

Nominees Revealed For 60th CMA Awards



The final nominees for the 60th annual CMA Awards have been revealed.

Ella Langley leads the group with nine nods, including her first for Entertainer of the Year. Other top nominees include **Miranda Lambert** with seven nominations; **Kacey Musgraves** and **Ben West** with five nominations each; **Cody Johnson**, **Chris Stapleton** and **Stephen Wilson Jr.** with four nominations each; and **Dave Clauss**, **Luke Combs** and **Lainey Wilson** with three each.

Alongside Langley, Combs, Johnson, Stapleton and Wilson are vying for Entertainer of the Year.

There are 13 first-time nominees, including **Smith Ahnquist**, **Avery Anna**, **Jack Antonoff**, **Tim Cofield**, **Carter Faith**, **Austin Goodloe**, **Muscadine Bloodline**, **Emily Ann Roberts**, **Caylee Robillard**, **Laura Sisk**, **Joybeth Taylor**, **Thelma & James** and **Ben West**.

“For six decades, the CMA Awards have celebrated excellence in Country Music,” says **Sarah Trahern**, CMA Chief Executive Officer. “We’re grateful to CMA’s Professional members, whose collective voice determines every nomination, bringing real expertise to the balloting process each year. Congratulations to all of this year’s deserving nominees. We cannot wait to celebrate our milestone anniversary together in November.”

The CMA Awards broadcasts live from Nashville’s Bridgestone Arena on Wednesday, Nov. 18 (8:00 – 11:00 PM/EST) on ABC, Disney+ and next day on Hulu.

[Click here to see the full list of nominees.](#) **MR**

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THIS WEEK’S HEADLINES

Nominees Revealed For 60th CMA Awards

Lainey Wilson Returns To Host The 60th Annual CMA Awards

George Birge Signs With Black River Entertainment

Joybeth Taylor Extends Deal With Sony Music Publishing & Verse 2 Music

Justin Dukes Inks With Reservoir [Exclusive]

Matt Koziol Signs With Casual Records

Katlin Owen Inks With Song Hunter Publishing & Warner Chappell Music

Lou Taylor Expands Tri Star’s Leadership Bench With All-Female C-Suite [Interview]

DISClaimer Single Reviews

And much more...

Lainey Wilson Returns To Host The 60th Annual CMA Awards



Lainey Wilson. Photo: Disney/Robby Klein

CMA and ABC have revealed that **Lainey Wilson** will return to host *The 60th Annual CMA Awards*. This year will mark the 12-time CMA Award winner's third consecutive year in the role and second consecutive year as solo host.

The announcement was made live on ESPN's *College GameDay*, timed to the show's own milestone 500th show on the road from Louisiana State University in Wilson's home state.

The CMA Awards broadcasts live from Nashville's Bridgestone Arena Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 8/7c on ABC, Disney+ and will be available next day on Hulu.

"I couldn't be more excited to be hosting the CMA Awards again this year, especially with it being the 60th anniversary," says Wilson. "I've had so much fun hosting the last two years, and this one's going to be extra special. Can't wait to see y'all in November!"

Tickets for the 60th annual CMA Awards go on sale Friday, Sept. 18 at [CMAworld.com/tickets](https://cmaworld.com/tickets). **MR**

George Birge Signs With Black River Entertainment



Pictured (L-R): Tanya Schrage (BRE), Chase Miller (Rich MGMT), Gordon S. Kerr (BRE), Doug Johnson (BRE), George Birge, Rick Froio (BRE), Aaron Steinberg (Marcus & Colvin, LLP) and Brendan Rich (Rich MGMT).

George Birge has inked with Black River Entertainment.

Currently boasting over 400 million career streams, back-to-back No. 1 hits with "Mind On You" and "Cowboy Songs," top 5 hit "It Won't Be Long," and recent top 10 single "Ride, Ride, Ride" with Luke Bryan, Birge continues his breakout run. His success has earned him a 2025 iHeartMusic Awards nomination for Best New Country Artist, a late-night TV debut on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, and recognition as a *Billboard* Country Rookie of the Month.

"From the first visit with the Black River Entertainment team, I had no question that this is where I wanted to write my next chapter," says Birge. "The passion and vision of this group is a perfect match for big plans that we have in store, and I have a sneaky feeling the best is yet to come!"

Birge has previously hit the road with Bryan, Sam Hunt, Parker McCollum and Darius Rucker. He is currently amidst his "Cowboy Songs Tour" through 2027, as well as opening on select dates for Tucker Wetmore. Birge is expected to roll out new music in the coming months. **MR**

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart—Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

Love To Be That Guy/Kelsey Hart/Curb Records - 73
Blame it on the Whiskey/Ty Gregory/Ole Buster Music - 78
Saturday Night/Jonathan Lee/Pacific Standard Entertainment Group - 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Rethink Some Things/Luke Combs/Columbia Nashville - 169
Jaded/Koe Wetzel feat. Ella Langley/Columbia - 146
Been By Now/Morgan Wallen/Big Loud/Mercury/Republic - 145
Loving Life Again/Ella Langley/SAWGOD Records/Columbia/Triple Tigers - 135
Country And She Knows It/Luke Bryan/Capitol Nashville - 108

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Love To Be That Guy/Kelsey Hart/Curb Records - 12
Fun/Chris Janson feat. David Lee Murphy/Harpeth 60 Records/Warner Records Nashville - 6
California Sunrise/Jordan Allen/Independent - 6
Jaded/Koe Wetzel feat. Ella Langley/Columbia - 5
Empty Words/Corey Kent/Combustion Music/RCA Records - 5

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Talkin Bout/LOCASH/Galaxy Label Group - 137
Love Me Lonely/Kennedy Reid/Independent - 128
Down For The Ride/Tristan Roberson/Tristan Roberson Music, LLC - 119
Two Step/Danielia Cotton/Cottontown LLC - 117
Damned If I Do/Vincent Mason/MCA Nashville/Music Soup/Interscope Records - 116

NO. 1 SONG



Morgan Wallen notches his third No. 1 of the year on the *MusicRow* Radio Chart with "Been By Now."

The track was written by Wallen, **Rocky Block**, **Taylor Phillips**, **Charlie Handsome**, **Blake Pendergrass** and **John Byron**.

"Been By Now" currently sits at No. 7 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
 WNNW 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 +/-
7	2	1	Been By Now / Morgan Wallen / Big Loud/Mercury/Republic	2236/66	7	145
17	1	2	Boston / Stella Lefty / Atlantic Outpost	2114/54	-6	-136
9	7	3	Loving Life Again / Ella Langley / SAWGOD Records/Columbia/Triple Tigers	2086/64	7	135
15	5	4	Think As You Drunk / Riley Green / Nashville Harbor	2075/65	2	46
14	3	5	Phone, Keys, Wallet / Lainey Wilson & John Mayer / Broken Bow Records	2050/63	-2	-32
24	8	6	Country And She Knows It / Luke Bryan / Capitol Nashville	1961/58	6	108
55	9	7	All My Exes / Lauren Alaina feat. Chase Matthew / Big Loud Records	1850/56	3	52
23	10	8	Say So / Dan + Shay / Warner Records Nashville	1646/54	0	0
25	12	9	Get To Drinkin' / Zach John King / Sony Music Nashville	1505/51	2	29
45	11	10	Kid Myself / John Morgan / Broken Bow Records	1499/45	-3	-44
11	13	11	Hands Up / Jelly Roll / BMG/Stoney Creek Records	1392/57	2	28
13	14	12	Horseback / Cody Johnson / Cojo Music/Warner Records Nashville	1316/58	4	56
29	16	13	Painted You Pretty / Hudson Westbrook / River House Artists/Warner Records Nashville	1306/56	5	61
14	17	14	I Didn't Come Here To Leave / Chris Young / Black River Entertainment	1235/58	5	54
36	15	15	Boots Off / Jon Pardi / MCA	1235/49	-2	-24
33	18	16	Let Him In Anyway / Blake Shelton / Wheelhouse Records	1194/52	6	66
8	21	17	Rethink Some Things / Luke Combs / Columbia Nashville	1188/53	17	169
5	20	18	Jaded / Koe Wetzel feat. Ella Langley / Columbia Nashville	1185/55	14	146
29	19	19	Water At A Wedding / Greytan James / Nashville Harbor	1038/49	0	-3
17	24	20	Medicine / Megan Moroney / Sony Music Nashville/Columbia Records	931/46	11	90
15	23	21	baby blues / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud/Back Blocks	930/49	-1	-7
6	30	22	Anytime Soon / Jason Aldean / BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville	842/47	12	92
20	26	23	Son of Jolene / Belles with Dolly Parton / East Music Row Records	829/44	1	12
17	25	24	The Years Are Short / Rodney Atkins / Curb Records	827/45	1	8
29	27	25	Killin' Me / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	812/42	1	10
22	28	26	Something That I Need / Carson Beyer / Lucky Money Entertainment	797/39	2	12
39	31	27	Worth Your Wild / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers	776/37	5	38
24	29	28	Good Time Gone / Lexie Stevenson / Lexquisite Music	751/32	-2	-14
31	33	29	Holdin' It Down / Chase Matthew / Warner Records Nashville	704/40	4	29
16	34	30	Better That Way / Charles Wesley Godwin feat. Luke Combs / Big Loud Records/Sony Music Nashville	674/43	1	9
12	36	31	Message in a Bottle / Jo Dee Messina / Dreambound Records	634/35	2	11
15	38	32	High Noon / Jenna Paulette / Leo33	613/37	10	54
10	40	33	Dear Big City / Dylan Scott / Curb Records	603/42	14	75
20	37	34	Wouldn't Want Me Either / Erica Nicole / Kent Wells Productions	603/31	2	9
25	35	35	Tell Me That There Ain't A God / Jon Brennan / CDX Records	578/26	-10	-62
9	43	36	Who Told You That / Tucker Wetmore / Back Blocks Music/MCA/Mercury Records	553/34	11	56
16	39	37	Land / Tyler Hubbard / Mercury Nashville	553/31	4	19
21	44	38	Move On / Kevin Powers & Shaboozey / American Dogwood/EMPIRE	527/33	10	50

2026
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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
14	41	39	End This Way / Braden Hull / Melody Place	514/38	2	12
19	45	40	Just A Mom / Alex Miller / Billy Jam Records	454/27	-2	-11
21	46	41	Exes In Texas / Porter Martin / Lovable Losers Music	440/29	4	17
54	42	42	Long Live Country / Shane Profitt / Triple Tigers	427/22	-15	-73
12	47	43	Girl Dad / Cole Swindell / Warner Records Nashville	423/32	4	17
15	50	44	What Took You So Long / Jacob Hackworth / MCA Nashville	417/31	16	58
3	55	45	Empty Words / Corey Kent / Combustion Music/RCA Records	409/26	35	107
15	48	46	Family Man / Trey Pendley / Leo33	396/29	4	17
7	49	47	Drinkin' Town / Laura Bryna / LTD Entertainment powered by Regime Music Group	388/24	7	27
5	54	48	underneath the harvest moon / Harper Grace / Curb Records	369/28	17	53
8	51	49	Cowboy On The Run / Kelly & Sarah / Kelly Sarah Music	363/26	6	21
16	56	50	We Make America Run / Ansel Brown / ABM Records	326/18	9	26
15	52	51	Me & God And a Fishing Pole / Skip Ewing / Vere Music	326/27	-1	-2
7	57	52	Say La V / Joe Nichols / Quartz Hill Records	314/21	6	17
6	58	53	Highway Robbery / Jason Scott & The High Heat / Leo33	305/21	4	12
23	61	54	Never Comin' Back / Flatland Cavalry / Lost Highway	300/19	10	27
27	22	55	American Sky / Aaron Tippin / 8-Track Entertainment	298/11	-70	-705
10	59	56	Howdy / Cole Goodwin / Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment	293/24	4	10
10	60	57	Small Town / Rebekah Snyder / CDX Records	290/17	4	10
11	64	58	The Grass Looks Greener / Karly C / Quirky Cowgirl Records	264/20	10	24
4	69	59	Nowhere Town / Jacob Smalley / Jacob Smalley Music	248/17	13	28
13	63	60	Goodbye Looks Like / Johnathon Heilbroun / Johnathon Heilbroun Music	246/17	0	0
3	66	61	Bet On That / Blake Whiten / Enchntmnt/Warner Records	241/16	6	14
14	62	62	For You Girl / Robert Ross / CDX Records	240/12	-7	-18
16	70	63	Love is Blind / Ian Munsick / Triple Tigers Records	230/14	5	10
2	73	64	Cowgirl / Shaboozey / American Dogwood/EMPIRE	229/15	6	13
10	68	65	Whiskey And Vinyl / Stephen Styles / Plow House Records	223/14	0	-1
24	67	66	Good Damn / Brantley Gilbert / BBR Music Group/BMG/Wheelhouse Records	219/17	-3	-6
17	53	67	If I Go Missin' / Tim & The Glory Boys / Buckaroo Records	219/14	-33	-108
7	74	68	Thank You For This Moment / Brad Lee Schroeder / Stray Bullet Records/CDX Records	212/10	2	5
2	79	69	Know It All / Cody Jinks / Late August Records	194/16	18	30
4	71	70	Wannabe / Gavin Adcock / Warner Records Nashville	193/16	-11	-25
6	75	71	King of Coal Dust County / Adam Chaffins / Sprit Music	185/14	-2	-3
3	76	72	Digging In The Dust / Jason Charles Miller / One Opportunity Records	184/12	6	10
1	98	73	Love To Be That Guy / Kelsey Hart / Curb Records	183/18	127	104
3	77	74	When One Door Closes / Steve Anthony / CDX Records	179/10	3	5
3	78	75	Live Again / Glen Shelton / Jordash Records	177/14	7	11
7	80	76	Dry Spell / Kacey Musgraves / Lost Highway Records	157/13	-4	-6
30	65	77	Straight For The Heart / Alexandra Kay / Wheelhouse Records	156/8	-34	-79
1	83	78	Blame it on the Whiskey / Ty Gregory / Ole Buster Music	155/13	17	22
2	81	79	Done For / Max McNown / Magnolia Music Group	153/8	8	11
1	85	80	Saturday Night / Jonathan Lee / Pacific Standard Entertainment Group	150/12	17	22

No. 1 Song
 Greatest Spin Increase
 Highest Debut

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Joybeth Taylor Extends Deal With Sony Music Publishing & Verse 2 Music, Adds TAYCAN As Creative Partner



Pictured (L-R, back row): Cam Caldwell (SMP), Matt Cottingham (Hunter Cottingham PLLC), Scott Hendricks (TAYCAN), Rusty Gaston (SMP) and Synnovea Halsel (SMP). (L-R, front row): Blake Duncan (TAYCAN), Joybeth Taylor, Kent Earls (Verse 2) and Kane Brown (Verse 2). Photo: Savannah Spencer

Joybeth Taylor has extended her worldwide publishing deal with Sony Music Publishing Nashville and Verse 2 Music. TAYCAN Entertainment has also been added as a creative partner.

Taylor has penned multiple No. 1 hits, including Ella Langley's record-breaking "Choosin' Texas," which won 2026 ACM Song of the Year. The song spent 21 weeks at No. 1 on the *Billboard* Hot 100, making it the longest-running No. 1 for a non-holiday song and the longest-leading hit by a solo female country artist in the chart's history. It also topped the UK Singles Chart, spent three weeks at No. 1 on Mediabase's Country Airplay chart and earned its 39th week at No. 1 on *Billboard*'s Hot Country Songs chart.

A frequent collaborator of Langley's, Taylor also has cuts with Morgan Wallen, Jordan Davis, Kane Brown, Vincent Mason, Warren Zeiders, Gavin Adcock, Hudson Westbrook, Chase Matthew, Corey Kent, Josh Ross, Koe Wetzel, Kameron Marlowe and more. **MR**

Justin Dukes Inks With Reservoir [Exclusive]

Songwriter **Justin Dukes** has signed his first-ever publishing deal with Reservoir, covering both his catalog and future works.

Hailing from Georgia, Dukes picked up the guitar at age 12 and spent his teenage years performing throughout the Southeast before moving to Nashville in 2015 to pursue songwriting full-time. Since then, he has continued to develop his storytelling, drawing inspiration from the honest lyrics and timeless melodies of '90s country music.

Dukes has more than 50 artist cuts to his name, including songs recorded by Sean Stemaly and Matt Jordan. He also co-wrote Cole Goodwin's 2024 song "Catchin' On," leading to another collaboration on Goodwin's latest single, "Howdy," from his EP of the same name. The single went to radio in June with 56 first-week adds.

"Getting to write country music every day and having the best team behind me is a dream come true," says Dukes. "I'm so grateful to be working with **Sarah McDaniels, John Ozier, Greg Gallo**, and the whole Reservoir team." **MR**



Pictured (L-R): Greg Gallo (VP of Creative, Reservoir), Beth St. Jean (Senior Creative Manager, Reservoir), John Ozier (EVP of Creative, Reservoir), Justin Dukes, Sarah McDaniels (Creative Coordinator, Reservoir) and Scott Safford (Attorney with Safford & Motley).

Matt Koziol Signs With Casual Records



Pictured (L-R): Natalie Grummer (Casual), Heather Vassar (Casual), Matt Koziol, Niner Nyenhuis (Casual) and John Cantu (Outrider).
Photo: Becca Mitchel

Matt Koziol has inked with Casual Records.

After discovering Elvis as a young child, Koziol spent his formative years singing in choirs and talent shows before picking up an instrument and joining bands as a teenager. His early career took him through clubs across the Northeast, eventually leading him to Los Angeles, where he began developing his skills as a songwriter, before eventually making the move to Nashville.

His music draws from a wide range of influences, including Motown, rock, bluegrass and the songwriting of Bruce Springsteen and James Taylor. Koziol's songs often pull from real-life experiences, giving his writing an honest quality. He has also performed alongside Maren Morris, 49 Winchester, Shane Smith & The Saints, Jon Pardi and Hailey Whitters, as well as appearances at Bonnaroo and AMERICANAFEST.

Koziol released his debut single on Casual Records, "90 Proof," last Friday (Sept. 4).

"Matt has that rare thing you can't coach, a voice that sounds like it's lived every word it sings," says Casual Records' **Heather Vassar**. "Signing him to Casual Records was an easy call. We're not just backing a song, we're backing an artist with a real story and the work ethic to keep telling it. '90 Proof' is just the beginning of what he's going to do with us."

To date, Koziol has garnered 13.4K Instagram followers, 33.6K TikTok followers, 1M+ YouTube views, and 6.5M+ Spotify streams. **MR**

Katlin Owen Inks With Song Hunter Publishing & Warner Chappell Music



Pictured (L-R): Song Hunter's Charlton Combs and Brian Kelley, Katlin Owen, Warner Chappell Music Nashville's Benji Amaefule (A&R Manager) and Abigail Larsen (A&R Coordinator).
Photo: Courtesy of Warner Chappell Music

Artist, songwriter, producer and multi-instrumentalist **Katlin Owen** has signed a joint-venture publishing deal with **Brian Kelley's** Song Hunter Publishing and Warner Chappell Music.

Owen originally signed with Song Hunter in 2024, becoming the company's first outside songwriter.

Owen has worked as a guitarist, vocalist, producer, and songwriter on projects by major artists including Florida Georgia Line, Jon Pardi, Riley Green and Chris Young, among others. He has also co-written several songs with Kelley, including "Teal," "Quality Of Life," "King Ranch," and "My Kind Of Country." Owen also produces, plays, and sings on Kelley's records.

Hailing from Liberty, South Carolina, Owen brings the honesty and character of his upbringing to his music. He is also the flagship artist signed to Nashville South Records, an artist-first label founded by Kelley in 2021. Owen has continued to showcase his talent with songs including "Speed of a Tractor," "Just a Hat," and his latest release "So Many." **MR**

Lou Taylor Expands Tri Star's Leadership Bench With All-Female C-Suite [Interview]



Lou Taylor, Peggy Stephens and Heather Kinder. Photo: Courtesy of Tri Star Sports and Entertainment Group

After more than 30 years at the helm of Tri Star Sports & Entertainment Group, **Lou Taylor** is entering a new phase of growth for the company she founded. That next chapter is being led by an entirely female executive team.

Tri Star recently granted equity to **Peggy Stephens** (Chief Operating Officer), **Heather Kinder** (Chief of Staff) and **Deedra Carroll** (Chief Deputy Director), formalizing their roles in leading the firm's operational, strategic and infrastructure development efforts. The move is significant in a sector where fewer than 20 percent of executive leadership roles nationally are held by women.

For Taylor, the decision was rooted in experience and performance, not symbolism.

"All of our clients were super excited for the C-Suite that was granted the equity," Taylor says. "They took a lot of joy in being able to congratulate all of them and let them know they were appreciated."

The response from clients reflects the longevity of the relationships Stephens, Kinder and Carroll have built within the firm. Each has played a key role in Tri Star's expansion across its Nashville and West Hollywood offices, helping to evolve the company into a multi-family office serving high-profile entertainers, entrepreneurs and multi-generational families.

Stephens has focused on operational efficiency and client service systems. Kinder has overseen strategic initiatives and internal development. Carroll has led across systems, risk and team structure, strengthening the firm's infrastructure as it scales.

Taylor sees the leadership shift as consistent with how Tri Star has operated for years.

"I think women by nature are more organized, specifically in a role as a business manager," Taylor says. "Women control about 72 to 74% of all expendable income in the household. So if there's a dollar that comes into the house, roughly 70 cents of that dollar is managed by women—paying for the groceries, the kids, the bills—and then the remaining 20% is what's left over. Clients are often used to looking at a female as both the CFO of the household and the nurturer."

That dynamic, she says, translates directly to the entertainment space.

"I think it's a great advantage to be a woman in finance—being able to cultivate a high EQ and understand how people relate to money and what that looks like. You can come at it from a perspective that's both technically strong and nurturing, and almost educational."

Entertainment business management requires more than accounting expertise. Artists' financial decisions intersect with touring cycles, catalog strategy, family considerations and long-term wealth planning. Taylor believes that understanding those layers is part of the job.

The leadership expansion also coincides with a significant acquisition. Tri Star recently acquired The LRW Group, a Miami-based firm serving Fortune 500 clients and high-profile individuals in entertainment and music. The move strengthens Tri Star's East Coast presence and expands its footprint in private wealth management.

The connection between Taylor and **Lahteefah “Lah” Parramore**, founder of The LRW Group, began through shared clients.

“Lah and I met because we ended up representing a duo—I had one half and she had one half,” Taylor says. “Often when you get work from other business managers, it’s not always so great. Her work was so good that I actually personally called her myself and said, ‘I just want to let you know your work was great. I’m looking forward to working with you on this.’ So we just automatically became friends over the last three years.”

That professional respect developed into a broader partnership.

“We just built a great relationship in doing that and we’re having a lot of fun building that market up,” Taylor says.

Parramore now joins Tri Star as Chief Growth Officer, reporting directly to Taylor and leading the company's East Coast expansion strategy. With her addition, the firm's executive leadership team is entirely female.

In a financial services landscape where women remain underrepresented at the highest levels, the structure stands out. For Taylor, it also reflects how she has built the company.

“There are people out there, especially women, who actually put their money where their mouth is and elevate women. They don’t just talk about it,” she says. “There’s proof in my legacy that I’ve historically done that, and I hope it inspires today’s assistants and juniors, who will be tomorrow’s leaders, founders and owners, to follow suit.”

Granting equity to her executive team formalizes a succession structure that positions Tri Star for long-term continuity. As revenue models across the music business continue to shift and financial strategies grow more complex, Taylor says leadership depth is essential.

Tri Star's evolution into a multi-family office has required expanded advisory capabilities, from tax strategy and risk management to estate planning and wealth preservation. The firm's client roster spans artists at various career stages, entrepreneurs and established families navigating generational transitions.

Taylor says the internal promotion of Stephens, Kinder and Carroll recognizes the work they have already been doing to support that growth.

“When you have the opportunity, it’s important to exercise it and give people work, especially when they’ve earned it,” she adds.

The acquisition of The LRW Group further broadens the company's reach, adding Fortune 500 relationships and strengthening its presence in Miami and across the East Coast. Under Parramore's leadership as Chief Growth Officer, Tri Star is expanding its influence beyond its traditional markets while maintaining its entertainment core.



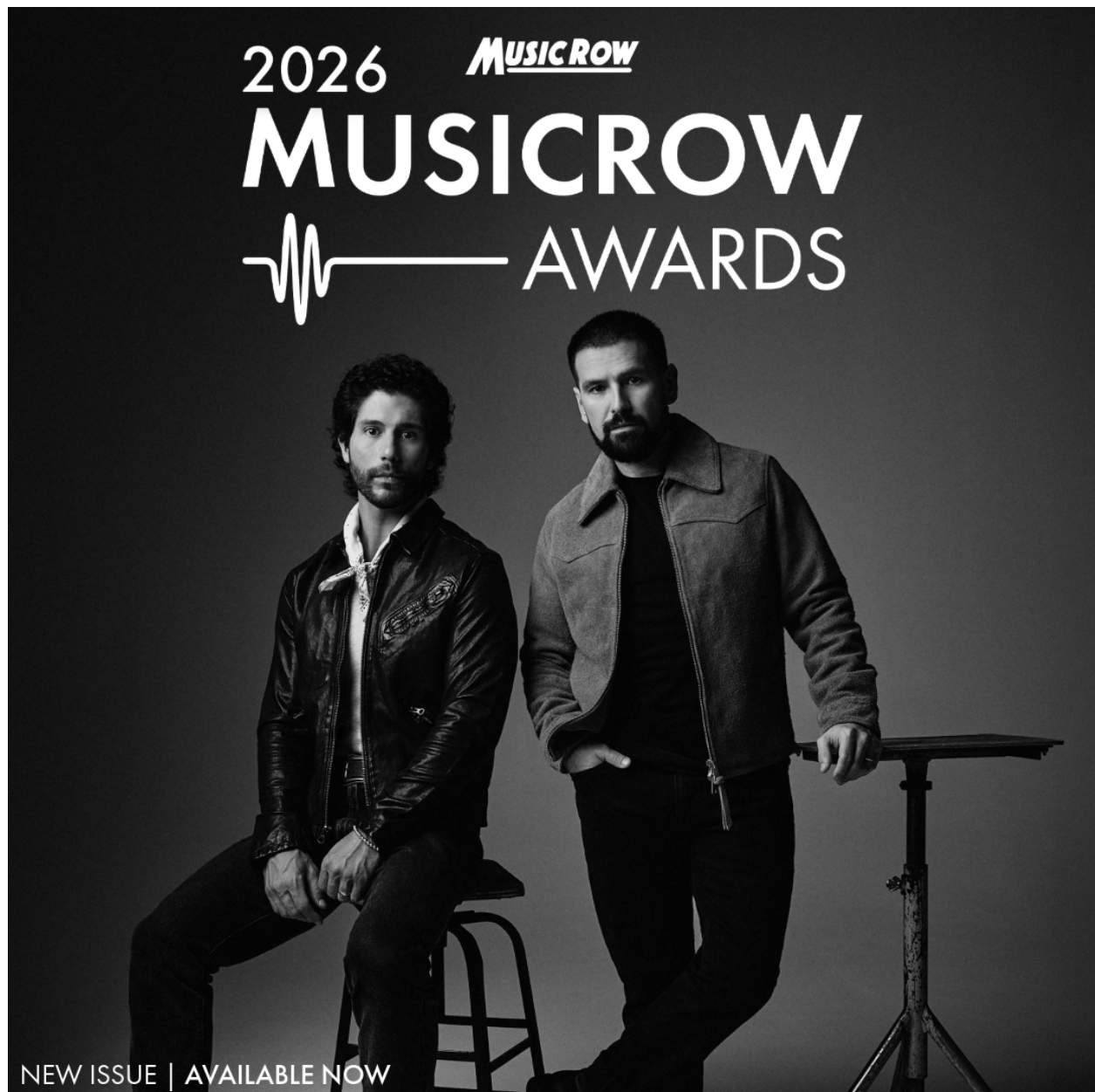
Lou Taylor and Lah Parramore. Photo: Courtesy of Tri Star Sports and Entertainment Group copy

For Music Row, where women have steadily increased their visibility in creative and executive roles over the past decade, Tri Star's leadership structure adds another example on the finance side of the business. Business management firms often operate behind the scenes, but their decisions shape the sustainability of artists' careers.

As the company enters its next phase, Taylor remains focused on strengthening the foundation she built.

The elevation of an all-female executive team is not framed internally as a headline. It is the result of performance, experience and shared ownership. In an industry where succession planning is often opaque, Tri Star has made its path visible.

For younger professionals watching the trajectory of the firm, the message is direct. Advancement and equity are attainable. Leadership can be cultivated internally. And the next generation of business managers may not have to look far to see what that path can look like. **MR**



DISClaimer Single Reviews: The War And Treaty Showcase ‘Emotional Core’



The War And Treaty. Photo: Luke Rogers

Songwriting is in the spotlight today in DISClaimer.

Taylor Swift’s ascent to the top of the hit parade with “I Knew It I Knew You” is particularly welcome because it is an illustration of what a superb song craftsman she is. For me, this is a big part of what makes country music, country music. Today, we are also visited by Bill Anderson, Eric Church, Dolly Parton, Darius Rucker, and Skip Ewing as further exemplars of this eternal truth.

The Disc of the Day goes to The War And Treaty, whose new lyrics bravely address Michael’s PTSD from his military service and dive deeply into the duo’s emotional core.

Hand a DISCOVERY Award to the promising Myles Erlick.

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

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[Taylor Swift Notches 14th Career Country Radio No. 1](#)

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1		Dolly Parton	9 to 5 Coat Of Many Colors I Will Always Love You Jolene	Dolly Parton Dolly Parton Dolly Parton Dolly Parton
2	1	Ella Langley	Be Her Bottom Of Your Boots Choosin' Texas I Can't Love You Anymore Jaded Loving Life Again	Ella Langley Ella Langley Ella Langley Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley) Ella Langley
3	2	Chase McGill	Carry On Hands Up McArthur Water At A Wedding	Kenny Chesney Jelly Roll HARDY, Eric Church, Morgan Wallen & Tim McGraw Greytan James
4	3	Joybeth Taylor	Choosin' Texas Empty Words I Can't Love You Anymore	Ella Langley Corey Kent Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen
5	4	Jordan M. Schmidt	Be Her Jaded Kid Myself Who Told You That	Ella Langley Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley) John Morgan Tucker Wetmore
6	7	Taylor Swift	I Knew It, I Knew You	Taylor Swift
7	8	Jack Antonoff	I Knew It, I Knew You	Taylor Swift
8	5	Austin Goodloe	Empty Words I Can't Love You Anymore No Need For Leavin'	Corey Kent Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen Kameron Marlowe
9	9	Ernest Keith Smith	Jaded Loving Life Again Wannabe	Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley) Ella Langley Gavin Adcock
10	10	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
11	12	John Morgan	Anytime Soon Don't Tell On Me Kid Myself	Jason Aldean Jason Aldean John Morgan
12	11	Jessi Alexander	Carry On Medicine Think As You Drunk	Kenny Chesney Megan Moroney Riley Green
13	15	Ben Johnson	All My Exes Easy To Love Woman	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew) Dustin Lynch Kane Brown
14	18	Taylor Phillips	Been By Now GOOD DAMN Woman	Morgan Wallen Brantley Gilbert Kane Brown
15	6	John Byron	Been By Now Woman	Morgan Wallen Kane Brown
16	19	Dan Alley	Be By You	Luke Combs
17	20	Sam Banks	Be By You	Luke Combs
18	21	Nick Walsh	Be By You	Luke Combs
19	23	STELLA LEFTY	Boston Lean In, Kiss Me Something To Lose Summer You Were Mine	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason) STELLA LEFTY

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
20	24	Grace Enger	Boston Lean In, Kiss Me Something To Lose Summer You Were Mine	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason) STELLA LEFTY
21	28	Mack Geiger	Pouring String By	Mack Geiger Mack Geiger
22	27	Luke Laird	Boots Off Dry Spell Mexico Honey Never Comin' Back	Jon Pardi Kacey Musgraves Kacey Musgraves Flatland Cavalry
23	14	Parker Welling	Country And She Knows It Ride, Ride, Ride Worth Your Wild	Luke Bryan George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan) Russell Dickerson
24	32	Matt Dragstrem	Country And She Knows It Water At A Wedding	Luke Bryan Greylan James
25	29	Lydia Vaughan	Don't Tell On Me Empty Words	Jason Aldean Corey Kent
26	33	Wyatt McCubbin	Boots Off Horseback Think As You Drunk	Jon Pardi Cody Johnson Riley Green
27	34	Devin Dawson	If I Don't Leave I'm Gonna Stay Loving Life Again	Carly Pearce & Riley Green Ella Langley
28	30	Jon Decious	No Need For Leavin' Phone, Keys, Wallet Something To Lose	Kameron Marlowe Lainey Wilson & John Mayer STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
29	13	Rocky Block	Been By Now Hands Up	Morgan Wallen Jelly Roll
30	31	Matt Jenkins	Carry On	Kenny Chesney
31	16	Tyler Hubbard	Kid Myself Land Ride, Ride, Ride	John Morgan Tyler Hubbard George Birge (feat. Luke Bryan)
32	36	Luke Dick	Choosin' Texas Something To Lose	Ella Langley STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
33	42	Joe Reeves	Boston Lean In, Kiss Me	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY
34	43	Jacob Kasher	Boston Lean In, Kiss Me	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY
35	37	Zach Top	Good Girls & Cowgirls South Of Sanity	Zach Top Zach Top
36	39	Carson Chamberlain	Good Girls & Cowgirls South Of Sanity	Zach Top Zach Top
37	38	Mark Nesler	South Of Sanity	Zach Top
38	40	Kurt Allison	Anytime Soon Don't Tell On Me	Jason Aldean Jason Aldean
39	41	Tully Kennedy	Anytime Soon Don't Tell On Me	Jason Aldean Jason Aldean
40	35	Riley Green	My Way Think As You Drunk	Riley Green Riley Green
41	17	Ashley Gorley	Who Told You That Woman	Tucker Wetmore Kane Brown
42	45	Noah Kahan	Boston	STELLA LEFTY
43		Cynthia Weil	Here You Come Again	Dolly Parton
44		Barry Mann	Here You Come Again	Dolly Parton
45	55	Josh Miller	Country And She Knows It	Luke Bryan
46	57	Kane Brown	Woman	Kane Brown
47	22	Morgan Wallen	Been By Now Wannabe	Morgan Wallen Gavin Adcock
48	56	Ropyr Wetzel	Jaded	Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley)
49	63	Luke Combs	Rethink Some Things	Luke Combs

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
50	64	Dan Isbell	Rethink Some Things	Luke Combs
51	65	Reid Isbell	Rethink Some Things	Luke Combs
52	66	Jacob Davis	Rethink Some Things	Luke Combs
53	58	Hudson Westbrook	Painted You Pretty	Hudson Westbrook
54	59	Beau Bailey	Painted You Pretty	Hudson Westbrook
55	60	Lukas Scott	Painted You Pretty	Hudson Westbrook
56	25	Blake Pendergrass	Been By Now	Morgan Wallen
57	26	Ryan Vojtesak	Been By Now	Morgan Wallen
58	69	Whitney Phillips	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)
59	70	Jimmie Gutch	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)
60	71	Lauren Alaina	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)

CALENDAR

Single/Track Releases And Radio Add Dates

September 11

The Strumbellas (feat. High Valley)/Hanging Out In My Head
BELLES/Cowgirl Up!/East Music Row Records
Carly Ann Taylor/Something Good Is Coming/Curb Records
Mo Pitney/God Speaks Through the Radio/Curb Records
John PayCheck/Battles You Never Knew/HorseBite Entertainment
Thomason/Something in the Whiskey
Zoe/Habit
Valerie Ponzio/American Smoke

September 14

McCoy Moore/Forget We Ever Met/Sony Music Nashville/Cervidae Records
Eli Mosley/Ring And A Prayer
Junior Pro/Cool

Album/EP Releases

September 11

Nicholas Jamerson/ *Rabbit Holes (Vol. 1)*/Cloverdale Records
Buddy Miller/Buddy Miller/New West Records
Smithfield/Country With Heart, Part 2
Angela Autumn/Believer/Gar Hole Records

September 15

Phil Madeira/The Millionth Mile

September 18

Riley Green/That's Just Me/Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment
Luke Bryan/Signs/MCA
Dave Stewart/The Way It Was Back Then/Bay Street Records
Cory Asbury/Outsing The Angels
The 502s/Easy Street (Deluxe)/Big Loud Records
Matthew West/Jesus Is King/Story House Collective
Drew Baldridge/FARM FAITH FAMILY/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville
Franni Cash/Here I Am
Orville Peck/Mule/Warner Records
The Bends/If You Insist/Warner Records
Rhiannon Giddens/Hope is the Thing with Feathers/Nonesuch Records
Laci Kaye Booth/Love Ain't For The Faint Of Heart/Lost Highway Records
Cassandra Coleman/End Of Your Love/Warner Records
Jason Scott & The High Heat/Play Boy/Leo33
Katie Pruitt/Fools for the Fleeting/Rounder Records
Aubory Bugg/i think i had something once/Dualtone
Dave Wilbert/The Good News
Nicole Atkins/Drama/Sun Records/Wicked Game Records
Cassidy Daniels/What Have I Got To Lose/101 Music/Thirty Tigers
Skip Ewing/DRAGONFLY

CALENDAR

Industry Events

September 16

25th Annual Americana Honors & Awards

September 22

Nashville Songwriter Awards

October 4-6

IEBA 2026

October 6

GMA Dove Awards

Upcoming Nashville Concerts

September 11

Paul Cauthen/Ryman Auditorium

Braxton Keith/Brooklyn Bowl

GUNSHINE/Cannery Hall (The Mil)

Ensiferum/EXIT/IN

the Smithereens/City Winery

Angela Autumn/The Blue Room

September 12

Brooks & Dunn/Bridgestone Arena

Juanes/Ryman Auditorium

The Weeks/Brooklyn Bowl

Jed Harrelson/The Basement East

Yheti b2b Toadface/Cannery Hall (The Mil)

Jude Smith/EXIT/IN

Bitchin Bajas/The Blue Room

BLU EYES/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)

September 13

The War And Treaty/Ryman Auditorium

September 14

Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals/The Basement East

The Wellermen/City Winery

Pink Breath of Heaven/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)

September 15

Tove Lo/The Pinnacle

Sex Pistols/Marathon Music Works

Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals/The Basement East