

MusicRow Magazine Releases 2021 Artist Roster Issue, Including The Invaluable Company Directory And Artist Grid



**IN THIS
ISSUE...**

Nashville music industry publication *MusicRow* Magazine has released its 2021 Artist Roster print issue, featuring ASCAP songwriters and Arista Nashville band **Old Dominion** on the cover.

Reigning CMA and ACM Group of the Year Old Dominion has emerged as one of the hottest bands out of Nashville, with numerous awards to date. Since breaking onto the music scene in 2014, Old Dominion has notched eight No. 1 singles at country radio, surpassed one billion on-demand streams, earned several Platinum and Gold single certifications, and headlined arenas and amphitheatres around the globe.

This year's Artist Roster print edition features exclusive editorials, including a chat with industry stalwarts **Clint Higham** and **Ebie McFarland** who continue to serve as cutting edge leaders in our industry. Higham and McFarland discuss lessons learned from the pandemic, "cancel culture," TikTok and NFTs, and more.

This issue also highlights the National Museum of African American Music which is now part of our Nashville landscape serving as the only museum dedicated to preserving and celebrating the many music genres created, influenced, and inspired by African Americans.

Spotify's Head of Editorial for Nashville, **Rachel Whitney**, discusses the art of administration behind curating some of country music's biggest playlists.

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

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Nashville Songwriters Hall Of Fame Nominees Revealed

Sandi Spika Borchetta Elevated At BMLG

River House Artists Ups Zebb Luster

DISCLAIMER Singles Reviews

And much more...

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WDHR, WFRY, WTNJ, WUUU

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CHASE LIKENS

Sound Healthcare & Financial CEO/Founder **R.J. Stillwell** talks about the last 15 years of his healthcare advocacy and insurance organization that helps artists, songwriters, musicians and other creative types navigate the healthcare and insurance systems.

Finally, with music always traveling in tandem with technology, this issue covers the basics of non-fungible tokens, commonly referred to as NFTs.

Additionally, Artist Roster contains five company directories complete with client rosters: Label, Management, Talent Agents, Publicity, and Artist Services (Business Management/Financial/Insurance, Digital Music, Legal, Marketing, Radio Promotion, and Organizations). This edition also offers a summarizing Artist Grid, which has become an indispensable tool connecting artists to their team members in each category.

Single copies of *MusicRow's* 2021 Artist Roster print issue are available for purchase at musicrow.com for \$45, and are included with yearly *MusicRow* [subscribed memberships](#). **MR**

ABC, Country Music Association Extend Broadcast Agreement Through 2026

ABC has extended its broadcast agreement with the Country Music Association (CMA), solidifying the network as the home of *The CMA Awards*, as well as CMA broadcast specials *CMA Fest* and *CMA Country Christmas*, through 2026.

“Over the past 15 years, we have built a true partnership with ABC, and we are thrilled to continue our relationship through 2026,” says **Sarah Trahern**, CMA CEO. “As television viewers are now consuming content in so many new and exciting ways, we are eager to work with the entire ABC team on creating additional paths to bring country music to audiences everywhere. As our genre continues to evolve and broaden, we look to this partnership as a key driver in expanding country music’s reach.”

“Continuing our long-standing relationship with CMA is a top priority and opportunity—together, we bring unforgettable experiences to our audiences that capture the heart and soul of the country music community,” says **Rob Mills**, EVP, Unscripted and Alternative Entertainment, Walt Disney Television. “We look forward to delivering many more memorable moments with celebrated icons as well as aspirational artists and are proud to be the home for these incredible and distinguished specials.”

The CMA Awards are the longest-running, annual music awards program on broadcast television, having debuted on ABC in 2006. Last year’s awards delivered ABC’s biggest Wednesday audience this season in entertainment, reaching more than 21 million viewers and generating nearly 9 million social video views across Facebook and Twitter. **MR**



NASHVILLE'S DEFINITIVE SPORTS INDUSTRY PUBLICATION

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Loretta Lynn, Joe Galante, Luke Combs, More To Be Celebrated At 14th Annual ACM Honors

The Academy of Country Music has revealed the recipients of the Special Awards for the 56th ACM Awards. The honorees will be celebrated during the 14th Annual ACM Honors on Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2021 at the Ryman Auditorium.

Off-camera categories to be feted at ACM Honors include Studio Recording Award winners, the Songwriter of the Year Award, and more. Additionally, the [previously announced](#) SRA (Studio Recording Awards) and Industry Award winners from 2020's 55th ACM Awards will also be celebrated during this year's ACM Honors.

Joe Galante and **Rascal Flatts** have been chosen to receive the ACM Cliffie Stone Icon Award this year. This award is presented to a country music artist, duo/group, or industry leader who throughout their career has advanced the popularity of the genre through their contributions in multiple facets of the industry such as songwriting, recording, production, touring, film, television, literary works, philanthropic contributions, and other goodwill efforts. **Lady A** and **Ross Copperman** have been chosen to receive the Gary Haber Lifting Lives Award, which is presented to a country music artist, duo/group, or industry professional who is devoted to improving lives through the power of music, has a generosity of spirit, and is committed to serving others, voted on by the ACM Lifting Lives Board of Directors.

Luke Combs will be honored with the ACM Gene Weed Milestone Award. This award is presented to a country music artist, duo/group, or industry leader for a specific, unprecedented or outstanding achievement in the field of country music during the preceding calendar year. **Dan + Shay** has been chosen to receive the ACM Jim Reeves International Award, which is presented to an artist or industry leader for outstanding contributions to the acceptance of country music throughout the world.

RAC Clark has been chosen as the recipient of the ACM Mae Boren Axton Service Award, which honors an outstanding country music artist, duo/group, or industry leader in recognition of years of dedication and service to the Academy of Country Music. **Toby Keith** has been chosen for the ACM Merle Haggard Spirit Award, which is presented to a singer-songwriter who is continuing the legacy of country legend and 20-time ACM Award winner Merle Haggard by following his/her own path, crafting great songs and epitomizing Merle's spirit through genuine performances and great storytelling.

Loretta Lynn, **Gretchen Peters**, and the late **Curly Putman** (posthumously) have been chosen as recipients of the ACM Poet's Award. This award goes to a country music songwriter for outstanding and longstanding musical and/or lyrical contributions throughout their career, with special consideration given to a song or songs' impact on the culture of country music.

Ken Burns' *Country Music* documentary has been chosen to receive the ACM Tex Ritter Film Award. This award recognizes an outstanding television movie, series, or feature film released during the preceding calendar year which prominently features country music.

Hillary Lindsey has been chosen as the recipient of the ACM Songwriter of the Year for the second year. This award is presented to an individual known predominately as a songwriter, selected by a professional panel of judges composed of songwriters, publishers, producers, and performing rights organization representatives.

56th ACM Awards (2020 Studio Recording Award Winners):

Bass Player Of The Year: **Tony Lucido**

Drummer Of The Year: **Aaron Sterling**

Guitar Player Of The Year: **J.T. Corenflos** (Awarded Posthumously)

Piano/Keyboards Player Of The Year: **Dave Cohen**

Specialty Instrument(S) Player Of The Year: **Ilya Toshinskiy**

Steel Guitar Player Of The Year *Tie In Category*: **Dan Dugmore & Mike Johnson**

Audio Engineer Of The Year: **F. Reid Shippen**

Producer Of The Year: **Jay Joyce**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Same Boat/Zac Brown Band/Home Grown Music/Warner Music Nashville — 56

Never Mine/Craig Campbell/Grindstone Records — 59

Summer Song/Chris Kroeze — 75

Fine/Mira Goto/ArtistMax — 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Same Boat/Zac Brown Band/Home Grown Music/Warner Music Nashville — 279

I Was On A Boat That Day/Old Dominion/Arista Nashville — 237

Never Mine/Craig Campbell/Grindstone Records — 190

Half Of My Hometown/Kelsea Ballerini/Black River

Entertainment — 84

Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)/Elle King & Miranda

Lambert/RCA Nashville — 70

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Never Mine/Craig Campbell/Grindstone Records — 18

Same Boat/Zac Brown Band/Home Grown Music/Warner Music Nashville — 18

Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)/Elle King & Miranda

Lambert/RCA Nashville — 6

Hand Me Downs/Janelle Arthur feat. Dolly Parton/Farm Load

Records — 4

Fine/Mira Goto/ArtistMax — 4

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Make It To Memphis/Shelley Lynch/Lynch Records — 151

American Summer/Kylie Trout/Kylie Trout Music — 148

Bring Me Back That Feeling/Shine/Manustix Music — 138

Lil Bit/Nelly & Florida Georgia Line/RECORDS/Columbia — 134

You'll Always Be My Baby/Alan Jackson/EMI Records

Nashville — 133

NO. 1 SONG



Luke Bryan earns his first No. 1 of 2021 on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart with “Waves.” In April, the single swept that charts as the most added and highest debut for its impact week debuting at No. 35 on the *MusicRow* Chart.

Writer credit for “Waves” goes to **Zach Crowell**, **Ryan Hurd**, and **Chase McGill**. The song also appears on the deluxe version of Bryan’s album [Born Here Live Here Die](#).

Bryan has announced several gigs for 2021, the [Proud To Be Right Here Tour](#) kicking off in July and [The 2021 Farm Tour](#) in September. Planning ahead in 2022, he also announced the return of [Crash My Playa](#) for January and a [Vegas residency](#) for February.



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	WMCI Mattoon, IL	KYSM Mankato, MN	KWEY Weatherford, OK	KMRK Odessa, TX
WXFL Florence, AL	WYOT Rochelle, IL	KZPK St. Cloud, MN	KWOX Woodward, OK	KYYK Palestine, TX
KQUS Hot Springs, AR	WRTB Rockford, IL	KWWR Mexico, MO	KRKT Albany, OR	KXOX Sweetwater, TX
KDXY Jonesboro, AR	WCCI Savanna, IL	KFAV Warrenton, MO	WNBT Mansfield, PA	WAKG Danville, VA
KWCK Searcy, AR	WIFE Connersville, IN	KZZY Devils Lake, ND	WCFT Selinsgrove, PA	WAXX Altoona, WI
KRAZ Santa Barbara, CA	KAIR Atchison, KS	KRVN Lexington, NE	WFGE State College, PA	WJVL Janesville, WI
WPAP Panama City, FL	WKDZ Cadiz, KY	Jersey Shore Country	WMIR Myrtle Beach, SC	WGLR Platteville, WI
WUBB Savannah, GA	WBKR Owensboro, KY	KQBA Santa Fe, NM	KMOM Aberdeen, SD	WQPC Prairie du Chien, WI
KXIA Marshalltown, IA	WDHR Pikeville, KY	WDNB Monticello, NY	WUCZ Carthage, TN	WCOW Sparta, WI
KIAI Mason City, IA	KRRV Alexandria, LA	WOLF Syracuse, NY	WDKN Dickson, TN	WTNJ Beckley, WV
KBOE Oskaloosa, IA	WUUU Covington, LA	WCJW Warsaw, NY	WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN	WDGG Huntington, WV
KTHK Idaho Falls, ID	WKPE Hyannis, MA	WFRY Watertown, NY	KAYD Beaumont, TX	
WOOZ Cartersville, IL	WVMD Cumberland, MD	KWHW Altus, OK	KFTX Corpus Christi, TX	
WAAG Galesburg, IL	WTCM Traverse City, MI	KITX Hugo, OK	KYKX Longview, TX	

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
10	2	1	Waves / Luke Bryan / Capitol	1848/65	3	57
10	1	2	Country Again / Thomas Rhett / Valory	1679/54	-8	-139
18	4	3	Things A Man Oughta Know / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow	1652/55	3	48
31	5	4	Memory I Don't Mess With / Lee Brice / Curb	1602/63	3	52
19	3	5	Glad You Exist / Dan + Shay / Warner Music Nashville/WAR	1580/51	-2	-27
14	6	6	Like A Lady / Lady A / BMLG	1467/62	4	55
23	7	7	Tequila Little Time / Jon Pardi / Capitol	1418/63	2	28
26	8	8	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen. / Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line / Broken Bow/Dack Janiels	1415/53	5	61
16	9	9	Knowing You / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville	1406/59	5	69
42	10	10	Single Saturday Night / Cole Swindell / Warner Music Nashville	1275/42	1	18
27	11	11	Cold Beer Calling My Name / Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs / River House Artists/ Columbia Nashville	1269/57	3	37
32	13	12	Just About Over You / Priscilla Block / Mercury Nashville	1220/56	3	41
23	12	13	My Boy / Elvie Shane / Wheelhouse Records	1204/50	1	17
23	14	14	Give Heaven Some Hell / HARDY / Big Loud Records	1115/56	3	28
4	17	15	I Was On A Boat That Day / Old Dominion / Arista Nashville	1100/51	27	237
34	15	16	If It Wasn't For Trucks / Riley Green / BMLG	1027/45	-1	-12
19	16	17	Okfuskee Whiskey / James Robert Webb / Bison Creek Records	949/51	2	22
9	18	18	Half Of My Hometown / Kelsea Ballerini / Black River Entertainment	926/48	10	84
21	19	19	To Be Loved By You / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	842/49	1	10
18	20	20	Lonely Drum / Aaron Goodvin / Reviver Records/Warner Music Canada	840/43	2	15
31	21	21	You Time / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	839/41	3	22
12	22	22	Chasing After You / Ryan Hurd w/ Maren Morris / Arista Nashville	806/45	2	16
17	23	23	Getting Over Him / Lauren Alaina feat. Jon Pardi / Mercury Nashville	793/43	1	10
20	24	24	Freedom Was A Highway / Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley / Stoney Creek Records	790/40	4	30
15	26	25	Under It With You Tonight / Smith & Wesley / Dream Walkin/Audium Nashville	736/40	3	18
13	25	26	My Masterpiece / Darius Rucker / Capitol	726/37	0	0
16	27	27	I Can't / Caitlyn Smith feat. Old Dominion / Monument Records	700/42	1	9
12	29	28	ABBY / Travis Denning / Mercury Nashville	695/38	5	30
12	28	29	Then A Girl Walks In / Shenandoah & Blake Shelton / Foundry Records	694/41	3	20
20	30	30	Shallow / Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood / Pearl Records	648/32	2	11
5	33	31	You Should Probably Leave / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville	638/43	11	63
11	32	32	Might As Well Be Me / Dew Pendleton / HippieRedneckGospeLove/GrassRoots	627/43	6	38
17	31	33	Gettin' Her Over You / Bobby Wills / Willing	615/34	2	10
8	35	34	Not Yet / Brett Young / BMLG	569/38	3	15
8	36	35	I'm Not For Everyone / Brothers Osborne / EMI Records Nashville	564/34	3	18
7	39	36	Fill Them Boots / Chris Lane / Big Loud Records	503/39	9	43
6	38	37	Tip Jar / Jackson Michelson / Curb	492/36	5	25
29	37	38	Worship You / Kane Brown / RCA Nashville	483/24	2	9
13	41	39	Treasure / Mary Heather Hickman / Rolling River Records	456/28	3	14

ARTIST ROSTER

THE 2021 REPORT

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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
16	40	40	It's All Yours / Dave Wilbert / Wilbilly Records	455/26	1	3
8	42	41	It's Cause I Am / Callista Clark / Big Machine	439/34	13	51
4	47	42	Back Then, Right Now / Tenille Arts / 19th & Grand Records	402/33	10	37
10	45	43	Show Off / Queeva / CMD Music	397/27	5	19
16	44	44	Home Sweet / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers Records	395/23	4	14
6	46	45	Thinking 'Bout You / Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter / Broken Bow	387/29	5	19
14	43	46	Homesick / Veronika / Whattaguy Music	387/26	0	1
16	49	47	Gotta Go Rodeo / Darlinghurst / Helium	369/21	5	19
11	48	48	Villain / Lily Rose / Big Loud Records	366/24	3	12
7	52	49	Woman You Got / Maddie & Tae / Mercury	336/24	4	12
16	51	50	Same Dirt Road / Eric Lee / Blue Hill Records	333/24	0	1
12	50	51	Old School's In / Heath Sanders / Valory	332/22	-3	-12
26	53	52	Whiskey And Rain / Michael Ray / Warner Music Nashville	325/22	4	12
6	57	53	Pretend He's You / Ashley Barron / SSM Nashville	292/25	12	31
8	54	54	That Ain't Me No More / Matt Stell / RECORDS/Arista Nashville	287/20	4	12
10	58	55	Anybody But Me / Hannah Belle / Cherry Picker Music South/Freedom Entertainment	284/16	10	25
1	0	56	Same Boat / Zac Brown Band / Home Grown Music/Warner Music Nashville	279/18	0	279
12	56	57	Lady Like / Ingrid Andress / Warner Music Nashville	275/19	5	12
11	55	58	Lonely Girl / Danny Kensity / Rad Records	273/17	1	2
1	105	59	Never Mine / Craig Campbell / Grindstone Records	272/25	127	190
2	62	60	Get Lost / Lucas Hoge / Forge Entertainment Group	258/19	16	36
8	61	61	Found My Home / Lucie Tiger / 2120 Music	258/18	14	31
8	67	62	Hot Beer / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records	251/15	23	47
3	60	63	Local Honey / Mo Pitney / Curb	243/19	6	14
4	63	64	Good Life / Kip Moore / MCA Nashville	239/18	9	20
5	70	65	Something Good To Miss / Juna N Joey / River Run Records	218/19	14	27
7	64	66	Moonlight / Kevin McCoy Band / Honky Tonk Hippie	214/13	0	0
8	68	67	Got Me This Far / Donny Lee / Donny Lee Music	213/16	5	11
2	80	68	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) / Elle King & Miranda Lambert / RCA Nashville	211/15	50	70
4	69	69	Growing Up Too Fast / Jon Wayne Hatfield / Soundstage Music	208/15	8	15
7	66	70	Is It Me And You / Lisa Brokop / Amersong	206/16	0	-1
3	74	71	Princess / Dallas Remington / RoadWarrior Records	192/18	7	12
6	71	72	Don't Get Better Than That / Tim Thurman / Tim Thurman Band	189/13	3	5
2	75	73	Dirt / Elise Harper / Skyfall Music	187/16	4	8
4	73	74	Old School / Lance Wade Thomas / Shady Grove Records	184/12	2	3
1	82	75	Summer Song / Chris Kroeze /	170/14	26	35
4	76	76	I'll Get You Back Again / The Ashley Sisters / GKM Records	166/12	0	0
4	77	77	Okay, Momma? / Connor Jameson / 615Nash Records	160/11	0	0
22	34	78	Right Place Now / Hudson Valley / Hudson Valley	156/7	-72	-407
2	78	79	If You Could Call It That / Jeannie Seely / Curb	155/9	1	1
1	89	80	Fine / Mira Goto / ArtistMax	153/15	35	40

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Kenny Chesney Announces Here And Now 2022 Stadium Tour



Eight-time Entertainer of the Year **Kenny Chesney** will finally return to the road for his Here And Now 2022 Stadium Tour.

After his 2020 tour was forced to pause because of the pandemic, Chesney held out on rescheduling due to concern about who would not be able to attend sold-out stadium shows, last minute changes in protocols and the challenges of mounting stadium-sized concerts week-after-week with shifting local crews.

At long last, the 19-date Here And Now Tour kicks off April 23 in Tampa, Florida at Raymond James Stadium and closes with two shows at at New England's Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts on Aug. 26 and 27. Chesney will hit Nashville's Nissan Stadium on May 28.

"Like it does for everyone, the idea of music, live music, fills me up," Chesney explains. "Nothing is so in the moment, so completely alive. I want to start 2022 with the awesome rush that embodies everything playing for No Shoes Nation is. We're calling the tour Here And Now 2022, because when we get together, there is only the present – and it's so electric and good, I know I don't want it to end. I just want to be 100% there with all of you."

The lineup will be revealed in the coming months, and all current ticket holders remain in the seats they've already purchased for Here And Now 2022.

[Click here to view the dates for the Blue Chair Bay Rum Presents Here And Now 2022 Tour, fueled by Marathon.](#)

Garth Brooks Adds Nashville Date To His Record Breaking Stadium Tour



The **Garth Brooks Stadium Tour** is coming to Nashville on Saturday, July 31 at Nissan Stadium.

In March of 2019, Brooks launched The Stadium Tour, which has since broken stadium attendance records at every stop so far. Pollstar announced at the end of last year that The Garth Brooks Stadium Tour was the best selling country music tour of 2019.

The Nashville stop, which marks Brooks first performance at Nissan Stadium, is the latest addition to his Stadium Tour. The show will feature in-the-round seating and is promising to be one of the most special stops on the tour.

"This is where you come to party," Brooks says. "I can't imagine what you'd have to do to have a beer in Nashville on the Stadium Tour. Well, you'd have to put the Stadium Tour and Nashville together, wouldn't ya? That would be crazy!" he said.

Tickets for The Garth Brooks Stadium Tour in Nashville go on sale Friday, June 26 at 10:00 am CST on Ticketmaster. Tickets will cost \$94.95 and are all inclusive. **MR**

Vince Gill Signs Publishing/Writer Management Agreement With Jody Williams Songs



22-time Grammy Award winner **Vince Gill** has signed a publishing/writer management agreement with independent music publisher Jody Williams Songs. This agreement marks the first time the songwriter has engaged creatively with any publishing entity, as Gill has been self-published since the beginning of his career.

JWS founder **Jody Williams** says, “I’ve known and appreciated Vince since the mid ’80s when he first started having solo success as an artist. His self-recorded body of work has always been anchored by his exceptional skill as a songwriter. Those songs, along with that unmistakable voice and skill as a musician, have earned him a place of honor among the entire songwriting community... not to mention the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Nashville

Songwriters Hall of Fame. Now, we look forward to helping forge new writing relationships and facilitating the next chapter of his song catalog.”

“I look forward to my partnership with Jody and **Nina Jenkins** and their passion for songs,” adds Gill. “Having never done this before, I am grateful for their willingness to champion what’s next for me creatively, and for an even closer friendship that’s already pushing forty years.” **MR**

Rivers Rutherford Inks Publishing Deal With Kane Brown’s Verse 2 Music

Nashville Songwriter Hall of Fame member **Rivers Rutherford** has signed with Verse 2 Music, a Sony Music Publishing joint-venture helmed by multi-Platinum entertainer **Kane Brown** and publishing veteran **Kent Earls**.

One of music’s most talented and accomplished singer-songwriters, Rutherford’s cuts include hits for iconic legends Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Dolly Parton, and Kris Kristofferson.

Over the course of his prolific career, Rutherford has had numerous No. 1 hits, multiple Grammys, CMA and ACM nominations, and over 20 ASCAP awards—including both of the coveted awards for Country Song Of The Year and Songwriter Of The Year. In addition to recent hits with Carrie Underwood, Faith Hill, Keith Urban, and Reba McEntire, the award-winning writer has penned No. 1 songs by Tim McGraw, Kenny Chesney, Brad Paisley, and Brooks & Dunn. His hit “Ain’t Nothin’ ‘Bout You” won Billboard’s and ASCAP’S Song Of The Year and spent 6 weeks at No. 1, marking Brooks & Dunn’s most successful single to date.



“I am very happy to sign to Verse 2 and be working again with my good friend Kent Earls. I am also grateful to be working with an artist as talented and exciting as Kane Brown, whose creativity and work ethic I greatly admire. **Rusty Gaston** and the rest of the Sony Music Publishing family are superstars and I’m honored to contribute to such a deep and storied catalog of classic country music,” shares Rutherford. **MR**

Rhett Akins, Brad Paisley, Shania Twain Among 2021 Nashville Songwriters Hall Of Fame Nominees



The Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame (NaSHOF) has announced the 12 nominees for the class of 2021. Eight of these nominees are for the Songwriters category, while the remaining four are for the Songwriter/Artist category.

Nominees in the Songwriters category are **Rhett Akins, Buddy Cannon, Larry Cordle, Carl Jackson, Mary Ann Kennedy, David Malloy, Frank J. Myers,** and **Tia Sillers**. Nominees in the Songwriter/Artists category are **Toby Keith, Brad Paisley, Shania Twain,** and **Phil Vassar**.

All nominees experienced their first Top 20 song at least 20 years ago. Two songwriters and one songwriter/artist will be elected in these categories by their professional songwriter peers and members of the Hall of Fame. In addition, two more will be named to the Class of 2021. A separate body of veteran voters will elect a veteran songwriter and a veteran songwriter/artist, both of whom experienced their first Top 20 song at least 30 years ago. As part of that process, nominees in those categories are not announced.

The new group will be among those honored at the “50/51” Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame Gala on Monday, November 1, 2021, at the Music City Center alongside the organization’s previously named Class of 2020: **Steve Earle, Bobbie Gentry, Kent Blazy, Brett James** and **Spoooner Oldham**.

“We were forced to postpone our 50th Anniversary celebration last year, so this will be our ‘50/51’ party—celebrating two years and two classes in a special double-sized event,” says NaSHOF Executive Director **Mark Ford**. “We congratulate all of this year’s nominees and look forward to next month, when we will announce those who will be inducted as members of the Class of 2021.”

[Click here to read about each nominee.](#)

Sandi Spika Borchetta Elevated To Executive VP, Creative At BMLG



Big Machine Label Group has announced **Sandi Spika Borchetta** has been elevated to Executive Vice President, Creative. Overseeing all visual elements across multiple imprints and brands since the company's inception in 2005, Spika Borchetta will continue to spearhead content including film, music videos, live performances, photography, design and graphics for BMLG.

"Sandi has been a critical component of BMLG since the idea of the label", says BMLG President/CEO **Scott Borchetta**. "Her undying support and belief in what the label could become has been my rock." Borchetta continues, "There is nobody that works harder than Sandi and the Creative team and their content output is arguably unmatched."

Under her leadership, BMLG has scored numerous CMA, ACM and CMT Awards. Additionally, the Creative team has garnered Davey Awards for BMLG Corporate Integrative Campaigns and projects.

"Big Machine Label Group has been such a rewarding experience," says Spika Borchetta. "It's been amazing to be a part of this company from day one in 2005. I feel fortunate and blessed to have worked side by side with my best friend and hero, Scott, for the past 16 years. The BMLG Creative Team is the very best on the planet and I'm grateful for their passionate talents contributing to the success of the entire machine."

Spika Borchetta has also been inducted into the Tennessee State Museum Costume and Textile Institute recognizing design work for Reba McEntire, Taylor Swift, Faith Hill, Martina McBride, Trisha Yearwood, and Kenny Rogers to name a few. **MR**

River House Artists Ups Zebb Luster To VP/General Manager



River House Artists (RHA) has announced the promotion of **Zebb Luster** to VP/General Manager, effective immediately.

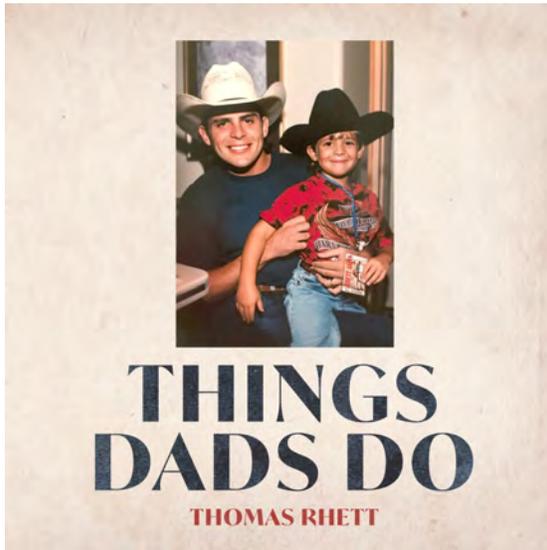
River House Artists is a Nashville-based label, publishing, management and artist development company led by industry veteran **Lynn Oliver-Cline** and boasts a roster including Luke Combs, Ray Fulcher, Nicolette Hayford, Drew Parker, Jameson Rodgers, Jordan Rowe, Southerland, Driver Williams, Billy Strings and more.

Luster, who previously served as creative director, has been with the company since 2017 and was RHA's first hire. In Luster's newly created role, he will be responsible for assisting CEO Oliver-Cline in label services and overseeing the company's artist development, management and publishing roster.

"I am so grateful to find an executive like Zebb who is as passionate about River House and our amazing artists and writers as I am. He not only super serves them, but is there for our young and talented team every day as well," shares Oliver-Cline. "Thank you, Zebb, for believing. Congrats on being the first employee four years ago, to now accepting your new role as the VP/GM!"

"When I moved to Nashville six years ago, being a music executive was my dream. I had the drive and the passion, but I couldn't have even dreamt up the path God had planned for me. I owe everything to Lynn Oliver-Cline because she saw something in me early on and gave me an unmatched opportunity to learn and grow," shares Luster. "The RHA team works harder than anyone I know and we are all following Lynn's 'super serve' mentality that has proven to be successful. Being at River House has been a dream come true for me and I can't wait to see what the future has in store." **MR**

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Thomas Rhett & Rhett Akins, Pryor & Lee, Shy Carter & Friends



Country music can rock you, touch your heart, or tickle your funny bone, and all three of those are in today's Disclaimer.

You wanna rock? Let Shy Carter and his buddies show you how. If sentiment is what you crave, settle in with Pryor & Lee. As for humor, may I introduce you to today's goofy DisDiscovery Award winner, Toby T. Swift?

My dad has been gone for several years, but Thomas Rhett's is still very much with us. In fact, they played the Opry together last weekend. So as a sweet salute to Father's Day, play his Disc of the Day winner, "Things Dads Do."

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[Round Hill Music Nashville Ups Bob Squance To Senior Director, A&R](#)

[Kyle Fishman Decides To Play It Again, Extends Publishing Deal With PIA](#)

[Chris Lane Announces Fill Them Boots Tour To Begin In October](#)

[Jon Wood Signs Publishing Deal With Peermusic](#)

[Garth Brooks, Brad Paisley Among 2021 Pollstar Award Winners Of The Decade](#)

[Jeff Garrison Signs Publishing Deal With Eclipse Music Group, Being Bob Music](#)

[Cody Johnson Returns To The Road With 2021 Tour](#)

[Florida Georgia Line, Sam Hunt, Gabby Barrett Among iHeartRadio Music Festival Lineup](#)

[Kat & Alex Sign With WME \[Exclusive\]](#)

[Dylan Guthro Inks Publishing Deal With RED Creative Group, Anthem Entertainment](#)

[The AMG Adds Amanda Good, Kailyn Finnegan In Marketing And Touring](#)

[BBR Music Group/Wheelhouse Records Sign Kolby Cooper](#)

[Toby Keith's Country Comes To Town Tour Launching June 20](#)

[Stephanie Greene Named President Of Deluge Music](#)

Charlie Daniels To Be Honored With Duets Album Featuring Dolly Parton, Brooks & Dunn, More

Several artists have come together to pay tribute to the late **Charlie Daniels** on a new collaborative album, *Charlie Daniels & Friends – Duets*, which will be released via Blue Hat Records & BFD/Audium Nashville. Walmart is exclusively carrying the project, which will be available on Friday, July 16 at all Walmart locations and at walmart.com. Daniels, a Country Music Hall of Fame member, died last year (July 6, 2020) from a hemorrhagic stroke. He was 83.

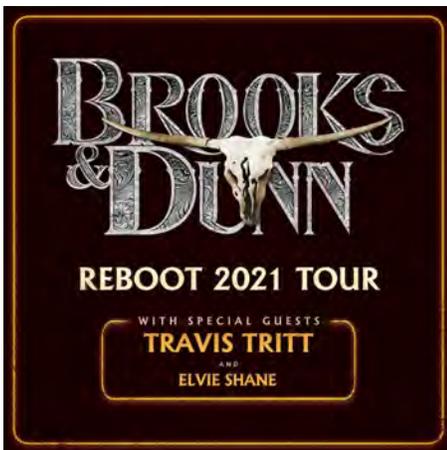
The nineteen-track compilation features Daniels singing and picking with a slew of top-notch stars including **Dolly Parton, Brooks & Dunn, Darius Rucker, Travis Tritt, Vince Gill, Brad Paisley, Brenda Lee, Gretchen Wilson, Marty Stuart**, and more.

“It goes without saying that it’s been a rough year for my mom and I, our CDB family and dad’s fans,” says Daniels’ son, **Charlie Daniels Jr.** “But his music will live on forever, and we’re happy that this Duets collection will add to his legacy.”

The album includes several of Daniels’ biggest songs such as “Long Haired Country Boy” with Brooks & Dunn, as well as an additional version with the late **Hal Ketchum** and **John Berry**, “The South’s Gonna Do It (Again)” with **Keith Urban** on guitar, “Drinkin’ My Baby Goodbye” with **Montgomery Gentry**, and “Waco” with **Garth Brooks** singing harmony, as well as classic tunes like “Jackson” with Wilson, “Let It Be Me” with Lee, and “The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down” with Gill. *MR*



Brooks & Dunn Announce New Dates For Reboot 2021 Tour



Brooks & Dunn have relaunched their Reboot 2021 tour with seven new dates and a slate of rescheduled shows. Special guests Travis Tritt and Elvie Shane will join the duo on the new run.

The tour is named after the duo’s 2019 collaboration project *Reboot*, which debuted at No. 1 on *Billboard*’s Top Country Albums. The impressive feat marks the first time Brooks & Dunn has topped the album charts since 2009 while simultaneously earning the duo their 10th *Billboard* 200 Top 10 album, the most of any country duo or group in the chart’s history. Following the release of *Reboot*, they were nominated for a Grammy for Best Country Duo/ Group Performance for their collaboration with Luke Combs on “Brand New Man” on the album and were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in the Modern Era Artist category in 2019.

The Reboot Tour marks the duo’s first nationwide tour in ten years and will kick off Sept. 2 in Indianapolis’s Ruoff Music Center with stops along the way in Cincinnati, Chicago, Dallas, and more. The trek will wrap up at The Wharf Amphitheater on Oct. 9 in Orange Beach, Alabama.

[Click here to see the 2021 Reboot Tour dates.](#)

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	1	Corey Crowder	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen Famous Friends Minimum Wage	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line Chris Young + Kane Brown Blake Shelton
2	2	Jesse Frasure	Almost Maybes Minimum Wage Whiskey And Rain	Jordan Davis Blake Shelton Michael Ray
3	3	Ashley Gorley	Country Again Give Heaven Some Hell Single Saturday Night Warning You Should Probably Leave	Thomas Rhett HARDY Cole Swindell Morgan Wallen Chris Stapleton
4	4	Nicolle Galyon	Gone Half Of My Hometown Minimum Wage	Dierks Bentley Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Blake Shelton
5	5	Zach Crowell	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's Country Again Waves	Sam Hunt Thomas Rhett Luke Bryan
6	6	Josh Osborne	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl	Sam Hunt Old Dominion Carly Pearce
7	7	Tyler Hubbard	Lil Bit Undivided	Nelly & Florida Georgia Line Tim McGraw & Tyler Hubbard
8	9	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. MacKenzie Porter
9	14	Ben Johnson	Give Heaven Some Hell Gone	HARDY Dierks Bentley
10	10	Luke Combs	Forever After All	Luke Combs
11	11	Drew Parker	Forever After All	Luke Combs
12	12	Robert Williford	Forever After All	Luke Combs
13	8	Michael Hardy	Give Heaven Some Hell Single Saturday Night That Ain't Me No More	HARDY Cole Swindell Matt Stell
14	21	Niko Moon	Gone No Sad Songs	Dierks Bentley Niko Moon
15	13	Jordan Davis	Almost Maybes Buy Dirt	Jordan Davis Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan
16	23	Cary Barlowe	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown
17	24	Chris Young	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown
18	22	Chris Loocke	Undivided	Tim McGraw & Tyler Hubbard
19	18	Dallas Wilson	Nobody	Dylan Scott
20	19	Dylan Scott	Nobody	Dylan Scott
21	20	Matt Alderman	Nobody	Dylan Scott
22	25	Shane McAnally	Half Of My Hometown I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl	Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Old Dominion Carly Pearce
23	28	Luke Dick	I'm Not For Everyone Settling Down	Brothers Osborne Miranda Lambert
24	30	Natalie Hemby	I'm Not For Everyone Settling Down	Brothers Osborne Miranda Lambert
25	29	Miranda Lambert	Settling Down	Miranda Lambert

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
26	27	Hillary Lindsey	Almost Maybes	Jordan Davis
27	26	Ernest Keith Smith	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's Dangerous Warning Wasted On You	Sam Hunt Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
28	31	J. Flowers	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
29	32	Brinley Addington	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
30	33	Mark Holman	Single Saturday Night	Cole Swindell
31	42	Martin Johnson	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) Like A Lady	Elle King and Miranda Lambert Lady A
32	34	Paul DiGiovanni	Getting Over Him We Didn't Have Much	Lauren Alaina with Jon Pardi Justin Moore
33	35	Thomas Rhett	Country Again	Thomas Rhett
34	36	Randy Montana	If It Wasn't For Trucks We Didn't Have Much	Riley Green Justin Moore
35	37	Josh Thompson	Wasted On You Whiskey And Rain	Morgan Wallen Michael Ray
36	38	Jonathan Singleton	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
37	39	Lainey Wilson	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
38	40	Jason Nix	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
39	41	Jeremy Stover	We Didn't Have Much	Justin Moore
40	43	Ryan Vojtesak	Warning Wasted On You Worship You	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Kane Brown
41	44	Ryan Hurd	Waves	Luke Bryan
42	45	Chase McGill	Waves	Luke Bryan
43	48	Carly Pearce	Next Girl	Carly Pearce
44	50	C. Dodds	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line
45	51	Chase Rice	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line
46	52	Elle King	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)	Elle King and Miranda Lambert
47	46	Chris LaCorte	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's	Sam Hunt
48	47	Sam Hunt	Breaking Up Was Easy In The 90's	Sam Hunt
49	53	John Edwards	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
50	54	Brian White	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
51	55	Kurt Allison	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
52	56	Tully Kennedy	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
53	57	Michael Tyler	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
54	15	Eric Church	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
55	16	Monty Criswell	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
56	17	C. Beathard	Hell Of A View	Eric Church
57	63	Jordan Reynolds	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
58	64	Tayla Parx	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
59	65	Ryan Lewis	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
60	66	Dan Smyers	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay

CALENDAR

Singles

June 18

Brantley Glibert, Toby Keith, & HARDY/*The Worst Country Song Of All Time*/The Valory Music Co.

Brady Lee/*Rewind*/Sincerely Music Group

Amanda Colleen Williams/*I'm On Fire*/Hillbilly Culture LLC

Ethan Payne/*Blind Man*

Parker Graye/*Last Time*

Rayne Johnson/*Somebody with a Broken Heart*

June 21

Walker County/*Bits & Pieces*/WMN

Seaforth/*Breakups*/Arista

AC Thomas/*Hillbilly Shake*/Birmingham Entertainment

Matt Stillwell/*Hey Dad*/723 Entertainment

Karly C/*Another Drink Or Three*

Albums

June 16

Smithfield/*New Town EP*

June 25

Brian Kelley/*Sunshine State Of Mind*/Warner Music Nashville / Nashville South Records, Inc.

Jennifer Nettles/*Always Like New*/Concord Records

Jimmie Allen/*Bettie James Gold Edition*/BBR Music Group/Stoney Creek Records

Ellie Holcomb/*Canyon*/Capitol Christian Music Group

Gary Allan/*Ruthless*/EMI Records Nashville

Robyn Ottolini/*The But I'm Not Always Sad Either EP*/Warner Music Nashville

Home Free/*Land Of The Free*/Home Free Records

Lakeview/*Small Town Famous EP*/Photo Finish Records

Ben Gallaher/*Every Small Town*/Quartz Hill Records

Vincent Neil Emerson/*Vincent Neil Emerson*/La Honda Records/Thirty Tigers

Meghan Patrick/*Heart On My Glass*/Riser House Records

Grant Maloy Smith/*Appalachia: American Stories*/Suburban Cowboy Records

Texas Hill/*Stabal Session*

Industry Events

August 25

14th Annual ACM Honors