

Country Radio Hall Of Fame Class Of 2021 Announced



Pictured (L-R, top row): off-air inductees Bob Call, RJ Curtis, Bill Hagy, Norm Schrutt; (L-R, bottom row): on-air inductees Heather Froglear, Buzz Jackson, Bob Pickett, Angie Ward

The Country Radio Broadcasters announced the Class of 2021 Country Radio Hall of Fame inductees Wednesday (June 2).

The 2021 class includes four off-air radio broadcasters and four on-air radio personalities. The off-air honorees are **Bob Call**, **RJ Curtis**, **Bill Hagy**, and **Norm Schrutt**. The on-air honorees are **Heather Froglear**, **Buzz Jackson**, **Bob Pickett**, and **Angie Ward**.

The Country Radio Hall of Fame recognizes those individuals who have made significant contributions to the radio industry over a 20-year period, 15 of which must be in the country format.

“Country Radio should be extremely proud of this year’s 2021 Hall of Fame Inductees. They represent the best of the best from a large group of excellent nominees,” says CRB’s Country Radio Hall of Fame Committee Chairman, **Joel Raab**.

The Country Radio Hall of Fame Induction and Dinner will be held in person on Oct. 13, 2021, at the Westin Nashville. Exact times and ticket information will be released closer to the event. Tickets go on sale on Sept. 8.

[Read more about the Class of 2021 inductees here.](#)

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WALKERHAYES

COUNTRY STUFF



1. COUNTRY STUFF (FEATURING JAKE OWEN)
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4. I HOPE YOU MISS ME
5. WHAT IF WE DID (FEATURING CARLY PEARCE)
6. BRIEFCASE (FEATURING LORI MCKENNA)



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MONUMENT

UTA Opens New Nashville Headquarters

Global talent, entertainment and sports company UTA has officially opened its new Nashville headquarters, now occupying the site of the former downtown Carnegie Library at 225 Polk Avenue.

The office was designed by award-winning firm HASTINGS Architecture, which transformed the three-story, mid-century historic building into the agency's new Nashville headquarters. Elements of the original library have been preserved and integrated into the office with highlights such as the old book drop on the parking level.

"We are thrilled to open the doors to our new Nashville headquarters and bring new life to this historic space that will now serve as a gathering place for colleagues, artists and storytellers across the community," says **David Zedeck**, Partner and Co-Head of Worldwide Music. "Nashville's music roots run deep and these new offices are meant to reflect UTA's commitment to sharing this city's powerful creativity with the world."

Over the past year, UTA Music's Nashville office has expanded its agent ranks by bringing in key hires, including **Jeffrey Hasson, Jenny DeLoach, Brett Saliba, Matt Korn and Emily Wright**.

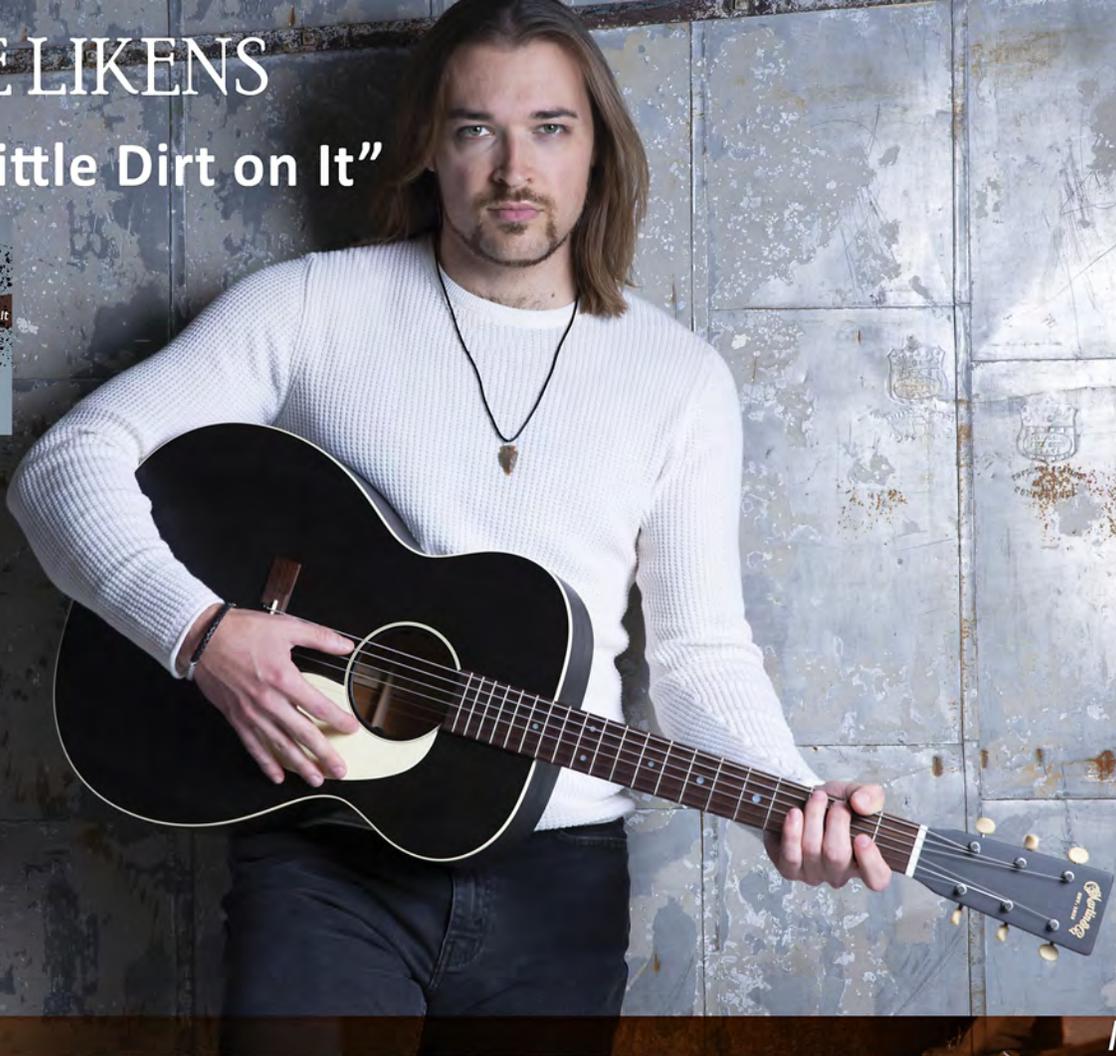
The Nashville team recently welcomed Grammy Award-nominated country band **Midland** and Diamond-selling **Billy Ray Cyrus** to the roster. Other recent signings include **Brittney Spencer, Alana Springsteen, Sam Williams, Reyna Roberts, Josh Kiser, Lathan Warlick and Chase Martin**, among others.

UTA also represents country stars **Toby Keith, Jamey Johnson, Jimmie Allen, Matt Stell, Blanco Brown, Clay Walker, Clint Black, Wheeler Walker Jr., Ian Munsick, Elvie Shane and Chris Bandi**, in addition to **Young The Giant, Tori Kelly, Surfaces, Dashboard Confessional, Dayglow, COIN, Ruston Kelly, Ayrton Jones, Timbaland, Blues Traveler, Laine Hardy** and more. *MR*



CHASE LIKENS

"Rub a Little Dirt on It"



Impact 6/7



"The verdict? We like Likens."
- Taste of Country

"He is a complete country package."
- Steven Tyler, American Idol

Big thank you to The Boot for premiering
Chase's new single & lyric video

"Rub A Little Dirt On It"

Produced by Kevin Beamish
On The Green Productions
Jerry Duncan Promotions
ChaseLikens.Com



Leadership Music Announces Class Of 2022

Leadership Music has tapped 46 music industry leaders to be part of its 32nd class.

Founded in 1989 by twelve music industry alumni of Leadership Nashville, Leadership Music is a nationwide program based in Nashville that is designed to create a forum for recognized music industry leaders to learn as they deep-dive into almost every segment of the music business, while identifying and exploring issues currently affecting the music industry; and to provide once-in-a-lifetime experiences while building lasting relationships with classmates and alumni in all areas within or related to the music industry. The esteemed program has graduated close to 1,300 leaders.



The Class of 2022 participants will attend an orientation and alumni welcome reception in September, a two-day opening retreat in October, followed by six all-day sessions once a month, ending in May with graduation at a two-day closing retreat.

The Leader Music Class of 2022 includes:

- Stephanie Alexa, VP, Finance, Universal Music Group Nashville
- Renee Alexander, Deputy General Manager, Entertainment & Marketing, Minnesota State Fair (St. Paul, MN)
- Katie Anderson, Strategy & Operations Executive, Music Leadership, CAA
- Scott Bailey, President, Opry Entertainment Group
- Scott Berenson, Director, Client Resolutions, SoundExchange (Washington, DC)
- Mike Betterton, SVP, Wasserman Music
- Peter Brown, General Manager, G7 Entertainment Marketing
- Teri Nelson Carpenter, President/CEO, Reel Muzik Werks
- Manuel A. Delgado, Owner/Luthier, Delgado Guitars, Music Makers Stage, LA Tradición Music
- Jade Driver, Co-Founder/Crowd Surf
- Tim Foisset, VP, Streaming, Warner Music Nashville
- Justin Fratt, EVP, Gospel Music Association (GMA)
- Edward Ginis, Co-Founder, OpenPlay
- JoJamie Hahr, SVP, BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville
- Alex Heddle, VP, Publishing, Big Machine Music
- Bobbii Jacobs, President/Co-Founder, Live in the Vineyard/Live in the Vineyard Goes Country/FF Entertainment (Parker, CO)
- Scott Jungmichel, EVP, Royalty Distribution and Research Services and Chief Information Officer, SESAC
- Kevin Kadish, Owner, Slowguy Songs Inc.
- Brian Kaplan, VP, EM.Co
- Sally Rose Larson, VP, Government Relations, Digital Media Association (DiMA) (Washington, DC)
- Michael Lewan, Director, Government Relations, The Recording Academy (Washington, DC)
- Carlos Linares, SVP, Content Protection and Enforcement, Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA)
- Jeremy Lister, Singer/Songwriter, Big Yellow Dog/Street Corner Symphony
- Gina Waters Miller, SVP/General Manager, Entertainment One
- Boo Mitchell, Producer/Engineer/Chief Manager, Royal Studios
- Tommy Moore, VP, Artist and Industry Relations, Board Administration & Governance, Academy of Country Music (ACM) (Los Angeles, CA)
- Matthew Morgan, Agent/Partner, WME
- Paul Nelson, Contractor, Paul Nelson Music
- Ron Pateras, Talent Buyer, Neste Live!
- Doug Phillips, Head of Digital, QPrime South
- Sam Powers, Principal, O'Neil Hagaman, LLC
- Julian Raymond, SVP, A&R/Staff Producer, Big Machine Label Group
- Leslie Richter, Engineer/Producer/Educator
- Portia Sabin, President, Music Business Association
- Brittany Schaffer, Nashville Head of Artist and Label Partnerships, Spotify
- Tanya Schrage, VP, Marketing, Black River Entertainment
- Charlotte Sellmyer, SVP, External Affairs, National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA) (Washington, DC)
- Tuwisha Rogers Simpson, VP, Brand and Partnerships, National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM)
- Regan Smith, General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights, U. S. Copyright Office (Washington, DC)

- Allison Stillman, Partner, Latham & Watkins LLP (New York, NY)
- Patrick Thomas, President, Silverfish Media
- Ellen Truley, Chief Marketing Officer, The Mechanical Licensing Collective (The MLC)
- Jennifer Turner, President/CEO, Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC)
- JaHan Wang, SVP, East Coast Regional Manager Entertainment Banking, City National Bank (New York, NY)
- Jennifer Way, SVP, Marketing, Sony Music Nashville
- Russell Ziecker, EVP/Global Head of Television Music, Lionsgate (Studio)/Starz (Network) (Los Angeles, CA)

Dan + Shay, Gabby Barrett, Luke Combs, More Win At 2021 iHeartRadio Awards



The 2021 iHeartRadio Music Awards, hosted by **Usher**, went live at the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles on Thursday, May 27.

Dan + Shay, who won Best Duo/Group of the Year, reunited with their full band on the iHeart stage to perform “Glad You Exist” for the first time. The show also featured appearances from **Taylor Swift**, **Dua Lipa**, **twenty one pilots**, **Megan Thee Stallion**, **Nelly**, **Gabby Barrett**, **AJR** and more.

“Thank you iHeartRadio and thank you to our incredible fans,” said Dan + Shay after accepting the award on the red carpet prior to the show. “This means the world. Ok, gotta gather our emotions and get ready to perform. We love y’all so much.”

Luke Combs won two categories for Country Artist of the Year and Country Album of the Year for *What You See Ain’t Always What You Get*. Meanwhile, Barrett kept up her awards momentum and walked away with Best New Country Artist. **Maren Morris** also won Country Song of the Year with her hit single “The Bones.”

“This week has been amazing,” Barrett shares. “To win this award is beyond what I could have imagined. It’s hard to believe. I am so blessed, and so grateful.”

Ashley Gorley won Songwriter of the Year out of all-genre songwriters Ali Tamposi, Amy Allen, Dan Nigro, and Finneas. **MR**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Local Honey/Mo Pitney/Curb — 77

Princess/Dallas Remington/RoadWarrior Records — 79

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

I Was On A Boat That Day/Old Dominion/Arista Nashville — 253

You Should Probably Leave/Chris Stapleton/Mercury Nashville — 108

Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen./Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line/Broken Bow/Dack Janiels — 100

American Made/Dakota Poorman/Ten Inch Vinyl Entertainment, LLC — 99

Waves/Luke Bryan/Capitol — 71

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

I Was On A Boat That Day/Old Dominion/Arista Nashville — 12

American Made/Dakota Poorman/Ten Inch Vinyl Entertainment, LLC — 9

You Should Probably Leave/Chris Stapleton/Mercury Nashville — 7

You and Sunscreen/Runnin' Shine/Great Heights Recording — 5

Back Then, Right Now/Tenille Arts/19th & Grand Records — 4

It's Cause I Am/Callista Clark/Big Machine — 4

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Nothing's Better/Filmore/Curb 151

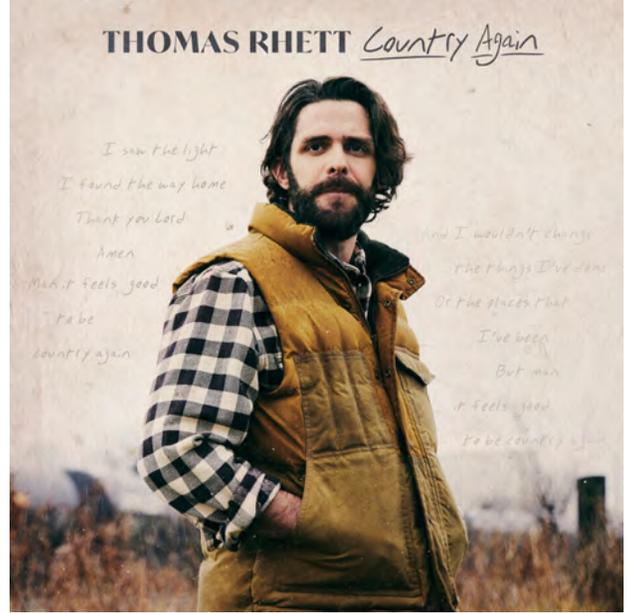
Lone Stars/John PayCheck/HorseBite Entertainment 150

If You Could Call It That/Jeannie Seely/Curb 147

Dirt/Elise Harper/Skyfall Music 140

Make It To Memphis/Shelley Lynch/Lynch Records 135

NO. 1 SONG



In just eight weeks since its release, “Country Again” by **Thomas Rhett** claims the No. 1 position on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart. The single is the title track to Rhett’s double album and appears on *Side A* of the release. Rhett co-wrote every song on *Side A*, and penned “Country Again” with **Zach Crowell** and **Ashley Gorley**.

Dates have been rescheduled for Rhett’s [Center Point Road Tour](#) with Cole Swindell and Gabby Barrett. The tour kicks off in Aug. 13 in Orange Beach, Alabama.



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
 WXFL Florence, AL
 KQUS Hot Springs, AR
 KDXY Jonesboro, AR
 KWCK Searcy, AR
 KRAZ Santa Barbara, CA
 WPAP Panama City, FL
 WUBB Savannah, GA
 KXIA Marshalltown, IA
 KIAI Mason City, IA
 KBOE Oskaloosa, IA
 KTHK Idaho Falls, ID
 WOOZ Cartersville, IL
 WAAG Galesburg, IL

WMCI Mattoon, IL
 WYOT Rochelle, IL
 WRTB Rockford, IL
 WCCI Savanna, IL
 WIFE Connersville, IN
 KAIR Atchison, KS
 WKDZ Cadiz, KY
 WBKR Owensboro, KY
 WDHR Pikeville, KY
 KRRV Alexandria, LA
 WUUU Covington, LA
 WKPE Hyannis, MA
 WVMD Cumberland, MD
 WTCM Traverse City, MI

KYSM Mankato, MN
 KZPK St. Cloud, MN
 KWWR Mexico, MO
 KFAV Warrenton, MO
 KZZY Devils Lake, ND
 KRVN Lexington, NE
 Jersey Shore Country
 KQBA Santa Fe, NM
 WDNB Monticello, NY
 WOLF Syracuse, NY
 WCJW Warsaw, NY
 WFRY Watertown, NY
 KWHW Altus, OK
 KITX Hugo, OK

KWEY Weatherford, OK
 KWOX Woodward, OK
 KRKT Albany, OR
 WNBT Mansfield, PA
 WCFT Selinsgrove, PA
 WFGE State College, PA
 WMIR Myrtle Beach, SC
 KMOM Aberdeen, SD
 WUCZ Carthage, TN
 WDKN Dickson, TN
 WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN
 KAYD Beaumont, TX
 KFTX Corpus Christi, TX
 KYKX Longview, TX

KMRK Odessa, TX
 KYYK Palestine, TX
 KXOX Sweetwater, TX
 WAKG Danville, VA
 WAXX Altoona, WI
 WJVL Janesville, WI
 WGLR Platteville, WI
 WQPC Prairie du Chien, WI
 WCOW Sparta, WI
 WTNJ Beckley, WV
 WDDG Huntington, WV

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
8	2	1	Country Again / Thomas Rhett / Valory	1812/63	3	51
8	3	2	Waves / Luke Bryan / Capitol	1688/65	4	71
31	1	3	We Didn't Have Much / Justin Moore / Valory	1570/53	-16	-296
17	6	4	Glad You Exist / Dan + Shay / Warner Music Nashville/WAR	1530/52	2	32
16	5	5	Things A Man Oughta Know / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow	1522/54	1	17
29	7	6	Memory I Don't Mess With / Lee Brice / Curb	1513/62	2	29
12	8	7	Like A Lady / Lady A / BMLG	1380/62	2	23
24	12	8	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen. / Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line / Broken Bow/Dack Janiels	1341/53	8	100
21	9	9	Tequila Little Time / Jon Pardi / Capitol	1334/63	-1	-9
14	11	10	Knowing You / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville	1288/57	4	44
40	13	11	Single Saturday Night / Cole Swindell / Warner Music Nashville	1230/44	5	59
21	14	12	My Boy / Elvie Shane / Wheelhouse Records	1141/50	1	7
30	15	13	Just About Over You / Priscilla Block / Mercury Nashville	1132/52	1	13
21	16	14	Give Heaven Some Hell / HARDY / Big Loud Records	1077/52	0	4
25	18	15	Cold Beer Calling My Name / Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs / River House Artists/Columbia Nashville	1072/54	5	50
32	17	16	If It Wasn't For Trucks / Riley Green / BMLG	1040/46	-2	-16
17	19	17	Okfuskee Whiskey / James Robert Webb / Bison Creek Records	893/49	2	18
19	20	18	To Be Loved By You / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	839/49	4	34
29	23	19	You Time / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	783/39	9	62
15	21	20	Getting Over Him / Lauren Alaina feat. Jon Pardi / Mercury Nashville	780/41	2	16
7	25	21	Half Of My Hometown / Kelsea Ballerini / Black River Entertainment	766/44	10	70
16	22	22	Lonely Drum / Aaron Goodvin / Reviver Records/Warner Music Canada	758/43	0	-2
10	24	23	Chasing After You / Ryan Hurd w/ Maren Morris / Arista Nashville	721/42	2	16
11	26	24	My Masterpiece / Darius Rucker / Capitol	710/36	2	14
13	29	25	Under It With You Tonight / Smith & Wesley / Dream Walkin/Audium Nashville	695/37	8	52
14	27	26	I Can't / Caitlyn Smith feat. Old Dominion / Monument Records	688/41	3	19
18	28	27	Freedom Was A Highway / Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley / Stoney Creek Records	674/35	1	8
10	31	28	ABBY / Travis Denning / Mercury Nashville	651/38	4	23
10	30	29	Then A Girl Walks In / Shenandoah & Blake Shelton / Foundry Records	648/40	3	16
2	48	30	I Was On A Boat That Day / Old Dominion / Arista Nashville	599/38	73	253
15	32	31	Gettin' Her Over You / Bobby Wills / Willing	597/35	0	-2
18	33	32	Shallow / Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood / Pearl Records	590/31	2	12
9	35	33	Might As Well Be Me / Dew Pendleton / HippieRedneckGospeLove/GrassRoots	561/39	6	32
20	34	34	Right Place Now / Hudson Valley / Hudson Valley	540/26	0	1
6	37	35	I'm Not For Everyone / Brothers Osborne / EMI Records Nashville	537/33	13	62
6	38	36	Not Yet / Brett Young / BMLG	513/36	10	47
27	36	37	Worship You / Kane Brown / RCA Nashville	476/25	-6	-28
3	47	38	You Should Probably Leave / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville	458/32	31	108
11	39	39	Treasure / Mary Heather Hickman / Rolling River Records	444/28	0	1

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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
14	40	40	It's All Yours / Dave Wilbert / Wilbilly Records	436/26	2	7
5	41	41	Fill Them Boots / Chris Lane / Big Loud Records	420/36	6	24
4	45	42	Tip Jar / Jackson Michelson / Curb	397/31	10	36
14	43	43	Home Sweet / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers Records	372/21	2	6
8	42	44	Show Off / Queeva / CMD Music	370/27	1	2
12	44	45	Homesick / Veronika / Whattaguy Music	355/26	-2	-9
4	53	46	Thinking 'Bout You / Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter / Broken Bow	354/27	19	56
9	49	47	Villain / Lily Rose / Big Loud Records	354/24	5	16
6	54	48	It's Cause I Am / Callista Clark / Big Machine	351/27	21	61
14	50	49	Gotta Go Rodeo / Darlinghurst / Helium	349/21	6	21
10	51	50	Old School's In / Heath Sanders / Valory	342/23	8	25
20	46	51	I Do Thing / Kylie Frey / Deep Frey'd Music Group	325/19	-9	-32
14	52	52	Same Dirt Road / Eric Lee / Blue Hill Records	312/23	1	4
24	56	53	Whiskey And Rain / Michael Ray / Warner Music Nashville	309/19	8	24
18	55	54	Head Over Wheels / Joe Hanson /	309/16	7	20
5	57	55	Woman You Got / Maddie & Tae / Mercury	300/23	8	22
2	62	56	Back Then, Right Now / Tenille Arts / 19th & Grand Records	298/26	26	61
6	58	57	That Ain't Me No More / Matt Stell / RECORDS/Arista Nashville	277/20	3	7
9	60	58	Lonely Girl / Danny Kensity / Rad Records	255/16	0	1
10	66	59	Lady Like / Ingrid Andress / Warner Music Nashville	248/17	12	27
8	63	60	Anybody But Me / Hannah Belle / Cherry Picker Music South/Freedom Entertainment	240/15	2	5
9	61	61	It Goes So Fast / Dwain Messer / N Crowd Music	229/13	-4	-10
6	67	62	Found My Home / Lucie Tiger / 2120 Music	223/17	6	13
4	70	63	Pretend He's You / Ashley Barron / SSM Nashville	219/19	15	29
9	65	64	Why Can't It Be Tonight / Mercy Shine / CCB Nashville	208/12	-8	-18
5	73	65	Moonlight / Kevin McCoy Band / Honky Tonk Hippie	200/12	12	21
5	69	66	Is It Me And You / Lisa Brokop / Amersong	199/16	2	3
6	68	67	Got Me This Far / Donny Lee / Donny Lee Music	199/16	1	1
11	64	68	Camp Jackson / Michael B. Whit /	197/12	-14	-32
2	79	69	Good Life / Kip Moore / MCA Nashville	193/14	20	32
3	78	70	Something Good To Miss / Juna N Joey / River Run Records	191/17	17	28
6	72	71	Hot Beer / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records	191/14	2	4
8	76	72	You Weren't Made For Me / Royal South / Circle S Records	187/11	10	17
2	77	73	Growing Up Too Fast / Jon Wayne Hatfield / Soundstage Music	183/14	8	14
4	75	74	Don't Get Better Than That / Tim Thurman / Tim Thurman Band	175/13	1	2
2	81	75	I'll Get You Back Again / The Ashley Sisters / GKM Records	167/12	7	11
2	80	76	Old School / Lance Wade Thomas / Shady Grove Records	167/12	5	8
1	82	77	Local Honey / Mo Pitney / Curb	166/14	11	16
2	84	78	Okay, Momma? / Connor Jameson / 615Nash Records	160/11	10	14
1	83	79	Princess / Dallas Remington / RoadWarrior Records	157/15	5	7
7	71	80	Quitin' You / Frankie Justin / SMG Records	156/11	-17	-33

No. 1 Song
Greatest Spin Increase
Highest Debut

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Beasley Media Group Founder George Beasley Passes

Beasley Media Group Company Founder and Executive Chairman of the Board **George G. Beasley** passed away on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, in Naples, Florida. He was 89 years old.

Born on April 9, 1932, Beasley grew up working in the tobacco fields in his hometown of Ararat, Virginia. He enlisted in the Army, graduated from Appalachian State University, and moved to North Carolina in the late 1950s to become a high school principal and coach.

He built his first radio station (WPYB-AM) in Benson, North Carolina in December 1961. Over the next 60 years, his hard work and vision paved the way for what Beasley Media Group has become today – one of America’s premiere publicly traded media companies, consisting of 62 radio properties located in 15 large and medium-sized markets. Beasley stepped back from his role as Chief Executive Officer in 2016, but continued to serve as Executive Chairman of the Company’s Board of Directors.

An avid philanthropist, he served on the board of the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters (NCAB), and received numerous awards and accolades throughout his life. In 2020, he was inducted into the Country Radio Broadcasters Hall of Fame and received the Broadcasters Foundation of America Lifetime Achievement Award.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years Ann, five children, 16 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

While best known for his many trailblazing achievements in the radio broadcasting industry, he will also be remembered for his kindness, integrity and work-ethic.

“George’s unconditional love for our mother, Ann and our family, along with his passion for the radio industry, helped to guide him throughout his lifetime,” said Beasley Media Group Chief Executive Officer Caroline Beasley. “A loving father, mentor, and friend, I will especially miss his incredible wisdom, keen insight and gentle smile.” **MR**



George Birge Signs With RECORDS Nashville

George Birge has signed with RECORDS Nashville, the Music City division of **Barry Weiss'** RECORDS label, and will release his debut single, "Beer Beer, Truck Truck," on June 18.

An established songwriter, Birge has a publishing and management deal with Wide Open Music. He is a co-writer on Clay Walker's current single "Need A Bar Sometimes," and "Catching Up With An Ol' Memory," on his upcoming album. Birge has also written songs with Matt Stell, Chris Lane, Gary LeVox and Jay Demarcus, among others.



"The last few months have been life changing for me," said Birge. "My favorite part about songwriting is taking something obvious and putting an unexpected twist on it. Collaborating with Erynn and seeing people connect with the story of this song has been absolutely amazing. I couldn't be more thankful to Records' Barry Weiss and Wide Open Music's **Ash Bowers** and **Brendan Rich** for believing in me and my music. I cannot wait to see what the future has in store!" **MR**

Noah West Signs With peermusic Nashville



Noah West has signed an exclusive global publishing deal with peermusic Nashville.

He moved to Nashville three years ago and has been working with producer/songwriter **Matt McVaney** to create a five-song debut EP which includes his new single, "Let You Go."

"Noah was first brought up to me as an artist then we started loving his songs," said peermusic's Michael Knox. "He's just one of those talents that you pat yourself on the back and feel like you found something you were supposed to find."

"The peermusic team have been a huge support for me," said West. "With peermusic, I have found a team of people that could take what I'm doing and give me a number of different resources to help magnify it—I am so excited to be working with them in these next stages of my career."

Growing up in Beckley, West Virginia, West spent his days training on the football field and the basketball court. His dedication led him to two state championships, as well as a college basketball career in upstate South Carolina. After hearing artists like Jason Aldean and Sam Hunt on the radio, following graduation West packed his bags and moved to Nashville to pursue his true passion of music. **MR**

Marketing Sr. VP Brooke Primero Exits ACM



Former Sr. VP/Marketing at the Academy of Country Music, **Brooke Primero**, has left her position.

Primero was with the organization for 14 years. She joined in 2007 after having led the events department at the PR firm BNC (now PMK-BNC), where ACM was a client. Her experience in event marketing and media solutions resulted in highly successful campaigns during her nine years at the agency for clients including T-Mobile, General Motors, Screen Actors Guild Awards, The Miss America Pageant, GUESS?, Red Bull, 7th on Sixth and more, and for magazine clients including *Vanity Fair*, *People*, *Us Weekly*, *Sports Illustrated*, and more. Prior to that, Primero worked at Paramount Pictures where she handled talent relations and was a key contributor to developing media and promotional events.

Primero is initially taking time off to be with her family, but will launch a marketing consultancy called Left Coast Nash in the fall.

The ACM did not release any plans on filling the position. **MR**

Sr. VP/Events Erick Long Leaves ACM



Former Sr. VP/Events at the Academy of Country Music **Erick Long** has exited his position after more than 12 years with the organization. His last day was Friday, May 28.

Long joined the Academy in 2009 from Universal Studios after a prior stop with the Salt Lake Olympics. While searching for his next project, he will consult on several events and productions.

“I’m so proud of how much the ACM has accomplished over the years especially the Diversity & Inclusion Task Force, Radio Remotes, robust internship and volunteer programs—alongside of course producing hundreds of events, many of which helped raise millions of dollars for ACM Lifting Lives,” says Long. **MR**

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Balsam Range, Rhonda Vincent, Danny Paisley



Balsam Range

The bluegrass grows all around in today's edition of Disclaimer.

Unquestionably, the DisCOVERY Award goes to The Kody Norris Show, a band that simply delighted my senses.

The Disc of the Day contest is a little more complicated, so I'm giving out three of these prizes. The Female vocal winner is bluegrass queen Rhonda Vincent with her Porter Wagoner song revival. The Male vocal winner is big Danny Paisley, who has soul to spare. The Group performance award goes to the lovely gospel effort by Balsam Range.

Happy listening.

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[‘God, Love, & Unity’: Lathan Warlick Shares His Life Purpose \[Interview\]](#)

[Warner Chappell Production Music Opens Sandtrack Sound Studio In Nashville](#)

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B.J. Thomas Dead At 78

Five-time Grammy award winner and Grammy Hall of Fame inductee, **B.J. Thomas**, died May 29 at home in Arlington, Texas from complications due to stage four lung cancer. He was 78.

Thomas' expansive career crossed multiple genres, including country, pop, and gospel, earning him CMA, Dove, and Grammy awards and nominations since his emergence in the 1960s.

His career was anchored by numerous enduring hits, among them his million-selling cover of Hank Williams' "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry," the Grammy-winning "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song" and the iconic "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head," which won the Academy Award for best original song. A five-time Grammy award winner and Grammy Hall of Fame inductee, Thomas has sold over 70 million albums worldwide, scoring eight No. 1 hits and 26 Top 10 singles over his 50+ years in the music industry. His lengthy chart history led to him being named one of *Billboard's* Top 50 Most Played Artists Over The Past 50 Years. Such memorable hits as "I Just Can't Help Believing," "Don't Worry Baby," "Whatever Happened To Old Fashioned Love," "New Looks From An Old Lover" and "Hooked on a Feeling" have made him a staple on multiple radio formats over the years.



He was born Billy Joe Thomas in rural Hugo, Oklahoma, before he moved to Houston, Texas with his family. He began singing in church as a child and in his teens joined the Houston-based band the Triumphs.

Thomas's first taste of success came in 1966 when he recorded "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" with producer Huey P. Meaux. Released by Scepter Records, it peaked at No. 8 on the pop charts and became his first million-selling single. He released the follow-up single, "Mama," and delivered his first solo album that same year.

Thomas' second million-selling hit came in 1968 with the release of "Hooked on a Feeling" from *On My Way*, his sophomore album for Scepter. During his days with the New York label, he became friendly with Ronnie Milsap and Dionne Warwick, who were also on the roster at the time. It was Warwick who introduced him to songwriter-producer Burt Bacharach. In January 1970, Thomas topped the charts with "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head." Penned by Bacharach and Hal David, the song was featured in the classic Paul Newman/Robert Redford film *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, earning the Oscar for best original song. Sales quickly exceeded two million copies and it has remained one of the most enduring pop hits of all time, reoccurring in such films as *Forrest Gump*, *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle*, *Clerks II*, and *Spider-Man 2* as well as multiple TV shows over the years. He followed that career-defining single with a string of pop/rock hits, including "Everybody's Out of Town," "I Just Can't Help Believing," "No Love at All" and "Rock and Roll Lullaby."

After six years with Scepter Records, Thomas signed with Paramount Records where he released two albums—1973's *Songs* and 1974's *Longhorns & Londonbridges*. In 1975, Thomas released the album *Reunion* on ABC Records, featuring "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song," which holds the distinction of being the longest titled No. 1 hit ever on *Billboard's* Hot 100.

Like many successful pop/rock artists, Thomas fell into drugs and battled substance abuse. His wife Gloria became a born-again Christian and the turning point in Thomas' life came when he became a believer in 1976. He immediately quit drugs and found an avenue for expressing his faith in gospel music. Thomas signed with Myrrh Records and released the album *Home Where I Belong* in 1976. Produced by Chris Christian, the project won Thomas a Grammy



and became the first of two Dove Award wins. The album became the first gospel record to sell a million copies. The warmth and emotional timbre of Thomas' voice was well suited to the genre and he became one of gospel music's most successful artists. His rendition of "Amazing Grace" is considered one of the most poignant of the classic hymn's many covers.

In addition to his country and gospel success, Thomas also enjoyed a healthy run on the country charts in the 1980s with such hits as "Whatever Happened to Old Fashioned Love," "New Looks from an Old Lover Again," "The Whole World's in Love When You're Lonely" and "Two Car Garage." "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song" was No. 1 on both the *Billboard* Hot 100 and the Hot Country Songs charts. It won the Grammy for Best Country Song in 1976 and was nominated for CMA Single of the Year. On his 39th birthday in 1981, Thomas became the 60th member of the Grand Ole Opry.

Beyond populating multiple radio formats with so many beloved hits, Thomas also voiced the theme song, "As Long As We've Got Each Other," for the popular TV series *Growing Pains*, and has lent his voice to numerous commercials, including campaigns for Coca-Cola and Pepsi. He can also be seen on television hosting Time Life Music's Forever 70s infomercial. As an actor, he also appeared in the films *Jory* and *Jake's Corner*. Thomas authored two books, including his autobiography *Home Where I Belong*.

In 2013, he released *The Living Room Sessions*, an acoustic album, which celebrated Thomas' nearly six decades in the music industry. The project featured Thomas dueting with other high profile artists on his most beloved hits, which included teaming with Richard Marx for "(Hey Won't You Play) Another Somebody Done Somebody Wrong Song," Vince Gill on "I Just Can't Help Believing," Sara Niemietz on "Hooked on a Feeling," Keb' Mo' on "Most of All," Lyle Lovett on "Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head" and The Fray's Isaac Slade on "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry." The album was well-received with critics praising it as a reminder of just how engaging his voice remained after decades of recording and touring.

Though Thomas will be remembered as one of this generation's premiere vocalists and a consummate entertainer, the humble artist was most proud of his family. He's survived by his wife of 53 years Gloria, their three daughters Paige Thomas, Nora Cloud, and Erin Moore, and four grandchildren, Nadia Cloud, Keira Cloud, Ruby Moore, and Billy Joe Moore.

A quote from his website exemplifies Thomas' humble attitude and appreciation for life. "All I am is just another guy. I've been very lucky," he shared. "I've had a wonderful life, I've been a husband and a father who cherishes his children and now I'm a grandfather, and I'm motivated like all these teachers and preachers and mothers and fathers to help my kids grow up with character and self-respect. I hope that doesn't sound too grandiose, but that's what it comes down to. It's what I've tried to do with my music and with the majority of my life." **MR**

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	3	Corey Crowder	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen Famous Friends Minimum Wage	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line Chris Young + Kane Brown Blake Shelton
2	1	Ashley Gorley	Country Again Give Heaven Some Hell Sand In My Boots Single Saturday Night Warning You Should Probably Leave	Thomas Rhett HARDY Morgan Wallen Cole Swindell Morgan Wallen Chris Stapleton
3	2	Jesse Frasure	Almost Maybes Minimum Wage Whiskey And Rain	Jordan Davis Blake Shelton Michael Ray
4	4	Zach Crowell	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's Country Again Waves	Sam Hunt Thomas Rhett Luke Bryan
5	5	Nicolle Galyon	Gone Half Of My Hometown Minimum Wage	Dierks Bentley Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Blake Shelton
6	6	Josh Osborne	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl Sand In My Boots	Sam Hunt Old Dominion Carly Pearce Morgan Wallen
7	7	Tyler Hubbard	Lil Bit Undivided	Nelly & Florida Georgia Line Tim McGraw & Tyler Hubbard
8	8	Michael Hardy	Give Heaven Some Hell Livin' The Dream Sand In My Boots Single Saturday Night That Ain't Me No More	HARDY Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Cole Swindell Matt Stell
9	9	Luke Combs	Forever After All	Luke Combs
10	10	Drew Parker	Forever After All	Luke Combs
11	11	Robert Williford	Forever After All	Luke Combs
12	16	Eric Church	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
13	17	Monty Criswell	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
14	18	C. Beathard	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
15	12	Ben Johnson	Give Heaven Some Hell Gone	HARDY Dierks Bentley
16	21	Hunter Phelps	Cold Beer Calling My Name Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen Give Heaven Some Hell That Ain't Me No More Thinking 'Bout You	Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line HARDY Matt Stell Dustin Lynch feat. Lauren Alaina
17	19	Chris Loocke	Undivided	Tim McGraw & Tyler Hubbard
18	13	Neil Medley	Made For You	Jake Owen
19	14	Benjy Davis	Made For You	Jake Owen
20	15	Joey Hyde	Made For You	Jake Owen
21	22	Ernest Keith Smith	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's Dangerous Warning Wasted On You	Sam Hunt Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
22	23	Dallas Wilson	Nobody	Dylan Scott
23	24	Dylan Scott	Nobody	Dylan Scott
24	25	Matt Alderman	Nobody	Dylan Scott
25	30	Cary Barlowe	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
26	31	Chris Young	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown
27	29	Niko Moon	Gone	Dierks Bentley
28	26	Luke Dick	Settling Down	Miranda Lambert
29	27	Miranda Lambert	Settling Down	Miranda Lambert
30	28	Natalie Hemby	Settling Down	Miranda Lambert
31	34	Hillary Lindsey	Almost Maybes	Jordan Davis
32	35	Jordan Davis	Almost Maybes	Jordan Davis
33	32	J. Flowers	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
34	33	Brinley Addington	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
35	45	Shane McAnally	Half Of My Hometown I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl	Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Old Dominion Carly Pearce
36	—	Chayce Beckham	23	Chayce Beckham
37	37	Mark Holman	Single Saturday Night	Cole Swindell
38	38	Gabby Barrett	The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett
39	39	Zachary Kale	The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett
40	40	Emily Landis	The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett
41	41	J. McCormick	The Good Ones	Gabby Barrett
42	46	Jonathan Singleton	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
43	47	Lainey Wilson	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
44	48	Jason Nix	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
45	50	Martin Johnson	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) Like A Lady	Elle King and Miranda Lambert Lady A
46	20	Thomas Rhett	Country Again	Thomas Rhett
47	49	Ryan Vojtesak	Warning Wasted On You Worship You	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Kane Brown
48	51	Randy Montana	If It Wasn't For Trucks We Didn't Have Much	Riley Green Justin Moore
49	43	Paul DiGiovanni	Getting Over Him We Didn't Have Much	Lauren Alaina with Jon Pardi Justin Moore
50	52	Josh Thompson	Wasted On You Whiskey And Rain	Morgan Wallen Michael Ray
51	44	Jeremy Stover	We Didn't Have Much	Justin Moore
52	55	Ryan Hurd	Waves	Luke Bryan
53	56	Chase McGill	Waves	Luke Bryan
54	53	Chris LaCorte	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's	Sam Hunt
55	54	Sam Hunt	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's	Sam Hunt
56	57	Carly Pearce	Next Girl	Carly Pearce
57	36	Taylor Swift	Love Story Mr. Perfectly Fine	Taylor Swift Taylor Swift
58	58	Elle King	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)	Elle King and Miranda Lambert
59	59	John Edwards	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
60	60	Brian White	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean

CALENDAR

Singles

June 7

Nelly & Florida Georgia Line/*Lil Bit*/Columba/Records/BMLGR

Chase Likens/*Rub A Little Dirt On It/On The Green*

Bailey James/*Finally Free*/Star Farm

Jamie Trent/*Truth About A Lie*

June 9

Lyssa Coulter/*I Don't Wanna Know (Acoustic)*/Sincerely Music Group

June 10

Cort Carpenter/*Class Of*/Triple C Records

Albums

June 4

The Grand Ole Opry/*Unbroken I Empty Room, Full Circle*

Brett Young/*Weekends Look A Little Different These Days*/BMLG Records

Riley Clemmons/*Godsend*/Capitol CMG

Walker Hayes/*Country Stuff*/Monument Records

Andrew Jannakos/*Gone Too Soon*/RCA Nashville

Mark Collie/*Book Of My Blues*/BFD/Audium Nashville/Orchard

Bailey Callahan/*The A & B Sides*

Nate Barnes/*You Ain't Pretty* (EP)/Quartz Hill Records

Gord Bamford/*Diamonds In A Whiskey Glass*/Anthem Records

Jacob Armitage/*Through The Night* (EP)

June 5

Ryan Clark/*Trust* (EP)

Industry Events

June 7 – 9

AIMP Global Music Publishing Summit

June 9

CMT Music Awards