Friday, December 8, 2023



WEEKLY

Dustin Lynch Graces The Cover Of *MusicRow*'s 2024 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue



MusicRow Magazine has released its 2024 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue, with Broken Bow Records' **Dustin Lynch** on the cover.

Lynch has "built one of the most consistent recording careers in modern country music" (*Billboard*), achieving nine No. 1 hits; four top five albums; 10 Gold, Platinum and multi-Platinum certified singles and tallying over 5.4 billion cumulative global streams. His sixth studio album, *Killed The Cowboy*, is boldly making a statement. The follow-up to *Blue In The Sky*, which delivered the history-making, double-Platinum, six-week No. 1 "Thinking 'Bout You (feat. MacKenzie Porter)"—the most-played song at country radio in 2022, landing at No. 1 on the Mediabase and No. 2 on the *Billboard* Year-End Country Airplay charts—also featured hit singles including the No. 1 "Stars Like Confetti" and "Party Mode."

Launching the "Killed The Cowboy Tour" in 2024, Lynch has headlined packed venues and toured with country's biggest names such as Luke Bryan, Florida Georgia Line, Brad Paisley and Kane Brown, and is next on deck to support Blake Shelton's "Back To The Honky Tonk Tour." Since his Platinum breakout "Cowboys and Angels" in 2012, the Tennessee native has earned industry recognition as a Grand Ole Opry member as well as high-profile nominations for the Academy of Country Music Awards, American Music Awards, *Billboard* Music Awards, iHeartRadio Music Awards and CMT Music Awards.

Inside *MusicRow*'s Touring & Next Big Thing Issue is the 10th annual **Next Big Thing class of artists**, consisting of **Avery Anna** (Warner Music Nashville), **Ashley Cooke** (Big Loud Records/Back Blocks Music), **Jackson Dean** (Big Machine Label Group), **Corey Kent** (Sony Music

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

Dustin Lynch Graces The Cover Of *MusicRow's* 2024 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue

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Laci Kaye Booth Forms New Team

All For The Hall' Benefit Raises More Than \$900K

Niko Moon Exits Sony Music Nashville

AEG Presents To Relocate To Nashville Yards In 2025

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My Music Row Story: Grand Ole Opry's Dan Rogers

DISClaimer Single Reviews

And much more...



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TWO ARTISTS WHO LEAD WITH THEIR HEARTS

THANK YOU, KEITH AND VINCE





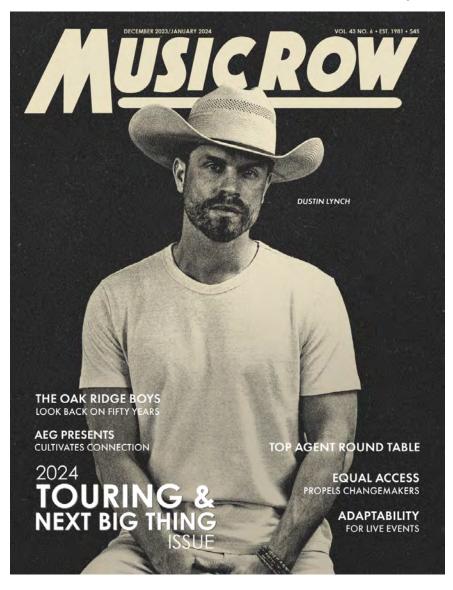
рното: John Shearer/Getty Images for the Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum

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Nashville), Kameron Marlowe (Sony Music Nashville), Bryan Martin (Average Joes Entertainment). Chase Matthew (Warner Music Nashville), Megan Moroney (Sony Music Nashville/Columbia NY), Josh Ross (Universal Canada/UMG Nashville/The Core Records), Dylan Schneider (BBR Music Group) and The War And Treaty (UMG Nashville).

This issue also features the **N.B.T.** Industry Directory Class of 2024, which highlights rising Nashville music business professionals who are having a major impact on the industry. MusicRow's N.B.T. Industry Directory is the first and only list of its kind. These industry members occupy important roles at their respective companies, and are on a trajectory of excellence to successfully lead the Nashville music industry into the future.

"Being labeled as the 'Next Big Thing' is a term that is often used in the entertainment industry. It refers to someone who has shown immense potential and talent, and is predicted to have a significant impact in their field in the near future." shares MusicRow Owner/Publisher Sherod Robertson. "This moniker is more than a label-it's what we all strive for in our pursuit of success in the Nashville music industry. Regardless of age, experience or level



of success, claiming the title of 'Next Big Thing' is always a worthy endeavor. Cheers to those that have been anointed this much-lauded epithet."

The 2024 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue features top agents including WME's Nate Towne, CAA's Chad Kudelka and UTA's Matthew Morgan in a round table discussion about the issues and opportunities facing our business. AEG Presents' Adam Weiser spoke to MusicRow about cultivating connection at live events for this issue, and KultureCity's Uma Srivastava talked about her work to create concerts more inclusive for those with sensory issues.

MusicRow highlights Mtheory's Equal Access program and its participants in this issue, and The Oak Ridge Boys talk about their 50 years on the road. This issue also includes a look at Mint House's new boutique hotel in Nashville. Additionally, the 2024 Touring Directory is included in this issue, featuring contact information for touring transportation, production companies, rehearsal spaces and insurance firms.

Single copies of *MusicRow's* 2024 Touring & Next Big Thing Issue are available for purchase at musicrow.com for \$45, and are included with yearly *MusicRow* subscriptions. *MR*

The *MusicRow* Weekly

Scotty McCreery Invited To Become A Member Of The Grand Ole Opry



Garth Brooks invite Scotty McCreery to become a member of the Grand Ole Opry. Photo: Courtesy of Grand Ole Opry

Garth and you're a part of what made me want to do this for a living and I didn't think that dream would become a reality, but it is because of all of y'all sitting in this house tonight. God bless y'all.

"When I got started doing this people asked, 'what are your goals?" McCreery shared. "And I'd say 'one day I'd like to be a member of the Grand Ole Opry."

Since releasing his first studio album in 2011 after winning the 10th season of American Idol, McCreery has sold more than four million albums and achieved five consecutive No.1 hits: RIAA Platinum-certified "Damn Strait," RIAA Gold-certified "You Time," RIAA Gold-certified "In Between," RIAA Platinum-certified "This Is It" and RIAA triple-Platinum certified "Five More Minutes." The North Carolina native has earned one triple Platinum, five Platinum and four Gold singles as well as one



Pictured (L-R): Vice President and Executive Producer of the Grand Ole Opry, Dan Rogers; Scotty McCreery; Garth Brooks; and McCreery's Manager, Scott Stem. Photo: Chris Hollo

Multi-Platinum country artist **Scotty McCreery w**as invited to become a member of the Grand Ole Opry on Sunday night (Dec. 3) by member **Garth Brooks**.

While performing at last night's Opry Country Christmas show, McCreery was surprised with a wrapped gift from Brooks.

"Merry Christmas," the icon said. "This is a Christmas present to the Grand Ole Opry." He added, "We would love to invite you to be the newest member of the Opry."

"Holy cow. Yes, I would love to," McCreery replied. "I grew up listening to your records

Platinum and two Gold albums. He has won multiple awards

throughout his

honors.

career, including ACM, CMT and BMI



Scotty McCreery invited to become a member of the Grand Ole Opry. Photo: Chris Hollo

"We're thrilled to extend this much-anticipated invitation to our friend Scotty," said Opry Executive Producer **Dan Rogers.** "Whether he's on the Opry performing his hits, putting his spin on some old favorites during a performance on one of our Opry Country Classics shows, or offering a holiday set as he did tonight, Scotty consistently delivers and is always at home on the Opry stage. It'll be exciting to hear the words 'Scotty McCreery, you're a member of the Grand Ole Opry!' in the early days of 2024."

McCreery's induction date will be announced soon. MR

My Music Row Story: Grand Ole Opry's Dan Rogers



The "My Music Row Story" weekly column features notable members of the Nashville music industry selected by the MusicRow editorial team. These individuals serve in key roles that help advance and promote the success of our industry. This column spotlights the invaluable people that keep the wheels rolling and the music playing.

Dan Rogers began his work with the Grand Ole Opry as an intern and is now the show's Vice President & Executive Producer. In this role, he produces Opry shows up to seven nights a week and is shepherding the iconic show toward its upcoming 100th year.

A native of Xenia, Illinois, Rogers received a B.S. in communication from the University of Evansville and an M.S.Ed. in educational psychology from Eastern Illinois

University.

He was the Executive Producer of the Opry's album *Opry Unbroken: Empty Room, Full Circle* containing tracks recorded during the COVID-19 pandemic when the Opry played on to a worldwide livestream and radio audience despite not having a live audience in the Opry House. He also executive produced the NBC television special *Grand Ole Opry: 95 Years Of Country Music* and **Dolly Parton**'s 50th Opry anniversary special, also on NBC, and consulted on 2023's inaugural *People's Choice Country Awards* and *Christmas at the Opry* network broadcasts. He created, wrote, produced and co-hosted the radio series That Summer as well as additional specialty programs for WSM Radio and was a writer/production assistant on the syndicated radio show America's Opry Weekend. He co-authored the Opry's book *Backstage At The Grand Ole Opry* and authored an Opry-centric country music trivia book. Prior to his current Opry role, he worked in Opry areas including marketing, communication and strategic partnerships.

Rogers serves as President of the Opry Trust Fund, assisting members of the country music community in need as well as other organizations.



MusicRow: Where did you grow up?

Rural Route 2, Xenia, Illinois. Population 450 at the time-now down to 380.

Wow! Were you musical when you were growing up?

Not in the least, but I always appreciated music. Some of my earliest memories are listening to the Grand Ole Opry and going to shows with my parents. Illinois is farm country, so [my priorities were] the farm, family, school and country music.

What were your career goals at that time?

My number one career goal was to do something that wasn't reliant upon the weather for your success, as was our family farm. Other than that, I just had it in my head that you went to college and did something that paid the bills. But I somehow. didn't realize until near the end of college that you could do something that not only paid the bills but also enriched your life and the lives of others.

I went to the University of Evansville in Indiana. It was a small college, and I loved the college experience so much that I thought I wanted to be a part of that for other students by working in administration. There were so few job opportunities when I graduated with a graduate degree specifically for that sort of role, that I had to seek out other opportunities, thinking that I would end up working in higher education when the economy turned around and colleges were hiring again. Instead, I went down a whole other path here at the Opry. Of course, I'm glad I did.

How did you make that transition?

I had continuing education dollars from my professional position, so I used those to basically work toward another graduate degree that earned me the opportunity to intern at the Opry. I started here as a marketing intern in 1998.

What were some of your earliest memories of the magic of the Opry?

I first came to the Opry as a fan during Christmas time in my kindergarten year. I had listened to the Opry, so when I started as an intern I came in wide-eyed and listening intently to every conversation going on everywhere. It was all so interesting how people attempted to fulfill the mission of keeping this great place rolling. I was learning everything from what happens on Monday for Saturday night's show, to how the Opry worked to attract the next generation of fans and artists, to the community that had developed among Opry fans even in the days before social media.

Every new person I met and every conversation I had with a Grand Ole Opry member was all so fascinating to me. Anytime **Garth Brooks** was on, we might have a week's notice to sell those tickets, and we'd have a packed house. That was just energizing and fun to watch from the moment you said it was happening until he walked out on stage.

I was assigned everything under the sun, but everything was interesting in its own way. I remember taking **Jeanne Pruett** and **Jeannie Seely** to welcome centers across the state of Tennessee to thank the good people who work behind those counters for their support of the Opry. I basically got to eavesdrop on their conversations for two straight days, which were very memorable to say the least.

How long were you an intern before you came on?

I started April of '98 and my official internship was over in August. The last day of my internship, my supervisor at the time said, "We don't have any open positions or you would be our first choice. You clearly love this place and love Nashville. If you want to stick around and do what you're doing, we'll do our best to help you find a job somewhere in Nashville." It was a long six months or so of trying to pay the bills and racking up some credit card debt, but it was great. Every day was just about proving myself to the people at the Opry and acting like I was looking for a job when I really just wanted one here.

[I eventually came on] as the Assistant Marketing Manager. Then I was Marketing Manager, Senior Marketing Manager, Director of Marketing, Senior Director of Marketing and then Producer, Show Producer and now this current title.



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Dan Rogers, Jeannie Seely, Bill Anderson and Vince Gill

Tell me about getting the job as Vice President/ Executive Producer.

I continue to be incredibly thankful for the opportunity and for the support both from the people who gave me the opportunity and those with whom I work today. If ever there was a team, this is a team. They say "it takes a village." This is an incredible village. You don't do up to seven shows a week featuring up to 10 artists on each show by yourself. I was just incredibly honored, excited and thankful for the people I've worked with to get the job. I was indebted to people who I knew had bent folks' ears about me. If you had told me when I was a kid that artists whose music I enjoyed were going to go to bat for me and say they wanted me to be entrusted with this incredible institution—I would have never believed that.

You started your new role in 2019, shortly before the pandemic took over the world. What was navigating that like?

At the end of the day, the Opry came out of the pandemic much stronger than beforehand. I think those who love the Opry were reminded why they love the Opry during that time. Saturday night after Saturday night I would sit at my desk and watch the comments coming through online of people saying, "We live halfway around the world and we set our alarm clocks [for the Grand Ole Opry livestreams] because we wanted to be a part of this as it was happening," and "I haven't interacted with people this week. This is what I've been looking forward to."

I would get texts from people who I admired so much saying, "Oh my God, that was a great show. You're making something great happen." So you had people who loved it before being reminded why it was so important, and then you had people discovering this show in the oddest of circumstances. I believe more people probably saw the Opry when Garth Brooks and **Trisha Yearwood** took the stage together to a completely empty auditorium than had ever seen it before.

What are some of the proudest things you've been a part of while you've been at the Opry?

One show that I look back on and am so thankful for is our 5,000th Saturday night broadcast, which was October of 2021. We were able to have two sell-outs and it was what a great night at the Opry should be with new stars, superstars and legends of country music [on the bill]. I loved our tip of the hat to the past, but at the same time, you had artists singing their latest hits. You had folks like **Connie Smith** and Jeannie Seely on stage next to **Dustin Lynch** and **Chris Young** next to **Vince Gill** and **Darius Rucker**. That's one that I'll always appreciate.

Just a month or so ago, we celebrated **Keith Whitley**. I loved that show. It felt like the Opry gave Mr. Whitley his due and celebrated the icon he's become since he passed away. That started with a call from Garth Brooks the night after he had inducted Keith Whitley into the Country Music Hall of Fame, saying, "What if we did this?" So, in addition to doing 220 other shows in that timeframe, we were also constantly thinking about how we could create this really great, meaningful show for Keith Whitley.

Any time we add a new member to the Opry I am both proud of the new member and for the new member. **Scotty McCreery** was just invited to join the family. I will never forget how he looked at me that night and said, "You made my night. No, you made my life."

What's a day in the life like for you?

They're long, long days, but almost every day of my life I wake up excited about what's to come either that night or that week. There's always something special on the horizon, so a day in my life is usually fun and full of gratitude.

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I'm not at every single show—I don't feel like I have to be because I completely trust our team—but I'm at almost all of them. [Laughs] If we're doing our job, there's always a reason to be here. If there's a person who's debuting, I want to be here to say welcome. Night after night, there are moments I simply don't want to miss.

Who have been some of your mentors through the years?

This job is incredible in that so many people can affect what you do in a great way. It really does feel like, in this community, everyone wants the Opry to succeed. There aren't really competitors, there are collaborators. Sooner or later you find yourself working with almost everyone in the industry somehow, and I feel like I've learned something from so many people, including Opry members and young artists who are just knocking it out of the park.

Bill Anderson has been an Opry member longer than anyone in our history. Jeannie Seely has played the show more times than anyone in our history. I think about how much we can all learn from them and their staying power. I have mentors across the board from artists, managers, folks who are part of the business here and people who work alongside us every day. I want to be more like the people I see at the Opry who are, as much as anything else, are simply beloved members of a special community. **Les Leverett** was the Opry's photographer before I ever came to the Opry. He made his mark in his own way and also just enjoyed the hell out of it. He created this great life, part of which was because of loving what he did here. We should all be so lucky.

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Jelly Roll & Dan Rogers

What do you still have yet to do?

All of us here are really excited about the Opry's 100th anniversary, which is in just two years. I see it as a huge opportunity. It's really important to me that we recognize the shoulders on which we're standing, and also use that opportunity as a catalyst to push the Opry into its next century. We want to celebrate country music and Nashville, and to thank everybody who's been a part of our success to date.

Still left to do is to grow the Opry's audience even more, to make it more easily accessible to everyone who loves music and country music around the world. I want us to help more people by growing the Opry Trust Fund and by utilizing the Opry to help others as we have done in the past few weeks with Susan G. Komen and Habitat for Humanity. I have my personal list of people that I would love to play the Opry for the first time. I want to see **James Taylor** sing "Sweet Baby James" on the Opry stage, and I want to see **Eddie Vedder** do a **Johnny Cash** classic. Another goal is to enhance the Opry artists' experience and make sure the next generation of superstars is firmly planted in that circle. *MR*

Kane Brown's 'Heaven' Is Now RIAA Certified Diamond



Kane Brown has earned his newest career milestone with the prestigious RIAA Diamond certification for his multi-week, breakout hit single, "Heaven."

The singer-songwriter is only the eighth artist in country music to achieve the massive accomplishment with 10 million certified units in the U.S. Brown was surprised with the news at home today with a heartfelt video from fellow Diamond-selling artists Luke Combs, Hillary Scott (Lady A), Tyler Hubbard (Florida Georgia Line) and Darius Rucker.

"An incredible talent with 23 RIAA certified titles and accolade upon accolade across genres, today, we are thrilled to recognize Kane Brown's first Diamond for his single 'Heaven.' This enchanting hit has clearly struck a chord with fans—topping 10 million certified units! Congratulations to Kane, his creative partners and RCA Nashville team on this rare milestone," says RIAA COO **Michele Ballantyne**.

Brown released "Heaven" on his record-breaking, selftitled debut deluxe album in 2017, which upon its release, made Brown the first artist in Billboard history to top all five Billboard country charts simultaneously. With his Diamond certification, Brown joins a select group of only seven other country artists whose careers boast the rare fete, including **Chris Stapleton** ("Tennessee Whiskey"), **Sam Hunt** ("Body Like A Back Road"), Combs ("Beautiful Crazy"), Rucker ("Wagon Wheel"), Lady A ("Need You Now") and Florida Georgia Line ("Cruise").

With the honor, Brown becomes the first Black artist in country music to earn the certification with an original song. In addition to "Heaven," Brown to date has earned 23 RIAA certifications, including recently-earned 8X Platinum "What If's," 4x Platinum "Be Like That" and "One Thing Right;" 3x Platinum "Good As You," "Homesick" and "Lose It;" 2x Platinum "Thank God" and Platinum "Like I Love Country Music." His debut album *Kane Brown* is also 3x Platinum. *MR*

Darius Rucker Recognized With Star On The Hollywood Walk Of Fame



Multi-Platinum artist **Darius Rucker** was recognized with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame yesterday (Dec. 4).

After he was introduced by former UMG Nashville Chairman/CEO **Mike Dungan**, Rucker shared, "This is stuff you don't even dream about when you're from South Carolina...all I ever wanted was to be a singer, but you never dream that this stuff is going to happen."

The Charleston native first entered the music world as the lead singer and rhythm guitarist for Grammywinning band **Hootie & the Blowfish**. He has continued to succeed with the group as well as on his own as a solo act with 10 No. 1 singles at country radio and numerous RIAA Platinum and Gold certifications, among other accolades.

In October, Rucker was <u>honored with a star on the</u> <u>Music City Walk of Fame</u> and released his first solo album in six years, <u>Carolyn's Boy</u>. He was also presented with the <u>2023 CMA Foundation</u> <u>Humanitarian Award</u>, which goes to an individual who has served as a humanitarian through community leadership, financial support, personal volunteerism and advocacy.

Rucker has <u>raised more than \$3.6 million for St. Jude</u> <u>Children's Research Hospital</u> through his annual "Darius & Friends" benefit, and has advocated for over 200 charitable causes supporting public education and junior golf programs in South Carolina through the Hootie & the Blowfish Foundation while also serving as a National Chair for the National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM) in Nashville. **MR**



COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart – Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position Better With A Buzz/Ryne Brashear/LIR Records - 72 Be The Whiskey/Julia Cole/Smokeshow Music - 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Wildflowers and Wild Horses/Lainey Wilson/Broken Bow Records - 198

Let Your Boys Be Country/Jason Aldean/Macon Music/Broken Bow - 175

Man Made A Bar/Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church/Big Loud - 172 Cab In A Solo/Scotty McCreery/Triple Tigers Records - 167 Where The Wild Things Are/Luke Combs/River House Artists/ Columbia Nashville - 163

Most Added

song/artist/label-No. of Adds

Let Your Boys Be Country/Jason Aldean/Macon Music/Broken Bow - 9

Wildflowers and Wild Horses/Lainey Wilson/Broken Bow Records - 8

Man Made A Bar/Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church/Big Loud - 8 Chevrolet/Dustin Lynch feat. Jelly Roll/Broken Bow Records - 7 Outlaws and Mustangs/Cody Jinks/Late August Records - 6 This Is My Dirt/Justin Moore/Valory - 6

On Deck-Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Small Town Famous/Bowman/Reviver/Nine North - 130 Jack and Diet Coke/Redferrin/Duncan Music Group/WMN - 127 God Bless the Radio/Flat River Band/Early Bird Records - 124 New Neon/Cliff Dorsey/Black Sheep Records - 123 Easy Loving You/Ty Gregory/Ole Buster Music - 110

NO. 1 SONG



Cody Johnson sits atop the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart this week with "The Painter."

The romantic song written by **Kat Higgins**, **Benjy Davis** and **Ryan Larkins** appears on Johnson's recently released album *Leather*. Johnson performed "The Painter" for the first time at the CMA Awards in November, which proved to be one of the top musical moments of the night.

"The Painter" currently sits at No. 16 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart and No. 15 on the Mediabase chart.



Each songwriter and artist earning No. 1 credit on the *MusicRow* Chart receives a *MusicRow* Challenge Coin. Click <u>here</u> 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 KBOD Mountain Home, AR KWCK Searcy, AR KRAZ Santa Barbara, CA WCTY Norwich, CT WPPL Blue Ridge, GA WUBB Savannah, GA KXIA Marshalltown, IA KIAI Mason City, IA KTHK Idaho Falls, ID KKMV Rupert, ID WOOZ Carterville, IL WALS Peru, IL WAAG Galesburg, IL WYOT Rochelle, IL WRTB Rockford, IL WFMB Springfield, IL WIFE Connersville, IN KAIR Atchison, KS KQZQ Pratt, KS WKDZ Cadiz, KY WDHR Pikeville, KY KRRV Alexandria, LA WKPE Hyannis, MA KYSM Mankato, MN WTCM Traverse City, MI KZPK St. Cloud, MN KFAV Warrenton, MO WBBN Laurel, MS WFAY Fayetteville, NC KZZY Devils Lake, ND KYCK Thompson, ND KRVN Lexington, NE KFGE Lincoln, NE KBRX O'Neill, NE KQBA Santa Fe, NM WDNB Monticello, NY KITX Hugo, OK KPNC Ponca City, OK KWEY Weatherford, OK WCJW Warsaw, NY KWOX Woodward, OK KRKT Albany, OR KRWQ Medford, OR WVNW Lewistown, PA WNBT Mansfield, PA WCFT Selinsgrove, PA KZZI Spearfish, SD WUCZ Carthage, TN WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN KFTX Corpus Christi, TX KYKX Longview, TX KLLL Lubbock, TX KXOX Sweetwater, TX WAKG Danville, VA WAXX Altoona, WI WJVL Janesville, WI WGLR Platteville, WI WQPC Prairie du Chien, WI WJMQ Shawano, WI WCOW Sparta, WI WDGG Huntington, WV



COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
17	2	1	The Painter / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville	1728/59	4	67
20	3	2	White Horse / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville	1717/53	5	75
27	1	3	World On Fire / Nate Smith / Sony Music Nashville	1662/47	-9	-156
36	5	4	Creek Will Rise / Conner Smith / Valory	1584/59	1	11
25	4	5	Save Me / Jelly Roll (with Lainey Wilson) / Stoney Creek	1538/44	-4	-71
11	7	6	I Can Feel It / Kane Brown / Zone 4/RCA Nashville	1513/55	9	122
8	9	7	Where The Wild Things Are / Luke Combs / River House Artists/Columbia Nashville	1510/57	12	163
24	8	8	Mind On You / George Birge / RECORDS	1444/45	5	74
21	11	9	Pretty Little Poison / Warren Zeiders / Warner Records	1360/55	12	146
16	12	10	Cab In A Solo / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records	1349/53	14	167
25	10	11	Burn It Down / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	1298/54	5	60
9	14	12	Mamaw's House / Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen / Valory	1204/59	13	139
35	13	13	23 / Chayce Beckham / BMG	1144/43	7	75
25	15	14	We Don't Fight Anymore / Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton / Big Machine	1070/52	4	45
49	16	15	Fearless / Jackson Dean / Big Machine	1003/46	0	-2
24	17	16	Wine Country / Hannah Ellis / Curb Records	910/49	0	3
49	18	17	We Got History / Mitchell Tenpenny / Riser House Records	884/31	1	8
29	19	18	Truck Bed / HARDY / Big Loud Records	870/43	4	35
5	25	19	Rodeo Man / Garth Brooks and Ronnie Dunn / Big Machine Records	855/54	11	87
16	22	20	Tucson Too Late / Jordan Davis / MCA Nashville	847/47	7	54
19	20	21	I'm Not Pretty / Megan Moroney / Arista Nashville/Columbia Records	839/45	3	23
26	23	22	Glory Days / Gabby Barrett / Warner Music Nashville	831/44	5	43
27	24	23	See You Next Summer / Brian Kelley / Big Machine Records	826/40	5	42
34	21	24	Nobody's Nobody / Brothers Osborne / EMI	822/38	1	6
4	29	25	Take Her Home / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville	810/50	18	121
12	28	26	Back Then Right Now / Tyler Hubbard / EMI Nashville	779/46	7	49
8	26	27	Cowboys and Plowboys / Jon Pardi and Luke Bryan / Capitol Nashville	771/44	2	13
4	31	28	Wildflowers and Wild Horses / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow Records	766/47	35	198
8	27	29	Under this Ole Hat / Sawyer Brown / Curb Records	762/52	4	29
4	35	30	Man Made A Bar / Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church / Big Loud	709/45	32	172
12	30	31	I Remember Everything / Zach Bryan feat. Kacey Musgraves / Warner Records	670/38	0	3
18	33	32	Country Dance / Aaron Goodvin / Warner Music Canada/Sakamoto Music	609/31	13	69
17	36	33	Wait Til I'm Gone / Donice Morace / Bad Jeu Jeu Records/CDX Records	562/31	7	35
28	32	34	Out Of That Truck / Carrie Underwood / Capitol Records	555/30	1	8
9	34	35	Two Dozen Roses / Shenandoah & Luke Combs / 8 Track Entertainment/ADA	551/41	2	13
10	39	36	Can't Break Up Now / Old Dominion with Megan Moroney / Columbia Nashville	521/39	7	34
12	37	37	Young Love & Saturday Nights / Chris Young / RCA	497/31	-2	-12
3	54	38	Let Your Boys Be Country / Jason Aldean / Macon Music/Broken Bow	460/32	61	175
6	43	39	Outlaws and Mustangs / Cody Jinks / Late August Records	453/40	14	57

MUSIC ROW

2024 TOURING & NEXT BIG THING ISSUE

NEW ISSUE | AVAILABLE NOW

MUSICROW

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
9	44	40	Where It Ends / Bailey Zimmerman / Warner Music Nashville	431/32	16	61
22	40	41	Drinkin' Problems / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records	430/27	1	6
3	53	42	This Is My Dirt / Justin Moore / Valory	423/33	48	137
9	42	43	I'm In Love / Hailey Whitters / Pigasus/Big Loud Records/S&D	419/31	6	22
16	41	44	Last Train To Nowhere / Ghost Hounds / Gibson Records	392/27	-3	-13
19	46	45	Outskirts / Sam Hunt / MCA Nashville	369/24	5	18
14	49	46	Always You / Trey Lewis / River House Artists	355/27	8	26
10	47	47	Vertigo / Morgan Myles / KZZ Music/Blue Èlan Records	349/25	1	2
9	50	48	A Man Like You / American Blonde / American Blonde Music	340/26	10	32
14	52	49	Jesus and John Wayne / Alabama feat. The Oak Ridge Boys / Gaither Music Group	339/23	16	48
10	45	50	Thicc As Thieves / Lauren Alaina / Big Loud Records	339/22	-7	-25
41	48	51	We Ride / Bryan Martin / Average Joes Entertainment	338/25	2	6
13	57	52	Hush Little Baby / Ashley Ryan / Spinville Entertainment	314/21	17	46
21	51	53	Something's Gonna Kill Me / Corey Kent / RCA Nashville	306/19	4	11
7	56	54	Tractors And Trucks / Dave Wilbert / Wilbilly Records	296/22	10	26
6	59	55	Drink About That / Ken Domash / Thunder Mountain Records	289/22	17	42
10	58	56	You Or The Whiskey / Sydney Hansen / Sydney Hansen Music	270/18	2	4
11	60	57	Rough Around The Edges / Exile / Clearwater Records	246/15	0	0
25	55	58	Brokenhearted / Joe Nichols / Quartz Hill Records	242/11	-11	-29
7	61	59	Get Me Now / Matt VanFossen	230/16	4	9
11	63	60	He Don't Mind / Waylon Hanel / Waylon Hanel Music	212/15	7	13
3	78	61	Love You Again / Chase Matthew / Warner Music Nashville	201/15	40	57
7	64	62	Lovin' Not Leavin' / Wade Bowen / Bowen Sounds	201/15	3	6
2	73	63	Pickup Man / HIXTAPE ft. Post Malone/Joe Diffie / Big Loud Records/Mercury	194/18	26	40
8	65	64	Spirits and Demons / Michael Ray ft. Meghan Patrick / Warner Music Nashville	193/13	-1	-2
8	66	65	Chipping Mill / Turnpike Troubadours / Bossier City Records	188/17	1	2
4	70	66	Before You / Glen Shelton / Jordash	183/11	12	20
6	71	67	Extra / Katie Linendoll	179/10	10	17
25	68	68	Something Real / Dierks Bentley / Capitol Nashville	177/9	-2	-4
5	69	69	Front Porch Swing / Luke Kelly / General Records	175/12	2	3
14	62	70	In Your Love / Tyler Childers / Hickman Holler Records/RCA Records	172/14	-15	-31
20	76	71	Dance With You / Brett Young / BMLG Records	166/12	13	19
1	82	72	Better With A Buzz / Ryne Brashear / LIR Records	164/8	17	24
7	67	73	Certified / Laura Bryna	164/16	-11	-20
2	77	74	Amazin' What Just The Right 3 Minutes Can Do / Larry, Steve and Rudy The Gatlin Brothers / CDX Records/Sony Orchard	163/10	13	19
20	75	75	Loser / Mike Ryan / Rock & Soul	150/7	1	2
3	72	76	True Story / Jon Brennan / CDX Records	150/9	-4	-6
4	79	77	Love Is Real / Shelley Lynch / CDX Records	146/8	2	3
5	81	78	He Himself & Him / Annie Vander / VanderFire Records	142/8	0	0
3	80	79	Back At The Bar / Landon Parker / Bad Ass Records	141/12	-1	-1
1	84	80	Be The Whiskey / Julia Cole / Smokeshow Music	134/10	7	9

No. 1 Song

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Highest Debut

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LOOKING FOR SONGS

Chris Fabiani To Exit Warner Music



Chris Fabiani will exit his position as National Director, Radio at Warner Music Nashville at the beginning of January.

Fabiani joined Warner Music Nashville in 2020 in a regional manager role, and was promoted in 2022 to National Director of Radio. Previously, he served as Director of Promotion and Artist Engagement at Universal Music Group (UMG). Fabiani spent more than a decade with UMG, including six years as Director of Midwest Promotion at EMI.

His next step has not yet been announced.

Fabiano's exit will leave an opening for a National Director, Radio (Team WMN). Any qualified candidates interested in the role can reach out to **Tom Martens** at tom.martens@wmg.com. **MR**

Laci Kaye Booth Forms New Team

Emerging singer-songwriter **Laci Kaye Booth** has formed new partnerships with Red Light Management, Geffen Records and WME. The news comes alongside the release of her new single "<u>Cigarettes</u>."

Booth's full team consists of **Kaitlin Madewell** (Manager, Red Light Management), **Tom March** (President, Geffen Records), **Matt Morris** (Senior Vice President A&R, Geffen Records), **Braeden Rountree** (Partner, WME), **Lucy Dickins** (Global Head of Contemporary Music & Touring, WME), **Asha Goodman** (Executive Vice President, Sacks & Co.), **Cyndi Forman** (Senior Vice President A&R, Universal Music Publishing Group) and **Michelle Attardi** (Senior Director Publishing, Big Machine Music).



"Cigarettes" marks Booth's next chapter of music that will share her personal and professional setbacks.

Of the new music, she shares, "This song tells the story of where I've been, who I was, and how I've become who I've become. It's a true-life story, not a highlight reel, with 'Cigarettes' having multiple meanings throughout the song. I wrote this song at one of the lowest points of my career and life, with my dear friend and producer, **Ben West**. It has sorrow, shame, grit and hope written all within it, and I hope the message that's received from this is to learn from the hard sh*t, learn to let it go and let it make you better." **MR**

All For The Hall' Benefit Raises More Than \$900K For Country Music Hall Of Fame And Museum



Pictured (L-R, front row): Ernest, Michael Trotter Jr. and Tanya Trotter of The War And Treaty, Brenda Lee, Patty Loveless, Mickey Guyton, Hardy; (L-R, back row): CEO of Country Music Hall Of Fame and Museum, Kyle Young, Matthew Ramsey, Geoff Sprung, Trevor Rosen and Brad Tursi of Old Dominion, Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn of Brooks & Dunn, Vince Gill, Keith Urban, Kelsea Ballerini, Riley Green and Country Music Hall Of Fame and Museum Board Chair, Mary Ann McCready. Photo: Jason Kempin/Getty Images for the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

Keith Urban and **Vince Gill** returned to Nashville's Bridgestone Arena last night (Dec. 5), to host Urban's recurring "All For The Hall" benefit concert for the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

The star-studded lineup featured performances from Kelsea Ballerini, Ernest, Riley Green, Mickey Guyton, Hardy, Old Dominion, The War And Treaty, Trisha Yearwood, Brenda Lee, Brooks & Dunn and Patty Loveless. During the show, artists performed a song that defined a memorable moment in their life, in addition to one of their own songs, and Urban and Gill joined many of the artists onstage throughout the evening.

The night's performances included Urban on "Wild Hearts," "Blue Ain't Your Color" and "Theme From the *Dukes of Hazzard* (Good Ol' Boys)," Gill doing "Don't Let Our Love Start Slippin' Away" and "Rocky Mountain Way," Lee sharing her classic "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," Old Dominion on "Memory Lane" and "Alive," Hardy doing "Truck Bed" and "It's a Great Day to Be Alive," Yearwood on "The Song Remembers When" and "You're No Good," and Brooks & Dunn doing "My Maria" and "I Ain't Living Long Like This," among many

more.

The evening also featured a performance of an original song from the museum's flagship education program, Words & Music, which pairs students with songwriters to teach lyric writing and language arts through music. With the support of professional songwriter **Paulina Jayne, Abigail Sowards**, a senior from Stewarts Creek High School, performed her song "These Moments" alongside her fellow classmates **John Dechira** and **David Guydon**. Sowards is among the more than 8,000 students this year who have participated in the museum's Words & Music program. *MR*



Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn of Brooks and Dunn perform onstage for "All For The Hall." Photo: Jason Kempin/Getty Images for the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum



Kelsea Ballerini performs onstage for "All For The Hall." Photo: Jason Kempin/Getty Images for the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum

Niko Moon Exits Sony Music Nashville & Announces Independent Album



Niko Moon has announced that he is leaving RCA Nashville/Sony Music Nashville after four years to focus on recording as an independent artist. He has also shared that his new album, *Better Days*, is set for release on Jan. 19, with track "Falling For You" out today (Dec. 1) . Additionally, the singer-songwriter will kick off "The Better Days Tour" on Feb. 1.

Moon broke out as a solo act in 2019, after several years as a member of **Sir Rosevelt** alongside fellow artists **Zac Brown** and **Ben Simonetti**. As a songwriter, Moon has had eight No. 1s and over 40 major label cuts for artists such as **Morgan Wallen, Avicii,Dierks Bentley, Pitbull, Zac Brown Band, Rascal Flatts** and more. During his time at Sony Music Nashville, he achieved his first No. 1 and RIAA

triple-Platinum certification for his single, "Good Time," and was crowned a SESAC Country Songwriter of the Year. He also co-produced the Zac Brown Band albums, *Jekyll+Hyde* and *Welcome Home*.

"Sony is and will always be the team that helped launch this career and journey I am on, and I am thankful for that. **Randy [Goodman]** and team have been nothing but supportive of me and my sound, but with the very changing scope of music today, I want the undeniable ability to take my music in any direction possible and deliver it to my fans at a pace that suits me more as a touring artist."

"Niko has such a great grasp of who he is as an artist and performer," says **Chris Kappy**, Chief Navigation Officer, Make Wake Artists. "Niko's fans are consuming music like crazy and want more and we feel the ability and flexibility to release music that might be outside the genre, would be easier to do as an independent artist. Sony is family and always will be, and we are very pleased that this was done as friends. We all look forward to what the fans will get moving forward!" **MR**

AEG Presents To Relocate To Nashville Yards In 2025

AEG Presents has announced that it will relocate to Nashville Yards in 2025.

Anchored by CAA, the creative office building features an articulated metal facade with ultra-clear glazing and layered floor plates that allow outdoor private terraces on every floor. The building is adjacent to the new music venue and rises eleven stories above Church Street with private amenities such as meeting hubs, entertainment spaces, a large outdoor vegetated deck and more.



This new office structure will house AEG Presents' regional office, its

global touring division and the Nashville outpost of its partner Messina Touring Group. The three entities combined oversee all components of the live music experience, from club and theatre bookings to arena and stadium dates, and promote tours for **Blake Shelton**, **Carrie Underwood**, **Eric Church**, **George Strait**, **Kane Brown**, **Kelsea Ballerini**, **Kenny Chesney**, **Luke Combs** and **Zach Bryan**, among others. AEG Presents will also book and operate the forthcoming music venue, which is scheduled to open in early 2025.

"We've been hyper-focused on expanding our presence in Nashville for a few years now. It's a big opportunity for us to be consolidating all our operations under one roof at what's soon to be one of the most popular destinations in the city, and to be booking and operating a new, state-of-the-art music venue on-site makes it that much more exciting," shares **Rick Mueller**, President of North America, AEG Presents. **MR**

DISClaimer Single Reviews: Luke Grimes Releases 'Relaxed, Thoughtful' New Cover



There are some folk music vibes in this roundup of current country tracks.

Matt Schuster, Lizzie No and Luke Grimes all have acousticbased tunes, shining brightly amid the rocking sounds of Eddie Montgomery, Caroline Jones, Kameron Marlowe, Bigg Vinny and Brian Kelley. Also here for your listening pleasure is country rap from C'ing Jerome as well as classy country pop from The Frontmen and straight-up, old-school R&B from Robert Finley.

But the folkies ruled the day. Luke Grimes has the Disc of the Day, and Lizzie No is taking home a DISCovery Award.

Click here to read Robert K Oermann's weekly single reviews.

MORE TOP STORIES

Josh Del Joins Good Company Entertainment As Creative Director

SMACK Elevates Molly Bouchon To Director Of Marketing & Artist Development

Tape Room Music Partners With Warner Chappell & Red Light Management To Sign Ned Cameron

Academy Of Country Music Announces Record-High Membership, Welcomes Class Of 2024

Old Dominion To Perform At Brooklyn Bowl For 'New Year's Eve Live: Nashville's Big Bash'

Musicians On Call Announces New Music Industry Advisory Board

Cole Swindell To Kick Off 'Win The Night Tour' In May

The MLC Launches New Supplemental Matching Network

Cody Jinks To 'Change The Game' With Forthcoming Album

Spirit Music Nashville & 2 Mix Music Sign Justin Richards

HarbourView Equity Partners Expands Credit Facility, Welcomes New Partners

Bob Squance & Michael Thomas Partner With CTM To Launch Withrow Street Music

Jelly Roll & Lainey Wilson's 'Save Me' Tops The Country Charts

Jason Aldean, Thomas Rhett, Cody Johnson To Headline Boots And Hearts Festival 2024

CMA Presents Jim Free, Mike Dungan With Honors

ACM Announces Voting Timeline & Category Changes For 2024 Awards

Miranda Lambert Announces Final Dates For 'Velvet Rodeo: The Las Vegas Residency'

Brett Young Plots 2024 International Tour For May



TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	2	Zachary Lane Bryan	East Side of Sorrow El Dorado Hey Driver I Remember Everything Sarah's Place Spotless Tourniquet	Zach Bryan Zach Bryan Zach Bryan ft. The War And Treaty Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves Zach Bryan feat. Noah Kahan Zach Bryan ft. The Lumineers Zach Bryan
2	1	Ashley Gorley	All I Need Is You Everything I Love God Gave Me A Girl Last Night Save Me The Trouble Thinkin' Bout Me Truck Bed World On Fire Young Love & Saturday Nights	Chris Janson Morgan Wallen Russell Dickerson Morgan Wallen Dan + Shay Morgan Wallen Hardy Nate Smith Chris Young
3	4	Jason DeFord	Need A Favor Save Me Wild Ones	Jelly Roll Jelly Roll with Lainey Wilson Jessie Murph feat. Jelly Roll
4	6	Randy Montana	Different 'Round Here This Is My Dirt Where the Wild Things Are	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs Justin Moore Luke Combs
5	5	Chayce Beckham	23	Chayce Beckham
6	8	Taylor Phillips	Love You Again Thinkin' Bout Me World On Fire	Chase Matthew Morgan Wallen Nate Smith
7	7	Ryan Vojtesak	Everything I Love Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
8	3	Chris Stapleton	Think I'm In Love With You White Horse	Chris Stapleton Chris Stapleton
9	9	Tracy Chapman	Fast Car	Luke Combs
10	10	David Ray Stevens	Save Me	Jelly Roll with Lainey Wilson
11	11	Chase McGill	But I Got A Beer In My Hand Creek Will Rise God Gave Me A Girl Mamaw's House	Luke Bryan Conner Smith Russell Dickerson Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen
12	12	Dan Wilson	White Horse	Chris Stapleton
13	15	Kacey Musgraves	I Remember Everything	Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves
14	14	John Byron	Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
15	25	Dave Turnbull	Where the Wild Things Are	Luke Combs
16	20	Matt Dragstrem	But I Got A Beer In My Hand Mamaw's House	Luke Bryan Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen
17	18	Christopher Anthony Lunsford	Rich Men North Of Richmond	Oliver Anthony Music
18	27	Warren Zeiders	Pretty Little Poison Sin So Sweet	Warren Zeiders Warren Zeiders
19	13	Michael Hardy	See You Next Summer Take Her Home Truck Bed	Brian Kelley Kenny Chesney Hardy
20	26	Geoff Warburton	Back Then Right Now But I Got A Beer In My Hand	Tyler Hubbard Luke Bryan
21	28	Ryan Beaver	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders
22	29	Jared Keim	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders

MUSICROW -

- TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
23	19	Hunter Phelps	Take Her Home Truck Bed	Kenny Chesney Hardy
24	30	Jordan Schmidt	Watermelon Moonshine We Got History	Lainey Wilson Mitchell Tenpenny
25	35	Morgan Wallen	Everything I Love Mamaw's House	Morgan Wallen Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen
26	21	Patrick Murphy	Standing Room Only	Tim McGraw
27	22	Tommy Cecil	Standing Room Only	Tim McGraw
28	23	Craig Wiseman	Standing Room Only	Tim McGraw
29	31	Ryan Larkins	The Painter	Cody Johnson
30	32	Kat Higgins	The Painter	Cody Johnson
31	33	Benjy Davis	The Painter	Cody Johnson
32	40	Riley Green	Different 'Round Here	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs
33	41	Jonathan Singleton	Different 'Round Here	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs
34	34	Hillary Lindsey	Burn It Down See You Next Summer	Parker McCollum Brian Kelley
35	36	Dallas Wilson	Can't Have Mine	Dylan Scott
36	37	Josh Melton	Can't Have Mine	Dylan Scott
37	38	Dylan Scott	Can't Have Mine	Dylan Scott
38	39	Matt Alderman	Can't Have Mine	Dylan Scott
39	42	Lindsay Rimes	World On Fire	Nate Smith
40	43	Nate Smith	World On Fire	Nate Smith
41	44	Michael Tyler	Mind On You Spirits and Demons	George Birge Michael Ray with Meghan Patrick
42	49	Ben Johnson	Truck Bed	Hardy
43	45	David Garcia	Back Then Right Now Out Of That Truck See You Next Summer	Tyler Hubbard Carrie Underwood Brian Kelley
44	46	Shane McAnally	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
45	47	Pete Good	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
46	48	Carly Pearce	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
47	17	Thomas Rhett	Mamaw's House Stars Like Confetti	Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen Dustin Lynch
48	55	George Birge	Mind On You	George Birge
49	56	Colt Ford	Mind On You	George Birge
50	57	Jaron Boyer	Mind On You	George Birge
51	58	Liz Rose	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
52	59	Parker McCollum	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
53	60	Lori McKenna	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
54	80	Dylan Gossett	Coal	Dylan Gossett
55	16	Zach Crowell	God Gave Me A Girl Outskirts Stars Like Confetti	Russell Dickerson Sam Hunt Dustin Lynch
56	71	Lainey Wilson	Watermelon Moonshine Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Lainey Wilson Lainey Wilson
57	67	Jaxson Free	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
58	68	Gabe Foust	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
59	69	Phil Collins	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
60	70	Kane Brown	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown

CALENDAR Single/Track Releases **December 8** Cort Carpenter/How's It Going To Be/Triple C Records **December 11** Dustin Lynch/Chevrolet (feat. Jelly Roll)/Broken Bow Records Lady A/Love You Back/BMLG Records Ashley Cooke/Your Place/Big Loud Records Matt Stell/Breakin' in Boots/Records Nashville Album/EP Releases **December 8** Dillon Carmichael/Where I Grew Up/Riser House Records Andrew Salgado/86 Vol 3/Synapse Publishing & Entertainment Industry Events **February 4** 66th Annual Grammy Awards

February 28 – March 1 CRS