

Jessi Vaughn Stevenson Launches Perfect Game Creative



Jessi Vaughn Stevenson. Photo: Courtesy of WCM and RUNCLUB Creative

A&R industry executive **Jessi Vaughn Stevenson** has launched music publishing, management, and A&R consulting company Perfect Game Creative, in partnership with Warner Chappell Music Nashville.

With the partnership, Stevenson will continue working with select Warner Chappell writers, including Morgan Wallen, Parker McCollum, Riley Green, and rising singer-songwriter Schmitt. Beginning in January of 2026, Perfect Game will begin signing new clients to their publishing roster in collaboration with Warner Chappell.

"I'm so proud to see Jessi bring her vision for Perfect Game Creative to life," says **Austen Adams**, President, WCM Nashville. "She's always led with creativity, instinct, and an unwavering dedication – consistently helping songwriters reach their full potential. We're thrilled that our partnership will allow us to continue working closely together, united by our shared belief in putting songwriters at the heart of everything we do."

Stevenson most recently served as Vice President, A&R and Digital at Warner Chappell, where she spent a decade. Through her time at Warner Chappell, she developed talent such as Jessi Alexander, Aaron Raitiere, Rhett Akins, Hailey Whitters, Randy Montana, Will Bundy, Lee Miller, and Little Big Town, among others. **MR**

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

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H. Read Davis & Lucy Bartozzi Exit Big Loud



H. Read Davis & Lucy Bartozzi

H. Read Davis has exited his position of VP, Digital at Big Loud, while **Lucy Bartozzi** has exited her role as VP, Marketing at Big Loud Records.

Davis joined the company in 2022 as Senior Director of Digital, working his way through the ranks to his current position. Before that, Davis held previous roles as Social Media Manager at Spotify and Director of Creative Operations at Crowd Surf. Other career stops include internships at Chrysalis Music Group, Propel Music Group and Big Yellow Dog Music.

During his three years at Big Loud, Davis worked alongside artists, managers and label staff to create and grow artists' digital identity.

Bartozzi joined the team in 2023. During her time at the company, she worked with acts such as Dylan Gossett, Lily Rose, Owen Riegling and more. Her previous career stops include Round Hill Records, mtheory, and Red Bull Records. **MR**

Music City Walk Of Fame To Induct Old Dominion, Charley Pride & Liz Rose



Charley Pride, Liz Rose & Old Dominion

The Music City Walk of Fame has unveiled its newest inductees. **Old Dominion**, **Charley Pride** (posthumously) and **Liz Rose** will be inducted on Nov. 11 at 1 p.m. The ceremony will be open to the public. Old Dominion, Pride and Rose will be the 110th, 111th and 112th stars on the Walk of Fame, recognized for their work of preserving the musical heritage of Nashville.

Since forming, Old Dominion have had nine No. 1 hits, collected eight ACM awards and seven CMA awards for Group of the Year. Their sixth album *Barbara* dropped on Aug. 22, and they are currently on their "How Good Is That – World Tour" performing in arenas through 2026.

Before his passing in 2020, Pride was a Grand Ole Opry member, a three time GRAMMY winner, and was a recipient of the Recording Academy's "Lifetime Achievement Award." He had 39 chart-toppers, including "Kiss An Angel Good Morning." Pride was also named CMA's Entertainer of the Year in 1971, and was Top Male Vocalist in 1971 and 1972.

Songwriter Rose has most notably co-penned 16 tracks with Taylor Swift, including the GRAMMY winning "White Horse" and GRAMMY nominated "All Too Well (10 Minute Version) (Taylor's Version)." She also co-wrote the 2015 GRAMMY and CMA winning song "Girl Crush," recorded by Little Big Town. **MR**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart—Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Amen/Shaboozey & Jelly Roll/American Dogwood/EMPIRE - 62

Midnight Blue/Omer Netzer/White Knuckle Productions - 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

20 Cigarettes/Morgan Wallen/Big Loud/Mercury/Republic - 235

Ain't A Bad Life/Thomas Rhett feat. Jordan Davis - 169

How Far Does Goodbye Go/Jason Aldean/BBR Music Group - 128

Turn This Truck Around/Jordan Davis/MCA Nashville - 111

Choosin' Texas/Ella Langley/SAWGOD Records/Columbia - 103

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Turn This Truck Around/Jordan Davis/MCA Nashville - 8

20 Cigarettes/Morgan Wallen/Big Loud/Mercury/Republic - 7

Beautiful Things/Megan Moroney/Columbia Nashville - 7

I Ain't Coming Back/Morgan Wallen feat. Post Malone/Big Loud/Mercury/Republic - 5

Choosin' Texas/Ella Langley/SAWGOD Records/Columbia - 5

Amen/Shaboozey & Jelly Roll/American Dogwood/EMPIRE - 5

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Playing with Fire/Mika Lynch/Gravel Road Music Group - 167

Lock Me Up and Throw Away the Whiskey/Michael Raven/Deadly Melody - 160

Scars/Scotty Hasting/Black River Entertainment - 158

Working On A Good Night/Chuck Thomas/Ledge Records - 158

Burned Down Heaven/Chase McDaniel/Big Machine Records - 157

Kick Rocks Cowboy/Ashland Craft/Leo33 - 155

NO. 1 SONG



Riley Green rises to No. 1 on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart with his track, "Don't Mind If I Do" featuring **Ella Langley**.

The song comes off of his 2024 album of the same name and was written solely by Green.

"Don't Mind If I Do" currently sits at No. 12 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart and No. 5 on the Mediabase chart.



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
KDXY Jonesboro, AR
KWCK Searcy, AR
KRAZ Solvang, CA
WCTY Norwich, CT
WPPL Blue Ridge, GA
WUBB Savannah, GA
KXIA Marshalltown, IA
KTHK Idaho Falls, ID
WOOZ Carterville, IL
WALS Peru, IL
WAAG Galesburg, IL
WYOT Rochelle, IL
WRTB Rockford, IL

WFMB Springfield, IL
WIFE Connersville, IN
WYGB Franklin, IN
KAIR Atchison, KS
WKDZ Cadiz, KY
WULF Elizabethtown, KY
WSIP Paintsville, KY
KRRV Alexandria, LA
KQKI Morgan City, LA
KJLO Monroe, LA
WKPE Hyannis, MA
WTCM Traverse City, MI
KZPK St. Cloud, MN
KFAV Warrenton, MO
WBBN Laurel, MS

WFAY Fayetteville, NC
WKVS Lenoir, NC
KZZY Devils Lake, ND
KYCK Thompson, ND
KRVN Lexington, NE
KFGE Lincoln, NE
WMLL Manchester, NH
KQBA Santa Fe, NM
WDNB Monticello, NY
WPIG Olean, NY
WCJW Warsaw, NY
KITX Hugo, OK
KPNC Ponca City, OK
KWEY Weatherford, OK
KWOX Woodward, OK

KRKT Albany, OR
KRWQ Medford, OR
WNWN Battle Creek, MI
WVNW Lewistown, PA
WCFT Selinsgrove, PA
WVPO Stroudsburg, 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 +/-
16	3	1	Don't Mind If I Do / Riley Green feat. Ella Langley / Nashville Harbor Records	2129/62	1	11
29	4	2	Favorite Country Song / HARDY / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	2072/68	0	0
33	6	3	3,2,1 / Tucker Wetmore / UMG Nashville/Back Blocks Music	1909/56	4	65
23	5	4	Somewhere Over Laredo / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow Records	1889/54	2	40
21	1	5	Good Times & Tan Lines / Zach Top / Leo33	1864/59	-18	-405
59	8	6	Heavens To Betsy / Jackson Dean / Big Machine	1820/53	2	30
31	7	7	House Again / Hudson Westbrook / River House Artists	1799/57	-1	-24
25	9	8	Stay Country or Die Tryin' / Blake Shelton / Wheelhouse Records	1770/62	1	12
15	10	9	6 Months Later / Megan Moroney / Columbia Nashville/Columbia Records	1693/56	1	17
40	11	10	Darlin' / Chase Matthew / Warner Music Nashville	1614/45	0	-4
30	12	11	What He'll Never Have / Dylan Scott / Curb	1599/65	4	56
16	13	12	A Song To Sing / Miranda Lambert & Chris Stapleton / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	1540/68	0	-1
7	16	13	How Far Does Goodbye Go / Jason Aldean / BBR Music Group	1532/61	9	128
38	14	14	It Won't Be Long / George Birge / RECORDS Nashville	1516/53	5	66
49	15	15	Time's Ticking / Justin Moore / Valory	1450/59	1	20
41	18	16	Cowgirl / Parmalee / Stoney Creek Records	1411/46	8	100
55	17	17	What Kinda Man / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	1402/42	5	71
8	20	18	Ain't A Bad Life / Thomas Rhett feat. Jordan Davis / The Valory Music Co.	1314/61	15	169
30	19	19	This Side Of The Dirt / Boomtown Saints / 8 Track Entertainment	1279/51	1	11
27	21	20	The Fall / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville	1117/51	6	67
30	22	21	Til The Last One Dies / Chris Young / Black River Entertainment	1046/52	2	25
18	23	22	Weak / Preston Cooper / The Valory Music Co.	1012/57	4	43
39	24	23	I Dare You / Rascal Flatts feat. Jonas Brothers / Big Machine Records	962/37	2	21
35	28	24	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes) / Max McNown / Fugitive Recordings	876/47	10	83
15	25	25	Fireworks / Kelsey Hart / Curb Records	864/47	2	13
16	31	26	The Others / Cody Jinks / Late August Records	855/47	13	96
17	27	27	Freedom / Harper Grace & Kelsey Hart / Curb Records	843/44	6	46
12	26	28	All My Exes / Lauren Alaina feat. Chase Matthew / Big Loud Records	826/47	0	4
17	30	29	Turn the Night On / Chris Kizzia / CAL Records	816/37	6	44
26	29	30	Baggage / Kelsea Ballerini / Black River Entertainment	807/45	4	34
3	39	31	20 Cigarettes / Morgan Wallen / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	745/43	46	235
33	34	32	Golden Child / Meghan Patrick / Riser House	722/37	8	56
25	32	33	Hide and Go Cheat / Eric Lee Beddingfield / Marshals Of The Revolution	715/36	1	10
31	33	34	Paper Umbrellas / Tim McGraw feat. Parker McCollum / Big Machine Records	702/41	2	13
26	36	35	Me & A Beer / Chris Janson / Harpeth 60 Records	631/36	-1	-5
18	38	36	Ends of the Earth / Ty Myers / RECORDS Nashville	622/38	15	80
18	37	37	Wrong Hearts / LOCASH / Galaxy Label Group	563/33	0	-1
5	41	38	the hell you are / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud Records	539/38	7	34
30	40	39	I Wish You Would / Mackenzie Carpenter feat. Midland / The Valory Music Co.	493/26	-3	-14



Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
13	42	40	Making Good Time / Old Dominion / Three Up Three Down, LLC/Columbia Nashville	459/30	-5	-24
15	43	41	When She Kissed Me / Casey Donahew / Almost Country Records	455/28	0	2
27	45	42	Underneath That Old Cowboy Hat / Herrick / CDX Records	446/21	7	31
22	44	43	Easy To Love / Dustin Lynch / Broken Bow Records	431/25	1	3
18	51	44	Slow Go The Days / Tim & The Glory Boys / Sony Music Canada	413/21	18	63
17	48	45	Red / Jet Jurgensmeyer / Simba Entertainment	411/28	2	10
7	46	46	Want You Back / Brantley Gilbert / The Valory Music Co.	405/30	-1	-3
3	49	47	Chevy Silverado / Bailey Zimmerman / Atlantic Records/Warner Music Nashville	404/30	7	26
12	50	48	Hard Fought Hallelujah / Brandon Lake feat. Jelly Roll / Lyric Ridge Records/Essential Records	368/20	4	14
27	57	49	I Ain't Coming Back / Morgan Wallen feat. Post Malone / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	360/16	25	71
6	54	50	Hate How You Look / Josh Ross / Core Entertainment/Mercury Nashville	351/27	16	48
3	60	51	Pontiac (So Tell Me Momma) / Aaron Watson / Aduh Records	333/28	21	57
8	53	52	Blue Jean Crazy / Laura Bryna / LTD Entertainment	320/18	4	11
9	52	53	Wish You Wouldn't Go / Ken Domash / Thunder Mountain Records	318/24	2	5
2	75	54	Turn This Truck Around / Jordan Davis / MCA Nashville	317/25	54	111
11	55	55	Said No Redneck Ever / Aaron Goodvin / New Motor Records/Warner Music Canada	315/25	4	13
6	56	56	Three Sheets to the Wind / Kelly & Sarah / Kelly Sarah Music	312/23	8	22
12	59	57	Don't Let The Gray Hair Fool Ya / Due West / Unwound Records	288/19	0	1
14	58	58	You've Seen Heaven / Karly C / Quirky Cowgirl Records	286/22	-1	-3
24	35	59	The Dirt / Jenna Paulette / Leo33	274/15	-58	-378
4	63	60	Dancing With A Cowboy / Tyler Kinch / Gravel Road Music Group	271/19	8	19
4	68	61	Turquoise & Silver / Billie Jo Jones / Get Joe Records	264/24	13	31
1	81	62	Amen / Shaboozey & Jelly Roll / American Dogwood/EMPIRE	261/18	43	79
12	62	63	I Don't Know How To Say Goodbye / Dwight Yoakam feat. Post Malone / Via Records	260/18	-1	-3
6	61	64	Never Call Again / Gavin AdCock / Thrivin Here Records LLC/Warner Music Nashville	260/21	-5	-14
12	65	65	Single Of The Year / Maddye Trew / TLG/Virgin/Trew Blue Music	254/21	2	4
11	64	66	She Gone / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records	252/15	0	0
11	67	67	Long Live Country / Shane Profitt / Triple Tigers	241/18	1	2
7	66	68	Hell That I Call Home / Porter Martin / Lovable Music	241/19	-1	-3
3	73	69	Perfume On My Jersey / Caleb Lathrop / CAL Production	238/19	11	23
5	71	70	Pretty Much / MaRynn Taylor / Black River Entertainment	230/17	2	4
9	69	71	Drink With You / Brett Young / Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment	230/17	0	0
9	70	72	Wish You Well / Vincent Mason / MCA Nashville/Music Soup/Interscope Records	229/15	1	2
4	74	73	Cowboy Pillows / Lexie Stevenson / Lexquisite Music	219/15	3	6
5	72	74	Coulda Been Love / Braden Hull / Melody Place	216/17	0	0
2	77	75	Kid Myself / John Morgan / Broken Bow Records	207/13	4	7
7	76	76	Leaving Louisiana in the Broad Daylight / Flat River Band feat. The Oak Ridge Boys / Flat River Band/Early Bird Records	203/15	0	-1
5	78	77	If You Call Me Again / Tanner Usrey / Atlantic Records	199/18	2	3
3	79	78	Wildfire featuring Cody Johnson / Michael Martin Murphey / Wildfire Productions	196/15	2	3
2	80	79	Same Moon / Mitchell Tenpenny / Riser House Entertainment/Columbia Nashville	187/12	-1	-2
1	84	80	Midnight Blue / Omer Netzer / White Knuckle Productions	177/9	20	29

No. 1 Song
 Greatest Spin Increase
 Highest Debut

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NMPA Honors Songwriters At Annual Gold & Platinum Nashville Gala



David Israelite; Photo: Nathan Morgan

"Sweet Dreams" and "Damn Near Normal" by Koe Wetzel, "High Road" by Koe Wetzel and Jessie Murph, and "Heartbroken" by Diplo featuring Jessie Murph and Polo G.

"I am beyond grateful to get to learn from so many of the greats of my time and call so many of them friends now. Thank you all of Nashville for taking me in with open arms. I cannot express how thankful I am," said Allen.

Later, **Ashley Gorley** was named Top Male Songwriter for the third year in a row. **David Israelite**, President of the NMPA, presented the award, saying, "In sports, [this is] what we call a hat trick. He is the Michael Jordan, the Patrick Mahomes, and the Shohei Ohtani of songwriting. This is all-time greatness."

Gorley humbly accepted, thanking God, NMPA, Taperoom, Sony, and ASCAP. "I was reminded tonight of how great country music is and challenged by how high the bar is. I do not take this award lightly. Thank you all very much."

In addition to the awards, the night featured several performances by artists including **Maddie & Tae**, **Brothers Osborne**, and **Ernest**, who honored **Dean Dillon** following his acceptance of the Platinum Anthem Award for the 17x Platinum hit "Tennessee Whiskey." **MR**

The National Music Publishers Association (NMPA) held its annual Gold & Platinum Gala last Thursday night (Oct. 23) at the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville. This year's gala brought together hundreds of songwriters, artists, managers, and publishers to honor the people behind the hits.

The evening recognized over 150 songwriters whose tracks reached certified Gold, Platinum, and multi-Platinum status from July 2024 to June 2025. During the event, songwriters were called to the stage to accept their plaques as the speakers played their tunes and friends cheered and celebrated each other's milestones.

Notably, **Amy Allen** was named Top Female Songwriter with five Platinum and Gold certifications in country music over the past year. Those certifications include



Amy Allen & Ashley Gorley. Photo: Nathan Morgan

Carrie Underwood Becomes Highest RIAA Certified Female Country Artist



Pictured (L-R): Robert Femia (COO & EVP Business & Legal Affairs, MCA), Jackie Jones (SVP Artist & Industry Relations, RIAA), Carrie Underwood, Mike Harris (President & CEO, MCA) Katie McCartney (EVP / General Manager, MCA) and Stephanie Wright (EVP / Head of A&R, MCA)

Carrie Underwood has been named the highest RIAA certified female country artist of all time. She has sold 95 million units (22.5 million albums and 72.5 million singles) in the US alone across solo titles and collaborations.

“Accomplishments like this are more than I would have ever dared to dream of when I was starting out,” says Underwood. “I owe everything to the fans, who have literally voted for me from the beginning of my career and have showed up and given me so much love for over 20 years. I feel truly blessed.”

The MCA team presented Underwood with a plaque following her performance at the Grand Ole Opry last week to celebrate the accomplishment. Her highest RIAA certifications include her 9x Platinum debut album *Some Hearts*, singles “Before He Cheats” (11x Platinum), “Blown Away” (5x Platinum), “Cowboy Casanova” (4x Platinum), “All-American Girl” (3x Platinum), “Church Bells” (3x Platinum) and platinum and multi-platinum collaborations, including her most recent, “I’m Gonna Love You” with Cody Johnson (Platinum). **MR**

Live Nation Reveals New 4,400-Capacity Music Venue In Nashville

Live Nation has announced that they are opening a new music venue in Nashville called The Truth. The 4,400 capacity indoor music venue is set to open fall 2026 in the Wedgewood Houston neighborhood.

Designed by Blueprint Studio, Live Nation’s in-house design and development group, The Truth will feature a flexible floor plan with three levels of fans close to the stage, accommodating both standing-room and fully seated shows. The venue seeks to reflect Nashville’s creative DNA, from the inclusion of Harlan’s, a whiskey bar honoring the legendary songwriter, to the Vinyl Room, an exclusive two-story listening lounge celebrating the neighborhood’s deep vinyl roots.



The Truth rendering

As part of its launch, Live Nation is investing in Nashville’s creative community through multi-year commitments to the Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) and the W.O. Smith Music School.

The Truth is projected every year to generate \$74 million in economic impact, support 430 jobs, and contribute \$6 million in state and local tax revenue. **MR**

By Design Partners With BMG



Pictured (L-R, back row): By Design's Jeremy Holley, BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville's Peter Strickland and By Design's Josh Bailey. (L-R, front row): By Design's Josh Thompson, By Design's Rod Riley, BMG's Jon Loba and BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville's JoJamie Hahr. Photo: William King

By Design, the company recently launched by **Josh Bailey, Jeremy Holley, Rod Riley** and **Josh Thompson**, has partnered with BMG. The partnership will include worldwide distribution, label services, joint label signings and a co-investment strategy across catalog acquisitions via Archetype Music.

"Faith-driven music has long been of particular interest to many members of the BMG team," shares **Jon Loba**, President of Frontline Recordings, BMG Americas. "Even though we have not specifically engaged in that line of business, there has always been the desire and intention to do so. The opportunity to partner with By Design offered the perfect, complimentary alliance with exceptional, proven industry executives, who have the same heart and artist-first approach to music as BMG. We are so incredibly excited to join forces with Rod, Jeremy, both Josh's and the entire By Design team, to enter a global genre that is one of the most powerful cultural forces rising today."

"We partnered with BMG to scale purpose-driven music without compromising values," shares By Design Co-Founder Thompson. "Their global reach empowers us to honor each artist's original design – and share it on a global stage."

By Design part of a larger ecosystem that also includes Archetype Music and Blueprint. The label's first signings include Frankie Ballard, Zoe Levert and Alex Jude, with additional artist signings to be announced. **MR**

Dave Barnes Inks With Capitol CMG Publishing



Pictured (L-R): Kent Draughn, Ellie McKay, Emily Belue, Dave Barnes, Katie Barolak, Terry Padilla, Austin Jones, Isabel Newell and David Gutekunst

Singer-songwriter **Dave Barnes** has signed an exclusive publishing deal with Capitol Christian Music Group Publishing.

A Grammy-nominated songwriter, Barnes has notched over 100 cuts over his career. He has penned hits for Florida Georgia Line, Tim McGraw, Reba McEntire, Dan + Shay, Carrie Underwood, NEEDTOBREATHE, Billy Currington and more. Barnes has had two No. 1 hits at country radio with Blake Shelton's "God Gave Me You" and Thomas Rhett and Maren Morris' "Craving You." His other notable cuts include Dan + Shay's "You," Lady A's "Like A Lady," and Bethany Dillon's "All I Need." As an artist, he has collaborated with Lindsey Stirling, Ingrid Michaelson and Ben Rector, among others.

"I am incredibly excited to partner with Dave," says **Katie Barolak**, Capitol CMG Publishing Senior Director of Creative. "I've been a fan of his lyrical and melodic sensibilities for years, and to be able to walk alongside him in this next chapter is a dream come true. He's a musical force to be reckoned with, carries a remarkable work ethic, and is one of the best people in the business. It's an honor to welcome him to the Capitol CMG Publishing family!" **MR**

Peter Daniel Newman Signs With Sony Music Publishing Nashville & Showbiz Ro Music



(L-R, back row): Chelsea Kent (SMP), Cam Caldwell (SMP), Scott Safford (Attorney) and Rusty Gaston (SMP). (L-R, front row): Ronna Reeves (Showbiz Ro), Peter Daniel Newman and Liz Morin (Showbiz Ro).

Juno-nominated songwriter and producer **Peter Daniel Newman** has inked a worldwide publishing deal with Sony Music Publishing Nashville, in partnership with Showbiz Ro Music.

“I am thrilled to be joining the team at Sony Music Publishing and Showbiz Ro Music,” says Newman. “From my very first conversation with **Rusty [Gaston]**, I knew this would be the right fit—his passion for music is both inspiring and contagious. Newfoundland, where I grew up, has a rich history of songwriting and Irish folk music. I am proud that those Newfoundland roots have carried me all the way to Music Row. I am deeply grateful to Rusty, **Liz [Morin]**, and **Ronna [Reeves]** for their support and belief in me, and I look forward to the opportunities ahead.”

Newman works with Canadian and Nashville-based artists, and overseas. In the early 2000s, Newman worked with Clint Black and Blacktop Music Group, launching his career. Also notably, Newman worked on Megan Moroney’s “Georgia Girl” and Parmalee’s “Cowgirl.” He also has cuts with Tyler Booth, Austin and Colin, David Guetta, Todd Tilghman, High Valley, Meghan Patrick, Nathan Carter and Damien McGinty. He has also produced for The Secrets, Jason Greeley and Kellie Loder, among others. **MR**

Matt Geroux Inks With Position Music

Award-winning songwriter and producer Matt Geroux has signed a global publishing deal with Position Music, in joint venture with The Core.

Geroux has cemented himself in Nashville by combining pop and rock influences into modern country music. Geroux also has a knack for creating melodies, alongside his storytelling, recently notching his first No. 1 hit with Josh Ross’ “Single Again.” Across all his cuts, Geroux has garnered 500 million streams.

“I couldn’t be more excited to welcome Matt to the Position crew in Nashville,” says **Chandler Thurston**, Position Music A&R. “The combination of his writing/production, along with his hustle, make him one of the town’s most dynamic writers. Big thanks to the team at The Core for their partnership – we’re excited to continue working alongside them as things build.”

“Position instantly felt like family and now having them join forces with my home team at The Core makes this moment even more meaningful,” shares Geroux. “I’m grateful to have champions that believe in my songs as much as I do and excited for what’s to come.” **MR**



Pictured (L-R): Chandler Thurston (A&R, Position Music), Chief Zaruk (Co-Founder & CEO, The Core), Matt Geroux, Simon Tikhman (Co-Founder & CEO, The Core), and Jamie Sudhalter (Head of A&R, The Core)

Braxton Keith Debuts At Grand Ole Opry



Pictured (L-R): Emily Vincent (Torrez Music Group), Cris Lacy (Warner Music Nashville), Victoria Mason (Warner Music Nashville), David Dorn (Producer), Braxton Keith, Mike Dupree (Warner Music Nashville), Alex Torrez (Torrez Music Group), Stephanie Davenport (Warner Music Nashville) and Patrick Worstell (Warner Music Nashville)

Braxton Keith made his Grand Ole Opry debut earlier this week.

The Warner Music Nashville artist was surprised on-stage during the performance with a plaque to commemorate a career-first Gold certification for his breakout single, “Cozy.” He performed the song before giving fans a glimpse at new music with an unreleased track.

Keith is currently amidst his “This Ain’t My First Tour” through December with upcoming stops in Texas, Kentucky, Oklahoma and more. He released his debut EP, *Blue*, last year and has shared stages with Cody Johnson, Gavin Adcock, and Luke Bryan, among others. **MR**

Preston Cooper Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut



Preston Cooper. Photo: Chris Hollo for Grand Ole Opry

Preston Cooper made his Grand Ole Opry debut on Friday night (Oct. 24).

Cooper was introduced by Opry member **Vince Gill**.

“I got a call from Preston asking me to introduce him for his debut,” Gill reflected from stage. “We’ve written a few songs together, and I’ve cut a few of them that’ll be coming out soon. I think the world of this kid – he’s one of the best singers I’ve heard in a long time.”

He earned a standing ovation for his performance of his current top 30 single “Weak” and tribute to his late publisher, Ben Vaughn, “Headed Home.”

“This doesn’t feel real. It’s definitely emotional,” shared Cooper. “I want to thank the Opry team for having me – it’s the greatest honor to play the Grand Ole Opry. Having my family and friends here means the world to me. I don’t know if anything could ever top this moment.”

Cooper recently released his debut project, *Toledo Talking*, after a year of touring with Riley Green and Kameron Marlowe. **MR**

Dalton Davis Signs With MCA/Republic Records



Pictured (L-R): Damon Moberly (MCA), Stephanie Wright (MCA), Robert Femia (MCA), Katie McCartney (MCA), Joshua Berkman (Republic Records), Mike Harris (MCA), Dalton Davis, Steve Astephen (The Familie), Alexandre Lunt (Type A Management), Nicole Trotta (Type A Management), Royce Risser (The Familie). Photo: Courtesy of MCA

Dalton Davis has inked a record deal with MCA/Republic Records.

A Gastonia, North Carolina native, Davis grew up with rural roots, which have helped formed his sound today. He spent time touring with gospel artists, before he was mentored by hip-hop engineers. Combining all these experiences, Davis' sound blends outlaw edge with soul.

Davis has already built a fan base through the release of "Sit Crooked," "So Far So Good," and "Blue Ridge Sky." He recently dropped his [label debut](#), "Cows In The Front Yard."

"This record deal isn't the finish line — it's the starting gun. Every song I've written up to now and every show I've played was just qualifying for the race, and signing with MCA/Republic means I finally get to run," says Davis. "Signing with MCA/Republic was a big move, but one I couldn't be more grateful to be making. With two legendary labels in my corner and 'Cows In The Front Yard' ready to roll, the cowboy come up starts here." **MR**

Melissa Goldberg Joins Teton Ridge

Industry veteran **Melissa Goldberg** has joined Teton Ridge, the premiere Western sports and entertainment company. As Vice President, Digital + Social Content, she will oversee social strategy and storytelling across the company's lineup of brands, including Cowboy Channel, Cowboy Channel+ and The American Rodeo series.

Goldberg joins Teton Ridge from CMT, where she rose to VP, Digital & Social.

"Western sports are entering a new era of growth, and Teton Ridge is right at the center of it," Goldberg shares. "Having spent years helping shape how country music connects with fans through content and storytelling, I see incredible parallels in the passion, authenticity, and community that define the Western world. Social is where that energy starts, and I'm excited to help expand the reach and impact of Cowboy Channel content across every platform." **MR**



Melissa Goldberg

Randy Rogers & Elic Goicoechea Launch Dreamer Management



Elic Goicoechea and Randy Rogers

Randy Rogers and **Elic Goicoechea** have launched Dreamer Management. The Austin, Texas based company's current roster includes Ashton Naylor, Cameron Allbright, Hank Weaver, Parker Ryan, Slade Coulter and Travis Roberts.

"The launch of Dreamer Management is very exciting, and it increases the possibility for more Texas artists to break on the national scene," shares **Brendon Anthony** of Big Loud Texas. "Randy Rogers has long been a wonderful identifier of Texas talent, and I have every confidence that his partnership with Elic will continue to attract and develop the next generation of great Texas singer-songwriters."

"Randy Rogers has long been a cornerstone of Texas music not just through his own success on stage, but through his dedication to mentoring and uplifting the next generation of artists," **Mitch Ballard**, Executive Director, Creative, BMI Austin. "With the launch of his new artist management company, Dreamer Management, along with industry veteran Elic Goicoechea, Randy continues to invest his deep industry knowledge and experience back into the community, further strengthening the music business infrastructure here in Texas. We couldn't be prouder to have him as part of our BMI family."

Rogers has led the **Randy Rogers Band** in the Texas music scene for over 20 years. The band's latest EP, *The Going.*, is available now.

Goicoechea recently graduated from Texas State University. At his first company, Ascend Music Group, he began managing, booking, and creating visual content for local artists. **MR**

Sacha Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut



Sacha. Photo: Chris Hollo for Grand Ole Opry

Sacha made her Grand Ole Opry debut on Wednesday (Oct. 22).

"I had family coming in tonight, and I didn't know if it was my Opry debut or my wedding..." Sacha said from stage. "If you would have told that 17-year-old girl who found herself without a home that she would be able to have the opportunity of a lifetime, I don't think she would have believed it. It has been a long time coming...I just want to give anybody hope out there who feels like you're going to disqualify yourself from your dreams because of your circumstances, I hope that my story and this song will give you some hope."

Sacha started her set with "Hey Mom I Made It" before bringing out **Restless Road** for her current single, "Shooting Star." She performed as part of the OPRY100 celebrations, sharing the evening's bill with Opry members Dustin Lynch and Rhonda Vincent.

Sacha's debut album, *Woman In The Mirror*, is available now. She recently released a version of Faith Hill's "Where Are You Christmas." She will join Restless Road on tour this November and before joining Old Dominion in the new year for their Canadian run. **MR**

DISClaimer Single Reviews: Jamie O'Neal Is 'Country Music Eloquence'



Jamie O'Neal. Photo: Kala C

It's always nice to catch up with old friends.

Dropping by this edition of DISClaimer are Eric Heatherly, the Kentucky HeadHunters, Andy Griggs and Jamie O'Neal. The last-named was especially welcomed, since she came bearing the gift of the Disc of the Day.

This week's DIScovery Award goes to Emily Scott Robinson from the Oh Boy Records stable of artists.

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[ACM Lifting Lives Unveils 2025-2026 Board Of Directors](#)

[ACM Reveals New Board Of Directors & Officers For 2025-2026](#)

[Alexandra Kay On Growth, Grit & Finding Her 'Second Wind' \[Interview\]](#)

[ASCAP, BMI, SOCAN Announce AI Registration Policies](#)

[Cam Brings Vulnerability & Power To The Ryman Auditorium](#)

[Cam Finds Artistic Freedom In New Era \[Interview\]](#)

[Carrie Cunningham Named Owner & President Of Global Songwriters Connection](#)

[Clay Walker's Band Against MS Gala Set For Nov. 22](#)

[Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum To Offer Free Admission To Vets & Their Families On Veterans Day](#)

[Dan Rogers Receives Susan G. Komen Promise Award At 17th Annual Opry Goes Pink](#)

[Dolly Parton's SongTeller Hotel Accepting Reservations Ahead Of June 2026 Opening](#)

[Fourth Annual 'Coulda, Shoulda, Woulda' Event Raises \\$130,000 For Music Health Alliance](#)

[Jacquie Roar Inks With Kinkead Entertainment](#)

[Kashus Culpepper Sets 'Act 1' For Debut Album](#)

[Morgan Wallen Slates 'Still The Problem Tour'](#)

[On The Row: Ashland Craft Brings Songs & Stories To MusicRow](#)

[Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame & Save The Music Launch National Music Education Initiative](#)

[Weekly Register: Ella Langley Enters Top 5](#)

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	1	Riley Green	Don't Mind If I Do	Riley Green (feat. Ella Langley)
2	2	Blake Pendergrass	Wish You Well Ain't A Bad Life I Got Better Just In Case Heart Of Stone 20 Cigarettes Miami	Vincent Mason Thomas Rhett & Jordan Davis Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Jelly Roll Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
3	3	Chase McGill	Straight Line I Got Better Happen To Me 20 Cigarettes Miami It Won't Be Long	Keith Urban Morgan Wallen Russell Dickerson Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen George Birge
4	4	Ryan Vojtesak	I Got Better What I Want I'm The Problem Just In Case Hell At Night Holy Water I Ain't Comin' Back Miami	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae) Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen BigXthaPlug (feat. Ella Langley) Marshmello & Jelly Roll Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Morgan Wallen
5	5	Morgan Wallen	I Got Better What I Want I'm The Problem Just In Case I Ain't Comin' Back Miami	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae) Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Morgan Wallen
6	6	Luke Combs	Back In The Saddle Days Like These	Luke Combs Luke Combs
7	9	Jason DeFord	Heart Of Stone Hard Fought Hallelujah Holy Water Amen	Jelly Roll Brandon Lake & Jelly Roll Marshmello & Jelly Roll Shaboozey & Jelly Roll
8	10	Michael Hardy	I Got Better I Ain't Comin' Back Favorite Country Song Miami Bottomland Never Met Anyone Like You	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Hardy Morgan Wallen HARDY Ella Langley (feat. Hardy)
9	8	Ernest Keith Smith	I Got Better I'm The Problem Just In Case I Ain't Comin' Back Miami	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Morgan Wallen
10	7	Ben Johnson	Bar None All The Way	Jordan Davis BigXthaPlug (feat. Bailey Zimmerman)
11	13	Ty Myers	Ends Of The Earth	Ty Myers
12	11	Hunter Phelps	Bar None Bottomland	Jordan Davis HARDY
13	18	Hudson Westbrook	House Again Sober Painted You Pretty	Hudson Westbrook Hudson Westbrook Hudson Westbrook
14	16	Dan Isbell	Back In The Saddle	Luke Combs
15	17	Jonathan Singleton	Back In The Saddle	Luke Combs
16	15	Lydia Vaughan	Bar None	Jordan Davis

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
17	19	Neil Medley	House Again Sober	Hudson Westbrook Hudson Westbrook
18	12	Chris LaCorte	Wish You Well Happen To Me 20 Cigarettes	Vincent Mason Russell Dickerson Morgan Wallen
19	14	Josh Miller	20 Cigarettes 3,2,1	Morgan Wallen Tucker Wetmore
20	25	Beau Bailey	Stay Country Or Die Tryin' Favorite Country Song Sober Painted You Pretty	Blake Shelton Hardy Hudson Westbrook Hudson Westbrook
21	23	Dan Alley	House Again	Hudson Westbrook
22	24	Jessie Jo Dillon	Wish You Well Happen To Me Bottomland Baggage	Vincent Mason Russell Dickerson HARDY Kelsea Ballerini
23	32	Carson Chamberlain	Good Times & Tan Lines South Of Sanity	Zach Top Zach Top
24	33	Zach Top	Good Times & Tan Lines South Of Sanity	Zach Top Zach Top
25	31	Jeremy Stover	Time's Ticking The Fall	Justin Moore & Dierks Bentley Cody Johnson
26	28	Jeremy Spillman	What Kinda Man	Parker McCollum
27	29	Parker McCollum	What Kinda Man	Parker McCollum
28	30	Natalie Hemby	What Kinda Man	Parker McCollum
29	27	Joe Reeves	I Got Better What I Want	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae)
30	36	Trannie Anderson	Somewhere Over Laredo It Won't Be Long	Lainey Wilson George Birge
31	46	Ashley Gorley	Me & A Beer Ain't A Bad Life Favorite Country Song	Chris Janson Thomas Rhett & Jordan Davis Hardy
32	41	Jackson Dean	Heavens To Betsy	Jackson Dean
33	42	Driver Williams	Heavens To Betsy	Jackson Dean
34	43	Benjy Davis	Heavens To Betsy	Jackson Dean
35	34	Zach Crowell	Heart Of Stone	Jelly Roll
36	35	Shy Carter	Heart Of Stone	Jelly Roll
37	37	Hunter Huff	Darlin'	Chase Matthew
38	38	Ciaran Wilkie	Darlin'	Chase Matthew
39	39	Alex Maxwell	Darlin'	Chase Matthew
40	40	Chase Matthew	Darlin'	Chase Matthew
41	44	Summer Overstreet	3,2,1	Tucker Wetmore
42	45	Jordan Reynolds	3,2,1	Tucker Wetmore
43	47	Collins Obinna Chibueze	Good News Amen	Shaboozey Shaboozey & Jelly Roll
44	48	Sean Cook	Good News Amen	Shaboozey Shaboozey & Jelly Roll
45	49	Nevin Sastry	Good News Amen	Shaboozey Shaboozey & Jelly Roll
46	51	Megan Moroney	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney
47	52	Ben Williams	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney
48	53	David Mescon	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney
49	54	Rob Hatch	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney
50	20	John Byron	Ain't A Bad Life What I Want Just In Case	Thomas Rhett & Jordan Davis Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae) Morgan Wallen
51	50	Wyatt McCubbin	Good Times & Tan Lines	Zach Top

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
52	55	Russell Dickerson	Happen To Me	Russell Dickerson
53	56	Robert Hazard	Happen To Me	Russell Dickerson
54	57	Dallas Wilson	Same Moon Somewhere Over Laredo	Mitchell Tenpenny Lainey Wilson
55	61	Ray Fulcher	The Fall	Cody Johnson
56	62	Bobby Pinson	The Fall	Cody Johnson
57	58	Michael Pollack	Good News	Shaboozey
58	59	Jake Torrey	Good News	Shaboozey
59	60	Sam Romans	Good News	Shaboozey
60	68	John Morgan	Kid Myself How Far Does A Goodbye Go	John Morgan Jason Aldean

Newly Added Job Listings

ASCAP: Senior Licensing Manager

A Senior Licensing Manager is a sales professional who will generate new business by acting as a liaison between music users and copyright owners to communicate the need for and benefits of the ASCAP license, which allows music users to perform music legally under the requirements of US Copyright Law. The Senior Licensing Manager will identify, engage and educate prospective customers, utilize the CRM to thoroughly and promptly document activity and follow the sales cycle. The Senior Licensing Manager will proactively call on restaurants, bars, hotels, and other businesses that play music to educate and sell performing rights licenses according to a prescribed workflow. The Senior Licensing Manager ensures successful customer onboarding and retention through consistent alignment with ASCAP's values and ethics.

Contact: [Apply here](#)

ASCAP: Licensing Manager

A Licensing Manager is a sales professional who will generate new business by acting as a liaison between music users and copyright owners to communicate the need for and benefits of the ASCAP license, which allows music users to perform music legally under the requirements of US Copyright Law. The Licensing Manager will identify, engage and educate prospective customers, utilize the CRM to thoroughly and promptly document activity and follow the sales cycle. The Licensing Manager will proactively call on restaurants, bars, hotels, and other businesses that play music to educate and sell performing rights licenses according to a prescribed workflow. The Licensing Manager ensures successful customer onboarding and retention through consistent alignment with ASCAP's values and ethics.

Contact: [Apply here](#)

WME: Client Strategy Coordinator, Country Music

The Client Strategy Coordinator identifies, develops, and secures non-touring opportunities for the Nashville roster. This role combines strategic insight, creative execution, and operational excellence to drive client growth across music, media, and partnerships. Serving as a key liaison, the Coordinator tracks and advances opportunities while ensuring all materials reflect WME's brand and strategic vision. We are looking for someone with strong organizational, project management, communication, and multitasking skills, who is a proven problem-solver with excellent attention to detail and follow-through. Proficiency in Airtable, Canva, Microsoft Office, and Google Suite required. 3+ years of industry experience preferred.

Contact: [Apply here](#)

All job listings are free-to-list and will be posted for 60 days. Listings are accepted and published at the discretion of MusicRow. To submit a listing, use the [MusicRow Listings Submission Form](#).

CALENDAR

Single/Track Releases And Radio Add Dates

October 31

Lee Brice/Killed The Man/Curb Records
ERNEST/Blessed/Big Loud Records
Drew Baldridge/Rebel/Lyric Ridge Records/Stoney Creek Records
Greylan James/Give Me A Second (the before)/Nashville Records Harbor & Entertainment
Matthew Goodnough/Whorror Stories/Santa Anna Nashville
Christian Hayes/65 on the Interstate/Capitol Records
Dylan Ault/Fire In Carolina/Santa Anna Nashville
Carl & Wes/Echoes Of Your Laugh/Santa Anna Nashville
Aubrie Sellers/Villain of the Week/Casual Records/Carnival Records
Julia Minichiello/Clockwork/River House Artists
Adam Warner/Back Row Church Pews

November 3

Drew Baldridge/Rebel/Stoney Creek Records
Spencer Hatcher/When She Calls Me Cowboy/QHMG/Stone Country Records
The Ashley Sisters/Heartless/Spellcast Records
Grayson Goodrich/Dixie Heal The Blues

November 7

Abbie Callahan/Simon Says
Kat Velasco/Show Pony
Danny Kensy/One More Memory/Yep Records
Bucky Heard/Ride the Lightning
Elle Townley/Perfect Christmas/Gilligan Music Group/CD Tex

November 10

Alexandra Kay/Straight For The Heart/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville
Greylan James/Water At A Wedding/Big Machine
Jason Charles Miller/Run for the Hills/ONE OPPORTUNITY RECORDS
Jessie G/Smells Like Whiskey/Jessie G Music

Album/EP Releases

October 31

Greensky Bluegrass/XXV/Big Blue Zoo Records/Thirty Tigers
The Kentucky Headhunters/Big Boss Man/Practice House Records
Sammy Arriaga/Heart in Texas/Dead Rose Records/Walk Off Entertainment
John Kailian/Searching/Santa Anna Nashville
Caden Cookus/Better Man/Santa Anna Nashville
Sixteen Bones/Signs, Symptoms & Other Ill Conditions
The Spikes/First Light

CALENDAR

Upcoming Nashville Concerts

October 31

Steve Hackett/Genesis Greats, Lamb Highlights & Solo/Ryman Auditorium

Loathe/Cannery Hall (Main Stage)

Harvey Street/Cannery Hall (Row One)

November 1

The Revivalists/All In The Family! 10 Years of Men Amongst Mountains/The Pinnacle

The SteelDrivers/20th Anniversary Tour/Ryman Auditorium

The Beths/Brooklyn Bowl

Them Dirty Roses/The Basement East

artifakts/Cannery Hall (The Mil)

Dead End Sunday/EXIT/IN

Henrik/The North Main Tour/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)

November 2

Maroon 5/Love Is Like Tour/Bridgestone Arena

CAIN/Live & In Color Tour/Ryman Auditorium

The Disco Biscuits/Brooklyn Bowl

Thomas Day/NASHVILLE got a thing about her/The Basement East

Josh Garrels/Cannery Hall (The Mil)

Lachy Doley/City Winery

November 3

John Fogerty/The Legacy Tour/Ryman Auditorium

Noah Floersch/Somethin' Bout a Tour/The Basement East

November 4

Sabrina Carpenter/Short n' Sweet Tour/Bridgestone Arena

ERNEST/Ryman Auditorium

The Happy Fits/Lovesick Tour/Brooklyn Bowl

Maggie Antone/The Basement East

Franni Cash/Riverside Revival

November 5

Sabrina Carpenter/Short n' Sweet Tour/Bridgestone Arena

ERNEST/Ryman Auditorium

Purity Ring/Place Of My Own Tour/Brooklyn Bowl

Mountain Grass Unit/The Basement East

Hobo Johnson & The Lovemakers/EXIT/IN

Briston Maroney/Paradise/The Blue Room

November 6

Paul McCartney/Got Back/The Pinnacle

Ella Langley/Still Hungover Tour/Ryman Auditorium

Mo Lowda & The Humble/Tailing the Ghost Tour/The Basement East

Briston Maroney/Paradise/The Blue Room

Jenna Davis/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)