

## CBS Announces 2022 Date For Its Inaugural Broadcast Of The *CMT Music Awards*



CBS has announced its inaugural broadcast of the *CMT Music Awards* will air live from Nashville on Sunday, April 3, 2022. CMT will kick off the company's first ever Country Music Week, including special programming all week and events capped by exclusive director's cut airings of the *CMT Music Awards* later on CMT and various ViacomCBS platforms.

ViacomCBS recently announced that its signature country music award show would move to CBS from CMT after this year's success. The 2021 *CMT Music Awards* saw more than a 10% increase in total viewers and was the No. 1 most social program across all of television for the night. Across the six ViacomCBS network simulcast, P18-34 ratings saw a 32% increase over last year's event.

The *CMT Music Awards*, country music's only entirely fan-voted award show, have aired live since 2005. The 2021 show, hosted by Kelsea Ballerini and Kane Brown, featured the most first-time collaborations and blended-genre pairings in the show's history. Standout performances included H.E.R. & Chris Stapleton; Gladys Knight, Mickey Guyton, & Breland; and Needtobreathe & Carrie Underwood, who remains the most-awarded artist in CMT Awards history with 23 wins.

Additional information about the 2022 *CMT Music Awards* on CBS will be available in the coming months. **MR**

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### THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

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# NASHVILLE'S DEFINITIVE SPORTS INDUSTRY PUBLICATION

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## Ash Bowers Exits Records Nashville To Focus Fully On Management

Music executive, songwriter, and producer **Ash Bowers** has exited his position as President at Records Nashville.

Bowers was tapped in 2020 to start the Nashville office of **Barry Weiss'** New York City-based label, Records. Co-founded in 2015 by Weiss, Records began as a joint venture with Songs Music Publishing, and found early success with their first two signings, Platinum-selling singer **Noah Cyrus** and legendary hip-hop artist **Nelly**. In 2017, when Kobalt bought Songs, Sony Music partnered with Records and has since signed a roster that includes **24kGoldn** and **Lennon Stella**. They are also home to 2019's debut project, **Labrinth, Sia & Diplo present...LSD**.



Since opening in 2020, Records Nashville has developed a roster that includes **Matt Stell, Chris Bandi, Jennifer Smestad, Dylan Brady, Chase Martin, Lathan Warlick** and **George Birge**. Stell has earned more than 415 million cumulative streams across his catalog to date, with back-to-back No. 1 songs including the Platinum-certified track "Prayed For You" and Gold-certified "Everywhere But On." He is one of only eight debut country artists in the last six years to have their first two singles top the charts.

According to Bowers, he is stepping away from the company to shift his focus back fully to his management company Wide Open Music. Wide Open handles management for Platinum-selling recording artist and current ACM New Male Artist of the Year **Jimmie Allen** in addition to Records Nashville artists Stell, Warlick, Bandi, Martin, and Birge.

"I have a strong passion for managing and developing artists. Shifting all of my focus back to that is undoubtedly the right thing for us all," Bowers tells *MusicRow*. "This is not the end of the road for Barry and me. We still have a lot of work to get done together. I am excited to see what's ahead for us and the artists we're both involved with." **MR**

## John Marks Launches New Consulting Company



**John Marks**, former Global Director of Country Music at Spotify, has started his own company with a focus on artist consulting, development, and being a liaison to the music industry. Through this new consulting endeavor, Marks will help artists in a variety of areas, including developing individual streaming strategies, A&R, and release strategies.

"I'm excited to begin this next new chapter in my life," Marks shares with *MusicRow*. "I have a deep affection for artists and music creators of every kind. I look forward to doing whatever I am able to help everyone I work with to achieve their dreams."

Marks has spent most of his career in programming and operations in terrestrial radio. He started at SiriusXM in 2010 where he became Head of Country Music Programming. He then joined Spotify in 2015 as one of only two Nashville Spotify employees covering the country market. While at the company, Marks was instrumental in growing the music streaming platform's Hot Country brand, championing new artists, and establishing Spotify's footprint in Nashville. **MR**





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## Music Biz Conference To Return To Nashville In 2022



The Music Business Association has announced that their annual Music Biz Conference will return to the JW Marriott in Nashville in-person on May 9 – 12, 2022.

Despite being forced to cancel the 2020 and 2021 editions of Music Biz, the Music Business Association hosted 56 virtual events. Informed by the events of 2020, this year's program is expected to address the needs of the industry at large, as well as those of the individuals and communities it encompasses.

Registration, call for presentations, and hotel booking for Music Biz 2022 will open in September. The association has automatically credited those who purchased registrations for the cancelled Music Biz 2021 Conference with registrations for Music Biz 2022. **MR**

## Monument Records Adds Luke Jensen As VP, Promotion

Monument Records has announced the hiring of **Luke Jensen** as VP, Promotion. Jensen will lead the promotion staff, including three regionals and a coordinator, and report directly to General Manager **Katie McCartney**. This news comes shortly after it was announced that **Drew Bland** had exited the position.

Monument's current roster includes **Caitlyn Smith, Walker Hayes, Brandon Ratcliff, Teddy Robb, Tigirlily, Alex Hall**, and *The Shady Ladies of Music City* podcast. Smith just played her single, "I Can't (feat. Old Dominion)," for the first time live with the band in front of a 9,000-person crowd while on tour and announced her opening slot for George Strait and Eric Church at Mercedes-Benz Stadium later this year. Hayes' new viral track "Fancy Like" has sat at the top of the iTunes Country Songs Chart for the last three weeks after peaking at No. 1 all genre. The song has been the top selling country song on the *Billboard* Country Digital Song Sales chart for three weeks and is top 5 on *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs Chart.



"We are thrilled to welcome Luke to the team at Monument," says Co-President **Jason Owen**. "His experience, expertise, and excitement towards radio promotion is infectious. We can't wait for him to get started on the hit Caitlyn Smith single 'I Can't (feat Old Dominion),' and the monster coming to radio which is Walker Hayes' 'Fancy Like.'"

After spending time at radio stations across the country, including KVOO in Tulsa, WSOC in Charlotte, and KBEQ in Kansas City, Jensen has spent the last five years with Sony Music's Arista Nashville and the previous four at Blaster Records. Throughout his career, he has worked with an array of artists including country superstars Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood, three-time ACM and CMA Vocal Group of the Year Old Dominion, as well as helped newcomers Matt Stell and Lanco achieve their first No. 1 radio singles.

"I'm so grateful to Jason, **Shane [McAnally]**, and Katie for this opportunity," says Jensen. "I've come to know them as some of the brightest minds in this industry, and I couldn't be more excited to work with them, the rest of the team at Monument, and this amazing roster of artists." **MR**

## Drake Milligan Signs With BBR Music Group/Stoney Creek Records, Debut EP Due July 23



Country newcomer **Drake Milligan** has signed with BBR Music Group/Stoney Creek Records, and is set to release his debut self-titled EP on July 23.

Milligan co-wrote every song on the new EP, which was co-produced by **Tony Brown** and **Brandon Hood**. In the trouble-drowning, alcohol-soaked track "Over Drinkin' Under Thinkin,'" the Texas native layers fiddle and steel, while on the upbeat, rebellious "Sounds Like Somethin' I'd Do," he shows off his fast talking ability. In the ballad, "Don't Look Down," he paints a picture of falling in love on a dance floor, while "She" is a simple but emotive depiction of a lovesick boy listing off everything he adores about a girl.

"The greatest pleasure of creating this EP was getting a masterclass in country music from the best songwriters, musicians, producers and engineers that Nashville has to offer," says Milligan. "I hope y'all will have as much fun listening to these songs as I had making them!" **MR**

## Wade Bowen Signs With Warner Chappell Music Nashville



**Wade Bowen** has signed a worldwide publishing deal with Warner Chappell Music Nashville.

The Texas-based singer/songwriter has landed three albums in the Top 10 of *Billboard's* Country Albums chart and has had four albums on the all-genre *Billboard* 200. Tapping both country and rock influences, Bowen has released a dozen albums throughout the course of his career, including six studio sets, two live collections, a gospel album, and an ongoing *Hold My Beer* series with fellow Texan, Randy Rogers.

A road warrior, throughout his career Bowen has played over 4,000 shows and continues to perform around 200 nationwide shows each year, including multiple appearances on the Grand Ole Opry.

Bowen is a BMI songwriter and is managed by Red Light Management and represented by WME. **MR**



# COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

## CHART ACTION

### New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

**Cold As You**/Luke Combs/Columbia/River House Artists — 58

**How Far Can It Go?**/Hailey Whitters feat. Trisha Yearwood/Big Loud/S&D/Pigasus — 68

**Better Than You're Used To**/Tyler Rich/Valory — 73

**Hand Me Downs**/Janelle Arthur feat. Dolly Parton/Farm Road Records — 75

**Run Baby Run**/Andrew Farriss/BMG — 77

**Heart On Fire**/Eric Church/EMI Records Nashville — 79

**Rub A Little Dirt On It**/Chase Likens/On The Green — 80

### Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

**Cold As You**/Luke Combs/Columbia/River House Artists — 275

**Heart On Fire**/Eric Church/EMI Records Nashville — 169

**Old School**/Toby Keith/Show Dog Nashville — 165

**I Was On A Boat That Day**/Old Dominion/Arista Nashville — 115

**Freedom Was A Highway**/Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley/Stoney Creek Records — 101

### Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

**Cold As You**/Luke Combs/Columbia/River House Artists — 20

**Old School**/Toby Keith/Show Dog Nashville — 12

**Heart On Fire**/Eric Church/EMI Records Nashville — 11

**That's What Cowboys Do**/Garth Brooks/Pearl Records — 9

**Hit Me Up**/Josh Kinney/Birmingham Entertainment — 7

### On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

**Talk Of The Town**/South 62/Graphite Sound — 154

**Grow Up**/Ian Flanigan feat. Blake Shelton/Reviver Records — 150

**American Made**/Dakota Poorman/Ten Inch Vinyl Entertainment, LLC — 149

**Hillbilly Shake**/AC Thomas/Birmingham Entertainment — 149

**Walking In Your Wonderful Light**/Rhonda Towns/Dawn Records — 147

## NO. 1 SONG



Rising to No. 1 this week on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart is **Lady A** with “Like A Lady.” It appears on their latest album [What A Song Can Do \(Chapter One\)](#) and was written by the group’s **Hillary Scott** with **Dave Barnes**, **Michelle Buzz**, **Martin Johnson** and **Brandon Paddock**.

Scott comments “I feel my most confident when I’m not trying too hard. I love getting glammed up and all the fancy clothes, but when I feel the most ‘me,’ it’s a lot more laid back – and I think that’s a lot of us. You are your most authentic self in blue jeans with a tequila drink, ya know? As we were writing it, I was like ‘It’s always been my dream to do a song that combines the things I love about Dolly Parton’s ‘9 to 5’ and Shania Twain’s ‘Man! I Feel Like a Woman!’ – two of the most strong, powerful female songs ever. So it was like ‘How can we do our version of that?’”



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  
WCKN 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  
WDGG Huntington, WV

# COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
17	3	1	<b>Like A Lady</b> / Lady A / BMLG	1656/64	2	36
21	2	2	<b>Things A Man Oughta Know</b> / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow	1611/52	-3	-53
26	5	3	<b>Tequila Little Time</b> / Jon Pardi / Capitol	1497/62	3	38
29	6	4	<b>Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen.</b> / Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line / Broken Bow/Dack Janiels	1493/50	3	43
19	7	5	<b>Knowing You</b> / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville	1479/58	3	39
30	9	6	<b>Cold Beer Calling My Name</b> / Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs / River House Artists/Columbia Nashville	1404/57	3	42
7	11	7	<b>I Was On A Boat That Day</b> / Old Dominion / Arista Nashville	1392/54	9	115
45	8	8	<b>Single Saturday Night</b> / Cole Swindell / Warner Music Nashville	1376/40	-2	-24
22	10	9	<b>Glad You Exist</b> / Dan + Shay / Warner Music Nashville/WAR	1277/40	-6	-85
26	13	10	<b>My Boy</b> / Elvie Shane / Wheelhouse Records	1223/48	2	23
35	12	11	<b>Just About Over You</b> / Priscilla Block / Mercury Nashville	1195/53	-1	-14
34	1	12	<b>Memory I Don't Mess With</b> / Lee Brice / Curb	1156/45	-32	-546
26	14	13	<b>Give Heaven Some Hell</b> / HARDY / Big Loud Records	1152/56	1	9
12	17	14	<b>Half Of My Hometown</b> / Kelsea Ballerini / Black River Entertainment	1051/52	7	70
22	15	15	<b>Okfuskee Whiskey</b> / James Robert Webb / Bison Creek Records	1041/51	4	44
23	19	16	<b>Freedom Was A Highway</b> / Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley / Stoney Creek Records	999/43	11	101
37	16	17	<b>If It Wasn't For Trucks</b> / Riley Green / BMLG	991/45	0	-4
24	18	18	<b>To Be Loved By You</b> / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	964/50	5	46
8	23	19	<b>You Should Probably Leave</b> / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville	945/53	10	89
20	21	20	<b>Getting Over Him</b> / Lauren Alaina feat. Jon Pardi / Mercury Nashville	942/47	7	63
15	22	21	<b>Chasing After You</b> / Ryan Hurd w/ Maren Morris / Arista Nashville	919/46	5	40
34	20	22	<b>You Time</b> / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	903/41	1	12
18	24	23	<b>Under It With You Tonight</b> / Smith & Wesley / Dream Walkin/Audium Nashville	817/43	5	38
16	25	24	<b>My Masterpiece</b> / Darius Rucker / Capitol	777/39	5	34
15	26	25	<b>Then A Girl Walks In</b> / Shenandoah & Blake Shelton / Foundry Records	745/42	2	13
19	27	26	<b>I Can't</b> / Caitlyn Smith feat. Old Dominion / Monument Records	744/43	3	22
15	28	27	<b>ABBY</b> / Travis Denning / Mercury Nashville	705/37	-1	-7
14	29	28	<b>Might As Well Be Me</b> / Dew Pendleton / HottieRedneckGospelLove/GrassRoots	690/45	3	21
11	30	29	<b>I'm Not For Everyone</b> / Brothers Osborne / EMI Records Nashville	650/38	1	4
11	32	30	<b>Not Yet</b> / Brett Young / BMLG	642/38	3	19
4	35	31	<b>Same Boat</b> / Zac Brown Band / Home Grown Music/Warner Music Nashville	640/41	11	63
9	33	32	<b>Tip Jar</b> / Jackson Michelson / Curb	639/39	6	36
11	36	33	<b>It's Cause I Am</b> / Callista Clark / Big Machine	635/38	13	74
10	34	34	<b>Fill Them Boots</b> / Chris Lane / Big Loud Records	606/39	4	24
3	41	35	<b>The Worst Country Song Of All Time</b> / Brantley Gilbert feat. Toby Keith and HARDY / Valory	509/40	15	67
16	39	36	<b>Treasure</b> / Mary Heather Hickman / Rolling River Records	509/30	2	10
9	42	37	<b>Thinking 'Bout You</b> / Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter / Broken Bow	483/30	10	44
19	46	38	<b>Same Dirt Road</b> / Eric Lee / Blue Hill Records	459/24	13	54
7	40	39	<b>Back Then, Right Now</b> / Tenille Arts / 19th & Grand Records	459/35	0	-2

**MUSICROW**

## ARTIST ROSTER

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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
4	43	40	<b>Never Mine / Craig Campbell / Grindstone Records</b>	454/36	9	38
17	49	41	<b>Homesick / Veronika / Whattaguy Music</b>	439/27	14	54
14	47	42	<b>Villain / Lily Rose / Big Loud Records</b>	420/24	6	22
10	48	43	<b>Woman You Got / Maddie &amp; Tae / Mercury</b>	413/29	4	16
19	45	44	<b>Gotta Go Rodeo / Darlinghurst / Helium</b>	408/22	0	1
19	44	45	<b>Home Sweet / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers Records</b>	393/24	-5	-21
29	50	46	<b>Whiskey And Rain / Michael Ray / Warner Music Nashville</b>	375/25	2	8
5	53	47	<b>Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) / Elle King &amp; Miranda Lambert / RCA Nashville</b>	368/22	12	39
9	52	48	<b>Pretend He's You / Ashley Barron / SSM Nashville</b>	364/29	7	23
6	59	49	<b>Local Honey / Mo Pitney / Curb</b>	335/22	20	55
2	80	50	<b>Old School / Toby Keith / Show Dog Nashville</b>	332/23	99	165
7	56	51	<b>Good Life / Kip Moore / MCA Nashville</b>	331/20	8	25
11	57	52	<b>That Ain't Me No More / Matt Stell / RECORDS/Arista Nashville</b>	318/23	5	15
15	51	53	<b>Old School's In / Heath Sanders / Valory</b>	316/21	-9	-32
5	55	54	<b>Get Lost / Lucas Hoge / Forge Entertainment Group</b>	315/22	2	5
11	60	55	<b>Found My Home / Lucie Tiger / 2120 Music</b>	314/21	12	34
11	58	56	<b>Hot Beer / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records</b>	296/19	2	5
4	61	57	<b>Fine / Mira Goto / ArtistMax</b>	295/23	23	56
1	0	58	<b>Cold As You / Luke Combs / Columbia/River House Artists</b>	275/20	0	275
11	62	59	<b>Got Me This Far / Donny Lee / Donny Lee Music</b>	257/20	9	21
3	64	60	<b>You'll Always Be My Baby / Alan Jackson / EMI Records Nashville</b>	255/17	9	21
8	63	61	<b>Something Good To Miss / Juna N Joey / River Run Records</b>	245/20	4	10
15	65	62	<b>Lady Like / Ingrid Andress / Warner Music Nashville</b>	244/17	4	10
6	66	63	<b>Princess / Dallas Remington / RoadWarrior Records</b>	243/20	7	15
10	69	64	<b>Is It Me And You / Lisa Brokop / Amersong</b>	234/18	12	25
5	68	65	<b>Dirt / Elise Harper / Skyfall Music</b>	234/17	7	15
7	70	66	<b>Growing Up Too Fast / Jon Wayne Hatfield / Soundstage Music</b>	211/15	1	2
7	73	67	<b>Old School / Lance Wade Thomas / Shady Grove Records</b>	208/12	6	12
1	82	68	<b>How Far Can It Go? / Hailey Whitters feat. Trisha Yearwood / Big Loud/S&amp;D/Pigasus</b>	205/19	27	44
3	72	69	<b>American Summer / Kylie Trout / Kylie Trout Music</b>	205/16	3	6
4	71	70	<b>Summer Song / Chris Kroeze /</b>	201/15	-1	-2
3	78	71	<b>Lil Bit / Nelly &amp; Florida Georgia Line / RECORDS/Columbia</b>	198/13	13	22
3	76	72	<b>Evangeline / Sammy Kershaw / White Mustang Records</b>	198/16	11	20
1	81	73	<b>Better Than You're Used To / Tyler Rich / Valory</b>	193/17	17	28
2	74	74	<b>Make It To Memphis / Shelley Lynch / Lynch Records</b>	192/11	1	1
1	84	75	<b>Hand Me Downs / Janelle Arthur feat. Dolly Parton / Farm Road Records</b>	189/13	23	35
4	79	76	<b>If You Could Call It That / Jeannie Seely / Curb</b>	179/9	7	12
1	92	77	<b>Run Baby Run / Andrew Farriss / BMG</b>	177/10	37	48
7	77	78	<b>Okay, Momma? / Connor Jameson / 615Nash Records</b>	177/12	1	1
1	0	79	<b>Heart On Fire / Eric Church / EMI Records Nashville</b>	169/11	0	169
1	83	80	<b>Rub A Little Dirt On It / Chase Likens / On The Green</b>	159/14	1	1

No. 1 Song
Greatest Spin Increase
Highest Debut

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## Music Row Ladies Golf Tournament Announces New Date, Keith Urban As Presenting Sponsor



Organizers for the Music Row Ladies Golf Tournament have announced a new date for the annual charity event, which will now take place on Monday, Sept. 13 at Old Natchez Country Club in Nashville. It was also announced that **Keith Urban** has signed on as the Presenting Sponsor of the Music Row Ladies Golf Tournament for his fifth consecutive year.

The 34th annual event will once again benefit United Cerebral Palsy of Middle Tennessee. Nashville-based boutique investment and development firm E3 Construction Services and Founder/CEO **John Eldridge** have signed on as host of the longstanding Music Row tradition.

The MRLGT raised over \$70,000 in 2019 and has historically raised a grand total of more than \$2.3 million for UCP of Middle Tennessee. The event is the single biggest annual fundraiser for UCP of Middle Tennessee and this year's tournament is more important than ever since the 2020 MRLGT had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

Keith Urban's generous contribution to the MRLGT and UCP of Middle Tennessee is just one of numerous charities that the superstar has long supported. His "All For The Hall" benefit concerts for the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum have raised over \$3.4 million, and he is the first Ambassador of the CMA Foundation, an advisory board member at St. Jude's Children's Hospital, and a longtime supporter of The Mr. Holland's Opus Fund and The Grammy Foundation.

Registration for the tournament will open on July 26 at \$135 per player and team space is limited. To register, sponsor, or for more information, please visit [mrlgt.com](http://mrlgt.com). **MR**

## Country Community Joins Together For Live Stream Benefit For Keith Bilbrey

Following a devastating fire that destroyed the home of *Larry's Country Diner* and *Huckabee* announcer and Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame member **Keith Bilbrey** and his wife **Emy Joe**, the country community is coming together to help. "Coming Home: Rebuilding the Bilbreys," a special benefit live stream, will air on Thursday, July 15 at 7:30 p.m. CST on Country Road TV from TBN's Huckabee studio.

Hosted by **Governor Mike Huckabee** and *Larry's Country Diner's* **Larry Black**, the event will feature country artists from every era, including **Lee Greenwood, T.G. Sheppard, Kelly Lang, Johnny Lee, Mark Wills, Jeannie Seely, Bill Anderson, The Isaacs, Chonda Pierce, Moe Bandy, Gene Watson, Deborah Allen, Larry, Steve & Rudy Gatlin, and John Berry**, among others.

All proceeds raised will go to assist Bilbrey and his wife Emy Joe rebuild their lives after a fire destroyed their Williamson County home on June 23. Donations can be made here. **MR**





## DISClaimer Single Reviews: Jordan Davis & Luke Bryan, Eric Church, Randall King



I sense that somehow we are in the midst of a big shift of the country landscape, with more new talent being injected into the format than is usual.

With that in mind, note that Kat & Alex, Mitchell Tenpenny, Robyn Ottolini and Morgan Evans continue to make sonic waves. Adding to the energy is the stone-country Randall King, who wins this week's DisCOVERY Award.

The supremely gifted Eric Church has won more Disc of the Day awards in this column than any other artist. I'd give him another one today, but for the fact that it seems like he needs to share at this point. So give the prize to the lovely sentiments being expressed by Jordan Davis with Luke Bryan along for the ride.

[Read Robert K. Oermann's weekly single reviews column here.](#)

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### MORE TOP STORIES

[FGL, Thomas Rhett, Maren Morris To Play Inaugural Feeding Nashville Benefit](#)

[Brad Paisley Celebrates July 4th With 350,000 In Nashville](#)

[Hootie & The Blowfish Announce Inaugural HootieFest In Cancun](#)

['Dear Rodeo: The Cody Johnson Story' To Hit Select Theaters In August](#)

[George Strait, Eric Church, Metallica Among 2nd Annual ATLive Lineup](#)

[Jon Pardi To Headline Saturday's Big Machine Music City Grand Prix Concert](#)

[Ryman Celebrates Johnny & June's Love Story With Special Pop-Up Exhibit](#)

[450 Items From Tanya Tucker's Personal Collection Up For Auction](#)

[Tennessee Tourism Unveils Kix Brooks Music Pathways Marker At Arrington Vineyards](#)

[Nominees Revealed For 2021 IBMA Industry & Momentum Awards](#)

[Matt Stell, Whiskey Jam To Honor Frontline Healthcare Workers With Frontline Fest](#)

[Chris Young, Kane Brown Take 'Famous Friends' To The Top](#)

[Opry NextStage Names Parker McCollum As Featured Artist For July 2021](#)

[Kalie Shorr Announces New EP, 'I Got Here By Accident'](#)

## Alabama Brings Live Music Back To Bridgestone Arena, Kicks Off 50th Anniversary Tour

Country Music Hall of Fame members **Alabama** are celebrating 50 years with their anniversary tour that kicked off with two nights at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena this weekend. It was the band's first arena performance in Nashville in nearly two decades, and was the first full-capacity concerts held at Bridgestone Arena since the start of the pandemic in early March of 2020.

Alabama's set was lively and homespun, like a comforting welcome back to live music at Bridgestone Arena after a long hiatus due to the pandemic. They got things started with "Pass It Down," and transitioned into "Can't Keep A Good Man Down."

**Randy Owen** and **Teddy Gentry** thrilled the crowd when they went into "If You're Gonna Play in Texas (You Gotta Have a Fiddle in the Band)." Iconic country bands and fiddle players flashed up on the screens behind the 10-piece ensemble. The audience roared when the great fiddle player **Charlie Daniels'** picture appeared on the screen. "If I said that we were thankful to see you," Owen said, trailing off, looking into the crowd with awe.

Wasting no time, the band went into their 1983 hit "The Closer You Get" and 1989's "High Cotton," with Owen dancing along with the crowd. While the musicianship was top-notch with virtuoso players like **Gordon Mote** on keys and **Megan Mullins** on fiddle, the show's production was simple and served as a great way to remind Nashville of its roots for its first full-capacity arena show back.

Before the band launched into their monster hit "Dixieland Delight," Gentry said, "Every time I drive downtown, I hear it in one of [those] clubs, so they still like it." "Thank the Lord," Owen responded. The electrifying tune had all of Bridgestone Arena on their feet, dancing a jig. Alabama then seamlessly transitioned into "Will the Circle Be Unbroken?"



Bringing out a string section and a choir, the band played the song that has become somewhat of a theme song for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, "Angels Among Us." Cell phone lighters waved in the air.

"This is an emotional night," Owen said mid-way through Alabama's set. "A few years ago we didn't know if anyone cared about us anymore. Thank you for letting us share 50 years of our lives."

"The only thing that would make this the perfect night is if our cousin **Jeff Cook** was here," Gentry added. They then played a song written about Cook, whose 2017 diagnosis with Parkinson's disease left him unable to tour with the band.

After turning on the romance for "Love In The First Degree" and "Feels So Right," Alabama



welcomed their “long lost cousin” **Jake Owen** on stage for “Lady Down On Love.” Owen was clad in an Alabama jacket, and stood back in awe of the iconic country band in action.

Keeping the energy alive, Alabama invited the crowd to shag to “Dancin’, Shaggin’ On The Boulevard,” and the whole arena sang along to another staple, “Mountain Music,” before the band walked offstage and the lights turned down. A relentless roar from the audience sent Alabama back out to the Bridgestone Arena stage, this time in Nashville Predators jerseys, to encore to “My Home’s In Alabama.” Beautiful photos of the bands sacred home state flashed behind the country music icons. Owen and Gentry took an emotional bow, and ended the heart-warming evening.



Another country great **Martina McBride** opened the show with her many hits and stellar voice on including “This One’s For The Girls,” “Wild Angels,” and the appropriate “Independence Day.” Alabama brought McBride back out during their set just to recognize her and tell her they loved her. It was just announced that the Country Music Hall of Fame will highlight McBride’s three-decade career with an exhibit opening at the end of July.

Alabama will continue their 50th Anniversary tour on July 23 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania with Tracy Lawrence.  
**MR**

## Martina McBride To Celebrate Three Decades In Music With Vinyl Greatest Hits Double LP



To celebrate three decades of her career, one of country music’s most powerful and timeless voices **Martina McBride** has announced she will release an extensive greatest hits project. Her *Greatest Hits: The RCA Years Double LP* will be available exclusively in vinyl and on-sale on Aug. 20.

The collection of songs spans McBride’s vast catalog of recordings with RCA, including some of her biggest hits like “Independence Day,” “Concrete Angel,” “This One’s For The Girls,” “A Broken Wing,” among many other fan favorites.

“When I signed my record deal with RCA in 1991, vinyl was out and CD’s were in. Even though I’ve always been happy to have my name on any form of recorded music, I’ve always hoped to see my music on vinyl,” says McBride. “I’m SO THRILLED to share this double vinyl album of hits that I recorded during my time with RCA. This is a very special project to me and I’m excited that everyone will be able to add it to their vinyl collection.” **MR**

# 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	4	Ashley Gorley	Country Again Give Heaven Some Hell Single Saturday Night You Should Probably Leave	Thomas Rhett HARDY Cole Swindell Chris Stapleton
4	3	Nicolle Galyon	Gone Half Of My Hometown I Quit Drinking Minimum Wage	Dierks Bentley Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Kelsea Ballerini, LANY Blake Shelton
5	5	Hunter Phelps	Cold Beer Calling My Name Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen Give Heaven Some Hell That Ain't Me No More The Worst Country Song Of All Time Thinking 'Bout You	Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line HARDY Matt Stell Brantley Gilbert, HARDY, Toby Keith Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter
6	6	Zach Crowell	Country Again Waves	Thomas Rhett Luke Bryan
7	8	Michael Hardy	Give Heaven Some Hell Single Saturday Night That Ain't Me No More The Worst Country Song Of All Time	HARDY Cole Swindell Matt Stell Brantley Gilbert, HARDY, Toby Keith
8	9	Ben Johnson	Give Heaven Some Hell Gone	HARDY Dierks Bentley
9	14	Shane McAnally	Half Of My Hometown I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl	Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Old Dominion Carly Pearce
10	11	Drew Parker	Forever After All While You're Gone	Luke Combs Drew Parker
11	10	Jonathan Singleton	Same Boat Things A Man Oughta Know	Zac Brown Band Lainey Wilson
12	12	Luke Combs	Forever After All	Luke Combs
13	13	Robert Williford	Forever After All	Luke Combs
14	18	Jordan Davis	Almost Maybes Buy Dirt	Jordan Davis Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan
15	16	Cary Barlowe	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown
16	17	Chris Young	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown
17	15	Niko Moon	Gone	Dierks Bentley
18	20	Luke Dick	I'm Not For Everyone Settling Down	Brothers Osborne Miranda Lambert
19	21	Natalie Hemby	I'm Not For Everyone Settling Down	Brothers Osborne Miranda Lambert
20	26	Martin Johnson	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) Like A Lady	Elle King and Miranda Lambert Lady A
21	36	Ryan Hurd	Old School Waves	Toby Keith Luke Bryan
22	22	Miranda Lambert	Settling Down	Miranda Lambert
23	23	Hillary Lindsey	Almost Maybes	Jordan Davis
24	24	Mark Holman	Single Saturday Night	Cole Swindell



This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
25	25	<b>Josh Osborne</b>	I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl	Old Dominion Carly Pearce
26	27	<b>J. Flowers</b>	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
27	28	<b>Brinley Addington</b>	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
28	33	<b>Josh Thompson</b>	Wasted On You Whiskey And Rain	Morgan Wallen Michael Ray
29	29	<b>Paul DiGiovanni</b>	Getting Over Him We Didn't Have Much	Lauren Alaina with Jon Pardi Justin Moore
30	31	<b>Lainey Wilson</b>	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
31	32	<b>Jason Nix</b>	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
32	30	<b>Randy Montana</b>	If It Wasn't For Trucks We Didn't Have Much	Riley Green Justin Moore
33	34	<b>Jeremy Stover</b>	We Didn't Have Much	Justin Moore
34	35	<b>Thomas Rhett</b>	Country Again	Thomas Rhett
35	38	<b>Elle King</b>	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)	Elle King and Miranda Lambert
36	77	<b>Brett Tyler</b>	Cold Beer Calling My Name Old School	Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs Toby Keith
37	37	<b>Chase McGill</b>	Waves	Luke Bryan
38	39	<b>Carly Pearce</b>	Next Girl	Carly Pearce
39	41	<b>C. Dodds</b>	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line
40	42	<b>Chase Rice</b>	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line
41	56	<b>Rhett Akins</b>	Tequila Little Time To Be Loved By You	Jon Pardi Parker McCollum
42	48	<b>A. Eshuis</b>	You Time	Scotty McCreery
43	49	<b>Frank Rogers</b>	You Time	Scotty McCreery
44	50	<b>Scotty McCreery</b>	You Time	Scotty McCreery
45	43	<b>John Edwards</b>	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
46	44	<b>Brian White</b>	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
47	45	<b>Kurt Allison</b>	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
48	46	<b>Tully Kennedy</b>	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
49	47	<b>Michael Tyler</b>	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
50	62	<b>Brian Davis</b>	Memory I Don't Mess With	Lee Brice
51	63	<b>Lee Brice</b>	Memory I Don't Mess With	Lee Brice
52	64	<b>Billy Montana</b>	Memory I Don't Mess With	Lee Brice
53	78	<b>Matt Rogers</b>	'Til You Can't Freedom Was A Highway	Cody Johnson Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley
54	51	<b>Jordan Reynolds</b>	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
55	52	<b>Tayla Parx</b>	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
56	53	<b>Ryan Lewis</b>	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
57	54	<b>Dan Smyers</b>	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
58	55	<b>Shay Mooney</b>	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
59	70	<b>Kat Higgins</b>	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney
60	71	<b>Adam James</b>	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney

## CALENDAR

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### Singles

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#### July 9

**Allison Asarch**/*Cotton Dress*

#### July 11

**Carrie Cunningham**/*Windshield*/Sound Barn

#### July 12

**Dylan Gerard**/*Please Don't Let Me*/SSM Nashville

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### Albums

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#### July 9

**Amy Grant**/*Heart In Motion*

**Hannah Dasher**/*The Half Record*/Sony Music Nashville

**Tigirlily**/*Tigirlily* EP/Monument Records

**Callie Twisselman**/*Closure* EP/Cash is King LLC distributed by Copperline Music Group

#### July 14

**Lyssa Coulter**/*Hole In The Bottle*/Sincerely Music Group

#### July 16

**Charlie Daniels**/*Charlie Daniels & Friends – Duets*/via Blue Hat Records & BFD/Audium Nashville

**Charlie Worsham**/*Sugarcane* EP/Warner Music Nashville

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### Industry Events

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#### August 19

**33rd Annual *MusicRow* Awards (virtual)**

#### August 25

**14th Annual ACM Honors**