

Todd Horvath Named BMI President & COO



Todd Horvath

BMI has named **Todd Horvath** as President and Chief Operating Officer, effective January 26.

In this new role, Horvath will report to BMI CEO **Mike O'Neill** and oversee the company's ongoing efforts to modernize its platforms, identify new sources of revenue and improve the affiliate experience at BMI. He will divide his time between BMI's Nashville and New York offices.

Horvath's addition to the BMI leadership team will enable O'Neill, who recently extended his contract through 2029, to continue to focus on the strategic vision of the company.

"I'm excited to welcome Todd to BMI as we build upon the many efforts we've undertaken over the past three years to create long term value for our affiliates," says O'Neill. "Todd's unique skill set is a perfect complement to our team, and I look forward to his contributions as we continue to drive growth and position BMI for the future."

Horvath joins with more than 20 years of experience in the international financial services sector, with a significant focus on integrating transformative technology into organizations. Most recently, he served as Equifax President of U.S. Information Solutions. Prior to that, Horvath was the President of Banking Solutions for Fiserv, where he led multiple billion-dollar divisions and drove a significant technology transformation. He also spent nearly 15 years at ADP, ultimately overseeing all its international business as President of Multinational Clients. **MR**

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Ashley Anne Signs With One Spark Entertainment

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Suzy Bogguss Becomes Newest Opry Member, Reba McEntire Celebrates 40th Opry Anniversary



Suzy Bogguss becomes the newest Opry member. Photo: Danielle Piazza for Grand Ole Opry

Suzy Bogguss officially became a member of the Grand Ole Opry Friday night (Jan. 16) and was inducted into the Opry family by friend and fellow member **Reba McEntire**.

Bogguss kicked off the night performing her signature songs "Someday Soon," "Aces" and "Outbound Plane," the top 10 hits from her 1991 album *Aces*, which earned her the CMA Horizon Award in 1992. Her friend **Trisha Yearwood** then surprised the audience when she walked on stage to congratulate her friend, saying, "I love this woman. It's really an honor to be here on such a special moment. To get to be here on the night you were invited and to be here tonight is just amazing. Suzy Bogguss is one of those artists who doesn't just sing songs, she lives them. Her voice, her heart, her commitment to the music have inspired so many, including me."

Yearwood then introduced their friend McEntire, who was also celebrating her milestone 40th Opry anniversary, to the stage. "This is so special, Suzy," said McEntire. "This family is incredible. They are loving. Everybody in this building. This stage is very important to all of us dating many, many generations back. To be able to give you this trophy is very special to me, to everyone sitting here, and to everybody in this building

watching. Suzy Bogguss's voice is like an angel's voice. When she sings you know it. You know it when you hear it on the radio. I am so proud to give you this trophy that tells you that you are the latest member of the Grand Ole Opry. Congratulations!

"I can't even express it to you. And you know me – I talk a lot and I can't even find words," said Bogguss about the honor. "This place is so special. Honestly, I have always been nervous up here. Tonight, sitting in the circle, I feel so calm. It's like being in the eye of the hurricane or something. I am so proud to be a part of [the Opry]. Thank you for including me in this amazing cast, and the past cast. I feel a lot of pretty special spirits in this room right now. I was lucky enough to get to be here with some of the real greats starting here in 1989 and feeling welcome from the very first time of stepping into the circle."

Bogguss wrapped her induction night by welcoming **Terri Clark**, **Kathy Mattea**, McEntire and Yearwood to join her on a memorable performance of "Hey Cinderella." A Platinum-selling CMA Award winning singer-songwriter, Bogguss has been a frequent favorite at the Grand Ole Opry for over three decades, and first made her Opry debut on May 12, 1989.

In celebration of her 40th Opry anniversary, McEntire closed the show with "I'm A Survivor," "Happy's Place" and "Back To God" before bringing her friends and fellow Opry members Bogguss, Clark, Mattea and Yearwood back out for a fun performance of "Why Haven't I Heard From You" to wrap the special evening. **MR**

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Music Publicist & Non-Profit Leader Cathy Gurley Passes

Veteran Music Row publicist **Cathy Gurley** died suddenly on Tuesday (Jan. 20) at age 76.

During her long tenure as a music industry figure, she worked with such stars as Tanya Tucker, Garth Brooks, Kathy Mattea, Marty Stuart, and Gary Morris. Since 2012, she has been the CEO of You Have the Power. Founded by former Tennessee First Lady Andrea Conte, this organization's mission is to empower victims of violent crimes. Gurley also served on a number of other social-service boards.

Born in Pittsburgh, Gurley attended Wheeling College in West Virginia. She edited the school's newspaper while working on her degree. This led to becoming a reporter at the *Wheeling News-Register*.

In 1974, she became the publicist for WWVA radio and co-founded its Jamboree in the Hills festival. She supervised the design, planning, promotion, publicity, and advertising of this annual event for eight years as it grew into one of the largest country-music festivals in America. In 1976, she received the Robert F. Kennedy Award for Excellence in Journalism in the radio category for "Care and Feeding of America."

The Country Music Association's board of directors met in Wheeling in 1982. Executive Director Jo Walker-Meador was impressed with Gurley and offered her a job.

Gurley came to Nashville in 1982 to become the Director of Public Information for the CMA. She promoted its annual TV awards show, Fan Fair (which became the CMA Music Fest), *Close-Up* magazine and 25th-anniversary gala in Washington, D.C.

Her jobs at the Jamboree and at the CMA put her in touch with virtually every artist, record label, manager, and booking agent in Nashville. In 1985, she launched her own firm, Gurley & Co. In addition to publicity, her company handled marketing, management, or promotion, depending on the artist. Clients eventually included Mattea, Stuart, Tucker, Morris, Connie Smith, Patty Loveless, Lynn Anderson, and Carlene Carter, among others.

When Jimmy Bowen took over Capitol/Liberty Records in 1990-95, he named her the label's Vice President of Creative Services. Then he outsourced all of the company's publicity functions. Gurley & Co. was hired to represent the label's entire roster, including Brooks, Tucker, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Suzy Bogguss, Billy Dean, John Berry, Chris LeDoux, Charlie Daniels, and more than a dozen others.

Gurley became close to her mentor, Frances Preston. Among that executive's chief interests was the cancer research underwritten by the T.J. Martell Foundation. In 1993, Gurley became one of the founding board members of the charity's Nashville branch. She worked in 1994-2008 on its Country In the Rockies annual fund-raising events for the Frances Williams Preston Laboratories at Vanderbilt. After Preston's retirement, Gurley spent many days with the late Country Music Hall of Fame member, helping her to begin a memoir.



Cathy Gurley

[Click here to read Gurley's full obit.](#) **MR**

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Rose Falcon Extends Curb/Word Publishing Partnership



Rose Falcon & Sarah Schumacher

Singer-songwriter **Rose Falcon** has extended her publishing agreement with CurbIWord Music Publishing.

Since first signing with the company in 2020, Falcon has penned songs for artists including Chase Matthew, Redferrin, Wyatt Flores, Rodney Atkins, Tim Dugger, Jake & Shelby, Madison Hughes, Rotundo, Sean Oliu, Trevor Snider, and others. As an artist, she collaborated with Rodney Atkins as the duo Rod + Rose, releasing a self-titled EP and a collection of Christmas songs, including their original “Mary Had a Little Lamb” on Curb Records.

Prior to joining CurbIWord, Falcon earned her first No. 1 with Eric Paslay’s “Friday Night.” She also co-wrote “Give Into Me,” featured in the 2010 film *Country Strong* and recorded by Faith Hill and also by film stars Garrett Hedlund and Leighton Meester, whose rendition was certified Gold in 2014. Early in her career, Falcon signed with Columbia Records, releasing a self-titled debut album that earned placements across film, TV, and major national ad campaigns including Verizon, JCPenney, Build-A-Bear Workshop, and Estée Lauder. She later signed with Show Dog-Universal Music and released two EPs for the label.

“I’m genuinely excited for this next chapter with CurbIWord Music Publishing,” says Falcon. “There’s a rare alignment in this team that feels like purpose more than coincidence, and Sarah Schumacher continues to create rooms with a passion and intuition you simply can’t manufacture. I don’t believe in wasted days, and I’m grateful to be surrounded by people who aim at the same horizon.” **MR**

King Henry Inks Management Deal With The Core Entertainment



Pictured (L-R): Kevin “Chief” Zaruk, King Henry, Simon Tikhman, Jamie Sudhalter

King Henry has inked with The Core Entertainment for management.

The Grammy-nominated songwriter and producer has worked across a wide range of genres with artists including Beyoncé, Diplo, LANY, Maroon 5, Sasha Alex Sloan, The Weeknd and more. He co-wrote and produced Diplo and Morgan Wallen’s “Heartless” collaboration, and produced Nicolle Galyon’s past two albums.

“We’ve long admired Henry’s ability to move seamlessly across genres while staying true to his voice as a writer and producer,” says **Simon Tikhman** and **Chief Zaruk**, Co-Founders and CEOs of The Core Entertainment, in a joint statement. “He’s built an ambitious and creative body of work that speaks for itself. We’re thrilled to welcome him to The Core and help support what’s next.”

“I’m really happy to be joining The Core,” adds **King Henry**. “Chief, Simon, and **Jamie [Sudhalter]** have an energy and approach that feels aligned with where I want to be headed. They’ve built an incredible company and team that I’m excited to be a part of, and I’m looking forward to building something special together.” **MR**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart—Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Make A Liar/Jackson Dean/Big Machine Records - 77
Bar By Now/Stephen Styles/Plow House Records - 79
Travelin' Soldier/Cody Johnson/Cojo Music/Warner Music Nashville - 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Change My Mind/Riley Green/Nashville Harbor Records - 226
Brunette/Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks/EMI Nashville - 207
South Of Sanity/Zach Top/Leo33 - 162
Rocky Mountain Low/Corey Kent feat. Koe Wetzels/RCA Records Nashville - 152
Make A Liar/Jackson Dean/Big Machine Records - 138

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Brunette/Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks/EMI Nashville - 13
Make A Liar/Jackson Dean/Big Machine Records - 10
Change My Mind/Riley Green/Nashville Harbor Records - 7
South Of Sanity/Zach Top/Leo33 - 6
Rocky Mountain Low/Corey Kent feat. Koe Wetzels/RCA Records Nashville - 6
Let Him In Anyway/Blake Shelton/Wheelhouse Records - 6

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

The Next Right Thing/Kristen Kelly - 128
Real Good Day/Kevin Morris/Lotta Bull Records - 125
The Sand/Randy Cobb/South Sixty Five Entertainment Group - 122
This Is Country Music/Jacob Smalley - 114
So Afraid of Losing You Again/Danielia Cotton/CDX Records - 113

NO. 1 SONG



Ella Langley extends her reign at No. 1 on the MusicRow CountryBreakout Radio Chart with “Choosin’ Texas,” now in its fourth consecutive week at the top.

Langley wrote the track with **Luke Dick**, **Miranda Lambert** and **Joybeth Taylor**.

“Choosin’ Texas” currently sits at No. 3 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart and No. 3 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
 WALP 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 +/-
10	1	1	Choosin' Texas / Ella Langley / SAWGOD Records/Columbia	2392/63	3	78
13	2	2	20 Cigarettes / Morgan Wallen / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	2275/65	4	89
18	4	3	Ain't A Bad Life / Thomas Rhett feat. Jordan Davis / The Valory Music Co.	2228/66	6	134
17	3	4	How Far Does A Goodbye Go / Jason Aldean / BBR Music Group	2099/57	-1	-28
40	5	5	What He'll Never Have / Dylan Scott / Curb	2025/66	2	34
26	8	6	A Song To Sing / Miranda Lambert & Chris Stapleton / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	1962/68	1	14
9	11	7	Days Like These / Luke Combs / Columbia Nashville	1856/65	6	102
41	6	8	House Again / Hudson Westbrook / River House Artists	1813/54	-9	-170
59	10	9	Time's Ticking / Justin Moore / Valory	1790/56	0	-1
37	12	10	The Fall / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville	1783/56	4	62
25	7	11	6 Months Later / Megan Moroney / Columbia Nashville/Columbia Records	1770/46	-10	-187
48	13	12	It Won't Be Long / George Birge / RECORDS Nashville	1769/51	3	54
11	14	13	Amen / Shaboozey & Jelly Roll / American Dogwood/EMPIRE	1768/55	6	107
45	15	14	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes) / Max McNown / Fugitive Recordings	1452/52	-1	-15
28	16	15	Ends of the Earth / Ty Myers / RECORDS Nashville	1426/56	6	82
12	18	16	Turn This Truck Around / Jordan Davis / MCA Nashville	1272/59	5	66
28	19	17	Weak / Preston Cooper / The Valory Music Co.	1239/58	4	51
49	20	18	I Dare You / Rascal Flatts feat. Jonas Brothers / Big Machine Records	1236/43	5	63
25	17	19	Fireworks / Kelsey Hart / Curb Records	1199/55	-1	-16
36	21	20	Me & A Beer / Chris Janson / Harpeth 60 Records	1129/51	7	77
23	25	21	Making Good Time / Old Dominion / Three Up Three Down, LLC/Columbia Nashville	1064/51	13	123
22	22	22	All My Exes / Lauren Alaina feat. Chase Matthew / Big Loud Records	1023/53	0	-2
40	23	23	Til The Last One Dies / Chris Young / Black River Entertainment	1022/47	2	17
10	28	24	Killed The Man / Lee Brice / Curb Records	983/54	8	69
43	26	25	Golden Child / Meghan Patrick / Riser House	967/42	4	40
36	27	26	Baggage / Kelsea Ballerini / Black River Entertainment	941/48	3	25
13	24	27	Chevy Silverado / Bailey Zimmerman / Atlantic Records/Warner Music Nashville	904/48	-5	-50
5	33	28	South Of Sanity / Zach Top / Leo33	839/45	24	162
15	29	29	the hell you are / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud Records	831/47	-1	-8
19	31	30	Wish You Well / Vincent Mason / MCA Nashville/Music Soup/Interscope Records	797/42	16	110
10	30	31	Beautiful Things / Megan Moroney / Columbia Nashville/Columbia Records	778/44	2	14
7	34	32	After Midnight / Nate Smith feat. Tyler Hubbard / Sony Music Nashville	763/43	13	89
28	32	33	Wrong Hearts / LOCASH / Galaxy Label Group	697/38	3	17
3	45	34	Change My Mind / Riley Green / Nashville Harbor Records	695/41	48	226
37	35	35	I Ain't Coming Back / Morgan Wallen feat. Post Malone / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	655/28	6	39
4	40	36	Rocky Mountain Low / Corey Kent feat. Koe Wetzel / RCA Records Nashville	644/43	31	152
13	38	37	Pontiac (So Tell Me Momma) / Aaron Watson / Aduh Records	581/37	5	28
16	39	38	Three Sheets to the Wind / Kelly & Sarah / Kelly Sarah Music	555/30	3	15
8	37	39	Dream Come True / Carly Pearce / Big Machine Records	554/39	-3	-20



2026 **MUSICROW**
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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
2	58	40	Brunette / Tucker Wetmore / Back Blocks/EMI Nashville	527/37	65	207
16	44	41	Hate How You Look / Josh Ross / Core Entertainment/Mercury Nashville	513/34	8	37
16	42	42	Never Call Again / Gavin AdCock / Thrivin Here Records LLC/Warner Music Nashville	509/32	5	24
17	41	43	Hell That I Call Home / Porter Martin / Lovable Music	507/29	3	15
40	43	44	I Wish You Would / Mackenzie Carpenter feat. Midland / The Valory Music Co.	484/21	1	6
10	46	45	Kick Rocks Cowboy / Ashland Craft / Leo33	483/34	3	14
14	47	46	Cowboy Pillows / Lexie Stevenson / Lexquisite Music	467/25	1	5
7	48	47	The Church On Cumberland Road / Shenandoah & Nickelback / 8-Track Entertainment	460/35	11	46
15	53	48	Pretty Much / MaRynn Taylor / Black River Entertainment	414/25	8	29
3	57	49	Boots Off / Jon Pardi / MCA	412/28	20	70
6	54	50	Gary / Stephen Wilson Jr. / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	403/29	5	21
13	52	51	Perfume On My Jersey / Caleb Lathrop / CAL Production	396/24	3	10
12	49	52	Kid Myself / John Morgan / Broken Bow Records	380/25	-4	-16
14	36	53	Turquoise & Silver / Billie Jo Jones / Get Joe Records	367/23	-38	-227
10	56	54	Playing with Fire / Mika Lynch / Gravel Road Music Group	350/20	2	7
32	55	55	Easy To Love / Dustin Lynch / Broken Bow Records	316/20	-15	-54
21	61	56	Long Live Country / Shane Profitt / Triple Tigers	309/18	7	21
9	60	57	Smells Like Whiskey / Jessie G / Jessie G Music	309/27	4	12
5	62	58	Rise / Laura Bryna & Common Tribe / LTD Entertainment	302/21	7	19
6	65	59	Steady / Jenna Paulette / Leo33	301/25	11	30
8	66	60	Life's Highway / Soul Circus Cowboys with Andy Griggs / Kismet Nashville	282/24	10	26
19	59	61	Drink With You / Brett Young / Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment	281/20	-10	-31
10	63	62	Scars / Scotty Hasting / Black River Entertainment	277/21	0	0
3	68	63	Too Much Lonesome / Eric Lee Beddingfield / Marshals Of The Revolution	263/20	11	25
9	67	64	Less Than A Lady / Glen Shelton / Jordash Records	254/18	5	11
4	74	65	Tijuana Tonya / Roland Whitt / Get Joe Records	239/16	16	33
22	64	66	Single Of The Year / Maddye Trew / TLG/Virgin/Trew Blue Music	239/20	-14	-38
9	69	67	Secondhand Smoke / Alex Miller / Billy Jam Records	234/20	-2	-4
8	70	68	White Dress Direction / Adysen Malek / Write On Records	231/18	0	1
6	73	69	Worth Your Wild / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers	226/19	6	12
3	78	70	I Want It All / Skip Ewing / Vere Music	223/18	21	38
4	72	71	Too Good, Too Bad / Jason Scott & The High Heat / Leo33	223/18	1	2
13	71	72	Wildfire featuring Cody Johnson / Michael Martin Murphey / Wildfire Productions	222/17	-1	-2
8	76	73	Rebel / Drew Baldridge / Broken Bow Records	209/12	11	20
12	77	74	Burned Down Heaven / Chase McDaniel / Big Machine Records	191/13	3	6
3	79	75	Waste of Time / Greg Pratt / PGMG Nashville	181/12	2	3
21	50	76	Said No Redneck Ever / Aaron Goodvin / New Motor Records/Warner Music Canada	173/8	-56	-218
1	118	77	Make A Liar / Jackson Dean / Big Machine Records	172/14	127	138
2	80	78	Too Close For Closure / Brett Westgrove / Brett Westgrove Music	167/14	18	25
1	82	79	Bar By Now / Stephen Styles / Plow House Records	135/10	6	8
1	81	80	Travelin' Soldier / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville	129/9	-6	-8

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CMHOFM Names New Troubadour Advisory Council Members & Leadership Team

The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum has named the new members of its Troubadour Advisory Council Members and Leadership Team.

This year's leadership team includes **Zach Farnum**, Chair, **Elizabeth Lombardi**, Vice Chair, **Brenden Oliver**, Vice Chair, and **Max Vanberg**, Vice Chair.

This new team will work with the Troubadour Advisory Council's 2026 members, which includes **Scott Adkins**, **Karli Berman**, **Christopher Beverly**, **Corben Champoux**, **Kasey Cleckler**, **Katie Cline Moore**, **Taylor Edwards McElveen**, **Bryan Freche**, **Brittney Hitch**, **Ashley Kennedy**, **Cody Kirby**, **Chris Martignago**, **Nathan Pyle**, **Molly Shehan**, **Casey Thomas**, and **Josh Tomlinson**.



Alex Lambert Signs With Big Loud Texas

Alex Lambert has signed with Big Loud Texas.

Discovered by Big Loud Texas co-founder **Miranda Lambert**, Alex Lambert grew up outside of Fort Worth, Texas and began playing guitar at age eight. Inspired by the sounds of Amos Lee, Kacey Musgraves and Leon Bridges, his sound combines his classic country, R&B and pop influences.

"It's literally been a perfect fit signing with Big Loud Texas," shares Alex Lambert. "With Miranda Lambert and **Jon Randall** leading the Texas imprint, it makes for a true artist-first team. It's been an absolute dream come true to have my vision as an artist brought to life by this incredible record label and to represent my home state of Texas."

"We are so excited to have Alex Lambert in the Big Loud Texas family," shares Randall, Big Loud Texas co-founder.

"His talent and passion are extraordinary, and we are honored to be a part of his musical journey. We cannot wait for the rest of the world to hear what he's been working on."

In celebration of the signing, Alex Lambert has released his new track "Shoot Me Down." He will join Ty Myers on tour starting the end of the month through May. **MR**



Pictured (L-R): Jon Randall, Miranda Lambert, Alex Lambert, Brendon Anthony (VP, Big Loud Texas). Photo: Brayln Kelly Smith

Madden Metcalf Inks With MCA & Freddy Wexler



Pictured (L-R): Rob Femia (MCA), Freddy Wexler, Madden Metcalf, Mike Harris (MCA), Katie McCartney (MCA). Photo: Chris Hollo

Madden Metcalf has inked with MCA and Grammy-nominated songwriter/producer **Freddy Wexler**.

"Madden has all the things you can't teach—great instincts, authenticity, charisma, star power," shares Wexler. "He's also someone with an infectious sense of gratitude. It makes you want to move a mountain for him. I'm incredibly excited to work with MCA as we help Madden build something real and lasting."

"Madden has a clear voice and uncommon level of conviction for someone so early in his career," says **Mike Harris**, President & CEO of MCA. "His music reflects real life, real place, and real identity — and that's the foundation of what makes an artist stand out. We're proud to be his label home and help amplify what he's building."

First discovered by his manager **Olivia Wexler**, who helped guide his development alongside Wexler Records, he is slated to release an EP later this year.

In celebration of the signing, Metcalf released a new single, "Like My Hometown," inspired by upbringing in Panacea, Florida.

"I still can't believe that a Gulf Coast kid from a small fishing town of about a thousand people gets an opportunity like this," Metcalf adds. "I'm just incredibly thankful to God, to my family, to my team, and to everyone who's been with me from the start." **MR**

Ashley Anne Signs With One Spark Entertainment



Pictured (L-R, top row) Rachel Guttman (Gutt Law, PLLC), Victoria Powell (Gutt Law, PLLC), Trevor Perkins (PERK PR & Creative), Braeden Rountree (WME), Adam Fisher (WME) and Janelle Flint (WME). (L-R, bottom row): Craig Dunn (One Spark Entertainment),

Ashley Anne has signed a management deal with One Spark Entertainment.

The Virginia Beach native has shared stages with Avery Anna, Caylee Hammack, Charles Wesley Godwin, Tigirlily Gold and Josh Turner, among others. She released her debut project *dear dolly* in January 2024, followed by her sophomore project, *call me when you land*, the following November. She was selected for selected for Spotify's Fresh Finds Class of 2024, and made an appearance at Spotify House on the Fresh Finds Stage during CMA Fest. Anne will release her next single, "happy birthday," today (Jan. 23).

"They say the artist needs to be the most passionate team member for it to work, but I'm so confident Craig and Nicole are as on fire about my music as I am. I feel so blessed to hit my pillow knowing they have my best interest as a human and are continuously moving the needle as business partners," shares Anne.

"Ashley is the kind of artist you don't forget once you hear her," says **Craig Dunn**, Founder of One Spark Entertainment. "I've been following her journey for the past few years, and watching her growth as both a songwriter and an artist has been incredibly exciting. She has a rare combination of instinct, voice, and perspective that sets her apart and positions her for real longevity. Artists like Ashley don't come along every day, and we're thrilled to partner with her to build something meaningful and lasting." **MR**

Cody Lohden Signs With The Neal Agency



Pictured (L-R): Simone Chretien (Agent, The Neal Agency), Kiley Donohoe (CEO / Manager, Greenhouse Management), Cody Lohden, Adi Sharma (Co-Head, The Neal Agency) and Ryan Beuschel (GM, The Neal Agency). Photo: Courtesy of The Neal Agency

DeVile Records singer-songwriter **Cody Lohden** has signed with The Neal Agency for booking.

“Cody is an incredibly gifted songwriter and artist with a dedication to his craft that is infectious,” says The Neal Agency agent **Simone Chretien**. “We can’t wait for the world to hear what he’s poured his heart into over the past year. We are excited to partner with him to take his artistry on the road and to connect with country music fans worldwide.”

Lohden is also releasing a new song “Buckle Up” today. Penned with **Rian Ball**, **Matt Mulhare** and **Roger Springer**, “Buckle Up” explores love and spontaneity and follows his previously-released debut single, “Tail Light, Porch Light, Miller Lite.”

“I’m excited to finally get things moving,” shares Lohden. “I’ve been working day and night writing songs and really honing in on my craft and sound. Stoked for the world to hear everything we’ve been cooking up, starting with ‘Buckle Up!’”

Beginning in late February Lohden will support Ernest on his “Live From The South Tour.” **MR**

MUSICROW

2026

RISING

WOMEN

ON THE

ROW



COURTNEY ALLEN



JACKIE AUGUSTUS



SARA KNABE



VICTORIA MASON



SOPHIA SANSONE



ELISA VAZZANA

**PURCHASE
TICKETS HERE**

TUESDAY

MARCH 3, 2026

JW MARRIOTT

8:30 AM

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Megan Moroney Brings Signature 'Wit & Elan'



Megan Moroney. Photo: Amber Asaly

Country music is here to warm your spirits while the weather howls outside.

Blake Shelton, Ashley McBryde, Brothers Osborne and Lukas Nelson set the sonic bar high. Not to worry. Disc of the Day winner Megan Moroney matches their quality with ease.

Latin-country baritone Sunny Saucedá takes home this week's DISCOVERY Award.

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[Aaron Tippin Signs With 8 Track Entertainment, Celebrates Living Legends Of Aviation Induction](#)

[AEG Presents Announces Promotions & Hires In Global Touring Division](#)

[Applications For MusicRow's 2026 InCharge Directory Open Now](#)

[Cassie Wright Appointed Executive Director At IBMA Foundation](#)

[Concord Reveals Investment In Giant Music, Stem To Distribute Giant Music](#)

[CRS & Whitney Allen Launch "Hot Mic" Scholarship For Emerging Female On-Air Talent](#)

[Dolly Parton & Belmont University Launch Five Spring Dolly U Courses](#)

[Grammy Awards Unveils First Round Of Performers](#)

[Jon Langston Slates 'Thing About Me,' Due In February](#)

[Joy Oladokun Signs With Concord Records](#)

[Megan Moroney Notches Third No. 1 Hit](#)

[Nick Steele & Kristen Flowers To Receive Tom Rivers Humanitarian Award During CRS 2026](#)

[Norman's Rare Guitars Acquired By TNAG Global](#)

[Rock Nashville, New State-Of-The-Art Live Production Facility, Officially Opens](#)

[Scarhaven Inks With Riser House Rock](#)

[Songwriters Hall Of Fame Unveils Class of 2026](#)

[Trannie Anderson Releases 'Heart Like A Songwriter'](#)

[Vince Gill To Receive Ken Burns American Heritage Prize](#)

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	1	Riley Green	Change My Mind Don't Mind If I Do	Riley Green Riley Green (feat. Ella Langley)
2	2	Chase McGill	20 Cigarettes Brunette Happen To Me I Got Better It Won't Be Long the hell you are	Morgan Wallen Tucker Wetmore Russell Dickerson Morgan Wallen George Birge Ashley Cooke
3	3	Blake Pendergrass	20 Cigarettes Ain't A Bad Life Brunette I Got Better Just In Case Wish You Well	Morgan Wallen Thomas Rhett & Jordan Davis Tucker Wetmore Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Vincent Mason
4	4	Ty Myers	Ends Of The Earth	Ty Myers
5	5	Ryan Vojtesak	Hell At Night Holy Water I Ain't Comin' Back I Got Better I'm The Problem Just In Case What I Want	BigXthaPlug (feat. Ella Langley) Marshmello & Jelly Roll Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae)
6	7	Chris LaCorte	20 Cigarettes Brunette Happen To Me Wish You Well	Morgan Wallen Tucker Wetmore Russell Dickerson Vincent Mason
7	6	Beau Bailey	Favorite Country Song Painted You Pretty Stay Country Or Die Tryin'	Hardy Hudson Westbrook Blake Shelton
8	9	Bruce Robison	Travelin' Soldier	Cody Johnson
9	10	Morgan Wallen	I Ain't Comin' Back I Got Better I'm The Problem Just In Case What I Want	Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae)
10	8	Michael Hardy	Bottomland Favorite Country Song I Ain't Comin' Back I Got Better	HARDY Hardy Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Morgan Wallen
11	12	Jeremy Stover	The Fall Time's Ticking	Cody Johnson Justin Moore & Dierks Bentley
12	11	Ashley Gorley	Ain't A Bad Life Favorite Country Song Me & A Beer	Thomas Rhett & Jordan Davis Hardy Chris Janson
13	13	Joybeth Taylor	Choosin' Texas girl you're taking home Hell At Night Never Call Again	Ella Langley Ella Langley BigXthaPlug (feat. Ella Langley) Gavin Adcock
14	14	Miranda Lambert	A Song To Sing Choosin' Texas	Miranda Lambert & Chris Stapleton Ella Langley
15	15	Megan Moroney	6 Months Later Beautiful Things	Megan Moroney Megan Moroney
16	16	Jessie Jo Dillon	Baggage Beautiful Things Bottomland Happen To Me Proving Me Right Wish You Well	Kelsea Ballerini Megan Moroney HARDY Russell Dickerson Tucker Wetmore Vincent Mason

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
17	19	Ella Langley	Choosin' Texas girl you're taking home Hell At Night	Ella Langley Ella Langley BigXthaPlug (feat. Ella Langley)
18	17	Ernest Keith Smith	I Ain't Comin' Back I Got Better I'm The Problem Just In Case	Morgan Wallen (feat. Post Malone) Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
19	21	Josh Miller	20 Cigarettes Brunette	Morgan Wallen Tucker Wetmore
20	20	Hudson Westbrook	House Again Painted You Pretty	Hudson Westbrook Hudson Westbrook
21	18	Luke Combs	Back In The Saddle Days Like These Sleepless In A Hotel Room	Luke Combs Luke Combs Luke Combs
22	22	Dan Alley	House Again	Hudson Westbrook
23	23	Neil Medley	House Again	Hudson Westbrook
24	24	John Byron	Ain't A Bad Life Just In Case What I Want	Thomas Rhett & Jordan Davis Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae)
25	50	Randy Montana	Change My Mind Sleepless In A Hotel Room Time's Ticking	Riley Green Luke Combs Justin Moore & Dierks Bentley
26	25	Ray Fulcher	The Fall	Cody Johnson
27	27	Bobby Pinson	The Fall	Cody Johnson
28	26	Luke Dick	Choosin' Texas	Ella Langley
29	28	John Morgan	How Far Does A Goodbye Go Kid Myself	Jason Aldean John Morgan
30	30	Aaron Raitiere	Days Like These	Luke Combs
31	31	Brent Cobb	Days Like These	Luke Combs
32	29	Zach Abend	Bottomland Favorite Country Song	HARDY Hardy
33	32	David Mescon	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney
34	33	Ben Williams	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney
35	34	Rob Hatch	6 Months Later	Megan Moroney
36	35	Jason DeFord	Amen Hard Fought Hallelujah Holy Water	Shaboozey & Jelly Roll Brandon Lake & Jelly Roll Marshmello & Jelly Roll
37	42	Graham Barham	Stay Country Or Die Tryin'	Blake Shelton
38	43	Sam Ellis	Stay Country Or Die Tryin'	Blake Shelton
39	45	Drew Parker	Stay Country Or Die Tryin'	Blake Shelton
40	46	Josh Thompson	Just In Case Turn This Truck Around Wrong Hearts	Morgan Wallen Jordan Davis LOCASH
41	36	John Edwards	How Far Does A Goodbye Go	Jason Aldean
42	37	Kurt Allison	How Far Does A Goodbye Go	Jason Aldean
43	38	Tully Kennedy	How Far Does A Goodbye Go	Jason Aldean
44	39	Ava Suppelsa	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes)	Max McNown
45	40	Jamie Kenney	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes)	Max McNown
46	41	Max McNown	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes)	Max McNown
47	44	Trent Dabbs	Better Me For You (Brown Eyes)	Max McNown
48	47	Joe Fox	It Won't Be Long the hell you are	George Birge Ashley Cooke
49	48	Trannie Anderson	It Won't Be Long	George Birge
50	49	George Birge	It Won't Be Long	George Birge
51	55	Robbie Gatlin	What He'll Never Have	Dylan Scott
52	56	Ricky Rowton	What He'll Never Have	Dylan Scott

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
53	57	Logan Robinson	What He'll Never Have	Dylan Scott
54	58	Dylan Scott	What He'll Never Have	Dylan Scott
55	51	Joe Reeves	I Got Better What I Want	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae)
56	52	Will Bundy	Time's Ticking	Justin Moore & Dierks Bentley
57	53	Justin Moore	Time's Ticking	Justin Moore & Dierks Bentley
58	54	Jesse Frasure	A Song To Sing Drink With You	Miranda Lambert & Chris Stapleton Brett Young
59	79	Erik Dylan	Change My Mind Last One To Know	Riley Green Gavin Adcock
60	59	Jacob Kasher	Just In Case What I Want	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen (feat. Tate McRae)

Newly Added Job Listings

MCA: Director, Finance

MCA is hiring for a Director, Finance. The ideal candidate possesses financial forecasting, analysis, and accounting experience with demonstrated proficiency in detailed financial analysis and reporting, financial systems, and communication skills. Position works in office Monday-Thursday. This role is responsible for generating reports and tools used by the Finance team, including monthly results publication; understands and facilitates financial modeling and forecasting, including monthly reforecasts of sales/revenues, recording and marketing and overhead costs, as well as new deal analysis; assists with monthly financial close in coordination with Sr Director, Finance and Central Accounting Services (CAS), including working with CAS & Corporate Finance to resolve issues, and providing supporting information / schedules where necessary; compiles executive presentations in support of Actuals, Forecast and Plan, and speak to variances; maintains artist roster and projects metadata within internal financial systems; and more. Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Economics, Statistics or Accounting preferred. Minimum 5 years+ experience. Attention-to-Detail a must.

Contact: Read more & apply [HERE](#)

Back Blocks: Management Coordinator

This position will support artist managers by handling scheduling, communications, and administrative tasks. This role is for someone highly organized, proactive, and passionate about the music industry. This will involve coordinating calendars, meetings, release timelines and daily communications. As well as supporting tour, promo, and travel logistics. Also organizing, contracts, documents, and internal tracking. Someone who can become apart of the team and work close with labels, managers, publicists, and business partners. Ideally this would be someone well organized and able to work in a fast paced environment.

Contact: contact@backblocksmusic.com

Personal & Family Assistant for Music Exec.

Seeking a highly capable, part-time Personal & Family Assistant to support a fast-moving household with two working parents, two children, a nanny, 2 dogs, multiple properties and ongoing renovation projects. This role is approximately 15 hours per week (generally Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12–5pm, with occasional flexibility), at \$20/hour. Responsibilities include running personal errands (shopping, returns, gift purchasing and wrapping), meeting vendors and contractors at the house, light household coordination, and walking our two pugs. The right candidate will be naturally organized, discreet, and confident navigating a busy environment, with the ability to prioritize, problem-solve, and follow through without needing step-by-step direction. This role is ideal for someone who enjoys being a trusted right-hand and can anticipate needs, manage details, and keep systems running smoothly. We are looking for someone who conducts themselves professionally on our behalf, exercises good judgment, and takes ownership of their work — someone who can research, troubleshoot, and make thoughtful decisions rather than deferring every question. While the initial focus is household and personal support, there is room for this role to grow over time into light executive-assistant or creative support (such as copywriting or project coordination) for the right person. Strong communication, attention to detail, and the ability to handle confidential matters with care are essential.

Contact: info@whyandhow.com

The Ryan Seacrest Foundation: Program Coordinator

The Ryan Seacrest Foundation (RSF) is seeking a detail-oriented Program Coordinator to support executive leadership, office operations, and program initiatives at our Nashville headquarters. This in-office role assists with scheduling, events, office coordination, CRM data management, social media support, and day-to-day administrative functions that help advance RSF's mission of inspiring pediatric patients through entertainment and education. The ideal candidate is organized, proactive, tech-savvy, and thrives in a fast-paced nonprofit environment. Prior administrative or coordinator experience and familiarity with Salesforce and social media platforms are strongly preferred.

Contact: Send resume, cover letter, and salary requirements to careers@ryanseacrestfoundation.org

CALENDAR

Single/Track Releases And Radio Add Dates

January 23

Carly Pearce/Church Girl/Big Machine Records
Parker McCollum/Big Ole Fancy House/MCA
Conner Smith/Man I Was Made To Be
Ashley McBryde/What If We Don't/Warner Records Nashville
Elijah Scott/Let You Go/Santa Anna Nashville
Travis Bolt/Blues At My Funeral
Austin Michael/Back in the Saddle
Angie K/Low Key Love Song
Timmy McKeever/I Wish I Could/Big Loud Records
Taylor Austin Dye/Man For That/Red Street Records
Cody Hibbard (feat. John Daly)/Go Down Drinking A Beer
Kyle Gates/I Want My Rib Back/Santa Anna Nashville
Ashley Anne/happy birthday
KC Bruner/Bible and the Bottle/Electric Feel
SJ McDonald/You Say Vegas

January 26

Stephen Wilson Jr./Gary/Big Loud Records
Robby Johnson/Get In Gear
Amy Sheppard/Country Country
Caleb Young/Neon Never Lies

January 27

One Acre West/Boy Like That

Album/EP Releases

January 23

Trisha Yearwood/*The Mirror (Deluxe)*/Virgin Music Group/Gwendolyn Records
Hudson Westbrook/*Exclusive*/Warner Records Nashville/River House Artists
Kashus Culpepper/*Act 1*/Big Loud Records
Jamie O'Neal/*Gypsum*/BFD/Audium Nashville
Austin Bohannon/*Family Name*

January 30

Emily Scott Robinson/*Appalachia*/Oh Boy Records
Meels/*Across The Raccoon Strait*/Lost Highway Records
Cordovas/*Back to Life*/Yep Roc Records/Redeye
Ana Cristina Cash/*The Sunshine State*

CALENDAR

Industry Events

January 27

2025 CMA Touring Awards

February 1

68th Annual Grammy Awards

Upcoming Nashville Concerts

January 24

The Floozies + Too Many Zooz/Too Many Flooz Tour/Brooklyn Bowl
East Nash Grass/Through The Grey Tour/The Basement East
Lil Timme/Album Release Show/EXIT/IN

January 25

Richard Elliot/City Winery

January 26

Motion City Soundtrack/Marathon Music Works
GoldFord/Space of the Heart Tour/Brooklyn Bowl

January 27

Nashville/The Encore Tour/Ryman Auditorium
Mike Mattison & Trash Magic/EXIT/IN

January 29

Odd Mob/Brooklyn Bowl
Couch/BIG TALK Tour/The Basement East
Ellise/The Pretty Evil Tour Act II/EXIT/IN
Daffo/Where The Earth Bends Tour/The Blue Room
Olivia Barton/For Myself and For You Tour/Cannery Hall (Row One)

January 30

Brett Sheroky/The Basement East
Two Sisterzz/Bollywood Night/EXIT/IN
GHENGAR/Surrounded Tour/Cannery Hall (Main Stage)
Matthew Morrison/Rhythms & Revelations/City Winery
Bre Kennedy/The Alchemist Album Release Show/The Blue Room
Cate/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)

January 31

Mavis Staples/Ryman Auditorium
Snow Strippers/Brooklyn Bowl
Millionare\$/EXIT/IN

February 3

Sudan Archives/THE BPM Tour/The Basement East