

## Dolly Parton: The Passing Of An Icon



Dolly Parton. Photo: David McClister

Global icon **Dolly Parton** passed away peacefully Tuesday (Aug. 25) in Nashville after a brief battle with cancer. She was 80.

Dolly Parton was arguably the most famous, most universally beloved and most widely respected country-music artist of all time. She is a member of The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, The Country Music Hall of Fame, The Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, The Gospel Music Hall of Fame, The East Tennessee Hall of Fame, The (NY) Songwriters Hall of Fame and the American Academy of Achievement. Parton won a Kennedy Center Honor, earned two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, garnered 11 Grammy Awards and 10 CMA Awards, was presented with a National Medal of Arts, and to date has 44 top-10 country albums, more than any other artist. She has been celebrated with a life-size bronze statue in her hometown of Sevierville, TN.

She had 40 BMI Songwriter honors, in addition to eight BMI Million-Air certificates, ranging from one million ("Coat of Many Colors") to three million ("Jolene"), and upward to five million ("9 To 5") and 10 million ("I Will Always Love You"). She has composed two Broadway musicals, created a symphony-orchestra experience, and starred in seven Hollywood movies, including such major hits as *9 To 5* (1980) and *Steel Magnolias* (1989). Her 18 made-for-TV films included an Emmy Award winner (2021) and eight original Netflix productions based on her songs (2020).

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# NILES

ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS  
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AUDIO INTEGRATION



Her business acumen was legendary. She had an East Tennessee theme park, a Nashville hotel and a career museum. She put her brand on cake mixes, frozen foods, perfume, jewelry, pet products, clothing, kitchenware, picnic supplies, travel centers, pinball machines, wine, and cosmetics. Her net worth has been estimated at more than \$500 million.

Parton's philanthropy extended to Appalachian charities, medical clinics, and educational initiatives. She famously founded the Imagination Library to put books into the hands of millions of children. She donated one million dollars to create a COVID vaccine.

Dolly Parton rose from impoverished anonymity to become one of the most famous popular-culture figures of modern times. Her shimmering mountain soprano and emotionally gripping songwriting captivated the country-music community. Her baroque looks and witty personality fascinated the pop-music world. Her savvy intelligence and quick-study adaptability turned Hollywood's head. Her warm humanity and strong sense of social justice endeared her to common people all over the world. She was, in short, the grandest of superstars.

Hers was a true rags-to-riches story. Dolly Rebecca Parton was born in a one-room cabin in the mountains of East Tennessee during the cold winter of 1946. She was the fourth of 12 children born to sharecropper Lee Parton and his singing wife Avie Lee Owens Parton. The family had no electricity, no running water, no telephone and no indoor plumbing. But the kids were all creative personalities and highly musical. Dolly was composing songs before she could read or write, and her mother wrote them down.

Dolly had professional role models. Avie Lee's sister Dorothy Jo Hope was a gospel songwriter and evangelist, while brothers Louis, Robert, and Bill Owens were all local country entertainers. Uncle Bill bought Dolly a guitar, taught her to play it, and put her on stages at area churches and theaters.

When she was 10, he took her to Knoxville to audition for entrepreneur Cas Walker, who had a radio show called Farm and Home Hour. Throughout her junior high and high school years, Dolly performed on the show, then on its television incarnation beginning in 1957. She was on TV before her family owned one.

She began making tapes of her tunes at area radio stations. In 1960, Louisiana's Goldband Records issued the 14-year-old's peppy, rockabilly flavored "Puppy Love." She parlayed it into a one-shot appearance on the Opry during one of the many trips she and Uncle Bill made to Nashville trying to break into the country-music business. On one occasion, she was hired by an independent label to record six Kitty Wells songs. During another trip, she took her radio-station tapes to song publisher Buddy Killen. He signed Dolly to his Tree Publishing and arranged for her to cut a single for Mercury Records. "(It May Not Kill Me) But It's Sure Gonna Hurt" was issued when she was 16.

In 1964, Dolly became the first person in her family to get a high-school diploma. The day after graduation, she boarded a bus bound for Music City. During her early years in Nashville, she took jobs as a receptionist for a neon-sign company, a waitress in a family restaurant and a singer on the early-morning TV program *The Eddie Hill Show*.

On her first day in town, she met Nashville native Carl Dean (1942-2025), who became her steady beau. When he got out of the Army two years later, they wed. In the meantime, she'd signed with Combine Publishing and its affiliated record label, Monument. She and Uncle Bill Owens co-wrote "Put It Off Until Tomorrow," and Decca artist Bill Phillips turned it into a country smash in 1966. Dolly sang a distinctive harmony vocal on the single, paving the way for the acceptance of her Monument singles "Dumb Blonde" and "Something Fishy" in 1967. Her early songs were also recorded by Hank Williams Jr., Skeeter Davis and Kitty Wells.

Country star Porter Wagoner (1927-2007) caught wind of the vivacious country newcomer and offered her a job as the "girl singer" in his road show and on his widely seen syndicated TV series. She moved from Monument to Wagoner's recoding home, RCA, and the two were soon harmonizing on a string of 21 hit duets, eight of which were written by Dolly. The team won CMA Awards in 1968, 1970, and 1971.

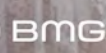
Wagoner was emotionally abusive, and the fiercely independent Parton chafed at his dominating personality. His last solo top-10 hit was in 1972, while Parton's solo career soared with "Just Because I'm a Woman" (1968), "Mule Skinner



CARLY PEARCE

# HONEST WOMAN

AVAILABLE NOW



Blues" (1970), "Joshua" (1971), "Coat of Many Colors" (1971), "Touch Your Woman" (1972), "My Tennessee Mountain Home" (1973), "Jolene" (1973), "I Will Always Love You" (1974), "Love Is Like a Butterfly" (1974), "The Bargain Store" (1975), "The Seeker" (1975), "We Used To" (1975), and "All I Can Do" (1976). She joined the cast of the Grand Ole Opry in 1969. She was named the CMA's Female Vocalist of the Year in 1975 and 1976. After seven years of servitude, she finally cut the ties with Wagoner, endured his lawsuits and headed out on her own. She self-produced her 1977 LP *New Harvest First Gathering* and its vibrant single "Light of a Clear Blue Morning."

Parton forged alliances in New York and Los Angeles music circles. She hired L.A.'s Sandy Gallin as her manager. The pop tune "Here You Come Again" became a massive country and pop hit in 1977, and she followed it with the glossy "Heartbreaker," "You're the Only One," "Two Doors Down," and "Starting Over Again" as pop/country successes. She appeared in major mainstream magazines, at pop-music showplaces, and on network TV talk shows and variety specials. In 1978, she won her first Grammy Award and was named the CMA Entertainer of the Year. Two years later, she staged one of the splashiest showroom debuts in Las Vegas history.

She paved the way for other Nashville singers to expand their horizons. She brought country music renewed validity and respect as an art form by becoming the genre's leading ambassador to the pop-culture mainstream. Her wits became as celebrated as her glitz as she charmed TV talk-show hosts and magazine interviewers alike.

She staged her silver screen debut opposite Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin in 1980. *9 To 5* was the largest grossing movie of the year, behind only the blockbuster *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*. Parton's "9 To 5" title tune topped pop and country charts, sold a million, won two Grammys, and was nominated for an Oscar. The soundtrack of her *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* film (1982) yielded "Hard Candy Christmas" and her remake of "I Will Always Love You" as country chart successes. She returned to the top of the pop hit parade with 1983's million-selling "Islands in the Stream." It was a duet with superstar Kenny Rogers (1938-2020), with whom she toured and recorded a top-selling Christmas album as well as several subsequent duet singles.

In 1984, "Tennessee Homesick Blues" and "God Won't Get You" emerged as hits from the soundtrack of Rhinestone, co-starring Parton and Sylvester Stallone of *Rocky* fame. Her wildly successful Dollywood theme park opened in 1986, and she soon acquired other East Tennessee tourist attractions nearby. She shed 40 pounds between 1983 and 1987 and reveled in her glamorous, newly-sleek image.

The disc sensation *Trio* album with Linda Ronstadt and Emmylou Harris was a magnificent return to Parton's mountain roots. It spawned four top-10 hits in 1987-88, won Grammy and CMA awards, sold four million copies worldwide, and was selected for the Grammy Hall of Fame. Parton teamed up with Ricky Skaggs as her producer for 1989's *White Limozeen* LP and its two No. 1 hit singles "Why'd You Come in Here Lookin' Like That" and "Yellow Roses."

Her costars in 1989's female-centric film *Steel Magnolias* were Sally Field, Shirley MacLaine, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis, and Julia Roberts. She wrote the uplifting "Eagle When She Flies" for its soundtrack, but it was not used. Instead, it became a 1991 LP title tune on a collection that also included "Rockin' Years," a chart-topping duet with Ricky Van Shelton.

"I Will Always Love You" already held the unique distinction of being a No. 1 country hit twice for Dolly Parton, once in 1974 and again in 1982. The song became even more popular in 1992 via a worldwide, blockbuster hit pop treatment by Whitney Houston. Dozens of others recorded the song, and Parton reaped millions in royalties. In 1995, she won a CMA Award by recording "I Will Always Love You" as a duet with Vince Gill, further cementing the song as a standard.

Gill was just one of her many celebrity duet partners. Others included Rod Stewart, Julio Iglesias, Paul Anka, Smokey Robinson, Miss Piggy, Neil Diamond, Don Henley, James Ingram, Janis Ian, and Solomon Burke. Not to mention Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, Mac Davis, Alison Krauss, George Jones, Miranda Lambert, Martina McBride, Shania Twain, and a who's-who of other country greats.

Parton published her memoir *My Life and Other Unfinished Business* in 1994. It became a *New York Times* best seller. In 1995, she launched her Imagination Library free books initiative. Parton had long owned her own song-publishing

company and film-production entity, and in 1995 she added her own record labels. She was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1999. Parton rounded out the 1990s and entered the new millennium with her acclaimed albums *Hungry Again* (1998) and *Halos & Horns* (2002). The latter contained “Hello God” as her composition inspired by 9/11.

During this same period, Parton became more interested in her musical roots. *Heartsongs* (1994), the Grammy-winning *Trio II* with Ronstadt and Harris (1999), *Honky Tonk Angels* with Tammy Wynette and Loretta Lynn (1993), and *Live and Well* (2004) were all expressions of this. Most expressive of all were her bluegrass-music masterpieces *The Grass Is Blue* (1999) and *Little Sparrow* (2001). Both resulted in Grammy Awards.

By the year 2000, Dolly Parton was an internationally recognized icon. In 2001, she was voted into the national Songwriters Hall of Fame, placing her alongside titans such as Irving Berlin, Lennon & McCartney and Bob Dylan. In 2003, BMI presented her with its Icon award. She was saluted by the Library of Congress in 2004, was chosen for a National Medal of Arts accolade in 2005, was honored by The Kennedy Center in 2006 and was presented with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

Her musical output continued. In 2005, she returned to No. 1 on the country hit parade via a collaboration with Brad Paisley on “When I Get Where I’m Going.” It won a CMA Award, her eighth. She wrote “Travelin’ Thru” for the 2005 movie *Transamerica*, earning a second Academy Award nomination, as well as a performance slot on the 2006 Oscar telecast. In 2009, her self-penned *9 To 5: The Musical* opened on Broadway, garnered four Tony Award nominations, and spawned “Backwoods Barbie” as a self-referential single. Also in 2009, she published *I Am a Rainbow* as her children’s book.

Parton’s album *Pure & Simple* (2016) celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary with *Carl Dean. I Believe In You* (2017) was her first children’s album. *A Holly Dolly Christmas* (2020) sold a million as her holiday collection. *Better Day* (2011) and *Blue Smoke* (2014) were top sellers in the U.K., aided by a triumphant overseas tour in 2014 to Europe, Australia and New Zealand. It was capped by her appearance at England’s Glastonbury Festival before 180,000 fans. The RIAA certified her worldwide record sales at 100 million in 2014.

After wildfires decimated her East Tennessee homeland in 2016, Parton organized and hosted an Emmy Award winning telethon that raised \$8.9 million for victims. By 2018, her Imagination Library had distributed more than 100 million free books to children and had expanded into an international endeavor. To help raise funds for it, the state of Tennessee began offering a Dolly Parton license plate in 2016. Her charity became the subject of the 2020 documentary film *The Library That Dolly Built*. Her film *Coat of Many Colors*, based on her classic song, became one of the highest-rated TV movies in history when it aired on NBC in 2015. Continuing in this vein, her TV movie *Dolly Parton’s Christmas on the Square* won an Emmy Award in 2021.

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the CMA had Parton singing “I Will Always Love You” as the finale of its 2016 all-star recording “Forever Country.” Her enduring ballad thus became a No. 1 country hit yet again. In 2018, Parton provided the soundtrack songs for the movie *Dumplin’*, co-starring Jennifer Aniston.

Dolly Parton ended the decade in a blizzard of activity. In 2019, eight of her songs became Netflix movies; she was honored as the MusiCares Person of the Year by the Recording Academy, starred in the popular NPR podcast “Dolly Parton’s America,” co-hosted the CMA Awards on ABC, introduced her Hallmark Channel movie *Christmas at Dollywood*, wowed the crowd in a surprise appearance at the Newport Folk Festival, and celebrated her 50th anniversary as an Opry member with an NBC special. She also won a 2019 Grammy Award for her Christian-music collaboration with For King & Country on “God Only Knows.” She won another Grammy in this category for her duet with Zach Williams on “There Was Jesus” in 2021.

She entered the new decade at the top of the dance-music charts by singing, co-writing, and doing a music video with the Swedish electronic duo Galantis on its international hit “Faith.” The record remained at No. 1 on the dance charts for five consecutive weeks in 2020. Parton was no stranger to the dance-music community. “Baby I’m Burnin’” (1978) marked her first foray onto the dance hit parade. That up-tempo rampage was followed by disco remixes of such singles as “House of the Rising Sun,” “Potential New Boyfriend,” and “Peace Train.”

Always “dreaming new dreams” as she would say, Parton co-wrote a best-selling novel titled *Run, Rose, Run* in 2022. It had a companion album of newly written songs, and a feature film was planned. Between 2020 and 2025, Parton co-created four other books, *Songteller* (2020), *Behind the Seams* (2023), *Good Lookin’ Cookin’* (2024), and *Star of the Show* (2025).

The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame came calling in 2022. Parton initially declined its offer of induction, stating that she did not think she’d earned it. She eventually acquiesced, and sang “Jolene” at the New York ceremony with Pat Benatar, Annie Lennox, Dave Stewart, Simon Le Bon, Brandi Carlile, and Rob Halford. More than 300 artists have issued versions of “Jolene,” her most recorded song. She won yet another Grammy by singing it with the a cappella group Pentatonix in 2017. Superstar Beyonce included her version of “Jolene” on the million-selling *Cowboy Carter* album of 2024.

The following year, Parton issued a collection of rock-music classics titled *Rockstar*. It included collaborations with Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Sting, Elton John, Sheryl Crow and Lizzo, among others. She became a go-to duet partner for many modern pop/rock artists. Sabrina Carpenter, Kesha, Sia, Post Malone, and Norah Jones have all sung with her in recent years.

A triple album called *Smoky Mountain DNA: Family, Faith and Fables* was issued in 2024. Credited to “Dolly Parton and Family,” the collection represented the star’s reaffirmation of her roots. On it, she collaborated with her mother, uncles, aunts, siblings, cousins, nieces, nephews, and other country-music kin.

After a prolonged decline in health, husband Carl Dean passed away in 2025 at age 82. To deal with her grief, she issued the touching “If You Hadn’t Been There” in his memory, then forged ahead with her career. She staged Nashville previews of a new musical based on her life story. She began rehearsals for a Las Vegas residency at Caesar’s Palace. She launched “Threads” as a touring classical-music show, marrying her songs to various symphony orchestras. To mark her 80th birthday in 2026, she issued “Light of a Clear Blue Morning” as a single and video with Miley Cyrus, Reba McEntire, Lainey Wilson, and Queen Latifah. But overwork caught up with her. In caring for Carl, she had neglected her own health, and she fell ill, cancelling her engagements.

Parton’s demographic is vast. Kids love her; so do seniors. Songwriters revere her. Folkies respect her. Feminists adore her. Rockers dig her. Young or old, gay or straight, Black or white, conservative or liberal, intellectual or redneck — what they all have in common is love for a deeply gifted artist, a luminous personality, and a profound humanitarian.

At Dolly’s request, a small, private service will be held for immediate family. Dolly’s fans and friends from around the world are encouraged to pay tribute to Dolly on social media by tagging @DollyParton or by leaving a message at [www.dolyparton.com](http://www.dolyparton.com).

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made to Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library at [www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com). **MR**



## Dan + Shay Grace Cover Of 2026 MusicRow Awards Issue



*MusicRow*, Nashville's leading music industry publication, has released its 2026 *MusicRow* Awards print issue, with Warner Records Nashville's **Dan + Shay** gracing its cover.

As the first and only artists to win the GRAMMY Award for Best Country Duo/Group Performance three times consecutively, Dan + Shay have entered one of the most prolific seasons of their 13-year career. The global superstars have amassed more than 14 billion streams and 141 worldwide career multi-Platinum, Platinum and Gold sales certifications to date, including 60 U.S. RIAA and 81 international awards. The duo has also won ten ACM Awards, eight American Music Awards, four *Billboard* Music Awards, three GRAMMY Awards, two CMA Awards and two People's Choice Awards. Additionally, in 2024, they became the first-ever coaching duo on NBC's Emmy-winning program *The Voice*.

The celebrated hitmakers continue their musical legacy with their new album, *Young*, out now. Dan + Shay offered the world a message of hope with the album's lead single, "Say So," garnering attention from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The song was followed by new releases, "Marry You Again" and the title track "Young."

The *MusicRow* Awards print issue highlights the 2026 *MusicRow* Awards nominees in a range of categories, including Producer of the Year, Studio of the Year, Label Group of the Year, Talent Agency of the Year, Publishing Company of the Year, Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year, Breakthrough Artist-Writer of the Year, Male Songwriter of the Year, Female Songwriter of the Year, Song of the Year, Discovery Artist of the Year, Breakthrough Artist of the Year, Female Artist of the Year, Male Artist of the Year, Group/Duo Artist of the Year and Entertainer of the Year.

"Turning the pages of this issue puts the reader in awe of how much talent moves through this town in a single year," shares *MusicRow* Owner/Publisher **Sherod Robertson**. "So to everyone in this issue, from the ones with a shelf full of trophies to the ones holding their first nomination, this spotlight is well deserved. It's our privilege to shine this well-deserved spotlight on all of these outstanding talents."

The winners of the 38th annual *MusicRow* Awards will be announced virtually across all *MusicRow* platforms on Wednesday, Sept. 2. The Presenting Sponsor of the 2026 *MusicRow* Awards is City National Bank. This print issue also honors the Top 10 Album All-Star Musicians Award winners, recognizing the studio players who played on the most albums reaching the Top 10 of *Billboard*'s Country Albums Chart during the eligibility period.

The 2026 *MusicRow* Awards print issue also explores how independent labels handle awards season in a conversation with Leo33, and features insights from **Frank Liddell**, **Tofer Brown** and **Joey Moi** on the art of making impactful records.

Single copies of the 2026 *MusicRow* Awards print issue are available for purchase at [musicrow.com](https://musicrow.com) for \$25, and are included with yearly *MusicRow* [subscriptions](#). **MR**



# COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

## CHART ACTION

### New On The Chart—Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Empty Words/Corey Kent/Combustion Music/RCA Records - 69

Bet On That/Blake Whiten/Enchntmnt/Warner Records - 75

When One Door Closes/Steve Anthony/CDX Records - 76

Digging In The Dust/Jason Charles Miller/One Opportunity Records - 78

Live Again/Glen Shelton/Jordash Records - 79

Done For/Max McNown/Magnolia Music Group - 80

### Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Been By Now/Morgan Wallen/Big Loud/Mercury/Republic - 325

Loving Life Again/Ella Langley/SAWGOD Records/Columbia/

Triple Tigers - 241

Jaded/Koe Wetzel feat. Ella Langley/Columbia - 202

Rethink Some Things/Luke Combs/Columbia Nashville - 141

Medicine/Megan Moroney/Sony Music Nashville/Columbia Records - 140

### Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Rethink Some Things/Luke Combs/Columbia Nashville - 7

Jaded/Koe Wetzel feat. Ella Langley/Columbia - 6

Anytime Soon/Jason Aldean/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville - 6

Medicine/Megan Moroney/Sony Music Nashville/Columbia Records - 6

Empty Words/Corey Kent/Combustion Music/RCA Records - 5

Howdy/Cole Goodwin/Nashville Harbor Records - 5

### On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Know It All/Cody Jinks/Late August Records - 135

Cowgirl/Shaboozey/American Dogwood/EMPIRE - 135

Saturday Night/Jonathan Lee/Pacific Standard Entertainment Group - 128

Southern Girl Strut/Kish Moody/K.M. Music - 127

Blame it on the Whiskey/Ty Gregory/Ole Buster Music - 109

## NO. 1 SONG



**Kenny Chesney** notches a fourth week at No. 1 on the *MusicRow* Radio Chart with "Carry On."

The hit comes off of Chesney's twenty-first studio album *Silver Sands Marina* and was written by **Chase McGill**, **Matt Jenkins** and **Jessi Alexander**.

"Carry On" currently sits at No. 9 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart and No. 6 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<br>On Chart | Last<br>Week | This<br>Week | Song / Artist / Label                                                                                   | Spins /<br>Reports | % Spin<br>Power | Spins +/- |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 16                | 1            | 1            | <b>Carry On / Kenny Chesney</b> / HEY NOW Records                                                       | 2273/62            | -4              | -93       |
| 15                | 2            | 2            | <b>Boston / Stella Lefty</b> / Atlantic Outpost                                                         | 2175/58            | -1              | -20       |
| 23                | 4            | 3            | <b>Woman / Kane Brown</b> / RCA Nashville                                                               | 2102/55            | 5               | 107       |
| 12                | 5            | 4            | <b>Phone, Keys, Wallet / Lainey Wilson &amp; John Mayer</b> / Broken Bow Records                        | 2029/64            | 2               | 40        |
| 18                | 3            | 5            | <b>Be By You / Luke Combs</b> / Columbia Nashville                                                      | 1988/47            | -4              | -89       |
| 13                | 6            | 6            | <b>Think As You Drunk / Riley Green</b> / Nashville Harbor                                              | 1982/65            | 4               | 73        |
| 5                 | 13           | 7            | <b>Been By Now / Morgan Wallen</b> / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic                                          | 1891/64            | 21              | 325       |
| 22                | 7            | 8            | <b>Country And She Knows It / Luke Bryan</b> / Capitol Nashville                                        | 1859/58            | 0               | -4        |
| 7                 | 12           | 9            | <b>Loving Life Again / Ella Langley</b> / SAWGOD Records/Columbia/Triple Tigers                         | 1814/63            | 15              | 241       |
| 53                | 10           | 10           | <b>All My Exes / Lauren Alaina feat. Chase Matthew</b> / Big Loud Records                               | 1784/56            | 3               | 55        |
| 21                | 9            | 11           | <b>Say So / Dan + Shay</b> / Warner Records Nashville                                                   | 1676/57            | -5              | -90       |
| 43                | 15           | 12           | <b>Kid Myself / John Morgan</b> / Broken Bow Records                                                    | 1479/46            | 1               | 21        |
| 23                | 16           | 13           | <b>Get To Drinkin' / Zach John King</b> / Sony Music Nashville                                          | 1397/50            | 4               | 54        |
| 9                 | 17           | 14           | <b>Hands Up / Jelly Roll</b> / BMG/Stoney Creek Records                                                 | 1364/58            | 2               | 26        |
| 34                | 18           | 15           | <b>Boots Off / Jon Pardi</b> / MCA                                                                      | 1278/49            | -1              | -7        |
| 27                | 19           | 16           | <b>Painted You Pretty / Hudson Westbrook</b> / River House Artists/Warner Records Nashville             | 1228/55            | 6               | 73        |
| 11                | 20           | 17           | <b>Horseback / Cody Johnson</b> / Cojo Music/Warner Records Nashville                                   | 1216/58            | 7               | 83        |
| 12                | 21           | 18           | <b>I Didn't Come Here To Leave / Chris Young</b> / Black River Entertainment                            | 1161/57            | 4               | 45        |
| 31                | 23           | 19           | <b>Let Him In Anyway / Blake Shelton</b> / Wheelhouse Records                                           | 1088/50            | 10              | 97        |
| 27                | 22           | 20           | <b>Water At A Wedding / Greylan James</b> / Nashville Harbor                                            | 1021/49            | 0               | 5         |
| 25                | 24           | 21           | <b>American Sky / Aaron Tippin</b> / 8-Track Entertainment                                              | 973/44             | 9               | 81        |
| 13                | 26           | 22           | <b>baby blues / Ashley Cooke</b> / Big Loud/Back Blocks                                                 | 895/46             | 8               | 66        |
| 3                 | 32           | 23           | <b>Jaded / Koe Wetzel feat. Ella Langley</b> / Columbia Nashville                                       | 880/48             | 30              | 202       |
| 27                | 29           | 24           | <b>Killin' Me / Parker McCollum</b> / MCA Nashville                                                     | 826/42             | 12              | 86        |
| 15                | 28           | 25           | <b>The Years Are Short / Rodney Atkins</b> / Curb Records                                               | 812/44             | 6               | 43        |
| 6                 | 34           | 26           | <b>Rethink Some Things / Luke Combs</b> / Columbia Nashville                                            | 807/41             | 21              | 141       |
| 22                | 27           | 27           | <b>Good Time Gone / Lexie Stevenson</b> / Lexquisite Music                                              | 804/35             | 1               | 8         |
| 63                | 25           | 28           | <b>Easy To Love / Dustin Lynch</b> / Broken Bow Records                                                 | 804/38             | -4              | -32       |
| 15                | 38           | 29           | <b>Medicine / Megan Moroney</b> / Sony Music Nashville/Columbia Records                                 | 781/42             | 22              | 140       |
| 20                | 30           | 30           | <b>Something That I Need / Carson Beyer</b> / Lucky Money Entertainment                                 | 761/39             | 4               | 28        |
| 18                | 33           | 31           | <b>Son of Jolene / Belles with Dolly Parton</b> / East Music Row Records                                | 735/43             | 9               | 61        |
| 37                | 35           | 32           | <b>Worth Your Wild / Russell Dickerson</b> / Triple Tigers                                              | 708/35             | 6               | 42        |
| 14                | 36           | 33           | <b>Better That Way / Charles Wesley Godwin feat. Luke Combs</b> / Big Loud Records/Sony Music Nashville | 684/42             | 3               | 20        |
| 29                | 37           | 34           | <b>Holdin' It Down / Chase Matthew</b> / Warner Records Nashville                                       | 650/37             | 0               | 0         |
| 23                | 40           | 35           | <b>Tell Me That There Ain't A God / Jon Brennan</b> / CDX Records                                       | 639/29             | 6               | 34        |
| 14                | 31           | 36           | <b>Land / Tyler Hubbard</b> / Mercury Nashville                                                         | 635/37             | -8              | -52       |
| 10                | 43           | 37           | <b>Message in a Bottle / Jo Dee Messina</b> / Dreambound Records                                        | 597/34             | 14              | 75        |
| 4                 | 47           | 38           | <b>Anytime Soon / Jason Aldean</b> / BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville                                      | 589/37             | 27              | 127       |

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| Weeks<br>On Chart | Last<br>Week | This<br>Week | Song / Artist / Label                                                                    | Spins /<br>Reports | % Spin<br>Power | Spins +/- |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 18                | 42           | 39           | <b>Wouldn't Want Me Either</b> / Erica Nicole / Kent Wells Productions                   | 572/31             | 3               | 15        |
| 13                | 44           | 40           | <b>High Noon</b> / Jenna Paulette / Leo33                                                | 526/36             | 5               | 23        |
| 52                | 41           | 41           | <b>Long Live Country</b> / Shane Profitt / Triple Tigers                                 | 526/25             | -6              | -34       |
| 8                 | 45           | 42           | <b>Dear Big City</b> / Dylan Scott / Curb Records                                        | 509/37             | 8               | 39        |
| 12                | 46           | 43           | <b>End This Way</b> / Braden Hull / Melody Place                                         | 472/37             | 1               | 3         |
| 17                | 48           | 44           | <b>Just A Mom</b> / Alex Miller / Billy Jam Records                                      | 459/28             | 3               | 12        |
| 7                 | 49           | 45           | <b>Who Told You That</b> / Tucker Wetmore / Back Blocks Music/MCA/Mercury Records        | 457/30             | 6               | 26        |
| 16                | 52           | 46           | <b>Nothing On You</b> / Jet Jurgensmeyer / Simba Entertainment, LLC                      | 450/25             | 13              | 52        |
| 19                | 53           | 47           | <b>Exes In Texas</b> / Porter Martin / Lovable Losers Music                              | 405/28             | 4               | 15        |
| 10                | 51           | 48           | <b>Girl Dad</b> / Cole Swindell / Warner Records Nashville                               | 392/30             | -3              | -12       |
| 19                | 55           | 49           | <b>Move On</b> / Kevin Powers & Shaboozey / American Dogwood/EMPIRE                      | 386/25             | 6               | 21        |
| 13                | 58           | 50           | <b>Family Man</b> / Trey Pendley / Leo33                                                 | 366/28             | 13              | 42        |
| 28                | 56           | 51           | <b>Straight For The Heart</b> / Alexandra Kay / Wheelhouse Records                       | 347/18             | -5              | -18       |
| 13                | 60           | 52           | <b>What Took You So Long</b> / Jacob Hackworth / MCA Nashville                           | 338/25             | 12              | 35        |
| 6                 | 61           | 53           | <b>Cowboy On The Run</b> / Kelly & Sarah / Kelly Sarah Music                             | 329/22             | 15              | 42        |
| 13                | 57           | 54           | <b>Me &amp; God And a Fishing Pole</b> / Skip Ewing / Vere Music                         | 325/27             | -2              | -7        |
| 15                | 59           | 55           | <b>If I Go Missin'</b> / Tim & The Glory Boys / Buckaroo Records                         | 310/20             | -2              | -6        |
| 5                 | 64           | 56           | <b>Drinkin' Town</b> / Laura Bryna / LTD Entertainment powered by Regime Music Group     | 307/20             | 14              | 38        |
| 3                 | 65           | 57           | <b>underneath the harvest moon</b> / Harper Grace / Curb Records                         | 300/23             | 13              | 35        |
| 27                | 50           | 58           | <b>What If We Don't</b> / Ashley McBryde / Warner Records Nashville                      | 298/16             | -30             | -129      |
| 14                | 62           | 59           | <b>We Make America Run</b> / Ansel Brown / ABM Records                                   | 293/18             | 2               | 7         |
| 8                 | 68           | 60           | <b>Small Town</b> / Rebekah Snyder / CDX Records                                         | 279/17             | 9               | 24        |
| 8                 | 71           | 61           | <b>Howdy</b> / Cole Goodwin / Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment                   | 277/23             | 16              | 38        |
| 5                 | 66           | 62           | <b>Say La V</b> / Joe Nichols / Quartz Hill Records                                      | 277/18             | 5               | 13        |
| 4                 | 72           | 63           | <b>Highway Robbery</b> / Jason Scott & The High Heat / Leo33                             | 274/19             | 16              | 38        |
| 21                | 69           | 64           | <b>Never Comin' Back</b> / Flatland Cavalry / Lost Highway                               | 261/17             | 4               | 9         |
| 12                | 67           | 65           | <b>For You Girl</b> / Robert Ross / CDX Records                                          | 258/13             | -1              | -3        |
| 11                | 70           | 66           | <b>Goodbye Looks Like</b> / Johnathon Heilbroun / Johnathon Heilbroun Music              | 247/17             | 2               | 6         |
| 9                 | 74           | 67           | <b>The Grass Looks Greener</b> / Karly C / Quirky Cowgirl Records                        | 234/18             | 3               | 6         |
| 2                 | 79           | 68           | <b>Wannabe</b> / Gavin Adcock / Warner Records Nashville                                 | 216/16             | 21              | 38        |
| 1                 | 83           | 69           | <b>Empty Words</b> / Corey Kent / Combustion Music/RCA Records                           | 210/16             | 36              | 56        |
| 5                 | 75           | 70           | <b>Thank You For This Moment</b> / Brad Lee Schroeder / Stray Bullet Records/CDX Records | 209/10             | -3              | -6        |
| 22                | 73           | 71           | <b>Good Damn</b> / Brantley Gilbert / BBR Music Group/BMG/Wheelhouse Records             | 208/17             | -12             | -28       |
| 8                 | 76           | 72           | <b>Whiskey And Vinyl</b> / Stephen Styles / Plow House Records                           | 205/14             | -1              | -3        |
| 14                | 80           | 73           | <b>Love is Blind</b> / Ian Munsick / Triple Tigers Records                               | 203/13             | 21              | 35        |
| 2                 | 78           | 74           | <b>Nowhere Town</b> / Jacob Smalley / Jacob Smalley Music                                | 197/13             | 6               | 11        |
| 1                 | 91           | 75           | <b>Bet On That</b> / Blake Whiten / Enchtmnt/Warner Records                              | 182/13             | 54              | 64        |
| 1                 | 81           | 76           | <b>When One Door Closes</b> / Steve Anthony / CDX Records                                | 173/10             | 5               | 8         |
| 4                 | 77           | 77           | <b>King of Coal Dust County</b> / Adam Chaffins / Sprit Music                            | 171/13             | -9              | -17       |
| 1                 | 82           | 78           | <b>Digging In The Dust</b> / Jason Charles Miller / One Opportunity Records              | 168/12             | 3               | 5         |
| 1                 | 89           | 79           | <b>Live Again</b> / Glen Shelton / Jordash Records                                       | 155/13             | 27              | 33        |
| 1                 | 85           | 80           | <b>Done For</b> / Max McNown / Magnolia Music Group                                      | 141/7              | -3              | -5        |

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  Greatest Spin Increase
  Highest Debut

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## Legendary Entertainment Executive & Artist Manager Dale Morris Passes Away



Dale Morris. Photo: Courtesy of Morris Higham Management

Legendary entertainment executive and artist manager **Dale Morris** has passed away at the age of 89.

A Nashville industry leader for almost seven decades, Morris found his initial success as a songwriter, landing Johnny Paycheck in the Top 5 with "Don't Monkey With Another Monkey's Monkey."

Over the years, Morris signed and worked with many of country music's top acts, including Country Music Hall of Fame inductees Alabama and Kenny Chesney, through his company, Dale Morris & Associates. Inducted into the International Entertainment Buyers Association's Hall of Fame in 2010, Morris built an internationally renowned staging company, known as Morris Light & Sound, to ensure cutting-edge production elements for his artists. In 2018, Morris sold the Dale Morris Agency to Paradigm, now known as The-Team, retaining autonomy for his agents in the process.

Morris was married to his wife Earline for 68 years and the couple had one son, Tim, who preceded him in death. They loved and took great pride in being involved in the lives of their daughter-in-law Jennifer, their grandchildren Zack, Colton (and wife Mary Blair), Nick (and wife Shelby) and Kendall, and great-grandchildren Mary Dee and Gus.

A Celebration for Life will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#). **MR**

## Ryan Beuschel Elevated To Co-Head At The Neal Agency



Ryan Beuschel. Photo: Nathan Chapman

**Ryan Beuschel** has been promoted to Co-Head at The Neal Agency after three years of serving as General Manager. He joins co-heads **Adi Sharma** and Founder/CEO **Austin Neal**.

During his time as GM, Beuschel helped grow the company's roster to more than 30 clients and launched TNA Music Publishing and artist development arm, Cervidae Records. In his new role, he will help lead office operations and oversee teams focused on touring, film, television and brand partnerships. He will also continue to oversee the publishing and artist development departments he helped build.

"Working alongside Adi, Ryan has been instrumental in accelerating growth for our roster while significantly elevating the tools and services at our clients' disposal," shares Neal.

Originally from Michigan, Beuschel began his career as an A&R Manager at Universal Music Group. He later worked at ASCAP as Associate Director of Membership and at Warner Chappell Music as Vice President of A&R.

While at Warner Chappell, Beuschel was named to *Billboard's* 40 Under 40 list for signing some of country music's fastest-rising artists. He also worked with established artists and songwriters, including TNA clients Riley Green and Bailey Zimmerman. **MR**

## SOURCE Nashville Hall Of Fame Inducts Six More ‘Women Behind The Music’ [Recap]



Pictured (L-R): Cris Lacy, Paige Conners, Carla Wallace, Margie McGahey, Sherry Oakley and Debbie Carroll. Photo: Bev Moser, Moments By Moser

SOURCE Nashville hosted the annual SOURCE Hall of Fame Awards Tuesday night (Aug. 25) at the Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum inside Nashville’s historic Municipal Auditorium, gathering industry insiders, songwriters, artists, producers, family and friends for the beloved event.

Six more “women behind the music” were inducted into the prestigious hall: **Debbie Cheek Carroll, Paige Conners, Cris Lacy, Sherry Oakley, Margie McGahey** and **Carla Wallace**. The evening was hosted by Grand Ole Opry star **Mandy Barnett** and radio/TV personality **Kelly Sutton**.

After enjoying dinner, attendees were greeted by Sutton, who took a moment to honor **Dolly Parton** following the news of her death earlier in the day.

Founded in 1991 by **Shelia Shipley Biddy, Judy Harris** and **Pat Rolfe**, SOURCE is Nashville’s longest-running organization for women in the music industry, dedicated to fostering relationships, education, networking and community service. The SOURCE Awards, created by **Kay Smith** in 2003, honor the “women behind the music” who have shaped Nashville’s music business.

Carroll was the first inductee to be honored. Her career has included time as a private practice therapist, MusiCares and Onsite Entertainment. She currently serves as Executive Director of the Belmont University Center for Mental Health in Entertainment. She was honored with some words of praise from **Michael McDonald**. Carroll shared her gratitude for the people around her who showed her the meaning of integrity and determination, and the people who trusted her with some of their most challenging moments.

Next to be honored was Conners. She impacted the Nashville music industry during her time CBS Records/Sony Music Nashville, Warner Bros. Records Nashville, Paul Worley Productions, Nashville Musicians Association and AFM Local 257.

She was honored with a video message from **Paul Worley**, who spoke of their long working relationship. Conners shared her appreciation for her family and colleagues who have championed her professional journey at home and in the office.

Warner Records Nashville’s Lacy followed. **Al Andrews** congratulated her via video. Lacy spoke of her gratitude for the community that has surrounded her through the last few years during a challenging season.

McGahey, who has spent time at WSM Radio/Grand Ole Opry, Country Music Association and 101.7 The WORM, was honored next with a video from **Bill Anderson**.

BMI’s Oakley was the next to be inducted. She began her career at just 17 years old. **Patsy Bradley** congratulated her via video.

Wallace was the final honoree to be inducted. She founded Big Yellow Dog Music in 1998 with Kerry O’Neil. **Meghan Trainor** congratulated her via video message. Wallace first discovered Trainor at a song camp in Colorado in 2009 and signed her to a publishing deal. **MR**

## WME Elevates Sara Williams To Head Of Music Marketing



Sara Williams. Photo: Courtesy of WME

WME has elevated **Sara Williams** to Head of Music Marketing. Williams will continue to be based in Nashville and will now report to **Kirk Sommer**, Global Head of Music for WME.

In her new role, Williams oversees the full music marketing team. Since joining WME's music marketing team in 2019, she has led strategic efforts for a range of clients, including Luke Combs, Duran Duran, Zach Bryan, Puscifer, Kane Brown, Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit, Coheed and Cambria, Weezer and more. Before joining WME, Williams led the marketing department at AEG Presents Rocky Mountains in Denver and started her career in radio marketing and promotions. She is an alumna of the University of Colorado, Boulder.

"Since joining WME, Sara has been an inspiring and trusted presence, built terrific relationships across the agency, and brought fresh thinking to our artists' touring business," says Sommer. "She is a natural fit to run our music marketing group and we're excited to continue growing this offering under her leadership."

**Levi Jackson**, who previously oversaw WME's music marketing division, has moved onto WME's Brand Strategy team as VP, Music reporting into group head **Robbie Henchman**. *MR*

## Riser House Entertainment Adds Anna Widmer As VP Of Promotion

Riser House Entertainment has added **Anna Widmer** as VP of Promotion, effective at the beginning of September.

A graduate of Belmont University's Music Business Program, Widmer began her career at Cold River Records before joining MCA Nashville as Director of Promotion – West. Widmer joins Riser House Entertainment from Sony Music Nashville, where she served as Director of Radio Marketing and Promotion – Midwest, following her previous role as Director of Promotion and Artist Development – Southeast.

"Anna is an absolute superstar who works tirelessly on behalf of her artists and radio partners, and her body of work is truly a benchmark for excellence," shares **Shane Allen**, EVP of Promotion & Artist Brand Strategy. "I'm thrilled to welcome her to the Riser House Entertainment family."

Widmer joins Riser House Entertainment's growing promotion team alongside VP of Promotion **Jeff Davis** and Director of Regional Promotion **Paul Grosser**. *MR*



Anna Widmer. Photo: Courtesy of Riser House Entertainment



## Phil Barton Signs Publishing Deal With BMG



Pictured (L-R): Gracie Glass (Liz Rose Music), Scott Ponce (Liz Rose Music), Liz Rose (Liz Rose Music), Phil Barton, Amy Hendon Scott (BMG), Kate Shirley (BMG), Chris Oglesby (BMG) and Dave Pacula (BMG). Photo: Jackson James

**Phil Barton** has signed a publishing deal with BMG in partnership with Liz Rose Music.

With more than 900 cuts, Barton first broke through with Lee Brice's No. 1 hit "A Woman Like You," earning *MusicRow's* Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year honor and an NSAI "Ten Songs I Wish I'd Written" award. Since then, he has built an internationally respected catalog spanning country, pop and children's music, with songs recorded by artists including Sara Evans, Gabby Barrett, Dustin Lynch, Eli Young Band, Priscilla Block, Matt Stell, LOCASH, Alison Krauss, Ashley McBryde and David Nail. His song "Cowboy's Duty" was also featured in the Oscar-nominated film *Sicario*, while his work has earned multiple No. 1 and Top 10 hits across both North America and Australia.

"So excited to start this new chapter of writing with the BMG publishing family and continue my amazing relationship with Liz Rose Music," says Barton. "Amy Hendon Scott was my first believer in this town, so to be reunited with her and work alongside the incredible people at BMG and **Liz Rose** Music is truly a dream. As an Australian Nashvillian, I never take for granted being surrounded by such an outstanding team."

"We couldn't be happier to welcome Phil to BMG," says **Amy Hendon Scott**, Director, Creative, BMG Publishing. "I've believed in Phil since the beginning, so getting the opportunity to work together again makes this partnership especially meaningful." **MR**

## Scott Borchetta Launches Borchetta Spirits & Beverage Co. [Exclusive]

# BORCHETTA

SPIRITS & BEVERAGE COMPANY

**Scott Borchetta** has launched Borchetta Spirits & Beverage Co. (BSBC), a Nashville-owned and operated parent company that brings together five Tennessee spirit brands and three destinations. As part of its debut, the company's downtown Nashville location, formerly known as Big Machine Brewery & Distillery, was renamed The Borchetta Bourbon Experience on Wednesday (Aug. 26).

BSBC will oversee the company's growing family of spirit brands including Pickers Vodka, Borchetta Bourbon, Whisper Creek Tennessee Sipping Cream, Clayton James Tennessee Whiskey and Big Machine Platinum Filtered Vodka. Each brand will continue to operate under its own identity while drawing on shared resources, distribution and strategic direction from BSBC.

"We approach our portfolio of spirit brands the same way we've built our award-winning record company, its artists, and our championship-winning motorsports teams – lifestyle, quality, passion, individuality, and experience," says Borchetta, Founder of Borchetta Spirits & Beverage Co. "Those key attributes apply to and are the center of Borchetta Bourbon, Pickers Vodka, Whisper Creek Tennessee Sipping Cream, Clayton James Tennessee Whiskey, and Big Machine Platinum Filtered Vodka. Now these five great brands are the celebrated focus of our newly launched Borchetta Bourbon Experience location at 122 3rd. Avenue South in Downtown Nashville."

Big Machine Distillery & Tavern in Berry Hill will continue operating under its current name. Big Machine Distillery in Lynnville, Tennessee, where the company's spirits are produced and packaged, will also retain its name. **MR**

## Kenny Whitmire Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut



Kenny Whitmire makes his Grand Ole Opry debut. Photo: Emma Kate Golden

Rising MCA artist **Kenny Whitmire** made his Grand Ole Opry debut last Tuesday night (Aug. 18).

Launching into his debut with a solo rendition of his newest single, "Movin' On's Movin' In" feat. Vince Gill, Whitmire fulfilled a lifelong dream in front of the Tuesday night Opry crowd. He followed that up with his breakthrough viral hit, "I Gave Her The Moon," punctuated by the backing of the Opry's renowned house band.

Whitmire returns to the road this week, wrapping his summer-long run with Billy Currington this weekend before joining Luke Bryan's "[Farm Tour 2026](#)" for four dates this fall, and serving as support on Hudson Westbrook's "[Hits Me Tour](#)." He also has his own slate of

["Ain't Hard Livin' Tour"](#) headlining dates on tap for the fall as well. **MR**

## Troy Cartwright Receives Standing Ovation During Grand Ole Opry Debut

**Troy Cartwright** stepped into the Grand Ole Opry circle for the first time last week.

The Dallas native made his Opry debut performing two unreleased songs, "One Summer When I Was Young" and "Shoulders."

"Country music specifically is such a special genre because places like the Grand Ole Opry preserve the history and cherish memories made there," Cartwright shared as he got off stage. "Standing in that circle for the first time, not only do I carry with me all of those who have come before me, but I get to look out into the audience and see my parents, my wife and my son. I am so honored to make my Opry debut and even more honored to share it with those who mean the most to me."

Cartwright received his first guitar at age 13. As a songwriter signed to Big Machine Publishing, Cartwright has written songs recorded by Cody Johnson, Lee Brice, Ryan Hurd, Nickelback and several others. Through his own releases, Cartwright garnered over 250 million streams to date and shared stages with HARDY, LANCO, Hayes Carll and more. He is the host of *Ten Year Town* podcast. **MR**



Troy Cartwright. Photo: Matt Paskert

## Brandon Wisham Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut



Brandon Wisham

**Brandon Wisham** made his Grand Ole Opry debut Wednesday night (Aug. 26).

Introduced by fellow artist **Mae Estes**, Wisham performed “Other Side of Lonely,” “Back Together” and “Growin’ Up.” He dedicated his set to the late [Dolly Parton](#) before marking the career-defining night with a deeply personal tribute to his late father, who passed away during the COVID-19 pandemic, by carrying his father’s boots into the circle and placing them beside him as he performed.

The South Carolina native has amassed more than 14 million streams and 23 million social media views, and shared stages with Tyler Hubbard, Bailey Zimmerman, Nate Smith, Priscilla Block, Lakeview, Austin Snell and more. His debut EP, *Ain’t What It Looks Like*, is available now. He has upcoming shows in Illinois, North Carolina and Georgia. **MR**

## Conner Moye Inks With Concord Music Publishing



Pictured (L-R, back row): Ellie Gray, Matt Turner, Courtney Allen, Shaugnessy Elstroth and Claire Buchanan. (L-R, front row): Brad Kennard, Conner Moye and Melissa Spillman. Photo: Audrey Spillman

Singer-songwriter **Conner Moye** has signed a global publishing deal with Concord Music Publishing.

Based in Nashville, Moye grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina, where he developed an early love for storytelling and country music. He graduated from Belmont University and has since collaborated with artists including Brandon Wisham, Nightly, Georgia Webster and Faith Hopkins.

Moye combines traditional country storytelling with a contemporary indie-acoustic sound, writing about complex subjects including loss, alcoholism and romantic devotion. This past year, he released “Feel Twice” and is teasing more new music on social media. Moye performed at this year’s CMA Fest in Nashville during STEM and Concord Music Publishing’s Rooftop Roundup showcase on Broadway.

“I’m incredibly grateful and honored to join the Concord Publishing family,” says Moye. “Songwriting, for me has always been about connection and writing honest stories. I can already tell that the family-like environment Concord provides is the right place for me to dive deeper into my development as a songwriter and artist. I’m especially grateful to **Melissa Spillman** and the entire Concord team for believing in me. I’m excited for what’s ahead and can’t wait to see what we create together.” **MR**



## DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Wynonna's 'Emotional Ballad' Nabs Disc Of The Day



Wynonna Judd. Photo: Thomas Crabtree

Women are in the driver's seat in today's DISCLAIMER column.

Leading the pack is Wynonna with her powerful Disc of the Day performance. Such sisters in song as Reba, Ashley Cooke, Emily Ann Roberts, Kaitlin Butts, Mae Estes, Tigirlily Gold and the dynamic duo of Jenny Tolman & Gretchen Wilson are adding their voices to this playlist.

The trend of the day is an avalanche of Dolly tribute tracks by Miley Cyrus, Pink, Chris Stapleton, Ella Langley, Alan Jackson, Celine Dion, Keith Urban, Rihanna, Jelly Roll, Ed Sheeran, and others. These tunes are apparently AI generated.

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

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### MORE TOP STORIES

[Bailey Zimmerman Notches Sixth Career No. 1](#)

[Bailey Zimmerman To Headline Wags & Walks Nashville's Third Annual Benefit](#)

[Brothers Osborne Slate Fifth Studio Album 'Watertown' For October](#)

[Bluegrass Great Pat Enright Passes](#)

[Country Music Journalist & Author Vernell Hackett Passes](#)

[Dolly Parton's Team Shares Update On Projects In The Pipeline](#)

[Dollywood Foundation Honors Dolly Parton's Life & Legacy](#)

[Duetti Opens New Music Row Office](#)

[Gavin Adcock Reveals Track List For Upcoming Album](#)

['Girls In Low Places' Signs With WME](#)

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[Megan Moroney Takes Nashville To 'Cloud 9' \[Recap\]](#)

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[Radio Veteran Ted Cramer Dies](#)

[Services Set For Actor Buck Ford](#)

[Wyatt McCubbin Readies Debut Album For October](#)

[SiriusXM Honors Dolly With Dolly Parton Tribute Channel](#)

[United States Flags To Be Flown At Half-Staff In Memory Of Dolly Parton](#)

# TOP SONGWRITER CHART

| This Week | Last Week | Songwriter's Name         | Song(s)                                                                                                    | Artist                                                                                                                          |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1         | 1         | <b>Ella Langley</b>       | Be Her<br>Bottom Of Your Boots<br>Choosin' Texas<br>I Can't Love You Anymore<br>Jaded<br>Loving Life Again | Ella Langley<br>Ella Langley<br>Ella Langley<br>Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen<br>Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley)<br>Ella Langley |
| 2         | 2         | <b>Chase McGill</b>       | Carry On<br>Hands Up<br>McArthur<br>Water At A Wedding                                                     | Kenny Chesney<br>Jelly Roll<br>HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw<br>Greytan James                                  |
| 3         | 14        | <b>Jordan M. Schmidt</b>  | Be Her<br>Jaded<br>Kid Myself<br>Who Told You That                                                         | Ella Langley<br>Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley)<br>John Morgan<br>Tucker Wetmore                                                |
| 4         | 3         | <b>Joybeth Taylor</b>     | Choosin' Texas<br>Empty Words<br>I Can't Love You Anymore                                                  | Ella Langley<br>Corey Kent<br>Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen                                                                      |
| 5         | 4         | <b>Austin Goodloe</b>     | Empty Words<br>I Can't Love You Anymore<br>No Need For Leavin'                                             | Corey Kent<br>Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen<br>Kameron Marlowe                                                                   |
| 6         | 5         | <b>Taylor Swift</b>       | I Knew It, I Knew You                                                                                      | Taylor Swift                                                                                                                    |
| 7         | 6         | <b>Jack Antonoff</b>      | I Knew It, I Knew You                                                                                      | Taylor Swift                                                                                                                    |
| 8         | 7         | <b>John Byron</b>         | Been By Now<br>Don't We<br>Woman                                                                           | Morgan Wallen<br>Morgan Wallen<br>Kane Brown                                                                                    |
| 9         | 8         | <b>Michael Hardy</b>      | Be Her<br>GOOD DAMN<br>Hands Up<br>Let Him In Anyway<br>McArthur                                           | Ella Langley<br>Brantley Gilbert<br>Jelly Roll<br>Blake Shelton<br>HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw               |
| 10        | 32        | <b>Ernest Keith Smith</b> | Jaded<br>Loving Life Again<br>Wannabe                                                                      | Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley)<br>Ella Langley<br>Gavin Adcock                                                                 |
| 11        | 10        | <b>Jessi Alexander</b>    | Carry On<br>Medicine<br>Think As You Drunk                                                                 | Kenny Chesney<br>Megan Moroney<br>Riley Green                                                                                   |
| 12        | 9         | <b>John Morgan</b>        | Don't Tell On Me<br>Kid Myself                                                                             | Jason Aldean<br>John Morgan                                                                                                     |
| 13        | 11        | <b>Rocky Block</b>        | Been By Now<br>Don't We<br>Hands Up                                                                        | Morgan Wallen<br>Morgan Wallen<br>Jelly Roll                                                                                    |
| 14        | 12        | <b>Parker Welling</b>     | Country And She Knows It<br>Ride, Ride, Ride<br>Worth Your Wild                                            | Luke Bryan<br>George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan)<br>Russell Dickerson                                                              |
| 15        | 13        | <b>Ashley Gorley</b>      | Don't We<br>Hurts Like You<br>Who Told You That<br>Woman                                                   | Morgan Wallen<br>Koe Wetzel<br>Tucker Wetmore<br>Kane Brown                                                                     |
| 16        | 16        | <b>Ben Johnson</b>        | All My Exes<br>Easy To Love<br>Woman                                                                       | Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)<br>Dustin Lynch<br>Kane Brown                                                               |
| 17        | 15        | <b>Tyler Hubbard</b>      | Kid Myself<br>Land<br>Ride, Ride, Ride                                                                     | John Morgan<br>Tyler Hubbard<br>George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan)                                                                 |

| This Week | Last Week | Songwriter's Name         | Song(s)                                                          | Artist                                                                              |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18        | 22        | <b>Taylor Phillips</b>    | Been By Now<br>GOOD DAMN<br>Woman                                | Morgan Wallen<br>Brantley Gilbert<br>Kane Brown                                     |
| 19        | 18        | <b>Dan Alley</b>          | Be By You                                                        | Luke Combs                                                                          |
| 20        | 19        | <b>Sam Banks</b>          | Be By You                                                        | Luke Combs                                                                          |
| 21        | 20        | <b>Nick Walsh</b>         | Be By You                                                        | Luke Combs                                                                          |
| 22        | 17        | <b>Luke Laird</b>         | Boots Off<br>Dry Spell<br>Mexico Honey<br>Never Comin' Back      | Jon Pardi<br>Kacey Musgraves<br>Kacey Musgraves<br>Flatland Cavalry                 |
| 23        | 21        | <b>Morgan Wallen</b>      | Been By Now<br>Don't We<br>Wannabe                               | Morgan Wallen<br>Morgan Wallen<br>Gavin Adcock                                      |
| 24        | 27        | <b>STELLA LEFTY</b>       | Boston<br>I Know I Know<br>Lean In, Kiss Me<br>Something To Lose | STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)  |
| 25        | 28        | <b>Grace Enger</b>        | Boston<br>I Know I Know<br>Lean In, Kiss Me<br>Something To Lose | STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)  |
| 26        | 24        | <b>Blake Pendergrass</b>  | Been By Now<br>Don't We                                          | Morgan Wallen<br>Morgan Wallen                                                      |
| 27        | 25        | <b>Ryan Vojtesak</b>      | Been By Now<br>Don't We                                          | Morgan Wallen<br>Morgan Wallen                                                      |
| 28        | 23        | <b>Lydia Vaughan</b>      | Don't Tell On Me<br>Empty Words                                  | Jason Aldean<br>Corey Kent                                                          |
| 29        | 31        | <b>Jon Decious</b>        | No Need For Leavin'<br>Phone, Keys, Wallet<br>Something To Lose  | Kameron Marlowe<br>Lainey Wilson & John Mayer<br>STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason) |
| 30        | 30        | <b>Matt Dragstrem</b>     | Country And She Knows It<br>Water At A Wedding                   | Luke Bryan<br>Greylan James                                                         |
| 31        | 29        | <b>Riley Green</b>        | Imagine That<br>My Way<br>Think As You Drunk                     | Riley Green<br>Riley Green<br>Riley Green                                           |
| 32        | 33        | <b>Matt Jenkins</b>       | Carry On                                                         | Kenny Chesney                                                                       |
| 33        | 39        | <b>Mack Geiger</b>        | String By                                                        | Mack Geiger                                                                         |
| 34        | 34        | <b>Wyatt McCubbin</b>     | Boots Off<br>Horseback<br>Think As You Drunk                     | Jon Pardi<br>Cody Johnson<br>Riley Green                                            |
| 35        | 35        | <b>Devin Dawson</b>       | Loving Life Again                                                | Ella Langley                                                                        |
| 36        | 36        | <b>Luke Dick</b>          | Choosin' Texas<br>Something To Lose                              | Ella Langley<br>STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)                                  |
| 37        | 40        | <b>Zach Top</b>           | South Of Sanity                                                  | Zach Top                                                                            |
| 38        | 41        | <b>Mark Nesler</b>        | South Of Sanity                                                  | Zach Top                                                                            |
| 39        | 42        | <b>Carson Chamberlain</b> | South Of Sanity                                                  | Zach Top                                                                            |
| 40        | 37        | <b>Kurt Allison</b>       | Don't Tell On Me                                                 | Jason Aldean                                                                        |
| 41        | 38        | <b>Tully Kennedy</b>      | Don't Tell On Me                                                 | Jason Aldean                                                                        |
| 42        | 50        | <b>Joe Reeves</b>         | Boston<br>I Know I Know<br>Lean In, Kiss Me                      | STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY                                        |
| 43        | 51        | <b>Jacob Kasher</b>       | Boston<br>I Know I Know<br>Lean In, Kiss Me                      | STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY<br>STELLA LEFTY                                        |
| 44        | 48        | <b>Casey Brown</b>        | Ride, Ride, Ride<br>Worth Your Wild                              | George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan)<br>Russell Dickerson                                |
| 45        | 44        | <b>Christian Yancey</b>   | Hate How You Look                                                | Josh Ross                                                                           |
| 46        | 45        | <b>Jessica Farren</b>     | Hate How You Look                                                | Josh Ross                                                                           |
| 47        | 46        | <b>Nicholas Sainato</b>   | Hate How You Look                                                | Josh Ross                                                                           |
| 48        | 47        | <b>Chris McKenna</b>      | Hate How You Look                                                | Josh Ross                                                                           |



| This Week | Last Week | Songwriter's Name | Song(s)                                                 | Artist                                           |
|-----------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 49        | 49        | Josh Miller       | Country And She Knows It                                | Luke Bryan                                       |
| 50        | 52        | Noah Kahan        | Boston                                                  | STELLA LEFTY                                     |
| 51        | 163       | Ropyr Wetzel      | Hurts Like You<br>Jaded                                 | Koe Wetzel<br>Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley)    |
| 52        | 43        | Kacey Musgraves   | Dry Spell<br>Mexico Honey                               | Kacey Musgraves<br>Kacey Musgraves               |
| 53        | 55        | Bailey Zimmerman  | Chevy Silverado                                         | Bailey Zimmerman                                 |
| 54        | 56        | Heath Warren      | Chevy Silverado                                         | Bailey Zimmerman                                 |
| 55        | 57        | Gavin Lucas       | Chevy Silverado                                         | Bailey Zimmerman                                 |
| 56        | 58        | Ilsey Juber       | Chevy Silverado                                         | Bailey Zimmerman                                 |
| 57        | 59        | Tucker Beathard   | Chevy Silverado                                         | Bailey Zimmerman                                 |
| 58        | 54        | Steph Jones       | Hurts Like You<br>Mexico Honey<br>What Took You So Long | Koe Wetzel<br>Kacey Musgraves<br>Jacob Hackworth |
| 59        | 60        | Kane Brown        | Woman                                                   | Kane Brown                                       |
| 60        | 61        | Josh Thompson     | McArthur                                                | HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw   |

## Newly Added Job Listings

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### **Centricity Publishing: Creative Director**

The Creative Director will be involved in all creative aspects of Centricity's publishing company. The successful candidate will have proven experience building and maintaining relationships with artists and in the entertainment industry, overseeing writer development and growth, and creating significant ministry and revenue generating opportunities for the roster. You will use your demonstrated skills to provide vision casting, strategy, encouragement, and support for Centricity songwriters, while also delivering constructive song feedback and critique to our songwriters as appropriate. The ability to connect our songwriters with key players within the industry, including A&R, producers, managers, etc. is vital.

**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

#### August 28

**Max McNow**/Comets/Fugitive Recordings  
**Gavin Adcock**/Anymore/Thrivin' Here Records/Warner Records Nashville  
**Corey Kent**/Everyday Life/Sony Music Nashville  
**Dylan Gossett**/Clothesline/Big Loud Texas/Mercury Records  
**Jonah Kagen**/Don't Feel Right/Arista Records  
**Bryan Martin**/Complex/Average Joes Entertainment  
**Anne Wilson**/Who I Am To You/Capitol Christian Music Group  
**Matthew West**/Here and Heaven/Story House Collective  
**Austin Snell**/If I Were The Devil/River House Artists/Warner Records Nashville  
**Noah James**/Colorado Sun/Santa Anna Nashville  
**Laci Kaye Booth & Lukas Nelson**/The Illusion Of Love/Lost Highway  
**Matthew Goodnough**/Gone For Good/Santa Anna Nashville  
**Benny G**/Poor Blind Birds/Sony Music Nashville  
**Jacob Hackworth**/I Wanna Quit/MCA  
**Taylor Austin Dye**/Bad Drunk/Red Street Records  
**Alex Orbison (feat. Erika Orbison)**/Let's Put It to Music  
**Brooke Lee**/Mess of It/Spirit Music/2Mix Music  
**Caryn Dixon**/Where I've Been

#### August 31

**Robby Johnson**/Already Broken  
**Greg Pratt**/Cheap Seats/PGMG NASHVILLE  
**Randy Cobb**/Resistol/South Sixty Five Entertainment Group  
**Lonny Ray**/Farm Sure Needs Some Rain

### Album/EP Releases

#### August 28

**Dustin Lynch**/*Setlist Staples – 10 #1's*/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville  
**Little Big Town**/*It's A Dying Art*/MCA  
**Lauren Alaina**/*Stages*/Big Loud  
**Carly Pearce**/*Honest Woman*/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville  
**Billy Strings**/*So Much for Goodbyes*/Reprise Records  
**Zach John King**/*I'm What You Get*/Sony Music Nashville  
**Dan Seals**/*The Last Duet*/Melody Place Records/Dan Seals Estate  
**Maoli**/*MMO3*  
**The Wilder Blue**/*Cinco*  
**Riley Downing**/*Landfill Poetry*/Oh Boy Records  
**Kent Blazy**/*The Tulsa Sessions*  
**Bryan Sutton**/*From Roots to Branches Vol. 1*  
**Trey Pendley**/*Signs of Life*/Leo33  
**Chris Housman**/*Dodge City*  
**Stephanie Quayle**/*The Seeker*  
**Jenny Tolman**/*Music City Mutt*  
**Alicia Witt**/*Between Heaven and Earth*/Thirty Tigers  
**Alicia Blue**/*Country Desire*  
**Chasen Wayne**/*The Diamond Saloon*



## CALENDAR

### Industry Events

#### September 16

25th Annual Americana Honors & Awards

#### September 22

Nashville Songwriter Awards

### Upcoming Nashville Concerts

#### August 28

**O.A.R./FirstBank Amphitheater**

**Daniel Donato/Ryman Auditorium**

**Dexter And The Moonrocks/Brooklyn Bowl**

**DAY26/Cannery Hall (The Mil)**

**Drive!Drive!/EXIT/IN**

**Oskar & Julia/The Blue Room**

**Steel Beans/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)**

#### August 29

**Brandi Carlile/Bridgestone Arena**

**Mat Kearney/The Pinnacle**

**Daniel Donato/Ryman Auditorium**

**Chiodos/Marathon Music Works**

**David Nail/The Basement East**

**Canaan Cox/EXIT/IN**

#### August 30

**Chance The Rapper/Ryman Auditorium**

**Eslabon Armado/Brooklyn Bowl**

**Maui the Writer/City Winery**

**maryjo/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)**

#### August 31

**Social Distortion/The Pinnacle**