchise has represented the best and brightest new talent in all of country music and this year is no exception. From the UK and Canada to California and the deep South, these women all have their own unique stories to tell and we can't wait to introduce them to CMT audiences in creative and meaningful ways." says Fram.

Additionally for 2024, CMT will start a year-long partnership with Song Suffragettes, an all female singer-songwriter collective. The announcement was made on stage by Fram and Song Suffragettes leader **Todd Cassetty**. The partnership will aim to pursue industry education opportunities together to continue advancing and supporting women country music artists. To celebrate the partnership, CMT and Song Suffragettes will host a showcase on Feb. 27 at City Winery Nashville. **MR**

Colbie Caillat Signs Global Deal With Downtown Music Publishing



Colbie Caillat. Photo: David "Doc" Abbott

Colbie Caillat has signed a global music publishing deal with Downtown Music Publishing.

The deal will cover Caillat's full catalog and all future releases, including debut album, *Coco*, multi-Platinum singles, "Bubbly," "Realize" and "Lucky" and her country solo album *Along The Way*, featuring collaboration "I'll Be Here" with **Sheryl Crow**.

Throughout her career Caillat has collaborated with Crow, **Taylor Swift**, **Jason Mraz**, **Brad Paisley** and **Gavin DeGraw**, among others. Following her Grammy-winning duet with Mraz, the four-time Platinum "Lucky" in 2008, Caillat released her second studio album, the Platinum-selling *Breakthrough*, which became the singer's first album to debut at No. 1 on the *Billboard* album chart. The album features two double Platinum hits, "I Never Told You" and "Fallin' For You." Other Platinum hits include "Brighter Than the Sun" and "Try."

"Downtown Music Publishing takes great pride in being able to represent some of the world's most talented songwriters, with Colbie Caillat one such exceptional talent," says **Jedd Katrancha**, CCO of Downtown Music Publishing. "It is an honor to be working alongside Colbie and her team to maximize publishing opportunities across her highly respected and in-demand catalog."

"My experience working with Downtown over the past year has been amazing and I'm grateful it will now also include their publishing team," says Caillat. "Their creativity and passion for artists and songwriters goes above and beyond. I look forward to this exciting new chapter of working alongside the best in the business."

MR

Ashley Ray Inks Publishing Deal With Warner Chappell & Lady Fairchild Publishing



Pictured (L-R): Jessi Stevenson (Warner Chappell Music), Ashley Ray, Karen Fairchild (Lady Fairchild), Ben Vaughn (Warner Chappell Music). Photo: Courtesy of WCM

Rising singer-songwriter **Ashley Ray** has signed a global publishing deal with Warner Chappell Music and Lady Fairchild Publishing.

Ray has already made a name for herself in the Nashville songwriting community, with writing credits on Little Big Town's "The Daughters" and through work with Lori McKenna, Sean McConnell, Ruston Kelly, Caroline Spence, Wade Bowen, Charles Kelly, Brittney Spencer and Christone "Kingfish" Ingram. She also released three studio albums, with her latest, *Animal*, just released in November 2023.

Jessi Stevenson, Sr. Director, A&R and Digital, Warner Chappell Music Nashville says, "Ashley Ray is such an incredible storyteller. Her brilliance shines through her work as an artist and ability to help other music creators tell their stories."

The publishing deal is in collaboration with Lady Fairchild Publishing, a newly established publishing company led by Little Big Town's **Karen Fairchild**. The company will also have a focus on artist development.

"Ashley Ray and I have been writing songs together for several years now. We always envisioned working together in a bigger way. She is a gifted writer and captivating artist, and I'm so thrilled to start this new chapter with her," shares Fairchild. **MR**

Eric Church & Morgan Wallen Unite To Revive 'Field & Stream'



Eric Church and Morgan Wallen. Photo: Victoria Will

Eric Church and **Morgan Wallen**, along with a group of brand builders, have joined forces to relaunch *Field & Stream*, the iconic outdoor lifestyle brand with origins dating back to 1871.

The group, led by Church and Wallen, purchased the retail side of the trademark from DICK's Sporting Goods, as well as the media platform from Recurrent. The move not only unifies the legacy brand under the same ownership for the first time in its 150-year history, but will also resurrect the print magazine through a membership community.

"I can remember my grandfather kept a few of his favorite *Field & Stream* magazines on the dash of his truck," says Church. "That truck took us on

hundreds of outdoor adventures and I all but memorized every story and every picture on every page. They were my Bible. It is the honor of my life to make sure that legacy carries on. It is both this responsibility to an American Icon and also to a young boy in his papaw's truck that will be the compass that guides our steps."

Church and Wallen are vested in the brand as avid outdoorsmen, conservationists and storytellers. The new ownership will take a hands-on approach to preserving the authenticity of *Field & Stream*, solidifying its authority in the outdoor space and ensuring it stays true to its roots.

"There's nothin' I love more than being with friends around a campfire, on a boat or in a deer stand—and *Field & Stream* represents all of those to me," says Wallen. "Being part of its future is incredible and we want to keep bringing people together outdoors, makin' memories, for generations to come."

Key aspects of the relaunch include the *Field & Stream* 1871 Club, a refreshed digital platform, a limited-edition apparel collection inspired by Church and Wallen and the announcement of an outdoor music festival co-produced by Southern Entertainment coming this fall. Additional plans for future partnerships include a new online marketplace to spotlight and elevate craft makers and artisans in the outdoor lifestyle space.

Today also marks the launch of the [Field & Stream 1871 Club](#), a membership community that pays homage to its storied history and brings back the distinguished, high-quality print publication. Members will enjoy exclusive access to a large-format print magazine, published twice annually, as well as benefits including priority ticket access to the *Field & Stream* Music Festival, members-only gear, a limited-edition Honor Badge (a revived F&S tradition now offered as a members-only pin), VIP entry into outdoor experiences, exclusive discounts and digital content. Ten percent of the net profits from the 1871 Club will be directed towards non-profit organizations, actively contributing to the support of outdoor causes.

The new *Field & Stream* brand will be led by **Doug McNamee**, former president of the Magnolia media and lifestyle brand cofounded by **Chip** and **Joanna Gaines**. **Colin Kearns**, who has served as editor-in-chief for *Field & Stream* since 2016, will remain in his position alongside his editorial team.

"We are committed to reinforcing *Field & Stream's* legendary status as the authoritative voice of the American outdoors," says McNamee. "We look forward to unifying our passionate enthusiasts under a single canopy as we steward this trusted brand toward a thoughtful and expansive revival. As the latest in the lineage of caretakers, we aim to restore and amplify *Field & Stream's* authentic voice with our extended storytelling family." **MR**

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Dalton Dover 'Brings A Whole New Dimension' To Country Classic



Dalton Dover. Photo: Jim Wright

Our Black country artists have the discs to beat this week.

Brittney Spencer, Dalton Dover and Brei Carter all vied for the Disc of the Day award. Carter has the dance tune, and Spencer has the feel-good bopper. But Dalton Dover has the most traditional country voice going for him, and he gets the nod.

On a day dominated by newer country acts, Warner entry Redferrin wins the DISCOVERY Award. His full name is Blake Redferrin. He hails from White House, Tennessee and has the drawling accent to prove it.

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[Camille Parker Signs With Big AL Management](#)

[CAA Signs Ty Myers \[Exclusive\]](#)

[Republic Live Launches New Management Division, RLive](#)

[Luke Bryan Closes Out Crash My Playa 2024](#)

[Jelly Roll, Lainey Wilson & Hardy To Headline Faster Horses 2024 Festival](#)

[Third Annual 'Breland & Friends' Coming To Ryman Auditorium In March](#)

[Wyatt Flores Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut](#)

['World On Fire' Scores Sixth Week At No. 1 On Country Radio](#)

[Brooks & Dunn To Embark On 'Reboot 2024 Tour'](#)

[Ashley Anne Signs With WME For Global Representation](#)

[Belmont At The Opry' To Celebrate 50 Years Of Music Business Excellence](#)

[NMPA Appoints Chris Barkley As SVP, Government Affairs](#)

['Revolutionary Love: A Concert To Benefit Thistle Farms' Set For March](#)

[CMA Hosts International Touring & Consumption MemberSIPS Event](#)

[Ryder Johnson Inks Publishing Deal With Prescription Songs](#)

[Storme Warren & Tim Leary To Receive CRB's 2024 Tom Rivers Humanitarian Award](#)

Spirit Music Group Enters Administration Services Agreement With Downtown Music Publishing



Pictured (L-R): Andrew Bergman, CEO of Downtown Music Holdings; Jon Singer, Chairman, Spirit Music Group; Emily Stephenson, President of Downtown Music Publishing

Spirit Music Group has entered into a new administration services agreement with Downtown Music Publishing. Per the agreement, Spirit will use Downtown’s global administration, registration and technology platforms to support their infrastructure needs. Spirit’s current sub-publishing arrangements will remain place.

“This move allows us to pair Spirit’s expertise at A&R, marketing, branding, digital and synchronization with Downtown’s extensive administration, technology, and registration capabilities to provide the best infrastructure available for our songwriters and partners,” shares **Jon Singer**, Chairman, Spirit Music Group. “By uniting these strengths for Spirit clients, the sum is even greater than its parts.”

Andrew Bergman, CEO of Downtown Music Holdings says, “We are pleased to be working with the amazing team at Spirit and to administer a catalog so filled with musical gems. We designed Downtown and our suite of service offerings specifically with these types of deals in mind so it is immensely gratifying for Spirit to have chosen to work with us.”

“Working with Spirit Music Group reinforces our dedication to fostering the success of legendary musical catalogs as well as supporting new talent, both abundantly represented in Spirit’s catalog,” adds **Emily Stephenson**, President of Downtown Music Publishing. “Downtown is committed to providing the best services to our clients via investments in administration, rights management, data and technology and we are thrilled to be working with the Spirit team.” **MR**

Pureplay Entertainment Opens Nashville Office [Exclusive]



Pictured (L-R): Dan McClung, Hannah Martin Eason, Joseph Martin

Film, television and digital production hub Pureplay Entertainment is expanding its operations to Nashville, in partnership with Music City’s own **Hannah Martin Eason** and **Joseph Martin**.

“I’ve known Hannah and Joseph since the beginning of their careers in LA over a decade ago; their work ethic and passion for Nashville stories make them exceptional partners,” says **Dan McClung**, CEO Pureplay Entertainment.”

“We really admire what Dan has built over the past 8 years,” share the two. “We’re so excited that this partnership has brought us back to our roots and we can now lean into all the pieces of our background, from music to VC and tech — to come full circle into business development for Pureplay.”

McClung founded Pureplay Entertainment in 2016. By supporting major studios such as Amazon and Sony, producing documentaries and other films, and developing compelling content with impressive talent, Pureplay is dedicated to telling authentic stories.

The latest project is currently in post-production. *Written in the Sand* features Nashville locals **Courtney Grace** and singer-songwriter **JT Hodges** to tell the feel-good story of a community rebuilding after a hurricane.

Pureplay Entertainment has also signed with WME for representation. **MR**

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	-	Zachary Lane Bryan	I Remember Everything Hey Driver Tourniquet Spotless Sarah's Place East Side of Sorrow El Dorado	Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves Zach Bryan ft. The War And Treaty Zach Bryan Zach Bryan ft. The Lumineers Zach Bryan feat. Noah Kahan Zach Bryan Zach Bryan
2	-	Ashley Gorley	Young Love & Saturday Nights Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me World On Fire Truck Bed Save Me The Trouble All I Need Is You This Town's Been Too Good To Us	Chris Young Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Nate Smith Hardy Dan + Shay Chris Janson Dylan Scott
3	-	Chayce Beckham	23	Chayce Beckham
4	-	Randy Montana	This Is My Dirt Where the Wild Things Are Different 'Round Here	Justin Moore Luke Combs Riley Green ft. Luke Combs
5	-	Jason DeFord	Need A Favor Save Me Wild Ones	Jelly Roll Jelly Roll with Lainey Wilson Jessie Murph feat. Jelly Roll
6	-	Taylor Phillips	Thinkin' Bout Me World On Fire This Town's Been Too Good To Us Love You Again	Morgan Wallen Nate Smith Dylan Scott Chase Matthew
7	-	Tracy Chapman	Fast Car	Luke Combs
8	-	David Ray Stevens	Save Me	Jelly Roll with Lainey Wilson
9	-	Dan Wilson	White Horse	Chris Stapleton
10	-	Chris Stapleton	White Horse	Chris Stapleton
11	-	Dave Turnbull	Where the Wild Things Are	Luke Combs
12	-	Kacey Musgraves	I Remember Everything	Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves
13	-	John Byron	Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me This Town's Been Too Good To Us	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Dylan Scott
14	-	Ryan Vojtesak	Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me This Town's Been Too Good To Us	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Dylan Scott
15	-	Jordan Minton	Dance With You Save Me The Trouble Your Place	Brett Young Dan + Shay Ashley Cooke
16	-	Hunter Phelps	Take Her Home Truck Bed Chevrolet	Kenny Chesney Hardy Dustin Lynch (feat. Jelly Roll)
17	-	Chase McGill	Mamaw's House Creek Will Rise Chevrolet	Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen Conner Smith Dustin Lynch (feat. Jelly Roll)
18	-	Michael Hardy	Take Her Home Truck Bed	Kenny Chesney Hardy
19	-	Ryan Beaver	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders
20	-	Jared Keim	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders
21	-	Warren Zeiders	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders
22	-	Christopher Anthony Lunsford	Rich Men North Of Richmond	Oliver Anthony Music
23	-	Ryan Larkins	The Painter	Cody Johnson

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
24	-	Kat Higgins	The Painter	Cody Johnson
25	-	Benjy Davis	The Painter	Cody Johnson
26	-	Riley Green	Different 'Round Here	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs
27	-	Jonathan Singleton	Different 'Round Here	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs
28	-	Jaron Boyer	Let Your Boys Be Country Mind On You	Jason Aldean George Birge
29	-	Dylan Gossett	Coal	Dylan Gossett
30	-	Lindsay Rimes	Love You Back World On Fire	Lady A Nate Smith
31	-	Nate Smith	World On Fire	Nate Smith
32	-	Michael Tyler	Spirits and Demons Mind On You	Michael Ray with Meghan Patrick George Birge
33	-	Pete Good	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
34	-	Carly Pearce	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
35	-	Shane McAnally	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
36	-	Ben Johnson	Truck Bed	Hardy
37	-	George Birge	Mind On You	George Birge
38	-	Colt Ford	Mind On You	George Birge
39	-	Phil Collins	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
40	-	Gabe Foust	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
41	-	Jaxson Free	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
42	-	Kane Brown	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
43	-	Parker McCollum	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
44	-	Liz Rose	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
45	-	Hillary Lindsey	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
46	-	Lori McKenna	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
47	-	Jordan Reynolds	Save Me The Trouble	Dan + Shay
48	-	Dan Smyers	Save Me The Trouble	Dan + Shay
49	-	Shay Mooney	Save Me The Trouble	Dan + Shay
50	-	Trannie Anderson	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Kane Brown
51	-	Lainey Wilson	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Dan + Shay
52	-	Paul Sikes	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Dan + Shay
53	-	Emily Weisband	Save Me The Trouble	Dan + Shay
54	-	Mitch Oglesby	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Lainey Wilson
55	-	Brad Clawson	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Lainey Wilson
56	-	Chris Janson	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Lainey Wilson
57	-	Bryan Martin	We Ride	Bryan Martin
58	-	Vernon Brown	We Ride	Bryan Martin
59	-	Jordan Dozzi	Man Made A Bar	Morgan Wallen (Feat. Eric Church)
60	-	Rocky Block	Man Made A Bar	Morgan Wallen (Feat. Eric Church)

CALENDAR

Single/Track Releases

January 26

Jillian Cardarelli/*I Hate Chevys*/Vydia

Erin Kirby/*Pick My Own Flowers*

Jordana Bryant/*Teenage Dream*

January 29

Restless Road/*Last Rodeo*/RCA Nashville

February 2

Scot Teasley/*This Truck Still Misses You*/Hollow Point Music

Album/EP Releases

January 26

Conner Smith/*Smoky Mountains*/The Valory Music Co.

Randall King/*Into The Neon*/Warner Music Nashville

Josh Abbott Band/*Somewhere Down The Road*/Pretty Damn Tough

Charles Esten/*Love Ain't Pretty*

Becca Bowen/*County Line*

February 2

Gabby Barrett/*Chapter & Verse*/Warner Music Nashville

February 9

The Castellows/*A Little Goes A Long Way*/Warner Music Nashville/Warner Records

Industry Events

February 4

66th Annual Grammy Awards

February 28 – March 1

CRS

March 8 – 10

C2C Festival