

Save The Date: *MusicRow* Announces Date & Location For 2027 Rising Women On The Row Event



MusicRow is proud to announce the date for its 14th annual Rising Women on the Row breakfast, honoring female executives in the Nashville music industry.

Returning to the **Omni Nashville Hotel** in 2027, Rising Women on the Row will take place the morning of **Wednesday, March 10, 2027**.

Details regarding the nomination process and tickets will be announced at a later date.

MusicRow Owner & Publisher **Sherod Robertson** held the first-ever Rising Women on the Row in 2012. He was inspired to start the beloved event when thinking of his grandmother, and how she was never honored for her accomplishments and tenacious spirit. Since its inaugural year, *MusicRow* has recognized over 70 deserving executives as Rising Women on the Row. The event has become a highly-anticipated annual gathering for Nashville's music industry, celebrating the accomplishments of its female leaders.

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sherod Robertson at srobertson@musicrow.com. **MR**

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Nashville Songwriters Hall Of Fame Inducts Six



Pictured (L-R): Lyle Lovett, Shawn Camp, Lee Thomas Miller, Taylor Swift, George Strait and Bruce Channel. Photo: Ed Rode

The Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame held its 56th Anniversary Gala Monday night (Oct. 26), welcoming six new members into the Class of 2026.

This year's class included **Shawn Camp** and **Lee Thomas Miller** in the songwriter category; **Taylor Swift** in the songwriter/artist category; **Bruce Channel** in the veteran songwriter category; **Lyle Lovett** in the veteran songwriter/artist category; and the late **J.I. Allison** into the hall's Legacy category.

"There is nothing more rewarding than welcoming six extraordinary songwriters into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame and celebrating the songs and stories that have touched so many lives," shared **Rich Hallworth**, Board Chair of the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame Foundation. "It is a privilege to share this special evening with these remarkable talents, their families, friends and colleagues as we celebrate the people and the songs

that make Nashville so special. There is no night quite like this one!"

NaSHOF Executive Director **Mark Ford** shared opening remarks before **Robert K. Oermann** took the stage to recognize J.I. Allison. BR5-49 frontman **Chuck Mead** honored Allison with a rendition of Rock & Roll classic "That'll Be The Day." **Joanie Allison** accepted on her late husband's behalf.

Kix Brooks introduced Bruce Channel, followed by a performance of "Hey! Baby!" from Texas Heritage Hall of Famer **Lee Roy Parnell**.

"I'd like to thank all my co-writers. I thank them for their expertise and their insight, but mostly I thank them for their friendship," Channel shared.

Hall of Fame songwriter **Brad Paisley** presented Taylor Swift, who is the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame's youngest inductee ever. BBR recording artist/CMA Entertainer of the Year **Lainey Wilson** performed Swift's signature "Love Story" in her honor.

"It's not lost on me how crazy this is, and I will cherish it forever because Nashville is the place that honed and polished the thing about myself, and the thing about my life, that I am the most proud of and the most passionate about. So, to be here with you and to be getting to have this moment, I am truly grateful," Swift shared.

Following dinner, all Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame members in attendance were invited to the stage to honor the organization's Career Maker Award recipient, **George Strait**. **Dean Dillon** and **Gary Nicholson** presented Strait with the award and a guitar autographed by each of the nearly 50 legendary songwriters on stage.

Pat Alger introduced Lyle Lovett, and **Kathy Mattea** performed "If I Had A Boat."

"The people that brought my songs to life, the musicians I have worked with over the years, I owe them everything," Lovett said. "I am humbled and proud to be in your company."

Jim Lauderdale presented Shawn Camp, and **Verlon Thompson** joined **Emmylou Harris** for a rendition of "Magnolia Wind."

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"If you've ever written a song with me, you're as much a part of this thing as I am, and I truly appreciate you," Camp shared.

Closing the night, **Randy Owen** introduced Lee Thomas Miller, and **Jamey Johnson** honored him with their signature "In Color."

Miller thanked his wife Jana and their four children, Noah, Emma, Jacy and Levi, for their unwavering support of his dedication to an often unpredictable career. After thanking the songwriters and industry members who have given him opportunities throughout his career, Miller ended by quoting the lyrics to a few of country music's most iconic tunes, ending with "They walk away from everything just to see a dream come true, so God bless the boys who make the noise on 16th avenue."

The evening also included a touching memorial tribute to 650 WSM AM's Bill Cody as well as Walt Aldridge, John Anderson, Rory Bourke, Steve Cropper, Jim McBride, Joe Melson, Dolly Parton and Don Schlitz, the eight Hall of Fame songwriters who have passed away since last year's event.

Kelly Sutton stepped in for Cody as the host of the evening. **MR**

NMPA Honors Songwriters At Annual Gold & Platinum Nashville Gala

The National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA) held its 8th annual Gold & Platinum Gala at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in downtown Nashville last Thursday night (Oct. 22).

The event honored over 150 Nashville songwriters whose hits have achieved RIAA Gold, Platinum, and Diamond certifications in the country genre within the July 2025 – June 2026 eligibility period.

Laci Kaye Booth opened the show with an acoustic performance of her 2025 single, "Daddy's Mugshot."

NMPA President and CEO, **David Israelite**, presented the inaugural Legacy Songwriter Icon award to **Vince Gill**. The award celebrates songwriters whose work has spanned generations and whose songs are still achieving Gold & Platinum certifications decades later.

Gill has received new certifications in the past year for his "Go Rest High on That Mountain" and "One More Last Chance."

"His awards are countless," Israelite shared. "His talent is extraordinary. His humility is legendary. But perhaps his greatest achievement is that, after all these years, his songs aren't just standing the test of time. They're making history."

Charlie Handsome took home the Top Songwriter of the Year award for his 35 new certifications for songs including "Wasted On You," "Last Night," "You Proof" and "Heartless."

The Platinum Anthem award, which honors the highest certified song of the year, was accepted by **Rob Williford**, who co-wrote **Luke Combs'** 2018 hit "Beautiful Crazy" alongside Combs and **Wyatt Durrette**. The track was certified 15-times Platinum in December 2025. **Brett Young** honored the writers with a rendition of the track.

In addition to these honors, songwriting plaques were presented on stage to over 80 Multi-Platinum hitmakers. **MR**



Photo: Courtesy of NMPA

COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

CHART ACTION

New On The Chart—Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

My Blue Angel/Aaron Tippin feat. Sam Grow/8-Track

Entertainment - 74

Tidal Wave/Erica Nicole/Kent Wells Productions - 78

Earnhardt/Casey Donahew/Almost Country Records - 79

Resistol/Randy Cobb/South Sixty Five Entertainment Group - 80

Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Empty Words/Corey Kent/Combustion Music/RCA Records - 141

Bet On That/Blake Whiten/Enchtmnt/Warner Records - 122

Remember Me That Way/Kenny Chesney/HEY NOW Records - 121

Cowgirl/Shaboozey/American Dogwood/EMPIRE - 117

Anytime Soon/Jason Aldean/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville - 111

Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

Born and Raised Hell/Brothers Osborne feat. Cody Johnson/Mercury Nashville - 9

My Blue Angel/Aaron Tippin feat. Sam Grow/8-Track Entertainment - 8

Blacktop Blues/Jackson Dean/Blue Highway - 7

Last Think You Need/Morgan Wallen/Take-Two Interactive

Software/Atlantic Records - 6

Earnhardt/Casey Donahew/Almost Country Records -

On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Neon U/Rob Fitzgerald/Riverbend Recordings/For The Record - 129

Bootfirst/Bella Lam/Bella Lam Music - 128

The Outlaws/Cam Shelton/Cam Shelton Music - 127

Ain't My Problem/Mitchell Tenpenny/Riser House Records - 124

Last Think You Need/Morgan Wallen/Take-Two Interactive

Software/Atlantic Records - 123

NO. 1 SONG



Koe Wetzel has topped the *MusicRow* Radio Chart alongside **Ella Langley** with their track "Jaded."

The song comes off of the deluxe version of Wetzel's *The Night Champion* and was written by Langley, Wetzel, **Jordan Schmidt** and **Ernest**.

"Jaded" currently sits at No. 8 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay 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
KXIA Marshalltown, IA
WOOZ Cartersville, 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
WRDE Salisbury, MD
WTCM Traverse City, MI
KZPK St. Cloud, MN
KFAV Warrenton, MO
WBBN Laurel, MS

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

KRKT Albany, OR
KRWQ Medford, OR
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 +/-
12	3	1	Jaded / Koe Wetzel feat. Ella Langley / Columbia Nashville	2079/61	5	103
15	4	2	Rethink Some Things / Luke Combs / Columbia Nashville	2031/56	3	67
30	6	3	Say So / Dan + Shay / Warner Records Nashville	1790/52	-1	-9
32	7	4	Get To Drinkin' / Zach John King / Sony Music Nashville	1777/51	-1	-9
13	9	5	Anytime Soon / Jason Aldean / BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville	1673/60	7	111
36	8	6	Painted You Pretty / Hudson Westbrook / River House Artists/Warner Records Nashville	1650/57	0	7
21	11	7	I Didn't Come Here To Leave / Chris Young / Black River Entertainment	1550/62	7	97
24	12	8	Medicine / Megan Moroney / Sony Music Nashville/Columbia Records	1498/55	4	64
20	10	9	Horseback / Cody Johnson / Cojo Music/Warner Records Nashville	1483/60	1	21
36	13	10	Water At A Wedding / Greylan James / Nashville Harbor	1369/52	0	-6
62	1	11	All My Exes / Lauren Alaina feat. Chase Matthew / Big Loud Records	1324/36	-38	-827
18	14	12	Hands Up / Jelly Roll / BMG/Stoney Creek Records	1307/49	4	46
46	15	13	Worth Your Wild / Russell Dickerson / Triple Tigers	1233/48	6	75
22	16	14	baby blues / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud/Back Blocks	1148/55	3	30
10	18	15	Empty Words / Corey Kent / Combustion Music/RCA Records	1138/50	14	141
40	17	16	Let Him In Anyway / Blake Shelton / Wheelhouse Records	1102/46	0	5
16	19	17	Who Told You That / Tucker Wetmore / Back Blocks Music/MCA/Mercury Records	1085/49	9	87
24	20	18	The Years Are Short / Rodney Atkins / Curb Records	997/47	2	18
17	21	19	Dear Big City / Dylan Scott / Curb Records	969/49	7	66
5	26	20	Remember Me That Way / Kenny Chesney / HEY NOW Records	910/51	15	121
36	24	21	Killin' Me / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville	886/41	6	49
23	22	22	Better That Way / Charles Wesley Godwin feat. Luke Combs / Big Loud Records/Sony Music Nashville	877/48	1	11
22	23	23	High Noon / Jenna Paulette / Leo33	875/46	2	20
28	25	24	Move On / Kevin Powers & Shaboozey / American Dogwood/EMPIRE	873/44	9	72
38	28	25	Holdin' It Down / Chase Matthew / Warner Records Nashville	850/42	11	85
6	27	26	Finders Keepers / Luke Bryan feat. Luke Combs / Capitol Nashville	837/49	7	58
4	31	27	Snakeskin Boots / Miranda Lambert feat. Ella Langley / MCA Nashville	765/51	8	58
12	32	28	underneath the harvest moon / Harper Grace / Curb Records	750/46	6	43
10	34	29	Bet On That / Blake Whiten / Enchntmnt/Warner Records	733/38	20	122
6	33	30	Something To Lose / Stella Lefty & Vincent Mason / Atlantic Outpost	726/47	18	110
19	30	31	Message in a Bottle / Jo Dee Messina / Dreambound Records	719/36	-1	-8
27	29	32	Son of Jolene / Belles with Dolly Parton / East Music Row Records	710/38	-6	-44
9	39	33	Cowgirl / Shaboozey / American Dogwood/EMPIRE	651/35	22	117
14	35	34	Drinkin' Town / Laura Bryna / LTD Entertainment powered by Regime Music Group	637/32	2	12
22	36	35	Family Man / Trey Pendley / Leo33	631/36	2	14
15	38	36	Cowboy On The Run / Kelly & Sarah / Kelly Sarah Music	614/34	4	21
22	37	37	What Took You So Long / Jacob Hackworth / MCA Nashville	607/39	1	8
28	40	38	Exes In Texas / Porter Martin / Lovable Losers Music	559/29	4	24

2026

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Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
8	42	39	Love To Be That Guy / Kelsey Hart / Curb Records	538/39	11	54
30	41	40	Never Comin' Back / Flatland Cavalry / Lost Highway	517/28	6	28
11	43	41	Wannabe / Gavin Adcock / Warner Records Nashville	451/31	5	21
7	45	42	Mess / Jordan Davis / MCA Nashville	443/32	9	37
9	46	43	Know It All / Cody Jinks / Late August Records	434/34	10	39
13	47	44	Highway Robbery / Jason Scott & The High Heat / Leo33	420/28	5	19
11	48	45	Nowhere Town / Jacob Smalley / Jacob Smalley Music	408/24	5	21
19	44	46	Girl Dad / Cole Swindell / Warner Records Nashville	401/26	-8	-34
20	53	47	Goodbye Looks Like / Johnathon Heilbroun / Johnathon Heilbroun Music	359/20	13	40
17	49	48	Howdy / Cole Goodwin / Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment	356/26	0	1
8	50	49	Blame it on the Whiskey / Ty Gregory / Ole Buster Music	353/24	6	19
18	51	50	The Grass Looks Greener / Karly C / Quirky Cowgirl Records	342/21	2	8
17	52	51	Small Town / Rebekah Snyder / CDX Records	336/19	4	12
6	54	52	First Time Caller / CJ Solar / Raining Bacon Records	322/24	5	15
7	55	53	On The Road / Eric Church / Mercury Nashville	297/22	2	6
5	57	54	Good Ol' Girls / Sandee June / Sandee June Music	290/18	5	14
31	58	55	Good Damn / Brantley Gilbert / BBR Music Group/BMG/Wheelhouse Records	274/20	0	0
14	59	56	Say La V / Joe Nichols / Quartz Hill Records	266/17	-3	-7
10	60	57	Live Again / Glen Shelton / Jordash Records	257/17	2	4
23	56	58	Land / Tyler Hubbard / Mercury Nashville	253/16	-13	-38
2	71	59	Blacktop Blues / Jackson Dean / Blue Highway	229/21	46	72
6	61	60	Nothin' Better To Do / Carter Faith (feat. Wyatt Flores) / MCA Nashville	229/19	3	7
7	63	61	Love Me Lonely / Kennedy Reid / Independent	224/14	5	10
7	62	62	Talkin Bout / LOCASH / Galaxy Label Group	223/15	-3	-8
2	65	63	Drink Things Through / Josh Ross / Universal Music Canada/Mercury Nashville	222/18	13	25
3	64	64	Not Too Much To Hate / Aaron Goodvin / New Motor Records	216/22	5	10
3	69	65	Drinks Can Drink / Cody Lohden / DeVille Records/Big Loud Records	210/17	20	35
5	66	66	Down for the Ride / Tristan Roberson / Tristan Roberson Music, LLC	185/11	-1	-2
4	70	67	Two Step / Danielia Cotton / Cottontown LLC	170/18	-1	-2
23	67	68	Love is Blind / Ian Munsick / Triple Tigers Records	170/12	-1	-1
27	68	69	Back In The Bottle / Randy Houser / Magnolia Music Group	168/13	-5	-9
4	72	70	Fun / Chris Janson feat. David Lee Murphy / Harpeth 60 Records/Warner Records Nashville	165/13	6	10
4	73	71	What Do You Want / Chris Darlington / Back Home Records	161/14	7	10
3	78	72	California Sunrise / Jordan Allen / Independent	158/14	13	18
4	75	73	Good Time / William Clark Green / Bill Grease Records	156/15	4	6
1	105	74	My Blue Angel / Aaron Tippin feat. Sam Grow / 8-Track Entertainment	152/13	127	87
2	77	75	Last Call For Trouble / Lucie Tiger / 2120 Music	150/12	6	9
10	79	76	When One Door Closes / Steve Anthony / CDX Records	141/7	1	2
14	74	77	Dry Spell / Kacey Musgraves / Lost Highway Records	141/13	-7	-10
1	98	78	Tidal Wave / Erica Nicole / Kent Wells Productions	136/13	51	46
1	93	79	Earnhardt / Casey Donahew / Almost Country Record	136/14	46	43
1	83	80	Resistol / Randy Cobb / South Sixty Five Entertainment Group	135/12	7	9

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Neon Coast Taps Nikki Boon As Chief Creative Officer



Nikki Boon. Photo: Courtesy of Neon Coast

Neon Coast has named **Nikki Boon** as Chief Creative Officer.

Boon has spent a decade with the company, working closely with Kane Brown and Nightly. She began her time there as Brown's tour manager and has since played an integral part in earning his 14 chart-topping hits, 21 billion global streams and more. She was recently named one of five Executives on the Rise in *Billboard's* annual country music issue.

In this new role, Boon will provide creative oversight and direction for every artist at Neon Coast, home to a multi-genre roster that also includes Restless Road, Randall King and Julia Cole. Boon also adds international strategy to her role, ahead of Nightly's January 2027 Asia and Australia tour dates.

"Nikki's creative thinking is second to none. She has a passion for our artists that you can feel in every conversation she has," says **Martha Earls**, Founder and Owner of Neon Coast. "Nikki dreams bigger than anyone I know and has the rare ability to take an idea beyond the unexpected and see possibilities others can't imagine. Bringing that vision, creativity, and unique perspective to every artist on our roster is one of the greatest ways we can invest in their success."

"I'm so grateful to Kane, who showed me from his earliest days on the road how powerful a real connection with fans can be, to Nightly, who taught me every angle of what it takes to be an independent artist today, and to Martha Earls, who has always encouraged me and our whole team to dream big, chase ideas and go after our own big wins," shares Boon. **MR**

SMACK Elevates Marissa Loar To Vice President Of Management



Marissa Loar

SMACK has elevated **Marissa Loar** to Vice President Of Management.

Loar began her career at SMACK as an intern in 2016 and has risen through the ranks, serving as Artist Management Coordinator before advancing to Day-to-Day Manager for artists including Walker Hayes, Kylie Morgan and Jenna Davis. Loar played an integral role in the success of Hayes' multi-Platinum track "Fancy Like."

In her new role, Loar will continue to guide the careers of SMACK's current management clients while spearheading the future direction of the company's management division.

"Marissa makes everything she touches better. She's been doing that here since she was an intern, and she's a huge reason SMACK is what it is today," says **Robert Carlton**, President at SMACK. "I'm better at my job for having worked alongside her all these years, and I know I'm not the only one who would say that. Now she has the authority to do it on a bigger scale – to sign who she believes in and grow this division her way."

"Having spent nearly 10 years growing alongside SMACK, it's incredibly meaningful to step into this role at a company that has always felt like home," says Loar. "I'm proud of everything we've built and accomplished together, and I'm grateful to Robert, Shane, and the entire SMACK family for believing in me and giving me the opportunity to help shape what's next. I'm hungry to build on that success, discover and develop new talent, and grow a team that will take SMACK Management to even greater heights." **MR**

UTA Signs Chris Young

United Talent Agency (UTA) has signed Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter **Chris Young** for global representation in all areas.

The signing comes as Young approaches nearly two decades in country music. The multi-Platinum singer-songwriter's tenth studio album *I Didn't Come Here to Leave* marked a bold new chapter, amassing over 80 million global streams to date. Over the past year, Young has played multiple headlining shows spanning North America, and also performed alongside Miranda Lambert, Jon Pardi, Ashley McBryde, and Scotty McCreery. He has made major festival appearances at The Long Road Festival, The Calgary Stampede, Country In The Park, and YQM Country Fest. Young is set to continue his holiday tradition with the upcoming "An Acoustic Christmas Tour" this December.



Chris Young. Photo: Courtesy of UTA

"I'm very excited to move into this new chapter at UTA. I really feel like there is a plan and a vision for growth and moving forward," Young says.

A member of the historic Grand Ole Opry, Young has amassed 14 No. 1 singles and 11.9 billion on-demand streams throughout his career. He has consistently achieved commercial success with 56 RIAA certifications for his recording, writing and co-producing credits, and has received numerous CMT Awards throughout his career along with a number of ACM, AMA, and CMA nominations. **MR**

Boyz II Men Sign With Warner Records Nashville



Boyz II Men. Photo: Gilmar Smith

Boyz II Men have signed with Warner Records Nashville to launch a country project, scheduled for release in 2027.

The band first stepped into the country music world earlier this year through their collaboration with Lady A on "I Love The One." The track will appear on a forthcoming musical project inspired by *The Chosen*.

"Boyz II Men's global influence is decades in the making," says Warner Records Nashville Chair & President, **Cris Lacy**.

Since emerging from Philadelphia with their 1991 debut, *Cooleyhighharmony*, Boyz II Men have sold more than 60 million albums worldwide with tracks including "End of

the Road," "I'll Make Love to You," "On Bended Knee," "Water Runs Dry," "One Sweet Day" and "A Song for Mama." The band has amassed four Grammy Awards, nine American Music Awards, nine Soul Train Awards, three *Billboard* Music Awards and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Beyond music, Boyz II Men have made their mark across film, television, sports and fashion. **MR**

Stella Lefty Inks With Make Wake Artists



Sophia Sansone, Stella Lefty and Chris Kappy. Photo: Courtesy of Make Wake Artists

Stella Lefty has signed with Make Wake Artists. She will be managed by **Chris Kappy** and **Sophia Sansone**.

Lefty notched her [first No. 1 earlier this year](#) with “Boston,” which topped both the *Country Aircheck*/Mediabase and *Billboard* Country Airplay charts. In August, she released her debut album, *Long Way Home*. The project debuted at No. 1 on Spotify’s Top Albums Global and USA Charts. In January, she will hit the road on her [first ever headline tour](#) with stops in Michigan, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Texas and more.

“Make Wake Artists has been built on the belief that great artist management is about far more than managing what’s happening today—it’s about having the experience, relationships, infrastructure and vision to build careers that last with their fans,” said Kappy, founder and CNO (Chief Navigation Officer) of Make Wake Artists. “Stella’s connection to her fans reminds me of Luke’s fan connection very early on... It is real! When artists and fans connect in that way, magic happens. We’ve spent years proving that we know how to identify opportunities, build global strategies and surround our artists with the right team at the right time. Stella has the talent, authenticity and drive to build something truly special, and our team is committed to helping her realize that potential. We know what it takes to navigate every stage of an artist’s career, from developing the foundation to competing at the highest levels of the business, and we couldn’t be more excited of Make Wake being behind Stella as we build the next chapter of her career together.” **MR**

Greylan James Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut



Greylan James. David Cohn

Greylan James stepped into the hallowed circle for his Grand Ole Opry debut last Saturday (Oct. 24).

During his performance, the Knoxville native performed his Top 15-and-climbing single “Water At A Wedding” and his 2023 debut single “Young Man,” dedicated to his late Papaw who gifted James his first guitar.

“My Papaw told me I couldn’t say ‘I made it’ until I stood in that circle,” he shared. “I got to talk about him with the most famous hardwood in the world under my boots. I will never forget any second of my debut. God bless the Grand Ole Opry, and God bless country music.”

His Opry debut came just two weeks before James will embark on his first-ever headlining “[Wedding Season: The Tour](#)” which sold out its Knoxville and Cleveland dates during pre-sale, prompting a second date to be added in Knoxville. James’ [debut album](#) *Greylan James* featuring 13 original tracks all co-written by James and a special Dolly Parton cover, is due out Nov. 13. **MR**

Back Row Music Launches Management & Label Divisions



Chris Koegen, Alexa Fasulo, Michael Kozelj and Adam Skuse. Photo: Courtesy of Back Row Music

Back Row Music, the Nashville company behind [Back Row Publishing](#), has launched its artist management and record label divisions. **Chris Koegen** will serve as President, Artist Services and **Alexa Fasulo** joins as Vice President, Artist Development and Marketing. Co-Founder and artist manager **Michael Kozelj** will work alongside the growing team as President, with **Adam Skuse** serving as CEO.

Based in Nashville, Koegen brings 20 years of label and artist experience in the U.S. and abroad. His prior experience includes Amazon, Big Machine and WHY&HOW, working with artists such as Taylor Swift, Thomas Rhett, Georgia Ku, Tyler Braden and more.

Based in New York, Fasulo is the founder of THRVE Music Co. and brings nearly a decade of experience across the label, management and live sides of the business. After early stints at Republic Records, Live Nation and Bravado, she joined Universal Music Group's eCommerce & Label Services team in 2020. Following the 2025 launch of THRVE Music Co., she built and executed release strategy, paid and social campaigns, direct-to-fan programs and tour marketing, growing a client roster, including KALEO, Cole Phillips, Angel White and Georgia Ku, among others.

Kozelj, a Nashville-based artist manager and entrepreneur, is also president of Starseed Entertainment, where he manages Dean Brody, The Reklaws and Nate Haller. **MR**

Amanda Quinton Partners With mtheory For Management Roster

Nashville-based artist manager and digital strategist **Amanda Quinton** has partnered with mtheory. She brings her management roster of **Ashley Monroe, Tenille Townes, Fancy Hagood, Smithfield, Abbey Cone** and **Corrina** to the artist management and development company.

Quinton founded her digital marketing company, Quinton Digital, in 2018 before expanding into artist management in 2023. The partnership marks the next phase of her career as a manager, combining her hands-on approach to artist development with mtheory's strategic relationships, resources and infrastructure.

"I've looked up to **Cameo Carlson** since I first moved to Nashville and have had the privilege of calling her a mentor since I started working for myself in 2016. We've talked about finding the right way to work together for years, and with the recent growth of my management roster, the timing finally felt right. I couldn't be prouder of the talent I have the privilege of representing, and I'm grateful to have found a partner who believes in their potential as much as I do," says Quinton.

Quinton will continue to oversee operations of Quinton Digital, which will remain independent of her artist management endeavors. Quinton Digital's current marketing and social media clients include Muscadine Bloodline, Kassi Ashton, Ben Rector, Marty Stuart, Larkin Poe, Blackberry Smoke and more. **MR**



Pictured (L-R): Ed Rivadavia, Amanda Quinton, Kaitlyn Moore, Cameo Carlson. Photo: Courtesy of Amanda Quinton

RESULTS GLOBAL Adds Three



Raegan Meguiar, Sean Worth and Austin Spero. Photo: RESULTS GLOBAL

RESULTS GLOBAL has added three hires in graphic design, digital marketing and social media.

Raegan Meguiar joins as a Digital Marketing Coordinator, bringing three years of experience in digital marketing, content creation, social media strategy and promotion. A Kentucky native and 2026 communications graduate, her previous experience includes roles with the Louisville Orchestra, Fourth Street Live!, Live Nation and Rewired Talent Management.

Sean Worth has been added as a Graphic Designer & Content Specialist. Worth is a 2025 graduate of Lipscomb University, where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design. He held creative internships with the Country Music Hall of Fame and Universal Music Group's °1824, and led design and branding for the 2023 exhibition Dolly Parton and the Makers: My Life in Rhinestones. Worth began his career as Visual Content Manager at Crowd Surf, producing photo, video, and design content for leading music and entertainment clients, including Donny Osmond, TLC and Backstreet Boys.

Austin Spero joins RESULTS GLOBAL in a New York-based social media role supporting the *DOLLY: A True Original Musical* on Broadway. Spero has served as the social media director for several theatrical productions including *Oh, Mary!* on Broadway and tour, *Liberation*, *John Proctor Is the Villain* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. His Off-Broadway credits include *Prince Faggot, ta-da!*, and the upcoming revival of *Spring Awakening*. **MR**

Brendan Walter Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut



Brendan Walter. Photo: Jared Tadlock

RECORDS/Sony Music Nashville artist **Brendan Walter** made his Grand Ole Opry debut last week.

Walter performed his songs "Asking For A Friend" and "Pipe Dream" during his appearance on the iconic stage.

"What an incredible night at the Grand Ole Opry," says Walter. "These are the kind of nights that make it all make sense. Thank you to everyone who has made my dreams come true, it is such an honor to be a part of this family."

The debut follows the recent release of Walter's new track, "Model Maniac." The rising artist has toured with Wyatt Flores and Evan Honer, and released the track "If A Song Could Change Your Mind" with Low Gap. His debut album, *Disappearing Days*, is available now. **MR**

Cledus T. Judd Inks With Warner Chappell Music



Pictured: Spencer Nohe (WCM), Phil May (WCM), Benji Amaefule (WCM), Austen Adams (WCM), Kayce Russell (WCM), Cledus T. Judd and Allen Mitchell (Reverie Ranch). Photo: Courtesy of WCM

Country comedian and recording artist **Cledus T. Judd** has signed with Warner Chappell Music.

The signing follows the release of his latest single, “Just Another Day In Parodies – Cease & Desist.”

Judd first entered the country music scene in the mid-1990s with tracks including “I Love NASCAR,” “My Cellmate Thinks I’m Sexy,” “How Do You Milk a Cow” and “If Shania Was Mine.” His catalog includes 12 albums along with dozens of singles and music videos. Over his career, Judd’s tracks have been recorded by Rascal Flatts, Montgomery Gentry and others. He has toured alongside Brooks & Dunn, Rascal Flatts and Toby Keith. Judd signed with Reliant Talent Agency earlier this year. **MR**

Bella McCormick Inks With Sony Music Nashville

Bella McCormick has signed with Sony Music Nashville.

The Nashville native has written with Grammy Award winners Liz Rose, Luke Laird, Lori McKenna, and Steph Jones, as well as No. 1 songwriter Ben West. She has shared stages with Sierra Hull and Drake White, and recently performed headline sets at Proud Larry’s in Oxford, Mississippi and Nashville’s The Basement. McCormick was first inspired to pursue music after performing during a charity show at the Ryman Auditorium when she was 14.

“To say that Sony Nashville has been a blessing in my life would be an understatement. From the moment I walked through the doors, I knew I had found a team of people I could trust with something I hold so close to my heart: my music,” shares McCormick. “Every single person at Sony believes in me not only as an artist and songwriter, but as a human being, and that means more to me than words can express. I don’t take this journey lightly, and I truly believe I was put on this earth to make music. To have a team that shares that belief in me is something I’m incredibly grateful for. This milestone also wouldn’t have been possible without my incredible team at Make Wake — **Matt Shay, Kappy** and **Eliza Turnage** — and my amazing attorney, **Kent Marcus**, whose support and belief in me have meant so much along the way. I’m over the moon to begin this next chapter with Sony and couldn’t feel more confident that my music is in the best hands.” **MR**



Pictured (Top Row, L-R): Margaret Tomlin (VP A&R, SMN), Jason McColl (Sr. Director A&R, SMN), Eliza Turnage (Make Wake Artists), Matt Shay (Make Wake Artists) and Chris Kappy (Make Wake Artists). (Bottom Row, L-R): Taylor Lindsey (Chair & CEO, SMN), Bella McCormick and Ken Robold (President & COO, SMN).

DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Brothers Osborne & Cody Johnson Team For Disc Of The Day



Brothers Osborne & Cody Johnson. Photo: Nick Swift

This listening session rocked my world.

I absolutely flipped over the new sounds offered by Kacey Musgraves, Lady A, Brett Young, Wesko, Sheryl Crow, Jamie O'Neal, and the Brothers Osborne/Cody Johnson collab, which narrowly edges out the others for the Disc of the Day award.

Duking it out for the DISCOVERY Award were Max McNown, Summer Overstreet and our winner, Cassidy Daniels.

Happy Halloween from DISCLAIMER.

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

MORE TOP STORIES

[ACM Lifting Lives Reveals 2026-2027 Board Of Directors & Officers](#)

[ACM Unveils 2026-2027 Board Of Directors & Officers](#)

['Alan Jackson: The Last Show' Live Album & Television Special Slated For December](#)

[Bailey Zimmerman Headlines Wags & Walks Nashville's 3rd Annual Benefit](#)

[Billy Strings Takes Home Fifth IBMA Entertainer of the Year Title](#)

[CMA Celebrates Nominees Ahead Of 60th Annual CMA Awards](#)

[Country Cares For St. Jude Kids 2026 Seminar Celebrates 'Hope On Repeat'](#)

[Davis Cook Signs With Rich MGMT](#)

[ECCHO Live Reveals Speakers & Panel Details For 15th Annual Workshop](#)

[Eclipse Music Group Acquires Harding Road Catalog](#)

[Gavin Adcock Launches New Western Lifestyle Brand Thrivin' Here Co.](#)

[Grand Ole Opry To Celebrate 60th CMA Awards With Special Show](#)

[Megan Moroney, Mackenzie Carpenter, More Celebrate 18th Annual Opry Goes Pink](#)

[Music Champion Lorenzo Washington Passes](#)

[NSAI Elevates Maxwell Trotter](#)

TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	1	Ella Langley	Choosin' Texas Be Her Loving Life Again Jaded I Can't Love You Anymore	Ella Langley Ella Langley Ella Langley Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley) Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen
2	2	Jordan M. Schmidt	Be Her Jaded Kid Myself Who Told You That	Ella Langley Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley) John Morgan Tucker Wetmore
3	4	Ernest Keith Smith	Wannabe Loving Life Again Jaded	Gavin Adcock Ella Langley Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley)
4	9	Michael Hardy	GOOD DAMN Let Him In Anyway Remember Me That Way Be Her Hands Up	Brantley Gilbert Blake Shelton Kenny Chesney Ella Langley Jelly Roll
5	7	Matt Dragstrem	Country And She Knows It Water At A Wedding	Luke Bryan Greylan James
6	6	Joybeth Taylor	Choosin' Texas I Can't Love You Anymore Empty Words	Ella Langley Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen Corey Kent
7	11	Parker Welling	Country And She Knows It Worth Your Wild	Luke Bryan Russell Dickerson
8	12	Mack Geiger	String By Pouring	Mack Geiger Mack Geiger
9	8	John Morgan	Kid Myself Anytime Soon	John Morgan Jason Aldean
10	3	Chase McGill	Carry On Last Thing You Need Hands Up Water At A Wedding	Kenny Chesney Morgan Wallen Jelly Roll Greylan James
11	13	Devin Dawson	If I Don't Leave I'm Gonna Stay Loving Life Again	Carly Pearce & Riley Green Ella Langley
12	10	Riley Green	Think As You Drunk That's Just Me Go Again	Riley Green Riley Green Riley Green (feat. Hannah McFarland)
13	14	STELLA LEFTY	Boston Something To Lose	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
14	15	Grace Enger	Boston Something To Lose	STELLA LEFTY STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
15	33	Jon Decious	Phone, Keys, Wallet Something To Lose Kinda Love It	Lainey Wilson & John Mayer STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason) Lainey Wilson
16	16	Tyler Hubbard	Land Kid Myself	Tyler Hubbard John Morgan
17	17	Morgan Wallen	Wannabe Been By Now Last Thing You Need	Gavin Adcock Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
18	18	Dan Alley	Be By You	Luke Combs
19	19	Sam Banks	Be By You	Luke Combs
20	20	Nick Walsh	Be By You	Luke Combs
21	21	Rocky Block	Been By Now Hands Up	Morgan Wallen Jelly Roll

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
22	23	Austin Goodloe	I Can't Love You Anymore Empty Words	Ella Langley & Morgan Wallen Corey Kent
23	28	Luke Dick	Choosin' Texas Something To Lose	Ella Langley STELLA LEFTY (feat. Vincent Mason)
24	24	John Byron	Been By Now Last Thing You Need	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
25	25	Blake Pendergrass	Been By Now Last Thing You Need	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
26	26	Ryan Vojtesak	Been By Now Last Thing You Need	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen
27	5	Jessi Alexander	Carry On Think As You Drunk Medicine	Kenny Chesney Riley Green Megan Moroney
28	32	Josh Miller	Country And She Knows It	Luke Bryan
29	30	Jacob Davis	Rethink Some Things Mess	Luke Combs Jordan Davis
30	29	Wyatt McCubbin	Boots Off Think As You Drunk Horseback	Jon Pardi Riley Green Cody Johnson
31	27	Luke Laird	Dry Spell Boots Off Never Comin' Back Mexico Honey Workin' Man	Kacey Musgraves Jon Pardi Flatland Cavalry Kacey Musgraves Gavin Adcock
32	47	Ben Johnson	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)
33	48	Whitney Phillips	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)
34	49	Jimmie Gutch	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)
35	50	Lauren Alaina	All My Exes	Lauren Alaina (feat. Chase Matthew)
36	31	Beau Bailey	Painted You Pretty Finders Keepers	Hudson Westbrook Luke Bryan & Luke Combs
37	35	Zach Top	South Of Sanity	Zach Top
38	36	Carson Chamberlain	South Of Sanity	Zach Top
39	37	Mark Nesler	South Of Sanity	Zach Top
40	44	Kyle Fishman	I Didn't Come Here To Leave Get To Drinkin'	Chris Young Zach John King
41	22	Miranda Lambert	Choosin' Texas Snakeskin Boots	Ella Langley Miranda Lambert & Ella Langley
42	40	Ropyr Wetzel	Jaded	Koe Wetzel (feat. Ella Langley)
43	41	Luke Combs	Rethink Some Things	Luke Combs
44	42	Dan Isbell	Rethink Some Things	Luke Combs
45	43	Reid Isbell	Rethink Some Things	Luke Combs
46	45	Hudson Westbrook	Painted You Pretty	Hudson Westbrook
47	46	Lukas Scott	Painted You Pretty	Hudson Westbrook
48	38	Taylor Swift	I Knew It, I Knew You	Taylor Swift
49	39	Jack Antonoff	I Knew It, I Knew You	Taylor Swift
50	54	Taylor Phillips	GOOD DAMN Been By Now	Brantley Gilbert Morgan Wallen
51	55	Greylan James	Land Water At A Wedding	Tyler Hubbard Greylan James
52	51	Joe Reeves	Boston	STELLA LEFTY
53	52	Jacob Kasher	Boston	STELLA LEFTY
54	53	Noah Kahan	Boston	STELLA LEFTY
55		Joshua Slone	Are We Ever Gonna Work Out, Baby?	Joshua Slone
56	61	Zach Abend	Land Let Him In Anyway Remember Me That Way	Tyler Hubbard Blake Shelton Kenny Chesney
57	56	Dan Smyers	Say So	Dan + Shay

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
58	57	Shay Mooney	Say So	Dan + Shay
59	58	Jimmy Robbins	Say So	Dan + Shay
60	59	David Hodges	Say So	Dan + Shay

CALENDAR

Single/Track Releases And Radio Add Dates

October 30

Jordan Davis/Steady Flame/MCA
2 Lane Summer/How Do I Live/QHMG/Quartz Hill Records
Kasey Tyndall/White Picket Fence
Matt Rogers/By A Thread
Trevor Finlay/(No) Time to Panic
Orion Nyles & Brandon Chase/Small Town (Comes Back Around)/3rd King Entertainment
John Major/Wicked

November 2

Brothers Osborne/Born And Raised Hell (feat. Cody Johnson)/MCA
John Morgan/Cry Baby/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville
Shane Profitt/Ain't The Kinda Cold

November 5

Aaron Marlowe/The Night She Came Home

Album/EP Releases

October 30

Dustin Lynch/*Clean Slate*/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville
Jonah Kagen/*Eternity of Anything*/Arista Records
Various Artists/*Songs Inspired by The Chosen: Seasons 1–5/5&2 Studios*/Capitol Christian Music Group
Bryan Martin/*OD'in On A Dream*/Average Joes Entertainment
Terri Clark/*Terri Clark: Live From The Ryman*
Kaitlin Butts/*Hello, Honky Tonk*/Republic Records
The Oak Ridge Boys/*Buried Treasures*/Lightning Rod Records
Hunter Flynn/*ROOTS*/Nashville Harbor Records & Entertainment
Caleb Lee Hutchinson/*Long Line of Losers*/Broke Records
JP Harris/*Shaving A Dead Man*/Bloodshot Records
Kat Velasco/*Cowgirl Complex*

November 6

Kings Of Leon/*O My Beloved*/Love Tap Records/Virgin Music
Sam Barber/*The Outlier*/Atlantic Outpost
Hudson Westbrook/*Made You Look*/River House Artists/Warner Records Nashville
Chris Tomlin/*Good News Of Great Joy (Christmas Songs Of Worship)*
Michelle Branch/*Everywhere and Back Again*/BMG
Mack Geiger/*Dying In This House*/RECORDS Nashville/Columbia Records
Craig Morgan/*My Country*/BBR Music Group/BMG Nashville
Clay Walker/*A Clay Walker Family Christmas*
Ashley Cooke/*wrapped*/Big Loud Records/Back Blocks Music
Dylan Marlowe/*Dylan Marlowe*/Sony Music Nashville
Mark Wills/*Grand Ole Revival*/Gaither Music Group
Tenille Townes/*The Acrobat: A Place to Land*
Bo Staloch/*Too Big, Too Big*/Capitol Records
Maddie Font/*Drive Me Around*

CALENDAR

Industry Events

October 30

WAMCon Nashville

October 30- Nov. 1

AES Show Nashville

November 15

SESAC Nashville Awards

November 16

ASCAP Country Awards

November 17

BMI Country Awards

November 18

CMA Awards

Upcoming Nashville Concerts

October 29

HARDY/The Truth

Marc Scibilia/Ryman Auditorium

Donny Benet/The Basement East

BOTTOMLAND/Cannery Hall (The Mil)

West 22nd/EXIT/IN

Rakim/City Winery

Sophie Truax/The Blue Room

Jady/Cannery Hall (Row One Stage)

October 30

Zach Top/Bridgestone Arena

Riley Green/The Pinnacle

HARDY/The Truth

Neko Case & Allison Russell/Ryman Auditorium

Nightly/Brooklyn Bowl

The Bends/The Basement East

Almost Monday/EXIT/IN

Friko/The Blue Room

October 31

Beck/The Truth

Thundercat/Marathon Music Works