

Nominees Unveiled For Nashville Songwriters Hall Of Fame Class Of 2026

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Twelve songwriters, representing two of the organization's five categories, were revealed as nominees for the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame. The full class of inductees will be announced in the coming weeks and officially inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame later this year.

"Well-deserved congratulations to all the nominees in our contemporary categories," says NaSHOF Executive Director **Mark Ford**. "We look forward to announcing those who will be inducted this fall as members of our Class of 2026."

The Contemporary Songwriters category nominees are **Jim Beavers, Shawn Camp, Rodney Clawson, Dallas Davidson, Marv Green, Lee Thomas Miller, Neil Thrasher** and **Chris Tompkins**.

The 2026 nominees in the Contemporary Songwriter/Artists category include **Miranda Lambert, Chris Stapleton, Taylor Swift** and **Phil Vassar**.

All nominees wrote their first significant songs at least 20 years ago. Hall of Fame members and other professional songwriters and artists will vote to elect two songwriters and one songwriter/artist.

[Click here to read more about the nominees.](#) **MR**

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

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COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart—Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

**Loving Life Again/Ella Langley/SAWGOD Records/Columbia/
Triple Tigers - 44**

**Who Told You That/Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks Music/MCA/
Mercury Records - 79**

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

**Loving Life Again/Ella Langley/SAWGOD Records/Columbia/
Triple Tigers - 332**

Hands Up/Jelly Roll/BMG/Stoney Creek Records - 229

Boston/Stella Lefty/Atlantic Outpost - 197

**Who Told You That/Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks Music/MCA/
Mercury Records - 135**

**Horseback/Cody Johnson/Cojo Music/Warner Records
Nashville - 124**

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

**Loving Life Again/Ella Langley/SAWGOD Records/Columbia/
Triple Tigers - 20**

Hands Up/Jelly Roll/BMG/Stoney Creek Records - 9

**Who Told You That/Tucker Wetmore/Back Blocks Music/MCA/
Mercury Records - 9**

**I Didn't Come Here To Leave/Chris Young/Black River
Entertainment - 5**

**Horseback/Cody Johnson/Cojo Music/Warner Records
Nashville - 4**

Let Him In Anyway/Blake Shelton/Wheelhouse Records - 4

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

King of Coal Dust County/Adam Chaffins/Spirit Music - 144

Wannabe/Gavin Adcock/Warner Records Nashville - 139

Done For/Max McNown/Magnolia Music Group - 136

**Thank You For This Moment/Brad Lee Schroeder/Stray Bullet
Records/CDX Records - 135**

**Drinkin' Town/Laura Bryna/LTD Entertainment powered by
Regime Music Group - 134**

NO. 1 SONG



Morgan Wallen adds another week at No. 1 on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart as "Don't We" tops the chart for a seventh consecutive week.

The hit comes off his fourth studio album *I'm The Problem* and was written by Wallen, **Rocky Block**, **John Byron**, **Ashley Gorley**, **Blake Pendergrass** and **Charlie Handsome**.

"Don't We" currently sits at No. 2 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
WFFN Tuscaloosa, AL
KDXY Jonesboro, AR
KWCK Searcy, AR
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
KNZA Hiawatha, 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
WNWN Battle Creek, 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
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 +/-
20	1	1	Don't We / Morgan Wallen / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	2409/63	0	-2
12	2	2	I Can't Love You Anymore / Ella Langley feat. Morgan Wallen / Columbia Records/SAWGOD	2216/59	2	42
12	3	3	Be By You / Luke Combs / Columbia Nashville	2166/56	3	73
24	4	4	McArthur / HARDY feat. Eric Church, Morgan Wallen, Tim McGraw / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	2144/65	3	67
10	6	5	Carry On / Kenny Chesney / HEY NOW Records	2074/64	2	49
30	7	6	South Of Sanity / Zach Top / Leo33	2073/66	3	63
17	9	7	Woman / Kane Brown / RCA Nashville	1898/55	5	86
23	10	8	Ride Ride Ride / George Birge feat. Luke Bryan / RECORDS Nashville	1770/60	4	60
47	13	9	All My Exes / Lauren Alaina feat. Chase Matthew / Big Loud Records	1648/59	5	85
38	11	10	Chevy Silverado / Bailey Zimmerman / Atlantic Records/Warner Music Nashville	1629/47	0	1
16	12	11	Country And She Knows It / Luke Bryan / Capitol Nashville	1621/58	3	51
9	17	12	Boston / Stella Lefty / Atlantic Outpost	1545/56	15	197
6	14	13	I Knew It, I Knew You / Taylor Swift / Walt Disney Records/Pixar	1534/49	7	95
7	16	14	Think As You Drunk / Riley Green / Nashville Harbor	1491/63	9	118
15	15	15	Say So / Dan + Shay / Warner Records Nashville	1466/58	5	68
6	19	16	Phone, Keys, Wallet / Lainey Wilson & John Mayer / Broken Bow Records	1393/61	6	75
37	20	17	Kid Myself / John Morgan / Broken Bow Records	1331/48	7	83
28	18	18	Boots Off / Jon Pardi / MCA	1308/55	-3	-36
17	22	19	Get To Drinkin' / Zach John King / Sony Music Nashville	1151/49	8	89
31	21	20	Gary / Stephen Wilson Jr. / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	1091/54	1	8
5	24	21	Horseback / Cody Johnson / Cojo Music/Warner Records Nashville	961/53	15	124
21	23	22	Water At A Wedding / Greylan James / Nashville Harbor	951/49	10	85
3	32	23	Hands Up / Jelly Roll / BMG/Stoney Creek Records	892/51	35	229
6	27	24	I Didn't Come Here To Leave / Chris Young / Black River Entertainment	870/51	9	72
21	25	25	Painted You Pretty / Hudson Westbrook / River House Artists/Warner Records Nashville	854/44	6	45
25	26	26	Let Him In Anyway / Blake Shelton / Wheelhouse Records	826/43	3	21
19	29	27	American Sky / Aaron Tippin / 8-Track Entertainment	781/41	1	11
57	31	28	Easy To Love / Dustin Lynch / Broken Bow Records	742/37	11	71
26	28	29	Make A Liar / Jackson Dean / Blue Highway	736/41	-7	-59
21	30	30	Killin' Me / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	709/39	2	11
16	33	31	Good Time Gone / Lexie Stevenson / Lexquisite Music	668/34	5	31
12	34	32	Son of Jolene / Belles with Dolly Parton / East Music Row Records	636/41	2	14
7	42	33	baby blues / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud/Back Blocks	622/37	16	87
46	38	34	Long Live Country / Shane Profitt / Triple Tigers	613/28	6	32
14	37	35	Something That I Need / Carson Beyer / Lucky Money Entertainment	606/36	4	23
21	35	36	What If We Don't / Ashley McBryde / Warner Records Nashville	598/32	-1	-5
23	36	37	Holdin' It Down / Chase Matthew / Warner Records Nashville	591/32	0	2
31	44	38	Worth Your Wild / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers	577/34	11	59
8	40	39	Land / Tyler Hubbard / Mercury Nashville	557/38	2	13

MUSICROW

ARTIST ROSTER THE 2026 REPORT

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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
8	41	40	Better That Way / Charles Wesley Godwin feat. Luke Combs / Big Loud Records/Sony Music Nashville	553/41	3	16
9	43	41	The Years Are Short / Rodney Atkins / Curb Records	549/36	6	29
17	45	42	Tell Me That There Ain't A God / Jon Brennan / CDX Records	522/28	2	10
13	46	43	Whiskey After Women / Adysen Malek / Write On Records	478/31	4	17
1	82	44	Loving Life Again / Ella Langley / SAWGOD Records/Columbia/Triple Tigers	464/29	127	332
12	48	45	Wouldn't Want Me Either / Erica Nicole / Kent Wells Productions	451/27	6	26
22	47	46	Straight For The Heart / Alexandra Kay / Wheelhouse Records	441/23	-4	-19
4	50	47	Girl Dad / Cole Swindell / Warner Records Nashville	410/33	7	26
11	49	48	Just A Mom / Alex Miller / Billy Jam Records	406/27	3	13
21	51	49	Psychological / The Band Perry / Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment	401/28	4	17
6	52	50	End This Way / Braden Hull / Melody Place	389/31	11	37
4	58	51	Message in a Bottle / Jo Dee Messina / Dreambound Records	375/27	24	73
7	54	52	High Noon / Jenna Paulette / Leo33	362/26	9	31
13	53	53	Exes In Texas / Porter Martin / Lovable Losers Music	358/24	2	7
9	56	54	Medicine / Megan Moroney / Sony Music Nashville/Columbia Records	341/23	10	32
10	55	55	Nothing On You / Jet Jurgensmeyer / Simba Entertainment, LLC	324/23	4	13
16	57	56	This Beer's Broken / Ken Domash / Thunder Mountain Records	308/23	1	2
13	59	57	Move On / Kevin Powers & Shaboozey / American Dogwood/EMPIRE	290/20	6	16
9	60	58	If I Go Missin' / Tim & The Glory Boys / Buckaroo Records	289/18	7	19
7	61	59	Family Man / Trey Pendley / Leo33	280/24	4	12
15	63	60	Never Comin' Back / Flatland Cavalry / Lost Highway	278/19	12	30
2	64	61	Dear Big City / Dylan Scott / Curb Records	265/20	10	24
7	66	62	Me & God And a Fishing Pole / Skip Ewing / Vere Music	256/22	12	28
8	65	63	We Make America Run / Ansel Brown / ABM Records	244/17	4	9
19	67	64	Back In The Bottle / Randy Houser / Magnolia Music Group	230/16	3	7
7	68	65	What Took You So Long / Jacob Hackworth / MCA Nashville	222/16	7	14
2	75	66	Howdy / Cole Goodwin / Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment	218/16	25	44
9	69	67	My Grandpa and My Old Man / Cam Shelton / Cam Shelton Music	211/14	4	8
5	70	68	Goodbye Looks Like / Johnathon Heilbroun / Johnathon Heilbroun Music	203/15	2	3
5	71	69	Hurts Like You / Koe Wetzel / Columbia Records	202/13	4	7
6	74	70	For You Girl / Robert Ross / CDX Records	196/10	4	7
4	77	71	Something Stronger / Soul Circus Cowboys / Kismet Nashville	192/18	17	28
14	73	72	One For The Road / Preston Cooper / Blue Highway Records	186/15	-2	-3
16	72	73	Good Damn / Brantley Gilbert / BBR Music Group/BMG/Wheelhouse Records	185/18	-4	-8
2	78	74	Whiskey And Vinyl / Stephen Styles / Plow House Records	176/11	11	18
3	76	75	The Grass Looks Greener / Karly C / Quirky Cowgirl Records	176/13	5	8
2	79	76	Small Town / Rebekah Snyder / CDX Records	166/14	17	24
2	80	77	Cowgirl At Heart / James Tamelcoff / James Tamelcoff Music	155/10	10	14
4	81	78	Dry Spell / Kacey Musgraves / Lost Highway Records	146/12	9	12
1	180	79	Who Told You That / Tucker Wetmore / Back Blocks Music/MCA/Mercury Records	145/10	127	135
9	87	80	Love is Blind / Ian Munsick / Triple Tigers Records	145/10	19	23

No. 1 Song
Greatest Spin Increase
Highest Debut

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River House Artists Launches Management Division



Zebb Luster and Lynn Oliver-Cline. Photo: Libby Danforth

River House Artists has launched The House, its new management division.

Founded by River House EVP **Zebb Luster** and River House Artists' Founder **Lynn Oliver-Cline**, The House's roster includes **Hudson Westbrook**, **Austin Snell** (in partnership with Sabrina Butera at Collide Talent), **Kenny Whitmire**, **Tyce Delk**, and **Matt Lang** (in partnership with Joelle Proulx and Vickye Morin at Agence Ranch), as well as Christian singer-songwriter **Chevas Phillips**.

"Launching The House Management is an incredibly exciting moment," Luster shares. "More than anything, it's about the artists. I'm grateful for the trust they've placed in us, and we continue to be inspired by their talent, work ethic, and vision. Each of them has something truly special, and it's a privilege to help them build lasting careers. We launched this company out of our passion for artists and our belief that great management requires more than strategy. It requires being fully invested in every detail of an artist's journey. Our goal is simple: to help exceptional talent reach its full potential while creating a team they're proud to have in their corner."

Helmed by Luster, The House's team also includes **Ally Ramirez** as Manager for Westbrook and Delk, and **Zac Brooks** as Manager for Snell and Whitmire. Ramirez joined River House in 2023. Brooks is transitioning to the Day-To-Day Manager role following several years on the road as a Tour Manager for Snell. **MR**

Myles Erlick Signs Joint Venture Deal With Huff Co & ONErpm



Pictured (L-R): Mike Easterlin (ONErpm Nashville Managing Director), Lindsey Terry (ONErpm Marketing Director), Myles Erlick, Ryan Cunningham (ONErpm Sr. Director A&R), Francesca Nicassio (CEO/Founder Fan Management Inc) and Ricky Andrews (Bluetick Management). Photo: Reid Cowperthwaite

Artist, songwriter, singer and multi-instrumentalist **Myles Erlick** has inked a joint venture deal with the Huff Co and ONErpm.

With more than 3.3 million followers across social platforms, Erlick first broke out in the title role of *Billy Elliot the Musical* on Broadway, later appearing in Steven Spielberg's *West Side Story* and most recently co-starring in the Amazon Prime series *Motorheads*. Hailing from Canada and now based in Nashville, Erlick has grown from a viral performer into an established recording artist. Blending country rock with modern pop, he writes, records and produces his own music. So far this year, Erlick has released a string of singles including "Gimme Love," "Past Life," "2AM Playlist," "Hell of a Start" and "Sounds Like You."

"Myles Erlick is not only an incredible artist, writer and singer, he also plays every instrument known to exist," says **David Huff** of Huff Co. "Myles effortlessly mixes melodic country-pop melodies with an undeniable energy."

"I'm beyond grateful and excited to join the ONErpm and Huff Co. family," adds Erlick. "Having a team like this believe in me and the music means everything, and I can't wait for what we're going to build together." **MR**

Kruse Brothers Sign With Sony Music Publishing Nashville



Pictured (Back Row, L-R): Rusty Gaston (SMP), Tom Luteran (SMP) and Scott Mason (Saddle Up Management). (Front Row, L-R): Dan Couch (Saddle Up Management), Chandler Kruse, Miles Kruse, Emily Carignan (SMP). Photo: Courtesy of Sony Music Publishing Nashville

The **Kruse Brothers** have signed with Sony Music Publishing Nashville.

"It is rare when you meet artists for the first time and their incredible talent moves you to the point where you know you want to work together, and that's what happened when we met Chandler and Miles," shares Sony Music Publishing Nashville Vice President, Creative A&R **Tom Luteran**. "We couldn't be more excited to join these amazing brothers for the next chapter of their musical journey."

The duo, composed of **Chandler** and **Miles Kruse**, have amassed over 6.8 million streams on Spotify on their 2025 single, "White on the Ground." After touring alongside Dylan Gossett and Larry Fleet last year, the duo has upcoming dates in Oregon, Utah, Texas and more. They released their debut album *Heartbreak & Honky Tonk* earlier this year.

"We're extremely grateful for the opportunity to continue to chase great songs with such a great team at Sony Music Publishing," the duo says. "We started writing songs together in high school, and it has become one of the most important parts of Kruse Brothers. We can't wait to get to work!" **MR**

Robyn Ottolini Inks With ONErpm

Robyn Ottolini has signed with ONErpm.

The Canadian-born, Nashville-based artist has amassed more than 160 million streams across platforms, earned multiple *Billboard* Canadian Country Top 40 hits and nabbed a CCMA award. Her viral breakout track "F-150" garnered 60 million streams. Ottolini has shared stages with Shania Twain, Tim McGraw, Breland and Tyler Rich, among others.

Ottolini will release her debut album, *A Safe Place To Land*, on Aug. 21 via ONErpm. In celebration of the announcement, she released a new track, "God Knows I Try," available everywhere today.

The 13-track project was written alongside **Matthew Morrisey**, **Callie Prince**, **Parker Graye**, **Lydia Vaughan** and **Kyle Sturrock**, among others. The **Lenny Pey**-produced album explores healing, growth, self-discovery and the hard-won optimism that emerges on the other side of heartbreak. **MR**



Pictured (L-R): ONErpm's Lindsey Terry, Mike Easterlin, Robyn Ottolini, ONErpm's Emmanuel Zunz, Delmege MGMT's Chelsea Smith and ONErpm's Ryan Cunningham. Photo: Courtesy of ONErpm

Jackson Wendell Inks With Warner Chappell Music & Perfect Game Creative



Austen Adams (President, WCM), Jackson Wendell, Jessi Vaughn Stevenson (Perfect Game Creative) and Phil May (VP & GM, WCM). Photo: Grace Hartrick

Texas singer-songwriter **Jackson Wendell** has signed a worldwide publishing deal with Warner Chappell Music Nashville and Perfect Game Creative.

Hailing from Lufkin, Texas, Wendell's passion for music began at an early age. After picking up a guitar as a child and playing on his church's worship team, he started writing songs of his own, penning his first original "Ain't Coming Home" at just 14 years old.

As a homeschool student, Wendell had the freedom to focus on music while traveling with his family, experiences that helped shape his songwriting. During his senior year of high school, he planned to attend Ole Miss, but an opportunity to open for Scotty McCreery in his hometown changed everything. Inspired to pursue music full-time, he instead enrolled at Stephen F. Austin State University, balancing college with performing across the Texas music scene before leaving school after two years to dedicate himself to touring and songwriting.

Since then, Wendell has shared the stage with artists including Parker McCollum, Tucker Wetmore, Flatland Cavalry, Randy Rogers and William Beckmann. Named to Pandora's and One Country's 2026 Artists to Watch lists, he is known for heartfelt storytelling, classic country influences, and a fresh, modern sound. His 2025 single, "Drunk Words Are Sober Thoughts," has earned nearly three million global streams. **MR**

Highway Home Signs With WME



Pictured (L-R): Braeden Rountree (WME), Doug Neff (WME), Jamie Ernst (underscore works), Eamon Owen, Stanton Langley, Conner Sweeny, Charly Salvatore (underscore works) and Kevin Meads (WME). Photo: Sam Vins

Highway Home, the trio composed of **Stanton Langley**, **Eamon Owen** and **Conner Sweeny**, has signed with WME.

"Whether live or in their recorded music, Highway Home's distinct trio of lead vocalists harmonizing, authentic songwriting, and genuine connection with audiences makes them a standout," says WME's **Doug Neff**. "We're thrilled to welcome them to WME and look forward to creating new opportunities as their momentum accelerates."

The band [recently signed to Warner Records](#) following a string of independently released singles including "Missin' You Goes," "Ring On Red" and "Look At You." Highway Home recently made their CMA Fest debut and have shared stages with Luke Combs, Sister Hazel, Sara Evans, Graham Barham and George Birge, among others.

The band has upcoming dates in Kentucky, Ohio, New York and more.

They will continue to be represented by underscore works for management, Shore Fire Media for publicity, **Sayles Eagen** as their Business Manager and **Matt Cottingham** as their Attorney. **MR**

My Music Row Story: The GreenRoom's Kristie Sloan



Kristie Sloan

Kristie Sloan is the Co-Owner of The GreenRoom PR, a Nashville-based public relations firm specializing in music and live events.

With more than 20 years of experience in the entertainment industry, she has helped shape the public narratives of some of country music's biggest names, including Reba McEntire, Brooks & Dunn, Dierks Bentley, Lady A, Thomas Rhett, Rascal Flatts, Russell Dickerson, Braxton Keith, and Jon Pardi, as well as major events like the Tortuga Music Festival and Healing Appalachia.

Known for her strategic instincts and deep industry relationships, Sloan has built a reputation for guiding artists and brands through defining moments in their careers.

MusicRow: Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Springfield, Tennessee, but I was born in a town just outside of Toronto, Canada, to a country music-loving British dad and a German mother.

My dad loved all kinds of country music. He fell in love with the Grand Ole Opry, and when we lived in Canada, he would drive down to Nashville on the weekends to see the Opry.

I'm the youngest of five girls, and when my mom was pregnant with me, they decided to name me Kristie Lee because it sounded like a name you would hear on the Opry.

So you were destined for this life.

I guess so! I can't sing. I'm not musically talented. My dad passed away a few years ago, but I would joke with him that I made it to the Opry, just not on the stage—on the side of the stage.

How did you start your path?

I knew early on that I wanted to do something in music. Growing up, records were playing or Hee Haw and Austin City Limits were on TV, and we loved it. I started at the University of Tennessee and then transferred to Middle Tennessee State University to be closer to Nashville so I could start finding opportunities and internships.

I called the Ryman's main phone line one day, and **Pam Matthews**, who was the General Manager at the time, actually called me back. I told her I was interested in concert promotion, and she invited me to an upcoming Pete Yorn show. That night, I met **Ali Harnell** and a few other people who worked for Clear Channel Entertainment at the time. They ended up offering me an internship. I started interning and eventually got a job as the receptionist at Starwood Amphitheater.

Tell me about that job.

A lot of my time was spent fielding phone calls, especially on a show day. It could be a major promoter calling for the General Manager or someone calling to ask what type of lawn chairs they could bring or how early they can tailgate in

the parking lot. It was a really incredible experience to learn how to navigate and field all sorts of questions. I was also really curious, so if the phones weren't ringing, I would ask somebody, "Hey, is there something I can do?" By the end of my time there, I was doing payroll, helping with settlements and all these other things.

How did you transition to PR?

I was still in college when I was working at Starwood, and one of the other employees knew that I was majoring in Public Relations and connected me with Kaleidoscope Media. That was my first publicity/PR job.

It was around the time Bonnaroo was just starting, so we handled the local media and crisis PR for them, which was like being thrown into the deep end and a fast track to a lot of experience. The first artist I worked with was **Barbara Mandrell**, and she taught me so much. We did a tribute album with her, and she was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame while I worked there. After that, I was definitely searching for more opportunities to gain experience in the artist publicity world.

What happened next?

I had met **Mary Hilliard Harrington** through the Barbara Mandrell project. **Dierks Bentley** did a song on the album and she was his publicist at the time, and I just immediately liked her. She called me one day and said, "I'm looking to hire somebody. Do you have any ideas?" I said, "Let me think," and hung up. Then I called her back and said, "What about me?" [Laughs] She said, "I was hoping you would say that."

Not too long before that, I had actually been pitching myself to **Lady A's** manager to handle their publicity. Honestly, I had no business doing that at the time. He told me they had just hired Mary Hilliard at the GreenRoom, so it worked out in the way it was supposed to.

I joined GreenRoom in 2010, and it was a whirlwind in the best possible way. Mary was always such a great boss. She gave us the freedom to figure things out on our own, but also had our backs when we needed it. I had a lot of catching up and learning to do. **Tyne [Parrish]** and I started our relationship there, and the whole team was great.

Eventually you and Tyne became owners of GreenRoom.

We didn't see that coming. It speaks a lot to who Mary is, especially in the way she supports women in business. There are so many different ways she could have gone about that decision, but she decided to sell us the company. I think sometimes it takes somebody else seeing something in you before you realize you can do it yourself, and that's what Mary has been for me.

She had taught us how to run our own clients, and we knew how to be publicists. We just had to learn how to handle the business side of things. For the longest time, we were both focused on trying to keep the clients we had. We didn't want to mess anything up after being handed that kind of trust. Doing it together was so helpful because Tyne and I really balance each other out, and we can bounce things off each other.



Photo: Courtesy of Sloan



Photo: Courtesy of Sloan

What are some of the most impactful things you've gotten to do at GreenRoom?

We represented **Jason Aldean** and the Route 91 festival. That was an incredibly difficult thing to navigate on both the personal and professional side. What will always stay with me is, days later, flying back to Vegas with Jason and visiting patients in the hospital. I will never forget that.

So much of our job is intangible, so it's really nice when there is a tangible result. When I first started working with him, **Russell Dickerson** really wanted to be in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. To see a specific goal happen and to be there for it...that's the best.

And because of what I told you about my name, I love anytime we have an artist making their Grand Ole Opry debut. It feels personal to me, but I also know how much it means to the artist.

Who have been your mentors?

Mary Hilliard, **Clarence Spalding**, **Coran Capshaw**, **Reba**—I mean, working with Reba has

absolutely made me a better publicist. She's been doing this for 50 years, and she works harder than a lot of other artists out there. She's still curious and asks a lot of questions. I really love how she leads with kindness too. She's someone who is very aware of herself, how she treats others and how she carries herself. I've learned a lot from her.

What is the best advice you've ever gotten?

I don't remember who told me this, but I tell my employees this all the time: If you don't know the answer to something, it's okay. Just say, "I'm not sure, but I'm going to find out." Don't try to make up an answer because, if you're wrong, it's going to be worse and you lose their trust.

What's a moment you've had that your little kid self would think is so cool?

Garth Brooks saying my name on stage when he won CMA Entertainer of the Year. That was an out-of-body experience because we grew up loving Garth, listening to Garth and going to his shows. My dad once met Garth on an airplane and got him to sign a napkin for me. So it was a full-circle moment to work with him and to be thanked from the stage. Little Kristie Lee would be shocked by that.

Getting to go to things like the Oscars, Grammys, Super Bowl. I think we all get caught up in work and stress. Reba always reminds me to have fun. We're in the entertainment business. Let's take a deep breath, remember where we are and remember how cool it is. This is a cool job. **MR**

DISClaimer Single Reviews: New Lee Brice Is ‘Dandy’



Lee Brice. Photo: Chase Lauer

Country music is experiencing a tidal wave of new artists these days as the genre shifts into a new audio era.

We have several of these promising baby acts in the column today, including NEEDTOBREATHE, Ryan Langdon with Randy Savvy, Mae Estes and our DISCcovery Award winner, Wyatt Flores.

Among the established artists, Joe Nichols, Jordan Davis, Ne-Yo and Trace Adkins all posted worthy new sounds. By harking back to classic country, Lee Brice earns a Disc of the Day honor.

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[2026 CCMA Awards Nominations Revealed](#)

[Americana Music Association To Honor Robert Plant With Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

[Ashley Cooke Unveils Track List For Self-Titled Sophomore Album](#)

[Australia's Lasso Country Music Festival Wraps Third Year](#)

[BMI's Rooftop On The Row Hosts Chase Matthew & Drew Baldridge](#)

[Celebrated Session & Touring Keyboardist Jimmy Nichols Passes](#)

[Grammy Membership Invitations Sent To Over 4,000 Creators & Industry Professionals](#)

[Grand Ole Opry Celebrates Jamey Johnson's Birthday](#)

[IBMA Unveils 2026 Bluegrass Music Awards Nominees](#)

[Kenny Chesney's Hand-Painted Bus To Be On Display In Celebration Of CMHOFM Exhibit](#)

[Lauren Watkins Readies 'If I'm Being Honest' For September](#)

[Music Community Introduces New Labeling Program To Distinguish Generative AI In Sound Recordings](#)

[Songwriter Joe Melson Passes](#)

[Steve Earle, Ashley McBryde, Chris Stapleton More To Celebrate Honorees At Nashville Songwriter Awards](#)

[Thomas Rhett & Niall Horan Deliver Cross-Genre Showcase In Nashville \[Recap\]](#)

[Willie Nelson Shares Secrets On Creativity & Devotion In 'The Last Leaf' Due In November](#)

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	1	Ella Langley	Be Her Bottom Of Your Boots Choosin' Texas Dandelion I Can't Love You Anymore Loving Life Again	Ella Langley Ella Langley Ella Langley Ella Langley Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen Ella Langley
2	2	Austin Goodloe	Dandelion Empty Words I Can't Love You Anymore No Need For Leavin' Rocky Mountain Low	Ella Langley Corey Kent Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen Kameron Marlowe Corey Kent (feat. Koe Wetzel)
3	3	Joybeth Taylor	Choosin' Texas Dandelion Empty Words I Can't Love You Anymore	Ella Langley Ella Langley Corey Kent Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen
4	4	Michael Hardy	Be Her GOOD DAMN Hands Up Let Him In Anyway McArthur	Ella Langley Brantley Gilbert Jelly Roll Blake Shelton HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw
5	7	Chase McGill	Carry On Hands Up McArthur Water At A Wedding	Kenny Chesney Jelly Roll HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw Greytan James
6	6	Jessi Alexander	Beautiful Things Carry On Medicine Think As You Drunk	Megan Moroney Kenny Chesney Megan Moroney Riley Green
7	5	Riley Green	Change My Mind My Way Think As You Drunk	Riley Green Riley Green Riley Green
8	8	Taylor Swift	I Knew It, I Knew You	Taylor Swift
9	9	Jack Antonoff	I Knew It, I Knew You	Taylor Swift
10	10	Jordan M. Schmidt	Be Her Kid Myself	Ella Langley John Morgan
11	11	John Morgan	Don't Tell On Me Kid Myself	Jason Aldean John Morgan
12	12	Randy Montana	Change My Mind Horseback Make A Liar Sleepless In A Hotel Room	Riley Green Cody Johnson Jackson Dean Luke Combs
13	13	Ashley Gorley	Don't We Hurts Like You Woman	Morgan Wallen Koe Wetzel Kane Brown
14	19	Luke Laird	Boots Off Dry Spell Mexico Honey	Jon Pardi Kacey Musgraves Kacey Musgraves
15	14	Parker Welling	Country And She Knows It Ride, Ride, Ride Worth Your Wild	Luke Bryan George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan) Russell Dickerson
16	18	John Byron	Don't We Woman	Morgan Wallen Kane Brown
17	15	Dan Alley	Be By You	Luke Combs
18	16	Sam Banks	Be By You	Luke Combs
19	17	Nick Walsh	Be By You	Luke Combs

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
20	22	Lydia Vaughan	Don't Tell On Me Empty Words	Jason Aldean Corey Kent
21	20	Ben Johnson	All My Exes Easy To Love Woman	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew) Dustin Lynch Kane Brown
22	30	Jessie Jo Dillon	Another Drink Beautiful Things Medicine	Marshmello & Kelsea Ballerini Megan Moroney Megan Moroney
23	23	Tyler Hubbard	Kid Myself Land Ride, Ride, Ride	John Morgan Tyler Hubbard George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan)
24	21	Thomas Archer	Get To Drinkin' Rocky Mountain Low	Zach John King Corey Kent (feat. Koe Wetzel)
25	26	STELLA LEFTY	Boston Something To Lose	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
26	27	Grace Enger	Boston Something To Lose	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
27	24	Luke Dick	Choosin' Texas Make A Liar Something To Lose	Ella Langley Jackson Dean STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
28	29	Megan Moroney	Beautiful Things Medicine	Megan Moroney Megan Moroney
29	31	Connie Harrington	Beautiful Things Medicine	Megan Moroney Megan Moroney
30	28	Smith Ahnquist	Be Her	Ella Langley
31	39	Kurt Allison	Don't Tell On Me	Jason Aldean
32	40	Tully Kennedy	Don't Tell On Me	Jason Aldean
33	32	Jon Decious	No Need For Leavin' Phone, Keys, Wallet Something To Lose	Kameron Marlowe Lainey Wilson & John Mayer STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
34	33	Corey Kent	Empty Words Rocky Mountain Low	Corey Kent Corey Kent (feat. Koe Wetzel)
35	45	Rocky Block	Don't We Hands Up	Morgan Wallen Jelly Roll
36	43	Wyatt McCubbin	Boots Off Horseback Think As You Drunk	Jon Pardi Cody Johnson Riley Green
37	41	Luke Combs	Rethink Some Things Sleepless In A Hotel Room	Luke Combs Luke Combs
38	35	Christian Yancey	Hate How You Look	Josh Ross
39	36	Jessica Farren	Hate How You Look	Josh Ross
40	37	Nicholas Sainato	Hate How You Look	Josh Ross
41	38	Chris McKenna	Hate How You Look	Josh Ross
42	34	Matt Dragstrem	Country And She Knows It Water At A Wedding	Luke Bryan Greytan James
43	47	Casey Brown	Ride, Ride, Ride Shoot The Bull Worth Your Wild	George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan) Cody Johnson & Luke Combs Russell Dickerson
44	42	Erik Dylan	Change My Mind Think As You Drunk	Riley Green Riley Green
45	44	Matt Jenkins	Carry On	Kenny Chesney
46	46	Kacey Musgraves	Dry Spell Mexico Honey	Kacey Musgraves Kacey Musgraves
47	25	Michael Tyler	Girl Dad Rocky Mountain Low	Cole Swindell Corey Kent (feat. Koe Wetzel)
48	51	Zach Top	South Of Sanity	Zach Top
49	52	Mark Nesler	South Of Sanity	Zach Top
50	53	Carson Chamberlain	South Of Sanity	Zach Top

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
51	48	Steph Jones	Hurts Like You Mexico Honey What Took You So Long	Koe Wetzel Kacey Musgraves Jacob Hackworth
52	49	Josh Thompson	McArthur	HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw
53	50	Jameson Rodgers	McArthur	HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw
54	74	Matt Rogers	I Want You Long Live Country	Cody Johnson Shane Profitt
55	59	Morgan Wallen	Don't We Wannabe	Morgan Wallen Gavin Adcock
56	54	Joe Reeves	Boston	STELLA LEFTY
57	55	Jacob Kasher	Boston	STELLA LEFTY
58	56	Noah Kahan	Boston	STELLA LEFTY
59	57	Taylor Phillips	GOOD DAMN Woman	Brantley Gilbert Kane Brown
60	60	Blake Pendergrass	Don't We	Morgan Wallen

Newly Added Job Listings

Loeb & Loeb: Contract & Royalty Analyst

The Nashville office of Loeb & Loeb LLP seeks a Contract and Royalty Analyst to work in a well-established Entertainment practice group that represents an international clientele of artists, celebrities, athletes, coaches, executives and entrepreneurs. The group works across Loeb's many practice areas – including but not limited to, Corporate, Intellectual Property, Copyright and Trademark Protection, and Litigation – to provide global, regional and industry-specific solutions for clients. This position will work with a cross-functional team gathering and analyzing music contracts, royalties, and other income for our clientele. The role will primarily focus on analyzing and assisting with the valuation of potential and active music catalog sales, assisting with music and photo licensing, as well as general entertainment drafting and contract analysis.

Contact: [Apply here](#)

Music City Media: Artist Project Management/Branding/PR & Social Media Fall Internship

Music City Media is seeking student interns for Fall 2026. We are seeking a young professional with a “roll-up-your-sleeves,” can-do attitude to assist our staff in media research, coordination of artist schedules for special events, database maintenance, telephone solicitation to solicit and secure tour press interviews and/or entertainment listings and CD reviews, and the creation of promotional materials, social media posts, client media books and reports. Our interns are an integral part of our team. Candidate must be a self-starter who is computer literate with knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel, Adobe Premiere, iMovie, Canva and Photoshop experience is a BIG plus. Candidate should be a self-starter and be comfortable speaking on the telephone pitching clients to media professionals.

Contact: Send resume, cover letter, writing samples, class schedule, availability and amount of hours desired to katwood@musiccitynews.com

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

July 17

Gavin Adcock/The Day I Hang It Up/Thrivin' Here Records/Warner Records Nashville
Lauren Alaina (feat. Kane Brown)/Never Been In Love/Big Loud Records
Carly Pearce (feat. Dan Tyminski and Molly Tuttle)/What If You Loved Me/BBR Music Group/BMG
Joe Nichols/Say La V/Quartz Hill Records
Matthew West/Back To Jesus/StoryHouse Collective
Owen Riegling/Men Into Boys/Big Loud Records/Universal Music Canada
Kylie Morgan/Girls For Dummies
Noah James/Rollin'/Santa Anna Nashville
Noah Brigiden/Saving Me/Santa Anna Nashville
Laci Kaye Booth/Pathetic/Lost Highway
Wade Bowen/Turpentine
Matthew Goodnough/Change O' Clock/Santa Anna Nashville
Timmy McKeever/Shouldn't Be/Big Loud Records
Taylor Austin Dye/First/Red Street Records
Mae Estes/The 90s Called/Blue Highway Records
Brandon Wisham/Ain't What Love Looks Like/The Core Records/Capitol Records
Brooke Lee/Driver Drive/Spirit Music/2Mix Music
Channing Wilson/Real Damn Country Song/101 Music
Christian Parker/Almost Mine
Halie Ridge/Country Girl Summer/Eclipse Records
Kevin Presbrey/Red Door Saloon/Santa Anna Nashville
CJ Solar & The Old Souls/Done Did It
Catt McCreary/Tecovas (Nice Guy)
Phil Madeira/Hippie Chick Singer
Dearllee Keim/Flashbacks/Santa Anna Nashville

July 20

Joe Nichols/Say La V/Quartz Hill Records
Ty Gregory/Blame it on the Whiskey

Album/EP Releases

July 17

Scotty McCreery/15/Triple Tigers Records
Waylon Wyatt/Dustpiles/Music Soup/Darkroom Records
Aaron Lewis/Give My Country Back/Big Machine Label Group
Niko Moon/ROOTS/EMPIRE
Lily Meola/Lucky to Be/Nettwerk Music Group
Gary Stewart/One Track Mind
Waylon Payne/Wayward/Big Loud Texas
Bryan Ruby/Playing With Fire
Shannon Clark/All You Need To Know
Ashby Frank/Run This Town/Mountain Home Music Company
Parker Barrow/Hold the Mash
Neon Moons/Day Late and a Dollar Short
Hudson Valley/A Day Late and a Dollar Short

CALENDAR

Industry Events

July 21

BMI Trailblazers of Gospel Music Awards

July 22

BMI Christian Awards

August 10

Music Row Ladies Golf Tournament

Upcoming Nashville Concerts

July 17

Vishal & Sheykh/The Pinnacle

Tori Amos/Ryman Auditorium

The Nashville 100/Brooklyn Bowl

Vincent Antone/Cannery Hall (The Mil)

Midnight North/EXIT/IN

Alexia Jarry/City Winery

95MP & Echo Selector/The Blue Room

Mack Keane/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)

July 18

Kurt Vile and The Violators/Ryman Auditorium

Tomahawk/Brooklyn Bowl

feeble little horse/The Basement East

Richie Furay/City Winery

Be Your Own Pet/The Blue Room

Sully/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)

July 19

Kaleo/The Pinnacle

Billy Bob Thornton & The Boxmasters/Ryman Auditorium

The Strike/The Basement East

Mr. Fantasy/EXIT/IN

Destin Conrad/City Winery

July 21

Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder/Ryman Auditorium

Queen Herby/Marathon Music Works

Steel Pulse/Brooklyn Bowl

The Ex-Faces/Cannery Hall (Mainstage)

of Montreal/Cannery Hall (The Mil)

Touch Girl Apple Blossom/The Blue Room

July 22

Lindsey Stirling/Ascend Amphitheater

Flyleaf/Marathon Music Works