

Lori McKenna Enters Partnership With Concord, PULSE & Creative Nation



Pictured (L-R, back row): Luke Laird (Creative Nation), Scott Cutler (Pulse Music Group), Jim Selby (Concord Music Publishing), Duff Berschback (Concord Music Publishing); (L-R, front row): Beth Laird (Creative Nation), Lori McKenna, Josh Abraham (Pulse Music Group). Photo: Spencer Combs

Concord Music Publishing, Creative Nation and PULSE Music Group have partnered to sign a multi-faceted agreement with lauded songwriter and artist, **Lori McKenna**. Concord Music Publishing has acquired McKenna's publishing catalog and in partnership with Creative Nation and PULSE, will co-publish McKenna going forward.

McKenna is one of the music industry's most in-demand songwriters and has been awarded three Grammy wins as a songwriter for Best Country Song with Little Big Town's "Girl Crush" (2015), Tim McGraw's "Humble and Kind" (2016), and most recently, The Highwomen's "Crowded Table" (2020). She has also won two CMA Awards and was named the ACM Songwriter of the Year in 2017. In addition to her work in country music, McKenna also co-wrote "Always Remember Us This Way," which was featured in the Academy Award-winning film, *A Star Is Born*, starring Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper.

"I'm thrilled and thankful to keep doing what I love most with my Creative Nation family in Nashville. I'm so excited to add PULSE and Concord in this next chapter and I look forward to what's to come," McKenna says.

McKenna catalog includes hits by Carrie Underwood, Miranda Lambert, Tim McGraw, Faith Hill, Little Big Town, Hunter Hayes, The Highwomen,

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

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Jameson Rodgers Announces Cold Beer Calling My Name Tour

Claire Heinichen Named Country Editor At Spotify

DISCLAIMER Singles Reviews

And much more...

PARKER MCCOLLUM

"McCollum's voice is twangy and strong and the Texan's songwriting really stands out. There's nothing cookie-cutter about these songs."

- *BILLBOARD*

"This guy is for real, he's writing his own songs, he decided to do it himself, and he built his own fan base." - *BOB LEFSETZ*

"A no-holds-barred, confessional singer-songwriter who excels at relatable tales."

- *ROLLING STONE*

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and many more, as well as her 12 solo albums. Her original music has garnered several Americana and Grammy Award nominations.

Jim Selby, chief publishing executive at Concord says, “As both a songwriter and an artist, Lori McKenna has contributed to some of the most notable and groundbreaking hits in country music and beyond. Concord is honored to be chosen as the home for her catalog—our creative teams worldwide are looking forward to working closely with Lori, alongside Creative Nation and PULSE, to champion the hits still to come.”

“Working with Lori McKenna the past 5 years has been a dream come true. Her talent is undeniable and she continues to evolve and write some of the most iconic songs for our generation. We are so excited to continue working with her and to add PULSE and Concord as our publishing partners in this next chapter,” **Beth Laird**, co-founder and CEO of Creative Nation, adds.

Scott Cutler, co-CEO, PULSE Music Group sums, “Lori is one of the most authentic and widely respected writers on the planet—she has such a special talent. PULSE has had the honor of being a part of her story through our partnership with Beth and the Creative Nation team. We are so excited to partner with Beth and Concord on this next chapter and to continue to be a part of Lori’s future—this is a music publishing dream team!” **MR**

New Willie Nelson And Family Docuseries In The Works

Production is underway on a new docuseries *Willie Nelson and Family*, from Blackbird Presents and Sight Unseen Pictures, that will chronicle the extraordinary life and career of the country legend.

Emmy and Grammy award-winning filmmaker **Thom Zimny** and Academy Award-nominated and Emmy award-winning filmmaker **Oren Moverman** are co-directors of this multi-part docuseries. Nelson and his family and friends are providing exclusive participation and access to his archives for the series, and filming is taking place in Austin, Maui, Nashville, L.A. and New York.



The project was developed by Nelson’s longtime manager **Mark Rothbaum** and Blackbird Presents Founder/Chief Creative Officer **Keith Wortman**, who have collaborated on several award-winning film, TV and music projects. Executive Producers on the docuseries are Wortman, Rothbaum, **Annie Nelson, Julia Lebedev, Eddie Vaisman** and **Leonid Lebedev**.

“Telling Willie’s story has been a lifelong dream of ours, and we feel privileged to realize this dream with Thom, Oren and Sight Unseen,” says Rothbaum and Wortman.

“Words like ‘honored,’ ‘excited’ and ‘humbled’ don’t come close to describing the way we feel about being entrusted with telling Willie’s story. And what a story it is! We are celebrating the music, the career, the long road, the family, friends and history. But, more than anything, we are piecing together a narrative – one never before seen in its entirety – about an extraordinary man with a unique ability to bring people together; folks of all races, orientations, genders, political ideologies and musical leanings. These days, we sure could use the healing powers of Willie Nelson,” adds Zimny and Moverman.

At 88, Nelson is still going strong. In the last year alone he has led major online concert fundraisers for Farm Aid and the Austin Community Foundation and was the voice of 13 major sports leagues as part of the Ad Council’s national ad campaign on vaccination awareness. The legend also released a No. 1 album, *That’s Life*, that paid homage to his favorite Frank Sinatra songs, released his latest book Willie Nelson’s *Letters to America*, and was celebrated in a music special *Willie Nelson: American Outlaw* on A&E. **MR**

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Bobby Karl Works The Room: CMHOF Opens Martina McBride Exhibit



Chapter 646

Events at the Country Music Hall of Fame always have the feeling of family reunions, but this week's felt even more so.

First of all, the exhibit preview was in honor of the widely beloved **Martina McBride**. Second of all, it was the first event staged at the venue since....well, you know.

"I could not be more excited to be here, or for you to be here, for the celebration of 'Martina McBride: The Power of Her Voice,'" said **Kyle Young** in welcoming the crowd on Tuesday (July 27). "It's been a

long, long, long, long time since we have been able to gather together in this Rotunda."

"I am beyond thrilled to have my own exhibit at the Country Music Hall of Fame," said Martina. "I'm so touched and moved by it. Thank you guys for sharing this special, special moment with me."

We gathered in the Hall of Fame's sacred Rotunda, surrounded by the plaques of country music's legends. From the get-go, the get-together felt immensely warm and friendly.

Steve Moore, Brian Mansfield, Susan Nadler, Tim Wipperman, Dwight Wiles, Hunter Kelly, Evelyn Shriver, Rod Essig, Stormie Warren, Paul Worley, Tracy Gershon & Steve Fishell, Shane Tarleton, Phyllis Stark, Schatzi Hageman, Marion Williams, Dann Huff, Harry Stinson, Beth Hooker and Angela Stefano were merrily working the room. Masks were required, and Beth and Angela wore colorful ones, embroidered with Mexicali flair.

Matt Leimkueler spotted **Garth Brooks** in the throng. The superstar was sans hat and sporting a dark beard. I think he was trying to blend in, but once Matt approached him for some quotes, other attendees began asking Garth for selfies. You'll recall that **John McBride** once worked on concert production for the megastar and that his then-unknown wife tagged along on the tour selling t-shirts. Then when Martina got her recording contract, Garth hired her as his opening act.

In addition to Matt, I hung out with Nashville Songwriters Hall of Famer **Gretchen Peters** and keyboardist extraordinaire Barry Walsh. How many can say they have written a signature song, as Gretchen did with "Independence Day?"

The museum's staff was hosting the event with aplomb. **Brenda Colladay, Michael Gray, Mike McCall** (who curated the exhibit), **Lisa Purcell, Peter Cooper, Aubrey Miller and Paul Kingsbury** greeted folks with class.

After snacking on yummy sliders, desserts and other treats, we headed upstairs to the exhibit. The display's first section is devoted to Martina's Kansas girlhood and features toys, her high school yearbook and items related to her performances in her family's country-music band, The Shiffers. The center section includes lots of gorgeous gowns – let's face it, she's one of country's great beauties and has a figure that's perfect for couture. Martina's five CMA awards and four ACM awards are exhibited. There is also a "Vocal Advocate" section that highlights her efforts against domestic violence and support of other causes. This is highlighted by her Harry Chapin Memorial Humanitarian Award crystal column.

"This is surreal and overwhelming," said the always humble star about her museum honor. "It is a dream come true."

"She is a force of nature," commented Kyle. "Our admiration for her has only grown."

And as for the event, itself? "It's about coming together as a community.....once more." **MR**



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Ingrid Andress To Visit U.S. And European Cities On The Feeling Things Tour



Ingrid Andress is launching her *The Feeling Things* headlining tour this fall and will visit 12 cities across the U.S., before traveling to Ireland, Scotland, London, Paris, Denmark and more and wrapping the tour in Oslo, Norway. **Georgia Webster** will join as the opener for the U.S. leg of the tour.

Andress will perform in Nashville on Nov. 18 at the Brooklyn Bowl as part of the new dates. The *Feeling Things* Tour marks the first headlining tour for the rising Nashville star since 2019, and will give Andress the opportunity to bring her debut album *Lady Like* to life. Tickets for the trek go on sale July 29, and in between headlining shows, Andress will rejoin **Dan + Shay** on The (Arena) Tour opening alongside **The Band Camino**.

"I'm so excited to bring my debut album, *Lady Like*, to the stage and perform these songs that have been such a huge part of my life for the past few years," said Andress. "More importantly, I can't wait to see all the fans that I've been missing for the last 18 months. As a songwriter, the human connection is one of my favorite parts of the whole experience of touring, so I'm really looking forward to that." **MR**

Lee Brice Joins The Double Down Music Publishing Roster



Pictured (L-R): Lauren Lieu, Creative Director, Double Down Music; Lee Brice; PIA Music Group founder Dallas Davidson; PIA Music Group CEO, Ryan Dokke

Double Down Music, a recently launched publishing division of PIA Music Group, has added multi-award-winning songwriter and artist **Lee Brice** to its roster.

The Curb Records artist has amassed over 2.8 billion on-demand streams, and over 3.6 billion spins on Pandora. He recently reached No. 1 at country radio with "One of Them Girls," following his No. 1 with Carly Pearce on "I Hope You're Happy Now," and his No. 1 single, "Rumor," which was nominated for Single of the Year at the 55th Annual ACM Awards. Brice also took home the prize for Single of the Year and Musical Event of the Year at the 56th Annual CMA Awards for his duet with Pearce.

"In addition to his outstanding recording career, Lee Brice is one of the most prolific songwriters in music!" says **Ryan Dokke**, CEO, PIA Music Group. "The visual nature of his writing and what he can bring to life with a lyric and a melody put him among the best artist-writers in our business. Personally, it is a thrill to once again be able to work with Lee in a different way this time. His ideas and energy are infectious! He brings so much to the PIA Music Group/Double Down family."

The new signing reunites Brice with Dokke, who served as head of radio promotion for Curb Records prior to being named Sr. VP/General Manager of Curb! Word Entertainment in 2018. **MR**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

If I Didn't Love You/Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood/Broken Bow/Macon Music/Capitol — 52

Am I The Only One/Aaron Lewis/Valory — 61

7500 OBO/Tim McGraw/Big Machine — 79

Talk Of The Town/South 62/Graphite Sound — 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

If I Didn't Love You/Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood/Broken Bow/Macon Music/Capitol — 353

Cold As You/Luke Combs/Columbia/River House Artists — 241

Heart On Fire/Eric Church/EMI Records Nashville — 221

Buy Dirt/Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan/MCA Nashville — 146

Cold Beer Calling My Name/Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke

Combs/River House Artists/Columbia Nashville — 136

It's Cause I Am/Callista Clark/Big Machine — 126

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

If I Didn't Love You/Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood/Broken Bow/Macon Music/Capitol — 25

Buy Dirt/Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan/MCA Nashville — 11

Broke It Down/Brian Callihan/Reviver Records — 10

Heart On Fire/Eric Church/EMI Records Nashville — 8

22 Red Flags/Presley & Taylor/White Mustang Records — 6

Cold As You/Luke Combs/Columbia/River House Artists — 6

Am I The Only One/Aaron Lewis/Valory — 6

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

American Made/Dakota Poorman/Ten Inch Vinyl

Entertainment — 172

Feel Good Again/RT Johnson/CCB Nashville — 170

Version Of Me/Emily Rose/Growing Rose Recording Co. — 167

Wilder Days/Morgan Wade/Ladylike Records — 148

NO. 1 SONG



Old Dominion's "I Was On A Boat That Day" rises to No. 1 earning 1,733 spins this week and 11,639 cumulative spins in just 10 weeks on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart. Band members **Matthew Ramsey**, **Trevor Rosen**, **Brad Tursi**, **Whit Sellers**, and **Geoff Sprung** co-wrote the single alongside **Shane McAnally** and **Josh Osborne**.

Old Dominion was recently featured on the cover of *MusicRow's* 2021 Artist Roster print issue. Lead singer, Ramesy spoke about their new single saying, "When you listen to 'I Was On a Boat That Day' you are hearing us in the full joy of making music together. From the moment I counted the band off we were smiling from beginning to end. The tequila was flowing, the laughter was loud, and we knew in that moment we were creating something that would bring people as much joy as it was bringing us." [Pick up the latest edition of *MusicRow* Magazine here.](#)



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 Connerville, 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
 KBRX O'Neill, 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
 WVNW Lewistown, PA
 WNBT Mansfield, PA
 WCFT Selinsgrove, PA
 WFG State College, PA
 WMIR Myrtle Beach, SC
 KMOM Aberdeen, SD
 WUCZ Carthage, TN
 WDKN Dickson, TN
 WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN
 KFTX Corpus Christi, TX

KYKX Longview, 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 +/-
10	2	1	I Was On A Boat That Day / Old Dominion / Arista Nashville	1733/58	3	55
24	3	2	Things A Man Oughta Know / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow	1724/53	5	83
22	4	3	Knowing You / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville	1680/59	4	59
33	5	4	Cold Beer Calling My Name / Jameson Rodgers feat. Luke Combs / River House Artists/ Columbia Nashville	1658/60	9	136
25	9	5	Glad You Exist / Dan + Shay / Warner Music Nashville/WAR	1410/37	8	107
48	6	6	Single Saturday Night / Cole Swindell / Warner Music Nashville	1403/40	-4	-58
29	8	7	My Boy / Elvie Shane / Wheelhouse Records	1353/49	3	39
32	7	8	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen. / Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line / Broken Bow/Dack Janiels	1343/38	1	17
38	11	9	Just About Over You / Priscilla Block / Mercury Nashville	1334/60	8	95
29	1	10	Tequila Little Time / Jon Pardi / Capitol	1292/52	-24	-413
29	10	11	Give Heaven Some Hell / HARDY / Big Loud Records	1291/58	3	42
11	12	12	You Should Probably Leave / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville	1270/60	8	92
26	13	13	Freedom Was A Highway / Jimmie Allen & Brad Paisley / Stoney Creek Records	1190/48	3	31
15	14	14	Half Of My Hometown / Kelsea Ballerini / Black River Entertainment	1189/57	4	44
37	16	15	You Time / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	1145/43	4	41
18	15	16	Chasing After You / Ryan Hurd w/ Maren Morris / Arista Nashville	1140/49	3	35
40	18	17	If It Wasn't For Trucks / Riley Green / BMLG	1054/47	1	13
27	17	18	To Be Loved By You / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	1047/53	0	-2
4	26	19	Cold As You / Luke Combs / Columbia/River House Artists	1030/55	31	241
7	20	20	Same Boat / Zac Brown Band / Home Grown Music/Warner Music Nashville	1021/54	10	97
23	19	21	Getting Over Him / Lauren Alaina feat. Jon Pardi / Mercury Nashville	1003/52	4	42
14	21	22	It's Cause I Am / Callista Clark / Big Machine	996/51	14	126
21	22	23	Under It With You Tonight / Smith & Wesley / Dream Walkin/Audium Nashville	892/44	3	27
19	24	24	My Masterpiece / Darius Rucker / Capitol	851/42	5	42
18	25	25	Then A Girl Walks In / Shenandoah & Blake Shelton / Foundry Records	846/44	6	48
4	36	26	Heart On Fire / Eric Church / EMI Records Nashville	797/49	38	221
12	28	27	Tip Jar / Jackson Michelson / Curb	791/45	6	42
22	27	28	I Can't / Caitlyn Smith feat. Old Dominion / Monument Records	791/44	0	3
13	30	29	Fill Them Boots / Chris Lane / Big Loud Records	764/44	5	38
14	31	30	I'm Not For Everyone / Brothers Osborne / EMI Records Nashville	753/43	4	28
14	29	31	Not Yet / Brett Young / BMLG	753/40	2	15
18	32	32	ABBY / Travis Denning / Mercury Nashville	692/35	0	3
7	33	33	Never Mine / Craig Campbell / Grindstone Records	686/45	4	25
12	35	34	Thinking 'Bout You / Dustin Lynch feat. MacKenzie Porter / Broken Bow	670/39	11	66
6	34	35	The Worst Country Song Of All Time / Brantley Gilbert feat. Toby Keith and HARDY / Valory	655/45	4	24
19	37	36	Treasure / Mary Heather Hickman / Rolling River Records	626/33	17	91
32	39	37	Whiskey And Rain / Michael Ray / Warner Music Nashville	573/33	9	48
5	38	38	Old School / Toby Keith / Show Dog Nashville	552/38	5	24
10	40	39	Back Then, Right Now / Tenille Arts / 19th & Grand Records	545/39	4	23

NASHVILLE'S DEFINITIVE SPORTS INDUSTRY PUBLICATION

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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
8	41	40	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) / Elle King & Miranda Lambert / RCA Nashville	535/29	11	54
13	43	41	Woman You Got / Maddie & Tae / Mercury	496/33	5	25
3	46	42	That's What Cowboys Do / Garth Brooks / Pearl Records	485/36	23	91
17	42	43	Villain / Lily Rose / Big Loud Records	474/26	0	1
22	44	44	Gotta Go Rodeo / Darlinghurst / Helium	463/23	5	20
12	45	45	Pretend He's You / Ashley Barron / SSM Nashville	455/35	6	24
2	57	46	Buy Dirt / Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan / MCA Nashville	449/32	48	146
7	48	47	Fine / Mira Goto / ArtistMax	418/27	10	39
9	47	48	Local Honey / Mo Pitney / Curb	417/26	8	30
8	49	49	Get Lost / Lucas Hoge / Forge Entertainment Group	407/27	11	40
22	51	50	Home Sweet / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers Records	388/24	11	40
14	52	51	Hot Beer / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records	368/23	8	26
1	0	52	If I Didn't Love You / Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood / Broken Bow/Macon Music/Capitol	353/25	0	353
14	53	53	That Ain't Me No More / Matt Stell / RECORDS/Arista Nashville	352/23	11	35
8	56	54	Dirt / Elise Harper / Skyfall Music	349/22	14	44
11	54	55	Something Good To Miss / Juna N Joey / River Run Records	342/24	10	31
4	55	56	How Far Can It Go? / Hailey Whitters feat. Trisha Yearwood / Big Loud/S&D/Pegasus	330/25	8	24
9	58	57	Princess / Dallas Remington / RoadWarrior Records	324/26	9	28
6	66	58	American Summer / Kylie Trout / Kylie Trout Music	285/21	24	55
14	60	59	Got Me This Far / Donny Lee / Donny Lee Music	278/22	3	8
2	78	60	Fancy Like / Walker Hayes / Monument	271/17	44	83
1	81	61	Am I The Only One / Aaron Lewis / Valory	265/20	49	87
4	62	62	Better Than You're Used To / Tyler Rich / Valory	264/21	12	28
13	61	63	Is It Me And You / Lisa Brokop / Amersong	263/19	5	13
2	76	64	Grow Up / Ian Flanigan feat. Blake Shelton / Reviver Records	249/22	26	52
10	64	65	Old School / Lance Wade Thomas / Shady Grove Records	247/15	6	13
6	65	66	You'll Always Be My Baby / Alan Jackson / EMI Records Nashville	243/17	5	12
10	63	67	Growing Up Too Fast / Jon Wayne Hatfield / Soundstage Music	242/17	3	7
4	69	68	Rub A Little Dirt On It / Chase Likens / On The Green	241/17	11	23
6	67	69	Evangeline / Sammy Kershaw / White Mustang Records	235/17	4	10
7	70	70	Summer Song / Chris Kroeze /	228/17	5	11
7	75	71	If You Could Call It That / Jeannie Seely / Curb	222/12	12	24
17	23	72	Might As Well Be Me / Dew Pendleton / HippieRedneckGospeLove/GrassRoots	221/17	-73	-596
5	72	73	Make It To Memphis / Shelley Lynch / Lynch Records	216/12	6	13
2	80	74	Walking In Your Wonderful Light / Rhonda Towns / Dawn Records	209/14	17	30
10	79	75	Okay, Momma? / Connor Jameson / 615Nash Records	207/14	15	27
3	77	76	Hillbilly Shake / AC Thomas / Birmingham Entertainment	205/20	6	11
6	73	77	Lil Bit / Nelly & Florida Georgia Line / RECORDS/Columbia	197/13	-2	-4
1	84	78	Get To Work Whiskey / Ward Davis / Ward Davis/Thirty Tigers Records	194/18	20	33
1	96	79	7500 OBO / Tim McGraw / Big Machine	193/16	58	71
1	86	80	Talk Of The Town / South 62 / Graphite Sound	193/15	23	36

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Whiskey Jam Celebrates 10 Years With Sold-Out Ryman Show

Whiskey Jam, one of Nashville's most beloved ongoing concert series, celebrated its 10th anniversary Monday night (July 26) with a sold-out show at the Ryman Auditorium.

Founded in January 2011, Whiskey Jam has entertained Music City for more than 500 Monday nights, with 750+ live events, over 1 million in total attendance, and 2,250 performances by artists and songwriters since its inception. Taking place every Monday and Thursday night at Winners Nashville, Whiskey Jam has seen artists including **Chris Stapleton, Kacey Musgraves, Maren Morris, Kane Brown, Sam Hunt, Luke Combs, Melissa Etheridge, Jelly Roll** and **OneRepublic** make their debut. The Nashville staple was founded by **Ward Guenther**, who also hosts his own radio show on Apple Music Radio.



"We started Whiskey Jam over 10 years ago because the guitar-pull set-up felt stale to try and repeat. We're fortunate to already have places like The Bluebird Café and The Grand Ole Opry, rooms like the Listening Room and Exit/In, however if you're not able to draw a crowd to those places yet, there really wasn't a spot that had a built-in audience of music fans each week. As songwriters, we just needed a place to get up, jam, fail or fly and then have a drink immediately after to talk or laugh about it," says Guenther. "It's crazy to think that this system based on the currency of time and paying it forward has carried on for 10 years as the crowds invest in the artists on their way up and get to see them when they're huge stars and vice versa. We are so grateful for this community. We can't wait to see how this grows in the next 10, and if last night was any indication, the artist community is ready!"



Artists including **Old Dominion, Chris Young, Cole Swindell, Jimmie Allen, Lindsay Ell, Devin Dawson, Lauren Alaina, Ryan Hurd, Jessi Alexander, Travis Denning, Lainey Wilson, Randy Montana, Katie Ohh, Ernest, Frankie Ballard, David Nail, Channing Wilson, Tyler Reeve, Craig Campbell, Tyler Farr, David Ryan Harris,** and **Carter Faith** were on hand to celebrate Whiskey Jam at the Ryman last night. Country Music Hall of Famer **Randy Travis** even appeared on-stage, and was joined by the performers to sing his hit "Forever and Ever, Amen" together.

Proceeds from the Ryman show benefit the newly-established 501©3 Jam Fam Foundation, created to support organizations that assist musicians, songwriters and the creative community when in need. "When the tornados hit, Chris Young and Whiskey Jam helped donate over 10,000 bottles of water to the communities hit the hardest and many of those folks were fans or participants of our series," says Guenther. "Over the course of 10 years, we've grown as a community-based event and so it's only natural that we create an avenue in which to give back." **MR**

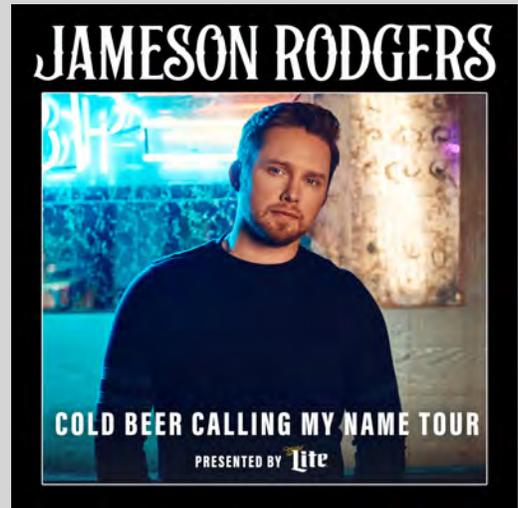
Jameson Rodgers' Cold Beer Calling My Name Tour Hits The Road In August

Columbia Nashville/River House Artists' **Jameson Rodgers** has announced his 27-date Cold Beer Calling My Name Tour 2021. Kicking off in Rootstown, Ohio's The Dusty Armadillo, the tour is named after his top 15 hit which features his labelmate Luke Combs. Tickets go on sale to the general public on Friday, July 30.

The trek includes Rodgers' first headlining show in New York City, plus stops in Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C. before wrapping with a two-night stand at Nashville's storied Exit/In. Along the way, he will be joined on select dates by **Drew Green, Brandon Lay, Drew Parker, Hunter Phelps, Jordan Rowe**, and Rodgers' fiancé **Sarah Allison Turner**.

"I've waited 11 years to have a tour of my own like this one," Rodgers shares. "Having my fiancé and some of my best friends opening the shows make it so much sweeter. This will be one to remember."

Following the success of his Platinum-certified, No. 1 debut hit "Some Girls," Rodgers' latest EP *In It For the Money* continues to earn critical acclaim. The celebrated, multi-Platinum songwriter also has co-pen credits on Parker's new single "While You're Gone," which is currently hitting country radio. **MR**



Claire Heinichen Named Country Editor At Spotify



Claire Heinichen has joined Spotify in the newly-created role of Country Editor, joining the editorial team led by **Rachel Whitney**.

A Vanderbilt graduate, Heinichen was formerly YouTube Music Country Music Content Specialist and spent nearly two years at the company following stints at Monkeyville On Vine, CMT, and internships at CMA and Vector Management.

Spotify's editorial team supports country, Christian, gospel, folk, and AAA while also working closely with the Spotify teams in partnerships and marketing. Heinichen will report directly to Whitney supporting the country genre. **MR**

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Chris Young, Dylan Scott, Ashland Craft



Ashland Craft, Dylan Scott, Chris Young

Here in Country Music Land, heartache is what we do best.

Nursing busted romances today are Dylan Scott, Ashland Craft, Cash Creek & Larry Stewart, Travis Denning and Chris Young. The Hobbs Sisters, Cadillac Three and Jake Hoot are trying to keep the country party going, but their efforts are drowned out by the more traditionalist crowd.

And it is from that crowd that all of our award winners are drawn this week. Ashland Craft lands the Discovery Award, while Chris Young and Dylan Scott finish in a dead heat, tying for the Disc of the Day prize.

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[ZZ Top's Dusty Hill Passes](#)

[Tom Yankton Signs With Jay DeMarcus' Red Street Records](#)

[Lee Ann Womack, Colter Wall, More To Reimagine Woody Guthrie's 'Dust Bowl Ballads'](#)

[Pryor & Lee Announce Right Now Tour Hitting The Road In August](#)

[John Prine's 'Fair & Square' To Be Reissued With Three New Vinyl Editions](#)

['Front And Center' Gears Up For Season 10 With Lady A, Dustin Lynch, Old Dominion, More](#)

[Carrie Underwood To Release Special Edition Of 'My Gift'](#)

[Air Date Announced For 'CMA Summer Jam'](#)

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[Emily Scott Robinson To Release Debut Oh Boy Records Project, 'American Siren'](#)

[Nashville Symphony, AFM Local 257 Announce New Musician Agreement](#)

[Gibson Launches New Record Label, Signs Slash As Flagship Artist](#)

Alyssa Bonagura Talks The Sisterhood Band, Growth & Her 'New Wings' [Interview]



As the daughter of **Michael Bonagura** and **Kathie Bailie** of **Bailie & The Boys**, **Alyssa Bonagura** is no stranger to the life of an artist. Growing up playing and writing with her parents as musical inspirations, she quickly began writing and producing for artists such as Jessie James Decker, Jana Kramer, and Steven Tyler ("I Make My Own Sunshine").

In 2015, Bonagura and **Ruby Stewart**, daughter of **Rod Stewart**, joined forces to become The Sisterhood Band. Soon after signing with Sony Music Nashville in 2017, the duo made their Grand Ole Opry debut and released the *Summer Setlist* EP.

However, after spending five years as The Sisterhood Band, the pair decided to part ways during the

COVID-19 pandemic. With the physical distance between them, the girls saw creative differences and the opportunity to explore new territories for themselves.

"I was actually grateful that the pandemic happened because it gave Ruby and I time to chill out. We didn't really need to make a statement because we didn't really know what was happening," explains Bonagura. "Five years is a long time, and I guess it was just time for it to change. Sometimes change doesn't happen when you're really expecting it. I think that those are the most uprooting times in our lives, and it was really hard for me."

With a combination of being forced into lockdown, moving in with her parents in Franklin, Tenn., and her significant career change, Bonagura was able to use the thick of COVID as a time to heal, reassess, and figure out her new direction. Included in that period of rediscovery was an outpouring of new and resurrected songs.

"That time during lockdown turned into this really healing, inward time for me. It started out really bad, but then it became amazing to have that connection again with myself, my family, and my music," Bonagura says. "I'm actually grateful for it all, looking at the other side of it now. I'm really glad I went through all of that because otherwise it wouldn't have brought me here with all this new music."

On Friday, July 2, Bonagura put out her first solo single, "New Wings," which she co-wrote with **Tawgs Salter** over Zoom amidst quarantine. While the two had never met prior to the call, the culmination of feelings and experiences from the previous year quickly came together.

"Meeting someone for the first time over Zoom is cool because there's no ego since you're not in person. I think you're able to really be yourself, which is cool," she shares. "I started writing a bunch on Zoom and one of the writes was with Tawgs. He had brought this track to the session and we started talking about life and what both of us had been through and that transformation. The music he brought was so inspiring and I found a really special poem that made it all came together so perfectly."

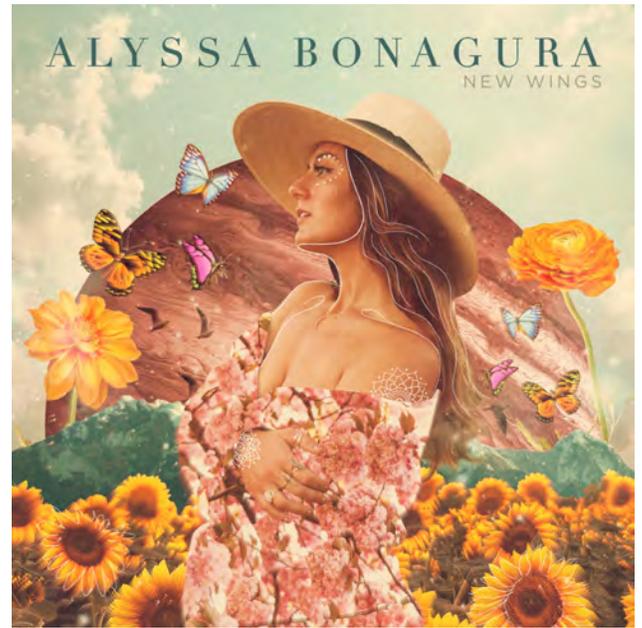
The poem that inspired the new track, entitled *The Lesson of the Butterfly* by **Paulo Coelho**, describes the importance of the growing process and of life's challenges.

"The poem talks about how this man was walking past this branch and he saw that a butterfly was struggling to emerge out of its cocoon. After watching it struggle for a while, the guy felt bad for it and wanted to make the process easier, so he cut open the cocoon to let the butterfly fly out. He cuts open the cocoon and the butterfly falls out but

isn't able to fly because its wings are underdeveloped," Bonagura explains. "The whole point of the story is that these struggles that we go through are really what make us stronger. We can't cut those processes down because they're all necessary for our growth. We don't think about it but the process that it takes to get from a worm to a butterfly is not easy, but you have to get your wings strong so that you can fly."

As far as future plans for her music go, Bonagura has plenty in store for the coming months. In addition to a handful of singles that will be peppered throughout the remainder of the year, she also has plans to release her first solo album in 2022. Though she's doing it independently and without the backing of a label, Bonagura is excited for what lies ahead and using her new wings.

"I just want to play and share this music, so I'm doing things independently and creating art. I'm hoping that it's helping people in some way get through this weird time and maybe bring them some kind of hope." Bringing it full-circle, she shares, "That kind of goes to the sentiment of this whole song: when you get a pair of wings, you want to fly so just go for it. That's what I'm doing, and I was scared shitless the whole time doing it. I'm so grateful that I did it, though. I'm grateful that the song is out, and now it gives me a little bit more confidence to keep putting songs out and doing it myself." **MR**



Matt Stillwell brought his Hometown House Party to the "Zearing Days" summer festival in Iowa with KXIA (Kix 101.1)/ Marshalltown-Des Moines. (L-R): KIX 101.1 PM drive host Jonathan Knight, Matt Stillwell, and Music Director/middays Doris Day. Photo: Courtesy Matt Stillwell



Maggie Baugh with WKDZ's Bill Booth, promoting her single "Think About Me." Photo: Courtesy Lisa Smoot

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	1	Ashley Gorley	Country Again Give Heaven Some Hell Sand In My Boots Single Saturday Night You Should Probably Leave	Thomas Rhett HARDY Morgan Wallen Cole Swindell Chris Stapleton
2	2	Corey Crowder	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen Famous Friends Minimum Wage	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line Chris Young + Kane Brown Blake Shelton
3	4	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
4	7	Michael Hardy	Give Heaven Some Hell Sand In My Boots Single Saturday Night That Ain't Me No More The Worst Country Song Of All Time	HARDY Morgan Wallen Cole Swindell Matt Stell Brantley Gilbert, HARDY, Toby Keith
5	6	Zach Crowell	Country Again Waves	Thomas Rhett Luke Bryan
6	5	Jesse Frasure	Minimum Wage Whiskey And Rain	Blake Shelton Michael Ray
7	9	Jonathan Singleton	Cold as You Out In The Middle Same Boat Things A Man Oughta Know	Luke Combs Zac Brown Band Zac Brown Band Lainey Wilson
8	8	Josh Osborne	I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl Sand In My Boots	Old Dominion Carly Pearce Morgan Wallen
9	13	Luke Combs	Cold as You Forever After All Out In The Middle	Luke Combs Luke Combs Zac Brown Band
10	10	Martin Johnson	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home) Like A Lady	Elle King and Miranda Lambert Lady A
11	20	Randy Montana	Cold as You If It Wasn't For Trucks We Didn't Have Much	Luke Combs Riley Green Justin Moore
12	11	Shane McAnally	Half Of My Hometown I Was On A Boat That Day Next Girl	Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Old Dominion Carly Pearce
13	16	J. Flowers	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
14	17	Brinley Addington	Chasing After You	Ryan Hurd with Maren Morris
15	14	Drew Parker	Forever After All	Luke Combs
16	15	Robert Williford	Forever After All	Luke Combs
17	21	Mark Holman	Single Saturday Night	Cole Swindell
18	3	Nicolle Galyon	Half Of My Hometown I Quit Drinking Minimum Wage	Kelsea Ballerini feat. Kenny Chesney Kelsea Ballerini, LANY Blake Shelton
19	18	Cary Barlowe	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown
20	19	Chris Young	Famous Friends	Chris Young + Kane Brown
21	28	Elle King	Drunk (And I Don't Wanna Go Home)	Elle King and Miranda Lambert
22	24	Luke Dick	I'm Not For Everyone Settling Down	Brothers Osborne Miranda Lambert

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
23	25	Natalie Hemby	I'm Not For Everyone Settling Down	Brothers Osborne Miranda Lambert
24	23	Paul DiGiovanni	Getting Over Him We Didn't Have Much	Lauren Alaina with Jon Pardi Justin Moore
25	27	Miranda Lambert	Settling Down	Miranda Lambert
26	31	Jeremy Stover	We Didn't Have Much	Justin Moore
27	29	Lainey Wilson	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
28	30	Jason Nix	Things A Man Oughta Know	Lainey Wilson
29	33	Ryan Hurd	Waves	Luke Bryan
30	34	Chase McGill	Waves	Luke Bryan
31	32	Thomas Rhett	Country Again	Thomas Rhett
32	38	Rhett Akins	Tequila Little Time To Be Loved By You	Jon Pardi Parker McCollum
33	26	Josh Thompson	Whiskey And Rain	Michael Ray
34	36	C. Dodds	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line
35	37	Chase Rice	Drinkin' Beer. Talkin' God. Amen	Chase Rice feat. Florida Georgia Line
36	66	Josh Jenkins	Buy Dirt Fancy Like	Jordan Davis feat. Luke Bryan Walker Hayes
37	40	A. Eshuis	You Time	Scotty McCreery
38	41	Frank Rogers	You Time	Scotty McCreery
39	42	Scotty McCreery	You Time	Scotty McCreery
40	43	Carly Pearce	Next Girl	Carly Pearce
41	49	Brian Davis	Memory I Don't Mess With	Lee Brice
42	50	Lee Brice	Memory I Don't Mess With	Lee Brice
43	51	Billy Montana	Memory I Don't Mess With	Lee Brice
44	44	John Edwards	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
45	45	Brian White	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
46	46	Kurt Allison	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
47	47	Tully Kennedy	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
48	48	Michael Tyler	Blame It On You	Jason Aldean
49	59	Kat Higgins	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney
50	60	Adam James	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney
51	61	Brett James	Knowing You	Kenny Chesney
52	52	Jordan Reynolds	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
53	53	Tayla Parx	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
54	54	Ryan Lewis	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
55	55	Dan Smyers	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
56	56	Shay Mooney	Glad You Exist	Dan + Shay
57	57	Chris Stapleton	You Should Probably Leave	Chris Stapleton
58	58	Chris DuBois	You Should Probably Leave	Chris Stapleton
59	67	Lee Starr	My Boy	Elvie Shane
60	68	Russell Sutton	My Boy	Elvie Shane

CALENDAR

Singles

July 30

Dylan Schneider/*Lost In A Small Town*/BBR Music Group

Cort Carpenter/*Sounds Of My Hometown*/Triple C Records

Halle Kearns/*Nothing Left*

August 2

Jason Aldean & Carrie Underwood/*If I Didn't Love You*/BBR

Tim McGraw/*7500 OBO*/Big Machine

Walker Hayes/*Fancy Like*/Monument

Randall King/*Record High*/Warner Music Nashville

The Isaacs/*The American Face*/House of Isaacs

Maggie Baugh/*Think About Me*/Maggie Baugh

Kevin Mccoy Band/*Blue Collar*/Kevin Mccoy Band

Albums

July 30

Needtobreathe/*Into The Mystery*/Elektra Records

Yola/*Stand For Myself*/Easy Eye Sound

Parker McCollum/*Gold Chain Cowboy*/MCA Nashville

Clay Walker/*Texas To Tennessee*/Show Dog Nashville

Parmalee/*For You*/Stoney Creek Records/BBR Music Group

The Wolfe Brothers/*Kids on Cassette*/BBR Music Group/BMG

Jim Lauderdale/*Hope*/Yep Roc Records

Tayls/*Have You Ever? (I've Always)*

July 31

Ryan Kinder/*Room To Dream*

Industry Events

August 19

33rd Annual *MusicRow* Awards (virtual)

August 25

14th Annual ACM Honors