

## MusicRow Reveals 2024 Rising Women On The Row Honorees

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*MusicRow* Reveals 2024 Rising Women On The Row Honorees

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DISCLAIMER Single Reviews

And much more...

*MusicRow* is proud to reveal the honorees for the Rising Women on the Row Class of 2024. These six female executives are making a significant impact on Nashville's country music industry, including: **Tiffany Kerns, Taylor Lindsey, Sloane Cavitt Logue, Halie Hampton Mosley, Melissa Spillman** and **Candice Watkins**.

**City National Bank, Loeb & Loeb** and **CMT Next Women of Country** are Presenting Sponsors for the 2024 Rising Women on the Row, which will take place at the Omni Nashville Hotel on the morning of March 19.

Now in its 11th year, *MusicRow's* annual Rising Women on the Row event has honored over 50 women in the Nashville music industry.

More details regarding the 2024 event will be announced in the coming weeks. Premium Tables and individual tickets will go on sale Monday, Feb. 5.

[To read more about the Class of 2024, click here.](#) **MR**

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# CHAPTER & VERSE



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## Big Machine Label Group Promotes Mike Rittberg & Clay Hunnicutt



Big Machine Label Group (BMLG) has elevated **Mike Rittberg** to COO and **Clay Hunnicutt** to EVP, Label Operations.

Rittberg rises from his position of BMLG's EVP, Label Operations, overseeing marketing, streaming and all release initiatives across the label group's core imprints: Big Machine Records, BMLG Records, The Valory Music Co. and Big Machine John Varvatos Records.

Hunnicutt most recently served as General Manager for the Big Machine Records imprint, which boasts an impressive roster of artists including **Tim McGraw, Carly Pearce, Midland** and **Jackson Dean**, among others. In his new role, he will concentrate on business development, growing the entire label group's ventures, fostering partnerships and focusing on catalog initiatives.

Both report to BMLG's President, Label Operations **Andrew Kautz**.

"Mike is the consummate professional. He is a mega self-starter, always pushing the boundaries and always seeking solutions. He has become incredibly important to the operations of BMLG and is a great co-pilot for our continued growth," shares **Scott Borchetta**, BMLG Chairman & CEO. "Clay has done an exceptional job at elevating the growth and artist development for the Big Machine Records imprint. In his new role, he's able to take his insights and energies to all of our imprints during this extremely exciting time in our industry." **MR**

## Big Machine Records Appoints Kris Lamb As EVP/ General Manager



Big Machine Label Group (BMLG) has appointed **Kris Lamb** to EVP/General Manager of Big Machine Records.

Most recently serving at Sr. VP, Promotion & Digital, Lamb has led radio and digital strategy for the imprint's artists including **Tim McGraw, Carly Pearce, Midland** and **Jackson Dean**, among others. His new role will concentrate on breaking, building and retaining Big Machine Records' frontline roster of artists, focusing on fan acquisition and engagement.

"Kris has been with the label group for 13 years; he started with us as a Regional Promotions Director and I've loved watching him work his way up through our system, excelling at each new level. I am so proud that he is now leading the charge for our flagship imprint, Big Machine Records," says Borchetta.

"BMR has always been the tip of the spear and I look forward to elevating our impressive roster of artists even higher as a team and making an impact on the future of this imprint, its talent and the country music genre," says Lamb.

The Big Machine Records imprint has made other changes in addition to Lamb's appointment. **Brooke Diaz**, a nine-year veteran of Big Machine Records, has been promoted to National Director, Promotion & Marketing. **Bill Lubitz** has been promoted to Sr. Director, West Coast Promotion & National Strategy, taking a greater role in syndication and network audience exposure. **MR**

## UMG Says It Will Pull Catalog From TikTok Following Contract Expiration



The catalog of major label Universal Music Group (UMG) will potentially be removed from TikTok, one of the world's largest social platforms, due to their inability to come to an agreement during the negotiation of their contract, which expired yesterday (Jan. 31). This measure would not only include the work of UMG artists such as global sensations **Taylor Swift, BTS, Drake, Ariana Grande** and many more, but any song that any Universal Music Publishing Group (UMPG) songwriter contributed to as well.

According to an [open letter from UMG to its artists and songwriters](#) shared on Tuesday (Jan. 30), TikTok and UMG disagreed on three key factors in the negotiation, including compensation for artists and songwriters, appropriate protection measures in regards to artificial intelligence, and online safety for TikTok's users.

In the letter, UMG stated that it had been working with the platform to address its concerns, but that the platform "responded first with indifference, and then with intimidation."

The letter proceeded: "As our negotiations continued, TikTok attempted to bully us into accepting a deal worth less than the previous deal, far less than fair market value and not reflective of their exponential growth. How did it try to intimidate us? By selectively removing the music of certain of our developing artists, while keeping on the platform our audience-driving global stars.

"TikTok's tactics are obvious: use its platform power to hurt vulnerable artists and try to intimidate us into conceding to a bad deal that undervalues music and shortchanges artists and songwriters as well as their fans. We will never do that. We will always fight for our artists and songwriters and stand up for the creative and commercial value of music."

UMG shared that while it recognized the challenges that the measures would cause for artists and their fans, the company has "an overriding responsibility to our artists to fight for a new agreement under which they are appropriately compensated for their work."

TikTok [responded](#) to UMG's open letter on Tuesday (Jan. 30), sharing that it is "sad and disappointing that Universal Music Group has put their own greed above the interests of their artists and songwriters.

"Despite Universal's false narrative and rhetoric, the fact is they have chosen to walk away from the powerful support of a platform with well over a billion users that serves as a free promotional and discovery vehicle for their talent. TikTok has been able to reach 'artist-first' agreements with every other label and publisher. Clearly, Universal's self-serving actions are not in the best interests of artists, songwriters and fans."

If is unclear when or if the parties will come to new agreement. This is a developing story. **MR**

# COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

## CHART ACTION

### New On The Chart —Debuting This Week

song/artist/label—Chart Position

This Town's Been Too Good To Us/Dylan Scott/Curb - 57

Right Now Kinda Girl/Billie Jo Jones/Get Joe Records - 79

### Greatest Spin Increase

song/artist/label—Spin Increase

Halfway To Hell/Jelly Roll/Broken Bow - 177

This Town's Been Too Good To Us/Dylan Scott/Curb - 175

Your Place/Ashley Cooke/Big Loud Records - 127

Where It Ends/Bailey Zimmerman/Warner Music Nashville - 120

Man Made A Bar/Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church/Big Loud - 116

### Most Added

song/artist/label—No. of Adds

This Town's Been Too Good To Us/Dylan Scott/Curb - 13

Halfway To Hell/Jelly Roll/Broken Bow - 8

Sounds Like The Radio/Zach Top/Leo33 - 8

Think I'm In Love With You/Chris Stapleton/Mercury Nashville - 7

Your Place/Ashley Cooke/Big Loud Records - 6

### On Deck—Soon To Be Charting

song/artist/label—No. of Spins

Just Plain Crazy/Barefoot Joe/Rad Records - 149

Life With You/Kelsey Hart/Curb Records - 148

Wheels/Bucky Covington/BareFootin Inc. - 146

Things I Take For Granted/Larry Fleet/Big Loud Records - 138

My Type/Hunter Lott/Duncan Music Group - 137

## NO. 1 SONG



**Luke Combs** is on his longest consecutive run at No. 1 on the *MusicRow* CountryBreakout Radio Chart, with his "Where The Wild Things Are" notching its fifth week in the top spot this week.

"Where The Wild Things Are" was written by **Randy Montana** and **Dave Turnbull** and appears on Combs' *Gettin' Old* album.

Combs is gearing up to perform his hit "Fast Car" alongside its writer **Tracy Chapman** at the Grammy Awards on Sunday (Feb. 4). He is also up for Best Country Solo Performance for the beloved cover.

"Where The Wild Things Are" currently sits at No. 7 on the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart and No. 7 on the Mediabase chart.



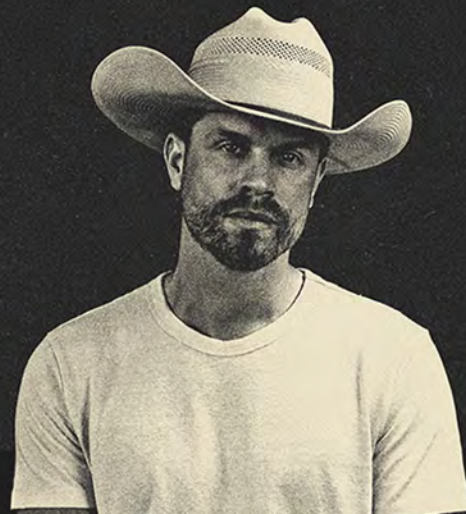
Each songwriter and artist earning No. 1 credit on the *MusicRow* Chart receives a *MusicRow* Challenge Coin. Click [here](#) to view a full list of recipients.

## MusicRow CountryBreakout Chart Reporting Stations

WHMA Anniston, AL	WOOZ Carterville, IL	KYSM Mankato, MN	KNPC Ponca City, OK	KLLL Lubbock, TX
WXFL Florence, AL	WALS Peru, IL	WTCM Traverse City, MI	KWEY Weatherford, OK	KXOX Sweetwater, TX
KQUS Hot Springs, AR	WAAG Galesburg, IL	KZPK St. Cloud, MN	WCJW Warsaw, NY	WAKG Danville, VA
KDXY Jonesboro, AR	WYOT Rochelle, IL	KFAV Warrenton, MO	KWOX Woodward, OK	WAXX Altoona, WI
KBOD Mountain Home, AR	WRTB Rockford, IL	WBBN Laurel, MS	KRKT Albany, OR	WJVL Janesville, WI
KWCK Searcy, AR	WFMB Springfield, IL	WFAY Fayetteville, NC	KRWQ Medford, OR	WGLR Platteville, WI
KRAZ Santa Barbara, CA	WIFE Connorsville, IN	KZZY Devils Lake, ND	WVNW Lewistown, PA	WQPC Prairie du Chien, WI
WCTY Norwich, CT	KAIR Atchison, KS	KYCK Thompson, ND	WNBT Mansfield, PA	WJMQ Shawano, WI
WPPL Blue Ridge, GA	KQZQ Pratt, KS	KRVN Lexington, NE	WCFT Selinsgrove, PA	WCOW Sparta, WI
WUBB Savannah, GA	WKDZ Cadiz, KY	KFGE Lincoln, NE	KZZI Spearfish, SD	WDGG Huntington, WV
KXIA Marshalltown, IA	WDHR Pikeville, KY	KBRX O'Neill, NE	WUCZ Carthage, TN	
KIAI Mason City, IA	KRRV Alexandria, LA	KQBA Santa Fe, NM	WLLX Lawrenceburg, TN	
KTHK Idaho Falls, ID	KQKI Morgan City, LA	WDNB Monticello, NY	KFTX Corpus Christi, TX	
KKMV Rupert, ID	WKPE Hyannis, MA	KITX Hugo, OK	KYKX Longview, TX	

# COUNTRYBREAKOUT RADIO CHART

Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
14	1	1	<b>Where The Wild Things Are / Luke Combs / River House Artists/Columbia Nashville</b>	1982/55	-1	-13
17	2	2	<b>I Can Feel It / Kane Brown / Zone 4/RCA Nashville</b>	1938/58	1	26
27	3	3	<b>Pretty Little Poison / Warren Zeiders / Warner Records</b>	1894/56	2	39
23	5	4	<b>The Painter / Cody Johnson / CoJo Music/Warner Music Nashville</b>	1808/52	0	-3
15	7	5	<b>Mamaw's House / Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen / Valory</b>	1726/64	3	51
42	6	6	<b>Creek Will Rise / Conner Smith / Valory</b>	1671/55	-2	-28
31	9	7	<b>Burn It Down / Parker McCollum / MCA Nashville</b>	1603/56	2	35
22	8	8	<b>Cab In A Solo / Scotty McCreery / Triple Tigers Records</b>	1598/60	2	28
26	4	9	<b>White Horse / Chris Stapleton / Mercury Nashville</b>	1536/42	-16	-295
10	10	10	<b>Man Made A Bar / Morgan Wallen feat. Eric Church / Big Loud</b>	1531/62	8	116
10	11	11	<b>Wildflowers and Wild Horses / Lainey Wilson / Broken Bow Records</b>	1508/59	7	96
31	13	12	<b>We Don't Fight Anymore / Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton / Big Machine</b>	1332/59	2	20
41	12	13	<b>23 / Chayce Beckham / BMG</b>	1314/43	-2	-30
10	14	14	<b>Take Her Home / Kenny Chesney / Blue Chair Records/Warner Music Nashville</b>	1268/60	5	57
22	16	15	<b>Tucson Too Late / Jordan Davis / MCA Nashville</b>	1210/57	4	49
55	15	16	<b>Fearless / Jackson Dean / Big Machine</b>	1204/48	0	-5
35	17	17	<b>Truck Bed / HARDY / Big Loud Records</b>	1174/48	7	77
32	18	18	<b>Glory Days / Gabby Barrett / Warner Music Nashville</b>	1077/48	4	46
18	20	19	<b>Back Then Right Now / Tyler Hubbard / EMI Nashville</b>	1052/49	7	68
14	19	20	<b>Cowboys and Plowboys / Jon Pardi and Luke Bryan / Capitol Nashville</b>	1000/52	0	4
9	25	21	<b>Let Your Boys Be Country / Jason Aldean / Macon Music/Broken Bow</b>	936/54	6	54
16	22	22	<b>Can't Break Up Now / Old Dominion with Megan Moroney / Columbia Nashville</b>	928/54	2	20
14	21	23	<b>Under this Ole Hat / Sawyer Brown / Curb Records</b>	925/54	2	15
25	23	24	<b>I'm Not Pretty / Megan Moroney / Arista Nashville/Columbia Records</b>	917/48	2	16
15	29	25	<b>Where It Ends / Bailey Zimmerman / Warner Music Nashville</b>	886/48	16	120
11	24	26	<b>Rodeo Man / Garth Brooks and Ronnie Dunn / Big Machine Records</b>	877/51	-2	-21
9	27	27	<b>This Is My Dirt / Justin Moore / Valory</b>	830/53	4	31
15	30	28	<b>Two Dozen Roses / Shenandoah &amp; Luke Combs / 8 Track Entertainment/ADA</b>	822/47	11	82
6	32	29	<b>Your Place / Ashley Cooke / Big Loud Records</b>	783/52	19	127
18	28	30	<b>I Remember Everything / Zach Bryan feat. Kacey Musgraves / Warner Records</b>	742/39	-4	-31
12	31	31	<b>Outlaws and Mustangs / Cody Jinks / Late August Records</b>	721/49	10	64
34	33	32	<b>Out Of That Truck / Carrie Underwood / Capitol Records</b>	664/32	7	41
4	40	33	<b>Halfway To Hell / Jelly Roll / Broken Bow</b>	607/39	41	177
5	37	34	<b>One Bad Habit / Tim McGraw / Big Machine Records</b>	589/34	14	73
18	34	35	<b>Young Love &amp; Saturday Nights / Chris Young / RCA</b>	578/36	2	13
15	35	36	<b>I'm In Love / Hailey Whitters / Pigasus/Big Loud Records/S&amp;D</b>	570/40	9	47
28	36	37	<b>Drinkin' Problems / Dillon Carmichael / Riser House Records</b>	509/32	-2	-8
25	38	38	<b>Outskirts / Sam Hunt / MCA Nashville</b>	448/30	0	-1
16	39	39	<b>Vertigo / Morgan Myles / KZZ Music/Blue Élan Records</b>	441/30	0	1



Weeks On Chart	Last Week	This Week	Song / Artist / Label	Spins / Reports	% Spin Power	Spins +/-
15	41	40	<b>A Man Like You / American Blonde</b> / American Blonde Music	427/33	2	9
6	44	41	<b>Chevrolet / Dustin Lynch feat. Jelly Roll</b> / Broken Bow Records	417/32	7	26
20	42	42	<b>Always You / Trey Lewis</b> / River House Artists	414/31	0	1
13	43	43	<b>Tractors And Trucks / Dave Wilbert</b> / Wilbilly Records	400/29	1	2
2	53	44	<b>Sounds Like The Radio / Zach Top</b> / Leo33	373/30	40	107
12	46	45	<b>Drink About That / Ken Domash</b> / Thunder Mountain Records	359/26	5	17
9	45	46	<b>Love You Again / Chase Matthew</b> / Warner Music Nashville	348/26	-3	-11
16	47	47	<b>You Or The Whiskey / Sydney Hansen</b> / Sydney Hansen Music	345/21	3	9
47	49	48	<b>We Ride / Bryan Martin</b> / Average Joes Entertainment	340/23	18	52
27	48	49	<b>Something's Gonna Kill Me / Corey Kent</b> / RCA Nashville	303/21	-7	-24
5	52	50	<b>Love You Back / Lady A</b> / BMLG Records	294/20	10	27
5	51	51	<b>New Neon / Cliff Dorsey</b> / Black Sheep Records	288/19	7	18
17	50	52	<b>Rough Around The Edges / Exile</b> / Clearwater Records	278/16	0	0
4	60	53	<b>Gonna Love You / Parmalee</b> / Stoney Creek	269/18	22	49
10	54	54	<b>Before You / Glen Shelton</b> / Jordash	253/16	1	2
20	63	55	<b>In Your Love / Tyler Childers</b> / Hickman Holler Records/RCA Records	251/17	20	41
12	56	56	<b>Extra / Katie Linendoll</b>	247/14	2	4
1	101	57	<b>This Town's Been Too Good To Us / Dylan Scott</b> / Curb	245/18	127	175
8	59	58	<b>Amazin' What Just The Right 3 Minutes Can Do / Larry, Steve and Rudy The Gatlin Brothers</b> / CDX Records/Sony Orchard	244/13	10	22
5	57	59	<b>Jack and Diet Coke / Redferrin</b> / Duncan Music Group/WMN	244/22	3	8
13	55	60	<b>Lovin' Not Leavin' / Wade Bowen</b> / Bowen Sounds	241/16	-2	-5
11	58	61	<b>Front Porch Swing / Luke Kelly</b> / General Records	239/12	3	7
26	61	62	<b>Dance With You / Brett Young</b> / BMLG Records	233/16	6	14
8	64	63	<b>Pickup Man / HIXTAPE ft. Post Malone/Joe Diffie</b> / Big Loud Records/Mercury	225/16	10	21
3	74	64	<b>Same Bar, Different Town / Ryan Jewel</b> / Ryan Jewel Music	219/17	26	45
4	66	65	<b>Puttin' Up Hay / Alex Miller</b> / Billy Jam Records	215/19	10	20
3	65	66	<b>Devil Had Blue Eyes / Julianna Rankin</b> / 17th Avenue	209/17	7	13
3	69	67	<b>Easy Loving You / Ty Gregory</b> / Ole Buster Music	204/16	7	14
14	62	68	<b>Spirits and Demons / Michael Ray ft. Meghan Patrick</b> / Warner Music Nashville	198/16	-7	-15
2	80	69	<b>Overthinking / Amy Sheppard</b> / Empire of Song	194/16	27	41
7	71	70	<b>Be The Whiskey / Julia Cole</b> / Smokeshow Music	193/17	3	6
6	72	71	<b>Small Town Famous / Bowman</b> / Reviver/Nine North	192/14	3	5
10	70	72	<b>Love Is Real / Shelley Lynch</b> / CDX Records	192/9	2	4
2	75	73	<b>Bigger Houses / Dan + Shay</b> / Warner Music Nashville	191/15	16	27
9	73	74	<b>True Story / Jon Brennan</b> / CDX Records	186/12	4	8
3	68	75	<b>Boys Back Home / Dylan Marlowe &amp; Dylan Scott</b> / Columbia Nashville	182/13	-4	-8
13	67	76	<b>Certified / Laura Bryna</b>	181/17	-7	-14
2	77	77	<b>Beat You There / Will Dempsey</b>	179/14	12	19
3	79	78	<b>Sea of Heartbreak / Mustangs of the West</b> / KZZ Music/Blue Élan Records	164/13	6	10
1	87	79	<b>Right Now Kinda Girl / Billie Jo Jones</b> / Get Joe Records	159/15	30	37
3	78	80	<b>Drunk On You / Rob Fitzgerald</b> / Riverbend Recordings	159/11	2	3

No. 1 Song
  Greatest Spin Increase
  Highest Debut

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## Peermusic Nashville Signs David Lee Murphy



David Lee Murphy & Michael Knox. Photo: Michael Gomez

Peermusic Nashville has signed artist-songwriter **David Lee Murphy** to a multi-faceted, exclusive global publishing agreement.

Through this agreement, Peermusic will administer Murphy's song catalog as well as co-publish future works. This marks Murphy's first-ever exclusive co-publishing deal. Prior to this, he was self-published with his long-time personal manager, **Doug Casmus**.

The recent [Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame \(NaSHOF\) inductee](#) is known for his hits "Dust on the Bottle" and "Everything's Gonna Be Alright," which earned him his first CMA Award for Musical Event of the Year, as well as "Party Crowd," "Out with a Bang," "Every Time I Get Around You," "The Road You Leave Behind" and "Loco."

"David Lee Murphy is my favorite singer-songwriter in town," says Knox, President, Peermusic Nashville. "For me, personally, this is a very exciting moment. 'Dust On A Bottle' creatively set the mark that I would chase for my entire career. As a producer that is the song that I tell everyone I am looking for. David Lee Murphy is the truest form of a singer-songwriter, and that's why his first publishing deal needed to be with Peermusic, the company that brought you the 'Father of Country Music' (Jimmie Rodgers) and the 'First Family of Country Music' (The Carter Family)."

"I love Michael Knox," says Murphy. "We've worked together on different things for many years. I've always appreciated his knack for songs and making music." **MR**

## Concord Music Publishing Extends Partnership With Cary Barlowe, Purchases Catalog



Pictured (L-R, back row): Melissa Spillman (Concord), Megan Pekar (Loeb & Loeb), Matt Turner (Concord), Shawn Thompson (Concord); (L-R, front row): Derek Crowover (Loeb & Loeb), Cary Barlowe, Brad Kennard (Concord). Photo: Audrey Spillman

Concord Music Publishing has expanded its partnership with Grammy-nominated, hit songwriter **Cary Barlowe** through the acquisition of a selection of his catalog of hits, including **Chris Young** and **Kane Brown**'s "Famous Friends," Young's "Raised on Country" and additional songs recorded by **Kelsea Ballerini**, **Brett Kissel**, **Chris Tomlin**, **Rascal Flatts**, **Lauren Alaina**, **Little Big Town**, **Mickey Guyton** and more.

Concord has also extended Barlowe's publishing deal through its creative joint venture, Hang Your Hat Music, which includes Barlowe's full catalog and all future works.

"It feels good to entrust a company like Concord with this body of songs," shares Barlowe. "Knowing them personally and creatively, I am so thankful to be working with such great people! It's a blessing!"

"We are thrilled to expand our relationship with Cary, and now represent this additional catalog of hits," says **Brad Kennard**, SVP of Concord Music Publishing in Nashville. "Cary is the consummate pro who won't be outworked. His passion for writing hits is clearly represented in this catalog, as well as the songs he's writing today. We couldn't be prouder to continue to build with Cary Barlowe!"

The multifaceted deal was negotiated on behalf of Concord by Legal and Business Affairs team, **Duff Berschback** and **Shawn Thompson**. Barlowe was represented by **Derek Crowover**, **Colleen Kelley**, **Megan Pekar** and **John Rolfe** of Loeb and Loeb in Nashville. **MR**



## Luke Combs To Open Category 10 Entertainment Venue In Downtown Nashville



Rendering of Category 10 Exterior

**Luke Combs** and Opry Entertainment Group have revealed more details about their [multi-level entertainment venue](#) in downtown Nashville, including its name: Category 10. Inspired by Combs' chart-topping debut "Hurricane," Category 10 is set to open in phases this summer.

The expansive honky-tonk experience celebrates Combs as a significant force who took country music by storm. "The Category 10 name symbolizes the sheer, undeniable power of Luke's voice, songwriting and career, and just like Luke, this venue will be an off-the-charts experience unlike anything else downtown," says **Colin Reed**, Executive Chairman of Ryman Hospitality Properties.

Located at 120 2nd Ave. N., Category 10 aims to be the largest and most versatile entertainment complex in Nashville's downtown entertainment district, totaling 67,000 square feet, with three interior floors, a rooftop and an indoor/outdoor capacity of approximately 3,000. The venue features five entertainment experiences that are influenced by the hitmaker's music and passions.

The Honky-Tonk experience will consist of a street-level authentic honky-tonk with live music. The Main Stage will be the largest dance floor and stage in downtown Nashville, fully equipped for 1,500-person capacity ticketed concert events. With themed bars and a large beer selection, the space will also host line dance lessons. The Sports Bar will have an extensive selection of major sports playing year-round. Inspired his songwriting, The Still is designed for Combs' Bootleggers Fan Club, bourbon aficionados, songwriters and music lovers from all walks of life. This space will feature a variety of bourbon and performances by famous and up-and-coming singer-songwriters in an intimate setting. Lastly, The Eye is set to include the largest outdoor deck on Broadway with a 7,000-square-foot rooftop and unobstructed views of the Cumberland River and Nissan Stadium.

The core of Category 10 will be its concert-quality acoustics and live music programming throughout the venue. Lineups will be curated by the Opry Entertainment team with a special emphasis on up-and-coming talent.

"Cat 10 is going to be a place that artists of all levels want to play downtown," says Combs. "We are building a spot where we can put on a high-level touring act show one night and a songwriter showcase the next. There isn't anything like this venue, and I can't wait for everyone to experience it." **MR**

## Anthem Entertainment Purchases Selection Of Creative Nation & Luke Laird Copyrights



Luke & Beth Laird. Photo: Spencer Combs

Creative Nation co-founders **Beth** and **Luke Laird** have sold certain copyrights in the Creative Nation and Luke Laird song catalogs to Anthem Entertainment.

With Beth at the helm, Creative Nation has become a leader in the Nashville music publishing scene over the last 11 years, with 20 No. 1 songs and over 60 radio singles. The Creative Nation catalog includes back-to-back country and pop No. 1s with “Hard To Forget” and “Watermelon Sugar.” It also includes cuts across multiple genres such as No. 1 hit “Adore You” other releases by **Lady Gaga**, **Sam Smith**, **Carrie Underwood**, and more.

The company is made up of publishing, management, artist development and records sectors, and counts songwriters **Kassi Ashton**, **Barry Dean**, **Lori McKenna**, and more on its publishing roster.

“Luke and I have worked hard to sign quality people and songwriters and continue to commit to that. We are excited to announce that Anthem Music Publishing purchased Creative Nation’s exploited songs from the past 11 years,” Beth shares.

Of the acquisition, he adds, “Over the years I have been fortunate to have songs recorded by so many incredible artists. I’m grateful that a company as renowned as Anthem sees the value in these songs, and I’m excited my exploited copyrights have been sold to Anthem alongside the Creative Nation songs.”

The acquisition continues the momentum of the Anthem Nashville publishing team, who recently celebrated Davis’ recent **re-signing and No. 1** “What My World Spins Around.” The company also recently charted four songs in the top 30 on the country charts. **MR**

## Curb Records Elevates Craig Powers & Lori Hartigan



Curb Records has elevated **Craig Powers** to SVP, Media and **Lori Hartigan** to National Director, Media.

“As we celebrate our 60th year in business, I am thrilled to see our company continue to grow. With the strengthening of our team, Curb Records is poised for a productive future,” shares **Mike Curb**, Curb Records Chairman.

“I’d like to thank our chairman, Mike Curb, for his confidence in me. I’m so grateful to be working with all of our artists and team members at Curb Records. Lori has years of experience in our industry and is well known for her work in country promotion. I’m thrilled for her to join our media team, bringing her knowledge and expertise to all Curb artists and all formats,” says Powers.

“It’s been an honor to work with Curb’s talented country artists. I’m especially proud of having worked with Dylan Scott from day one and experiencing his growth along the way. I’m looking forward to working with all Curb artists in my new role,” says Hartigan.

Additionally, **Todd Thomas** will pivot to Director, West Coast Promotion for the label.

The company has also hired **Bailey White** as Director, Southwest Promotion, working with Scott, Brice, Ellis and Hart, among others. She will report to SVP, Promotion **RJ Meacham**, rounding out the team that includes **Mike Rogers**, **Allyson Gelnett**, **Samantha DePrez** and **Brian Day**.

“I am thrilled to welcome Bailey to our country promotion team!” Meacham shares. “Additionally, I have full confidence in Todd Thomas as he pivots to the west coast, where he already has strong relationships throughout the region. Together, we’re poised for success and continued growth!” **MR**

## BMI Promotes MaryAnn Keen To Director, Creative In Nashville Office



MaryAnn Keen. Photo: Nathan Zucker

BMI has elevated **MaryAnn Keen** to Director, Creative in Nashville. In her new role, Keen will continue to generate unique opportunities for affiliates while offering guidance to songwriters as they navigate their careers in Music City.

Keen joined BMI in 2016, and has been instrumental in identifying and signing new talent while advocating for songwriters as BMI Nashville's Creative, Associate Director. She plays a large part in coordinating events for BMI such as the Key West Songwriters Festival, Belmont's Catalog Cast and No. 1 parties.

She also works with emerging songwriters such as **Heath Warren, Brett Tyler, Tiera Kennedy, Rocky Block, Mackenzie Carpenter** and many more. Keen will continue to report to BMI's **Leslie Roberts**, AVP of Creative Nashville.

Keen, a Belmont University grad, is a co-founder of the young entertainment professionals networking group YEP Nashville, and was recently named to [MusicRow's 2024 N.B.T. Industry Directory list](#). **MR**

## Kane Brown To Receive CRS 2024 Artist Humanitarian Award



Superstar **Kane Brown** has been named the recipient of the Country Radio Seminar (CRS) 2024 Artist Humanitarian Award.

The Artist Humanitarian Award was created in 1990 by the Country Radio Broadcasters' (CRB) Board to honor a country artist whose philanthropic efforts have significantly improved the effectiveness and impact of the causes they support. This individual not only lends their name and influence but also dedicates their time, talent and resources.

Brown's philanthropic endeavors have focused on improving the lives of underprivileged youth. His contributions include supporting the Boys & Girls Club of America (BGCA). Brown has personally funded opportunities for 16 youth and four adults from the local BGCA chapter, providing backstage access, sharing his story, arranging dinner and gifting tickets to his shows. He even continued these efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic by offering a safe suite experience for the children and their chaperones. Brown also donated a dollar from each ticket sold on his NBA arena tour to the renovation of a BGCA gym in Cleveland, Ohio, and collaborated with Lowe's for the rebuilding of a BGCA in his hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Additionally, the proceeds "Worldwide Beautiful" and his Kane Krunch cereal were also donated to the BGCA.

"CRS is proud to recognize Kane Brown with our highest Artist Humanitarian honor. Kane 'walks the walk' in supporting underprivileged youth in the U.S. through a deep commitment to the Boys & Girls Club national organization. We are inspired by his year-round generosity of time, effort and resources." says **Beverlee Brannigan**, CRS/CRB Awards Committee Chair.

He will be recognized during CRS Honors on Thursday, Feb. 29 at 3 p.m. during [CRS 2024](#). **MR**

## DISCLAIMER Single Reviews: Morgan Wallen Shows Off The ‘Warmth In His Singing Voice’



Morgan Wallen. Photo: Matt Paskert

We have fresh faces and fresh sounds in DISCLAIMER today.

Vying for the DISCOVERY Award were first-timers Kashus Culpepper, Karley Scott Collins and Lizzie No. Right alongside them are new tunes from such marvelous “baby acts” as Tigirlily Gold, Zach Top, Sierra Ferrell, and Jordyn Shellhart. Give ‘em all a hand, and hand the prize to Lizzie No.

There’s not much competition for the Disc of the Day award. Not when you have a titan like Morgan Wallen in the mix. He wins, hands down.

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

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### MORE TOP STORIES

[Charges Against Chris Young Dropped After Review Of Evidence](#)

[Music Executive Kidnapped Outside Of Nashville’s SoHo House](#)

[Stars Shine At Grammy Nominee Party](#)

[Morgan Wallen Shares Statement & ‘Spin You Around \(1/24\)’](#)

[Sara Bares Signs With Warner Chappell Music](#)

[Round Hill Music Signs Ben Stoll](#)

[Jeannie Seely To Receive SOURCE’s Jo Walker-Meador Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

[Riley Green To Host Two-Day Duckman Jam At Flora-Bama In April](#)

[Charles Esten Delivers Truth, Gratitude & Perspective On Debut Album \[Interview\]](#)

[Country Star Margo Smith Passes](#)

[Backstage Country Welcomes New Host Kelly Ford](#)

[Amy Stroup Signs To Jonas Group Publishing](#)

[Musicians On Call Promotes Six Team Members](#)

[Leadership Music Now Accepting Applications For Class Of 2025](#)

[George Richey Estate Sues Showtime Over His Depiction In ‘George & Tammy’ Miniseries](#)

[Georgia Webster Shows Off Her Mastery Of Storytelling During Headline Debut](#)

[Pryor Baird Makes Grand Ole Opry Debut](#)

## Pinnacle Financial Partners Secures Naming Rights Of Nashville Yards Music Venue



Rendering of The Pinnacle

The forthcoming live music venue in the Nashville Yards mixed-use district will be known as The Pinnacle, effective immediately. The 4,500-capacity music venue is set to open in early 2025.

The entertainment theater is named after Pinnacle Financial Partners, who entered into an agreement with Southwest Value Partners and AEG, joint venture partners and co-developers of the Nashville Yards. This makes Pinnacle the official bank of the music venue and marks its first naming rights partnership in the company's history.

Pinnacle, a Founding Partner of Nashville Yards, opened its initial retail presence at the development in 2022. Later this year, the company will move into its new corporate headquarters and open a full-service branch in the project's first multi-tenant office building, known as the Pinnacle Tower.

"This partnership represents Pinnacle's deep investment in elevating Nashville's creative community and will further our reputation as one of the world's best music banks," shares **Andy Moats**, Pinnacle's Director of Music, Entertainment & Sports. "The Pinnacle will be an international symbol that shows the music community how the arts and business should work together. Our music banking team will be directly across the street from the venue—visiting artists will be able to see us from the green room balcony. And we'll be sharing the Nashville Yards campus with [AEG Presents](#) and [CAA](#), making this a new epicenter for the business side of Music City."

The Pinnacle will be operated by AEG Presents, and is being developed with an appreciation for Nashville's musical legacy. The 88,000-square-foot, indoor venue will include a lifter floor for enhanced sightlines, a horseshoe balcony with rail-side standing, VIP seating, first-come-first-served bleachers on the balcony level, production capability for live streaming and televised events and more.

Nashville Yards is a developing, 19-acre project located in the heart of downtown Nashville. When complete, the project will be a walkable, urban community featuring high-end hospitality offerings, including the 591-room luxury Grand Hyatt Nashville and the newly renovated Union Station Nashville Yards, retail and restaurant options, The Pinnacle concert venue and other entertainment offerings.

"We are so very pleased to extend the excellence of all we are building at Nashville Yards into a deeper association with one of the most outstanding banking and financial services companies in the country," says **Cary Mack**, Managing Partner, Southwest Value Partners. "Pinnacle's extensive music and entertainment business offerings make them the perfect partner for our world class music venue, which we are very proud to name The Pinnacle."

"We've been looking forward to the opening of this venue since the Nashville Yards project was first launched eight years ago," shares **Rick Mueller**, President, North America, AEG Presents. "The naming rights partnership with Pinnacle—a brand with deep ties to the music community—brings us that much closer to the moment when we first swing the doors open and welcome fans and artists to Nashville's newest music venue. It's an exciting time for AEG Presents, and we're honored to expand our presence in a city with one of the most thriving musical communities on the planet. Stay tuned for more from The Pinnacle." **MR**

# TOP SONGWRITER CHART

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
1	2	<b>Ashley Gorley</b>	Young Love & Saturday Nights Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me World On Fire Truck Bed Save Me The Trouble All I Need Is You This Town's Been Too Good To Us	Chris Young Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Nate Smith Hardy Dan + Shay Chris Janson Dylan Scott
2	1	<b>Zachary Lane Bryan</b>	I Remember Everything Hey Driver Sarah's Place El Dorado	Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves Zach Bryan ft. The War And Treaty Zach Bryan feat. Noah Kahan Zach Bryan
3	4	<b>Randy Montana</b>	This Is My Dirt Where the Wild Things Are Different 'Round Here	Justin Moore Luke Combs Riley Green ft. Luke Combs
4	3	<b>Chayce Beckham</b>	23	Chayce Beckham
5	5	<b>Jason DeFord</b>	Need A Favor Save Me Wild Ones Halfway To Hell	Jelly Roll Jelly Roll with Lainey Wilson Jessie Murph feat. Jelly Roll Jelly Roll
6	6	<b>Taylor Phillips</b>	Thinkin' Bout Me World On Fire This Town's Been Too Good To Us Love You Again	Morgan Wallen Nate Smith Dylan Scott Chase Matthew
7	10	<b>Chris Stapleton</b>	White Horse Think I'm In Love With You	Chris Stapleton Chris Stapleton
8	7	<b>Tracy Chapman</b>	Fast Car	Luke Combs
9	9	<b>Dan Wilson</b>	White Horse	Chris Stapleton
10	8	<b>David Ray Stevens</b>	Save Me	Jelly Roll with Lainey Wilson
11	11	<b>Dave Turnbull</b>	Where the Wild Things Are	Luke Combs
12	12	<b>Kacey Musgraves</b>	I Remember Everything	Zach Bryan ft. Kacey Musgraves
13	13	<b>John Byron</b>	Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me This Town's Been Too Good To Us	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Dylan Scott
14	14	<b>Ryan Vojtesak</b>	Last Night Thinkin' Bout Me This Town's Been Too Good To Us	Morgan Wallen Morgan Wallen Dylan Scott
15	17	<b>Chase McGill</b>	Chevrolet Mamaw's House Creek Will Rise	Dustin Lynch (feat. Jelly Roll) Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen Conner Smith
16	16	<b>Hunter Phelps</b>	Take Her Home Chevrolet Truck Bed	Kenny Chesney Dustin Lynch (feat. Jelly Roll) Hardy
17	18	<b>Michael Hardy</b>	Take Her Home Truck Bed	Kenny Chesney Hardy
18	15	<b>Jordan Minton</b>	Dance With You Save Me The Trouble Your Place	Brett Young Dan + Shay Ashley Cooke
19	19	<b>Ryan Beaver</b>	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders
20	20	<b>Jared Keim</b>	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders
21	21	<b>Warren Zeiders</b>	Pretty Little Poison	Warren Zeiders
22	22	<b>Christopher Anthony Lunsford</b>	Rich Men North Of Richmond	Oliver Anthony Music
23	26	<b>Riley Green</b>	Different 'Round Here	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs
24	27	<b>Jonathan Singleton</b>	Different 'Round Here	Riley Green ft. Luke Combs

This Week	Last Week	Songwriter's Name	Song(s)	Artist
25	23	<b>Ryan Larkins</b>	The Painter	Cody Johnson
26	24	<b>Kat Higgins</b>	The Painter	Cody Johnson
27	25	<b>Benjy Davis</b>	The Painter	Cody Johnson
28	29	<b>Dylan Gossett</b>	Coal	Dylan Gossett
29	30	<b>Lindsay Rimes</b>	Love You Back World On Fire	Lady A Nate Smith
30	31	<b>Nate Smith</b>	World On Fire	Nate Smith
31	33	<b>P. Good</b>	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
32	34	<b>Carly Pearce</b>	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
33	35	<b>Shane McAnally</b>	We Don't Fight Anymore	Carly Pearce feat. Chris Stapleton
34	36	<b>Ben Johnson</b>	Truck Bed	Hardy
35	50	<b>Trannie Anderson</b>	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Lainey Wilson
36	51	<b>Lainey Wilson</b>	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Lainey Wilson
37	52	<b>Paul Sikes</b>	Wildflowers and Wild Horses	Lainey Wilson
38	43	<b>Parker McCollum</b>	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
39	44	<b>Liz Rose</b>	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
40	45	<b>Hillary Lindsey</b>	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
41	46	<b>Lori McKenna</b>	Burn It Down	Parker McCollum
42	39	<b>Phil Collins</b>	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
43	40	<b>Gabe Foust</b>	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
44	41	<b>Jaxson Free</b>	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
45	42	<b>Kane Brown</b>	I Can Feel It	Kane Brown
46	57	<b>Bryan Martin</b>	We Ride	Bryan Martin
47	58	<b>Vernon Brown</b>	We Ride	Bryan Martin
48	59	<b>Jordan Dozzi</b>	Man Made A Bar	Morgan Wallen (Feat. Eric Church)
49	60	<b>Rocky Block</b>	Man Made A Bar	Morgan Wallen (Feat. Eric Church)
50	61	<b>Larry Fleet</b>	Man Made A Bar	Morgan Wallen (Feat. Eric Church)
51	62	<b>Brett Tyler</b>	Man Made A Bar	Morgan Wallen (Feat. Eric Church)
52	66	<b>David Garcia</b>	Out Of That Truck Back Then Right Now	Carrie Underwood Tyler Hubbard
53	53	<b>Emily Weisband</b>	Can't Break Up Now Love You Back Glory Days	Old Dominion feat. Megan Moroney Lady A Gabby Barrett
54	54	<b>Mitch Oglesby</b>	All I Need Is You	Chris Janson
55	55	<b>Brad Clawson</b>	All I Need Is You	Chris Janson
56	56	<b>Chris Janson</b>	All I Need Is You	Chris Janson
57	63	<b>Morgan Wallen</b>	Mamaw's House	Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen
58	64	<b>Matt Dragstrem</b>	Mamaw's House	Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen
59	65	<b>Thomas Rhett</b>	Mamaw's House	Thomas Rhett feat. Morgan Wallen
60	47	<b>Jordan Reynolds</b>	Save Me The Trouble	Dan + Shay

## CALENDAR

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### Single/Track Releases

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#### February 2

**Scot Teasley**/*This Truck Still Misses You*/Hollow Point Music

**Justin Holmes**/*Drink You Down*/Country Rebel Records

#### February 4

**McKenna Faith Winters**/*One Girl To Another*/MC1 Nashville

**Brandon Lee**/*Hurricane*/MC1 Nashville

#### February 5

**Dan + Shay**/*Bigger Houses*/Warner Music Nashville

**Darci Lynne**/*Push Our Luck*

#### February 9

**Spencer Crandall**/*Worth The Wait*

**Orlando Mendez**/*Miami or Me*

**Kalaan White**/*Backroads*/MC1 Nashville

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### Album/EP Releases

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#### February 2

**Gabby Barrett**/*Chapter & Verse*/Warner Music Nashville

**Brit Taylor**/*Kentucky Bluegrassed*

**Dugger Band**/*Goin' Places*

#### February 9

**The Castellows**/*A Little Goes A Long Way*/Warner Music Nashville/Warner Records

**Dalton Dover**/*Take Me Home: Covers*/Mercury Records

#### February 14

**Drew & Ellie Holcomb**/*Brick By Brick*/Magnolia Music/Tone Tree Music

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### Industry Events

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#### February 4

66th Annual Grammy Awards

#### February 28 – March 1

CRS

#### March 8 – 10

C2C Festival

#### March 19

*MusicRow's* 11th Rising Women on the Row