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Carrie Underwood

Dave Cobb

Jason Aldean

Jeff Stevens

Dan + Shay

Cam

Luke Bryan

Kacey Musgraves

Chris Young

Jesse Frasier

A Thousand Horses

Chase Rice

Tyler Johnson

Rascal Flatts

Eli Young Band

Kenny Chesney

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Mickey Guyton

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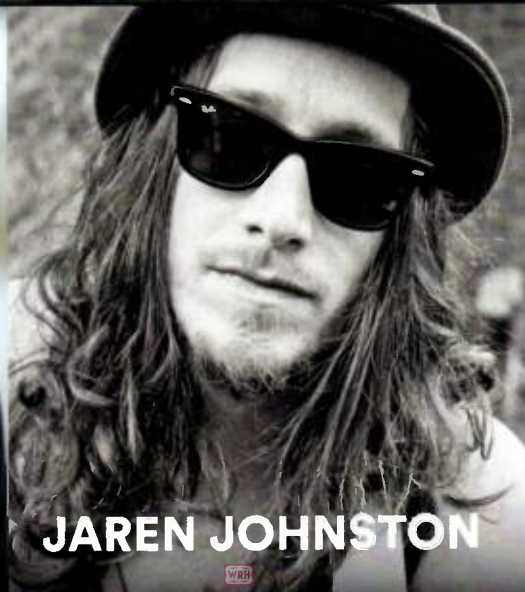
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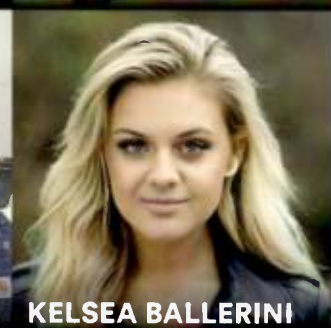
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TABLE OF CONTENTS



- 12** Message from the Chairman
- 14** Message from the President
- 16** Message from the CEO
- 18** Message from the Chairman of ACM Lifting Lives
- 20** Message from the Producers of the ACM Awards
- 24** Meet Our Hosts
- 26** ACM Mission
- 32** ACM Awards Ballot
- 34** Entertainer of the Year Nominees
- 44** Nominees
- 78** Nominees: Album of the Year
- 80** Nominees: Single Record of the Year
- 82** Nominees: Song of the Year
- 84** Nominees: Video of the Year
- 86** Nominees: Vocal Event of the Year

- 88** Radio Awards Winners
- 89** Industry, Studio Recording Awards Winners & Songwriter of the Year
- 90** Special Awards
- 94** The Week Vegas Goes Country
- 96** ACM Party For A Cause Festival
- 98** ACM Board of Directors
- 102** ACM Staff
- 104** ACM Lifting Lives Board of Directors
- 106** Past Winners
- 110** Acknowledgements
- 112** Corporate Partners
- 113** Thank You
- 114** Production Credits



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A MESSAGE FROM THE

CHAIRMAN OF THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC

Welcome to the 51st Annual Academy of Country Music Awards! "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas," right? That may be true for some, but not after this weekend — you'll want to tell everyone about the unbelievable experience you had at the ACM events. And tonight you'll be in the very capable hands of our veteran host Luke Bryan, and his new partner-in-crime, Dierks Bentley. The dynamic duo will take us through three hours of outstanding performances and special moments you'll be talking about for some time to come — there's no way these memories will "stay in Vegas."

Last year we celebrated our 50th anniversary at AT&T Stadium in Texas with a record-setting audience and a fantastic line-up of artists. Hitting that milestone was one we'll never forget, but returning to Vegas to start our next 50 year-run feels like we're home. MGM Grand has been our base for 10 years and we couldn't be happier to be back. The Awards have grown immeasurably in that timespan. By staging unforgettable performances, breaking new artists and honoring our past, we've been able to advance country music to places we never thought we'd be. And most importantly, because of the generosity of our fans and the artists, we've been able to fund our charitable arm, ACM Lifting Lives, and help so many people in need.

We've donated more than \$8 million to worthy charities through monies raised at ACM and Lifting Lives events. The ACM Party for a Cause® Festival is one of those. Held at the Las Vegas Festival Grounds this year, the three-day event showcased today's newest and brightest stars, with superstar headliners Carrie Underwood, Dierks Bentley and Kenny Chesney. Proceeds from the event help ACM Lifting Lives continue its mission of improving lives through the power of music. More than \$400,000 has been raised through festival ticket sales — and it's all because of the fans — you're the reason we've been able to support so many.

Tonight, we're all in for a stellar lineup of performances and award presentations. I'd like to send a sincere thank you to my fellow officers: President Ken Tucker, Vice-President Ben Vaughn, Treasurer Duane Clark, Parliamentarian Paul Moore, Sergeant-at-Arms Tim DuBois and Secretary/EVP Tiffany Moon. And to CEO Bob Romeo and Senior Vice Presidents Teresa George, Lisa Lee, Erick Long, Brooke Primero and their teams for their tireless efforts to bring the events back to Las Vegas. On behalf of the ACM Board of Directors, we hope you enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Paul Barnabee



**"BY STAGING
UNFORGETTABLE
PERFORMANCES,
BREAKING NEW
ARTISTS AND
HONORING OUR
PAST, WE'VE BEEN
ABLE TO ADVANCE
COUNTRY MUSIC TO
PLACES WE NEVER
THOUGHT WE'D BE."**

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A MESSAGE FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC

Tonight on the 51st Academy of Country Music Awards, we celebrate the achievements of some of the biggest stars in country music and recognize the success of our future stars.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you, the country music fan, for your constant support and enthusiasm. Without you there would be no superstars, no hit records, no tours and no country music industry. You are the heart and soul of what we do, and for that I am thankful.

For the last almost thirty years I have been involved in country music. My journey began as a DJ in Parkersburg, W.Va., and continued as a record company executive, a journalist, an artist manager and an Apple Music programmer, among other things. The common denominator is country music and you, the fan.

While I won't pretend to speak for the artists you'll see perform tonight, I know that they, like me, are eternally grateful for your support. They love what they do and all the ways in which you support them.

Tonight we don't just celebrate country music; we also celebrate you, the most important and best part of the country music community.

Thank you.

Ken Tucker



**"WITHOUT YOU
THERE WOULD BE
NO SUPERSTARS,
NO HIT RECORDS,
NO TOURS AND NO
COUNTRY MUSIC
INDUSTRY. YOU ARE
THE HEART AND SOUL
OF WHAT WE DO,
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THANKFUL."**

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A MESSAGE FROM THE

CEO OF THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC

Welcome to the *51st Annual Academy of Country Music Awards*, and for those who have been with us before, welcome back to Las Vegas! Our hosts Luke Bryan and Dierks Bentley will guide you through an evening filled with more than 20 megastar performances and some really special sentimental moments, too. Never before has country music been so prevalent. "Music" is used to describe "beauty of form, harmony, and expression of emotion." The artists you'll see tonight have put enormous amounts of time and energy into creating pieces that fit this very definition. Everything from the tempo of the song selected, to the set design and every single spotlight hung, we've all been getting ready for tonight since the final award was handed-out in Texas last year.

"The Week Vegas Goes Country" was back with a vengeance in 2016. The three-day ACM Party for a Cause Festival featured more 30 artists — including headliners Carrie Underwood, Dierks Bentley and Kenny Chesney — and brought more than 60,000 fans to the Las Vegas Festival Grounds. A portion of proceeds from every ticket sold went to select military charities that support our veterans and active service men and women. More than 3,000 of the fans at the festival were ACM-invited guests — soldiers and military staff from various bases. Country music artists and fans are the most generous, kindhearted individuals you'll ever come across.

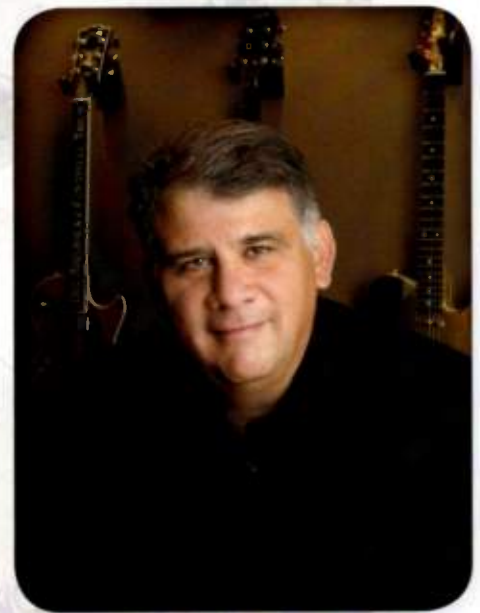
Another incredibly talented, giving person helped us again this year. For the fifth time in a row, Darius Rucker hosted the ACM Lifting Lives Golf Classic with proceeds benefitting the charity's Diane Holcomb Emergency Relief Fund, which provides immediate relief to members of the music industry in need. The Fund's resources have supported 60+ cases and cover a wide range of financial, medical and personal emergencies, totaling more than \$400,000 since 2007. Each case is treated with integrity and confidentiality. It's still an amazing concept to grasp at times — we're able to change lives and in some cases, save lives, all through the power of music and bringing people together.

I hope you were able to experience the events this weekend and see firsthand how music can lift lives. The power of music is everywhere, and we're proud to be a part of it. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the ACM Board of Directors and dedicated volunteers who provide support whenever and wherever needed. Also a sincere thank you to our officers — Chairman Paul Barnabee, President Ken Tucker, Vice-President Ben Vaughn, Treasurer Duane Clark, Parliamentarian Paul Moore and Sergeant-at-Arms Tim Dubois — who are truly a great group of industry professionals with exceptional knowledge, history and business acumen. And to the ACM staff for their smarts, ingenuity, ability to handle any project or pressures thrown at them, and most importantly, their kindness towards each other, you never cease to amaze me. This is a group of people I treasure at every turn, and they never disappoint. The leadership and poise our senior team provides — Tiffany Moon, Teresa George, Lisa Lee, Brooke Primero, Erick Long and Alexa Fasheh — allows me, and the entire office, the comfort and confidence to continue to reach goals we never thought possible. To our partners and *friends*, thank you for your continued support: dick clark productions; Les Moonves and Jack Sussman at CBS; and Richard Sturm, Scott Sibella, Mark Prows and Chris Baldizan at MGM — your teams are first-rate and will always be family to us.

And to our troops, your service and dedication to this country is immeasurable and we're honored to have you join us every year.

Kindest regards,

Bob Romeo



Sony Music Nashville Congratulates Our
2016 ACM AWARD NOMINEES



GARTH BROOKS

CAM



KENNY CHESNEY

MIRANDA LAMBERT



OLD DOMINION

CHASE RICE



CARRIE UNDERWOOD

CHRIS YOUNG



A MESSAGE FROM THE

CHAIRMAN OF ACM LIFTING LIVES

There is no question that ACM Lifting Lives is dedicated to improving lives through the power of music now more than ever. From fundraising efforts in Texas last year, we received our largest gift to date from the Academy of Country Music — \$1 million. We are excited to be back in Las Vegas this year with another great celebration at our annual ACM Party for a Cause Festival, and this year's new "Cause Way" will highlight many of our charitable partners.

Each year ACM Lifting Lives contributes to deserving groups nationwide through the annual grant process. In 2016, our grant recipients included Musicians On Call, Creativets, The Center for Courageous Kids, Notes for Notes, MTSU Foundation and WO Smith School of Music. We support various artist causes throughout the year and give disaster relief funding as needed. Gayle Holcomb, who served four years as Chairman of the ACM Board, established The Diane Holcomb Emergency Relief Fund — in honor of her mother — to respond quickly to unforeseen financial needs of music related organizations and individuals. The fund has made an impactful difference in the lives of so many in our community who have needed a helping hand.

We have also established key partnerships with the Ryan Seacrest Foundation, Vanderbilt University's Kennedy Center, the COPD Foundation's Harmonicas for Health program and Music Health Alliance. We have raised money and awareness through club benefit shows throughout the country, our annual Party for a Cause Festival, the Lifting Lives Golf Classic and successful campaigns with Kendra Scott and The Giving Keys. To date, ACM Lifting Lives has given more than \$8 million to 265 causes.

This year, we are also very excited to announce a new award that is very important to all of us. The Gary Haber Lifting Lives Award was created to recognize an artist or industry professional committed to serving others with a generosity of spirit and a dedication to helping those in need. The honor is named for past ACM Lifting Lives Chairman Gary Haber, who illustrated all of these traits and more. He left us too soon in April of 2014, and we all miss him. We are delighted to recognize Carrie Underwood as the first recipient, celebrating her contributions to ACM Lifting Lives.

This organization has grown significantly over the past few years due to the commitment of ACM CEO Bob Romeo and the individuals who have led the organization. Special thanks to past chairs Gayle Holcomb, Dennis Lord, Mark Hartley, Gary Haber, Bruce Bowman and Bill Mayne for keeping this organization a priority during your busy work lives. A big thank you to the entire Board of Directors and the ACM staff, including Hannah Martin and Tiffany Moon for their tireless dedication to ACM Lifting Lives. I look forward to watching the organization grow over the next decade as it continues to improve lives through the power of music.

Sincerely,

Lori Badgett



**"ACM LIFTING LIVES
IS DEDICATED TO
IMPROVING LIVES
THROUGH THE POWER
OF MUSIC NOW MORE
THAN EVER. FROM
FUNDRAISING EFFORTS
IN TEXAS LAST YEAR,
WE RECEIVED OUR
LARGEST GIFT TO DATE
FROM THE ACADEMY
OF COUNTRY MUSIC —
\$1 MILLION."**

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Charles M. Russell (1864–1926), *The Tenderfoot* (detail), oil on board, 18 × 23.5 inches, Estimate: \$700,000–1,000,000

A MESSAGE FROM THE

PRODUCERS OF THE ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS

Tonight, the *Academy of Country Music Awards* makes a triumphant return to our home base in Las Vegas to begin our second half-century.

This is a town famous for its celebrations, and tonight we celebrate the biggest artists and achievements of the past year in country music. And if the performances you're going to see tonight are any indication, our second 50 years may be even better than our first 50!

Looking over tonight's nominee list, we see a lively mix of some of the genre's sensational young artists combined with the amazing superstars who are always at the top of their game. That blend not only makes for a fantastic show, but it says a lot about the dynamic state of country music and its future.

On tonight's show, our reigning Entertainer of the Year, Luke Bryan, will share his hosting duties with the versatile and talented Dierks Bentley. Dierks has been a fixture at the ACMs ever since he was named New Artist of the Year for 2004, and we welcome him in this exciting new role.

Luke and Dierks are close friends off stage as well, and we can already tell from rehearsals that anything can happen when these two get together! One thing's for certain...they will be surrounded by an electrifying lineup of the top hit makers around.

That means you can expect the kind of great music, laughs and surprises that the *ACM Awards* have become known for. And of course, none of this would happen without you, the country music fans. We never take your support and enthusiasm for granted, and we strive to earn it on every show. So, thank you for being the most important part of our audience tonight, and get ready to enjoy Country Music's Party of the Year!

Sincerely,

Allen Shapiro

CEO/Executive Producer

Michael Mahan

President/
Executive Producer

R. A. Clark

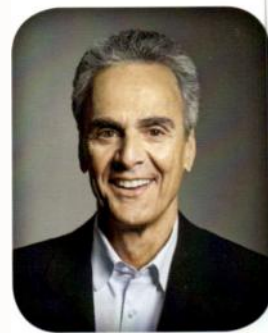
Executive Producer

Barry Adelman

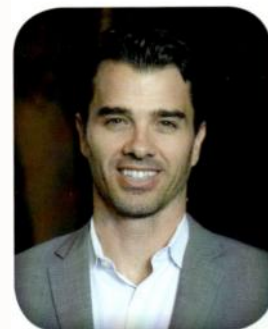
Executive Producer

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Mark Bracco

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- Granger Smith -

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- Chase Bryant -

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OUR HOSTS

LUKE BRYAN & DIERKS BENTLEY



Tuxedos and talented, handsome men have long been part of what makes Vegas, well, Vegas. And now Luke Bryan and Dierks Bentley are adding to that illustrious history tonight as hosts for the 51st Academy of Country Music Awards.

"We've known each other a long time, and we're comfortable cutting up with one another and NOT taking ourselves too seriously," Luke said. "And I think it's about getting out there and creating a vibe."

"To be hosting the show with Luke is fun," Dierks added. "It's Vegas, and this show has a reputation of being a little looser."

"That's why we brought you in," Luke joked.

"These two guys just enjoy being with each other, and they both love to kid one another 24/7!" said longtime ACM Awards executive producer and writer Barry Adelman. "In fact, a couple of times in recent years, Dierks has suggested jokes for the show about Luke. The lines were so funny that we used them! And if the CBS promo shoot [at Las Vegas' Neon Boneyard] is any indication, we expect Luke and Dierks' natural chemistry to come across immediately. We think they'll be loose, fun and unpredictable...and that's just the way we want it!"

Luke returns to his hosting duties this year, having shared the stage three times with co-host Blake Shelton. Dierks makes his hosting debut tonight after leading the revered ACM Honors event for two years at the historic Ryman Auditorium. While Luke and Dierks may be a brand new hosting duo, the guys each have a long history with the Academy. Dierks is a 14-time ACM Award nominee, winning his first for New Artist of the Year for 2003. He's

nominated again this year for both Male Vocalist of the Year and for Video of the Year, an award he took home last year as well. Luke is a 17-time nominee and is the reigning ACM Entertainer of the Year, a trophy he has taken home twice among his seven total ACM wins. Both Luke and Dierks are also familiar faces to the ACM stage, having performed multiple times on both the ACM Awards and the ACM Presents specials over the years.

After a year in Texas for last year's 50th anniversary show, Luke says it'll be easy to slide back into his Vegas routine — which may or may not include a little gambling before the show.

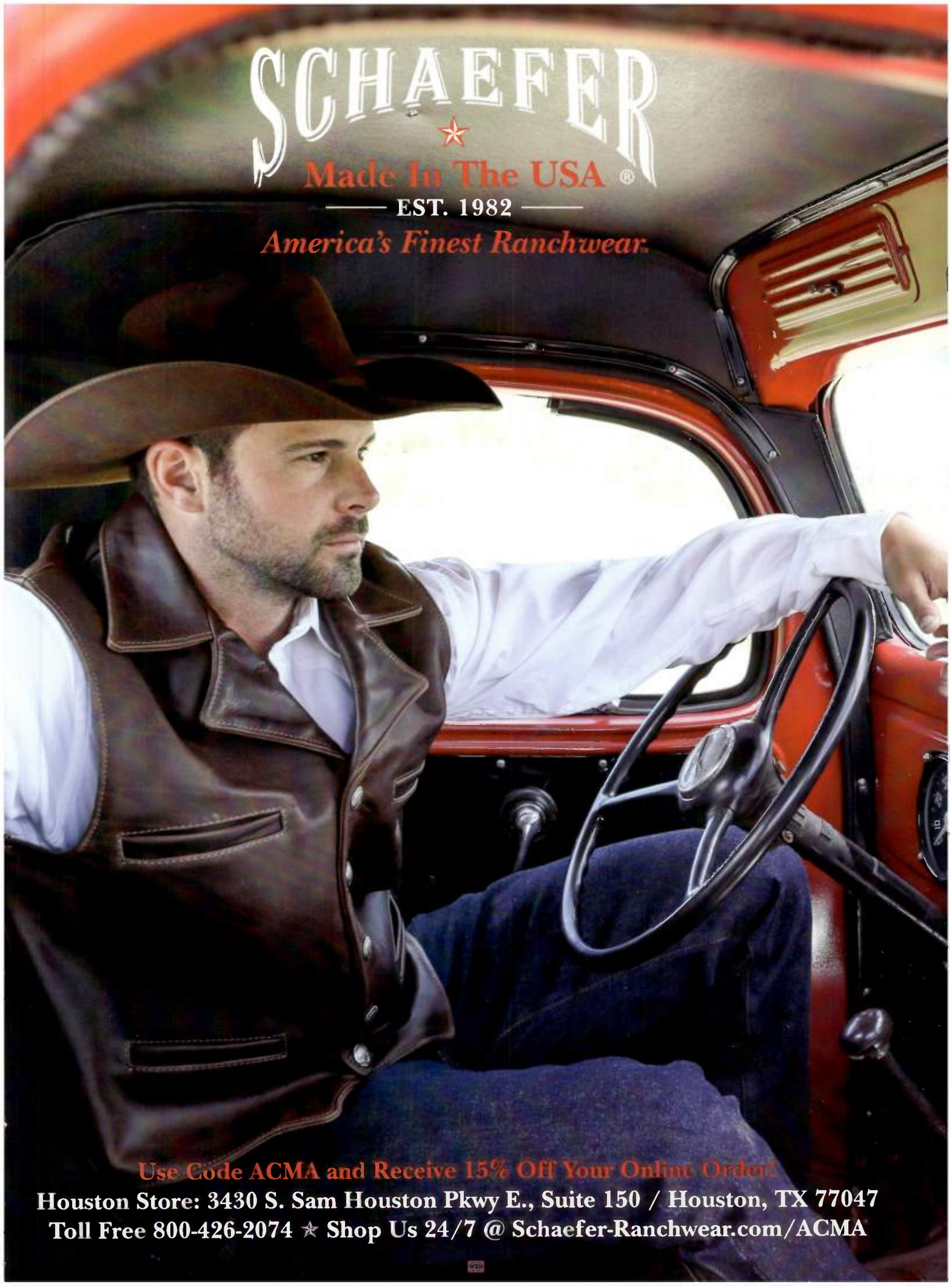
"That motivates me to work harder and focus more when I know I'm in debt," Luke deadpanned.

The 2015 show at AT&T Stadium was one for the record books, affording the ACM Awards producers the space to build their biggest show ever with two massive stages. Moving back to the Academy's longtime home base at the MGM Grand Garden Arena has challenged the production staff at dick clark productions to create the same magic in a different space.

"For the first time ever in Vegas, we will have two big stages at the MGM, which will allow us to have back to back performances and a fluid production that will never let up," said Executive Producer RAC Clark. "In addition, there are several new camera and audio techniques that we will be employing, to give the fans the most intimate and exclusive coverage they've ever had. It should be amazing to watch both at home and in the arena."

When Luke and Dierks take those stages tonight, they will begin the next 50 years of the Academy's legacy.

PHOTO BY CBS/CLIFF LIPSON

A man with a beard, wearing a brown cowboy hat and a dark brown leather vest over a white long-sleeved shirt, is driving a red vintage car. He is looking out the window to his right. The car's interior is visible, including the steering wheel and dashboard.

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MISSION

Fifty years. Fifty years of great music. Fifty years of supporting new artists and established superstars. Fifty years of entertaining country music fans from coast to coast. Fifty years of charitable good works.

The proud history of the Academy of Country Music lends credence to its official mission of "improving lives by connecting fans, artists and the industry." In the half century since its inception, the Academy has grown from a regional Southern California trade organization to a national powerhouse dedicated to a higher purpose.

The Academy was officially founded in 1964 in Los Angeles when performer Tommy Wiggins, songwriter Eddie Miller and club owners Mickey and Chris Christensen teamed up with other performers, radio and record label executives to establish the Country and Western Music Academy. Their vision was to promote country music in the western 13 states and to support artists based on the West Coast such as Billy Mize, Johnny Bond, Glen Campbell, Merle Haggard, Roger Miller, Buck Owens, Wynn Stewart, Jimmy Wakely and Tex Williams. In 1965, an official board of directors was formed. The Academy hosted its first official country music awards show in 1966 (after three informal awards banquets held at the Christensens' Red Barrel Niteclub) honoring the industry's accomplishments during the previous year. It was the first country music awards program held by a major organization, propelling country music into the public spotlight for the first time. Winners that year included Kay Adams, Merle Haggard, Bonnie Owens and Buck Owens.

The Academy's signature "hat" trophy was created in 1968, the same year Fran



Boyd was hired as the Academy's first paid employee. During the early 1970s, the organization changed its name to the Academy of Country and Western Music and finally to the Academy of Country Music (ACM). The Academy also expanded its efforts to broaden the horizons of the country music industry, sponsoring the "Country Music Caravan" in Los Angeles and beginning its history of charitable endeavors with a "Concern for Prisoners of War" benefit concert (also held in Los Angeles), and, later, the ACM Celebrity Golf Classic.

The awards show hit the airwaves in 1972, broadcast for the first time in national syndication on the ABC network. Gene Weed took over producing and directing the show in 1974, and in 1979 the Academy joined forces with Dick Clark Productions to produce the show. Dick Clark and Al Schwartz served as producers while Weed continued to direct. The Academy named Bill Boyd executive director, and he also served as the talent coordinator for the show. Under their guidance, the ACM Awards moved first to the NBC network and finally to CBS, where it remains today.



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ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC



In 1995, Fran Boyd (the Academy's first paid employee) became executive director after her husband, Bill Boyd, passed away. Boyd had steered the Academy since 1980 and held many key positions before taking on the role of executive director that was later bequeathed to his wife. After 34 years of service to the Academy, Fran Boyd retired in 2002 and handed the reins over to Bob Romeo, who currently holds the position Chief Executive Officer. The show is still produced by dick clark productions under the direction of longtime Executive Producers Barry Adelman and Richard A. "Rac" Clark, as well as dick clark's Mark Bracco, Mike Mahan and Allen Shaprio.

After being staged in Los Angeles since the 1960s, the ACM Awards left Los Angeles for the first time in history and settled into Las Vegas at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino Events Center in 2003, then moving to the MGM Grand Garden Arena in 2006 (the Academy also adopted a sleeker, modern version of the "hat" trophy that year). In 2015, the Academy moved the show to AT&T Stadium — the home of the Dallas Cowboys — to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ACM Awards. The show (as well as the two-day ACM Party for a Cause Festival at Globe Life Park) sold out in 18 minutes, landing in the Guinness Book of World Records as the most attended live awards show (with more than 70,000 fans in the house). After that triumphant event, the Academy returns tonight to its longtime



home at the MGM Grand Garden Arena to continue its storied legacy.

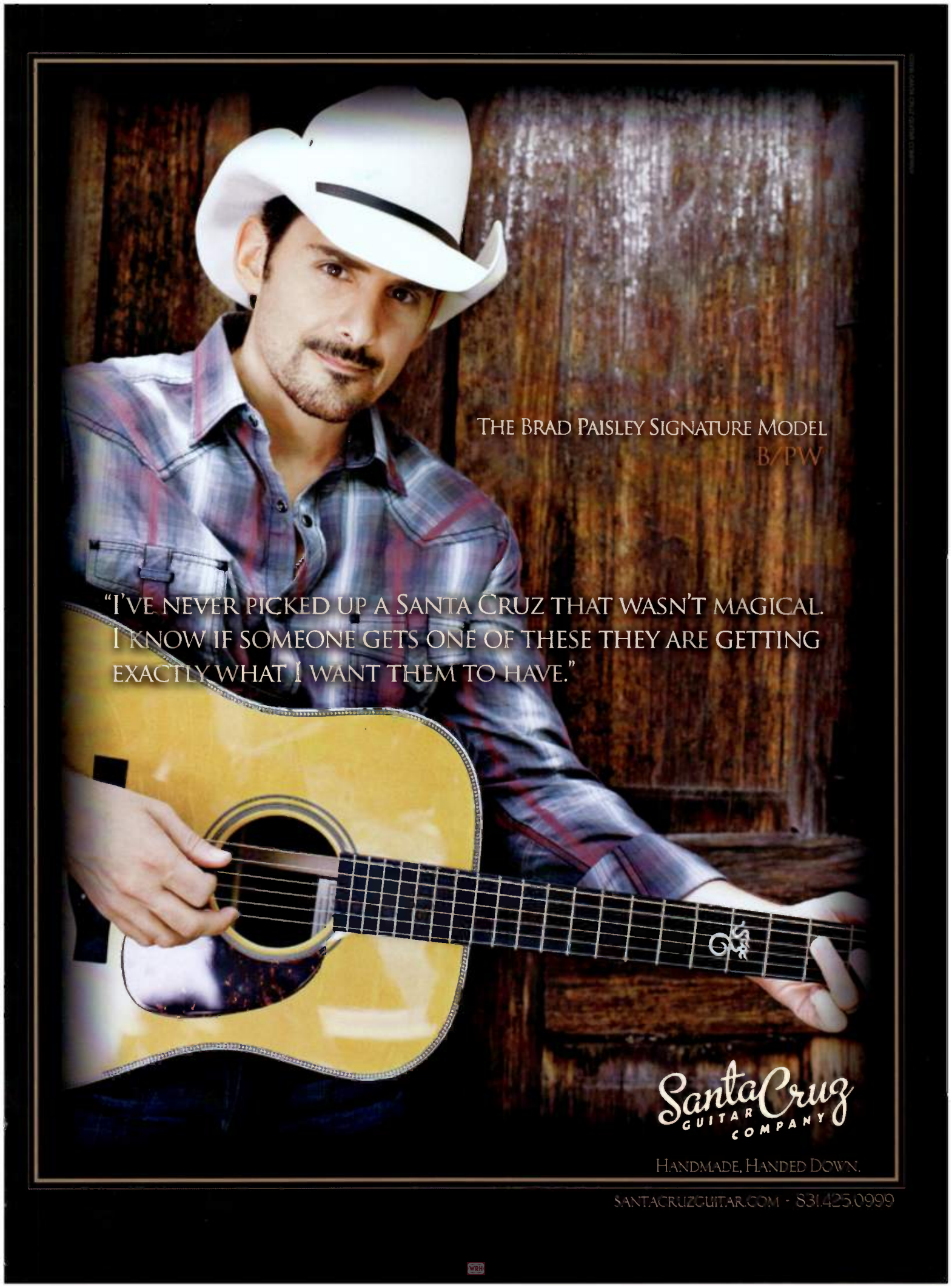
"I can't tell you how excited I am to see where the Academy and the ACM Awards go over the next 50 years," said ACM CEO Bob Romeo. "With the digital world we live in changing every day, who knows how we'll be communicating with our fans and supporting our artists in the coming decades? It's a thrilling prospect."

"The future of this show is tied to the future of country music," said ACM Awards executive producer Mark Bracco. "One of the things that is apparent in this year's nominations is the number of first time nominees in almost all categories. This speaks to a strong future in the coming years. At the same time, we are continuing to engage with all the multi-media platforms such as digital, social and live streaming that are now an important part of the live television experience. As long as we stay on top of the innovative ways that people are consuming entertainment, we will ensure that this show remains current and on the cutting edge."

While the Academy strives to foster high-quality entertainment through the annual awards show and the ACM Honors ceremony in Nashville, many events such as the annual ACM Party for a Cause® Festival and ACM Lifting Lives Golf Classic serve a dual

purpose as fundraisers for the Academy's charitable arm. ACM Lifting Lives strives to improve lives through the power of music by supporting deserving charities through its annual grant cycle, as well as supporting those in the music industry hit with unexpected and catastrophic expenses through the Diane Holcomb Emergency Relief Fund. To date, more than \$8 million dollars has gone to a variety of causes nationwide—including Stand Up 2 Cancer, Folds of Honor and Nashville's Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for the annual ACM Lifting Lives Music Camp.





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NOMINEES

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

Jason Aldean
Garth Brooks
Luke Bryan
Eric Church
Miranda Lambert

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Jason Aldean
Dierks Bentley
Eric Church
Brett Eldredge
Chris Stapleton

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Kelsea Ballerini
Jana Kramer
Miranda Lambert
Kacey Musgraves
Carrie Underwood

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

Brothers Osborne
Dan + Shay
Florida Georgia Line
Joey + Rory
Maddie & Tae

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

Eli Young Band
Little Big Town
Old Dominion
Rascal Flatts
Zac Brown Band

NEW MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Brett Eldredge
Chris Janson
Thomas Rhett
Chase Rice
Chris Stapleton

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

*Awarded to Artist(s)/Producer(s)/
Record Company-Label(s)*

I'M COMIN' OVER

Chris Young
PRODUCERS: Corey Crowder,
Chris Young
RECORD LABEL: RCA Records

MONTEVALLO

Sam Hunt
PRODUCERS: Zach Crowell,
Shane McAnally
RECORD LABEL: MCA Nashville

MR. MISUNDERSTOOD

Eric Church
PRODUCER: Jay Joyce
RECORD LABEL: EMI Records
Nashville

TANGLED UP

Thomas Rhett
PRODUCERS: Dann Huff,
Jesse Frasure, Chris DeStefano,
Joe London
RECORD LABEL: The Valory
Music Co.

TRAVELLER

Chris Stapleton
PRODUCERS: Dave Cobb,
Chris Stapleton
RECORD LABEL: Mercury Records

SINGLE RECORD OF THE YEAR

*Awarded to Artist(s)/Producer(s)/
Record Company-Label(s)*

"BURNING HOUSE"

Cam
PRODUCERS: Jeff Bhasker,
Tyler Johnson, Camaron Ochs
RECORD LABELS: Arista Nashville,
RCA Records

NEW FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Kelsea Ballerini
Cam
Mickey Guyton
RaeLynn

NEW VOCAL DUO OR GROUP OF THE YEAR

A Thousand Horses
Brothers Osborne
Maddie & Tae
Old Dominion
Parmalee

"BUY ME A BOAT"

Chris Janson
PRODUCERS: Brent Anderson,
Chris DuBois, Chris Janson
RECORD LABEL: Warner Music
Nashville

"DIE A HAPPY MAN"

Thomas Rhett
PRODUCERS: Dann Huff,
Jesse Frasure
RECORD LABEL: The Valory
Music Co.

"GIRL CRUSH"

Little Big Town
PRODUCER: Jay Joyce
RECORD LABEL: Capitol Records
Nashville

"I'M COMIN' OVER"

Chris Young
PRODUCERS: Corey Crowder,
Chris Young
RECORD LABEL: RCA Nashville

"TAKE YOUR TIME"

Sam Hunt
PRODUCERS: Zach Crowell,
Shane McAnally
RECORD LABEL: MCA Nashville

SONG OF THE YEAR

*Awarded to Songwriter(s)/
Publisher(s)/Artist(s)*

"BURNING HOUSE"

Cam
SONGWRITERS: Jeffrey Bhasker,
Tyler Johnson, Cam
PUBLISHERS: Marvelous Oaks
Records (ASCAP), Creative Pulse
Music (BMI), One Year Yesterday
Publishing (BMI), Sony/ATV Songs
LLC (BMI), These Are Pulse Songs
(BMI), Way Above Music (BMI)

"GIRL CRUSH"

Little Big Town
SONGWRITERS: Hillary Lindsey,
Lori McKenna, Liz Rose
PUBLISHERS: HillarodyRathbone
Music (ASCAP), Hoodie Songs
(BMI), Songs of Crazy Girl Music
(BMI), Songs of Universal Inc (BMI),
Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.
(BMI)

"NOBODY TO BLAME"

Chris Stapleton
SONGWRITERS: Chris Stapleton,
Barry Bales, Ronnie Bowman
PUBLISHERS: House of Sea Gayle
Music (ASCAP), WB Music Corp
(ASCAP), Quackhead Music (BMI),
RayLynn Publishing (BMI)

"RAISE 'EM UP"

Keith Urban
Featuring Eric Church
SONGWRITERS: Tom Douglas,
Jaren Johnston, Jeffrey Steele
PUBLISHERS: Jeffrey Steele Music
(BMI), Sony/ATV Tree Publishing
(BMI), TomDouglasMusic (BMI),
Sony/ATV Harmony (ASCAP),
Texa Rae Music (ASCAP)

"SHE DON'T LOVE YOU"

Eric Paslay
SONGWRITERS: Eric Paslay,
Jennifer Wayne
PUBLISHERS: Five Stone Publishing
(ASCAP), Spirit Two Nashville
(ASCAP), Songwriters of Platinum
Pen Publishing (BMI)

SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR

(Off Camera Award)

Rodney Clawson
Ross Copperman
Ashley Gorley
Shane McAnally
Josh Osborne

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

(Off Camera Award)

*Awarded to Producer(s)/
Director(s)/Artist(s)*

"BISCUITS"

Kacey Musgraves
DIRECTOR: Mark Klasfeld
PRODUCER: Nicole Acacio

"BURNING HOUSE"

Cam
DIRECTOR: Trey Fanjoy
PRODUCER: Trent Hardville

"GIRL CRUSH"

Little Big Town
DIRECTORS: Karla Welch,
Matthew Welch
PRODUCER: Amanda Prunesti

"MR. MISUNDERSTOOD"

Eric Church
DIRECTORS: Reid Long, John Peets
PRODUCER: Megan Smith

"RISER"

Dierks Bentley
DIRECTOR: Wes Edwards
PRODUCER: Jennifer Rothlein

VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

(Off Camera Award)

*Awarded to Artist(s)/Producer(s)/
Record Company-Label(s)*

"HANGOVER TONIGHT"

Gary Allan
Featuring Chris Stapleton
PRODUCERS: Gary Allan,
Greg Droman
RECORD LABEL: MCA Nashville

"HOME ALONE TONIGHT"

Luke Bryan
Featuring Karen Fairchild
PRODUCERS: Jeff Stevens,
Jody Stevens
RECORD LABEL: Capitol Nashville

"RAISE 'EM UP"

Keith Urban
Featuring Eric Church
PRODUCERS: Nathan Chapman,
Keith Urban
RECORD LABELS: Hit Red Records,
Capitol Nashville

"SMOKIN' AND DRINKIN'"

Miranda Lambert
Featuring Little Big Town
PRODUCERS: Frank Liddell,
Chuck Ainlay, Glenn Worf
RECORD LABEL: RCA Nashville

"WILD CHILD"

Kenny Chesney
With Grace Potter
PRODUCERS: Buddy Cannon,
Kenny Chesney
RECORD LABELS: Blue Chair
Records, Columbia Nashville

INDUSTRY AWARDS

(Off Camera Awards)

CASINO OF THE YEAR (SMALL CAPACITY)

Beau Rivage Resort & Casino – Biloxi, MS

Inn of The Mountain Gods – Mescalero, NM

Riverwind Casino – Norman, OK

Turning Stone Showroom – Verona, NY

Wolf Den at Mohegan Sun – Uncasville, CT

CASINO OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM CAPACITY)

Casino Rama – Rama, ON, Canada

Choctaw Casino Event Center – Durant, OK

Mohegan Sun Arena – Uncasville, CT

The Colosseum at Caesars Palace – Las Vegas, NV

The Joint at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino – Las Vegas, NV

FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR

Boots and Hearts Music Festival – Toronto, Canada

Faster Horses – Brooklyn, MI

Stagecoach – Indio, CA

Watershed – Quincy, WA

Windy City Smokeout – Chicago, IL

NIGHTCLUB OF THE YEAR

Boondocks – Springfield, IL

Bub City – Chicago, IL

The Bluestone – Columbus, OH

The Pageant – St. Louis, MO

8 Seconds Saloon – Indianapolis, IN

VENUE OF THE YEAR (SMALL CAPACITY)

Georgia Theatre – Athens, GA

House of Blues – Anaheim, CA

House of Blues – Boston, MA

Terminal 5 – New York, NY

The Rave/Eagles Ballroom – Milwaukee, WI

VENUE OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM CAPACITY)

Ascend Amphitheatre – Nashville, TN

Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion at Meadowbrook – Gilford, NH

Denny Sanford Premier Center – Sioux Falls, SD

Huntington Center – Toledo, OH

Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie – Grand Prairie, TX

VENUE OF THE YEAR

(LARGE CAPACITY)

Blossom Music Center – Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Darling's Waterfront Pavilion – Bangor, ME

Gorge Amphitheatre – Quincy, WA

Klipsch Music Center – Noblesville, IN

Xfinity Center – Mansfield, MA

DON ROMEO TALENT BUYER OF THE YEAR

Fran Romeo – Romeo Entertainment Group

Gil Cunningham – Neste Event Marketing

John Valentino – AEG Live

Stacey Vee – Goldenvoice

Todd Boltin – Variety Attractions

PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

Brent Fedrizzi – AEG Live

Brian O'Connell – Live Nation

Darin Lashinsky – National Shows 2

Jason Wright – Live Nation

Michael Yerke – House of Blues

STUDIO RECORDING AWARDS

(Off Camera Awards)

BASS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jimmie Lee Sloas

Mark Hill

Michael Rhodes

Tony Lucido

Tully Kennedy

DRUMMER OF THE YEAR

Chad Cromwell

Chris McHugh

Fred Eltringham

Nir Zidkyahu

Shannon Forrest

GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Danny Rader

Derek Wells

Jerry McPherson

JT Corenflos

Kenny Greenberg

PIANO/KEYBOARDS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Charlie Judge

Gordon Mote

Jim 'Moose' Brown

Matt Rollings

Steve Nathan

SPECIALTY INSTRUMENT(S) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Aubrey Haney

Dan Dugmore

Danny Rader

Glen Duncan

Larry Franklin

STEEL GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Mike Johnson

Paul Franklin

Russ Pahl

Steve Fishell

Steve Hinson

AUDIO ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Derek Bason

Justin Niebank

Reid Shippen

Steve Marcantonio

Vance Powell

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Dann Huff

Dave Cobb

Michael Knox

Nathan Chapman

Ross Copperman

RADIO AWARDS

(Off Camera Awards)

NATIONAL ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

Blair Garner, Chuck Wicks – America's Morning Show

Cody Alan – CMT After MidNite with Cody Alan

Lon Helton – Country Countdown USA with Lon Helton

Lorianne Crook and Charlie Chase – The Crook and Chase Countdown

Sam Alex – Taste of Country Nights

The Bobby Bones Show – The Bobby Bones Show

Whitney Allen, Jackie Stevens & Mike McNamee – The Big Time with Whitney Allen

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR (MAJOR MARKET)

Ben Campbell and Matt McAllister – KNIX-FM – Phoenix, AZ

Cadillac Jack – WQYK-FM – St. Petersburg, FL

Chris Carr, Maverick and Kia – KEEY-FM – St. Louis Park, MN

Paul Schadt, Meg Butterly, Geof Knight – WKKT-FM – Charlotte, NC

Tanner in the Morning – WSOC-FM – Charlotte, NC

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR (LARGE MARKET)

AJ & Ashley In The Morning – WWKA-FM – Orlando, FL

Dave O'Brien – WLHK-FM – Indianapolis, IN

Jim Denny, Deborah Honeycutt & Kevin Freeman – WFMS-FM – Indianapolis, IN

Karen, Scott & Radar – WMIL-FM – Greenfield, WI

Randy Carroll and Jamie Martin – KAJA-FM – San Antonio, TX

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

(MEDIUM MARKET)

Andy Ritchie, Alison Mencer, Jimmy Holt – WIVK-FM – Knoxville, TN

Broadway, Cory, Jordan – WXYZ-FM – Hartford, CT

Buzz Jackson – KIIM-FM – Tucson, AZ

Scott Wynn, Sarah Kay, Sue Wilson – WQMX-FM – Akron, OH

The Dex and Mo Show – WUSY-FM – Chattanooga, TN

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR (SMALL MARKET)

Bill Barrett, Tim Fox & Tracy Berry – KKNU-FM – Eugene, OR

Brent Lane and Candy Ruddy – WYCT-FM – Pensacola, FL

Brian Gary, Todd Harding, and Susan Moore – The Good Morning Guys – KUAD-FM – Windsor, CO

Scotty Cox & Cara Denis – KCLR-FM – Columbia, MO

Sherry St. John – WXFL-FM – Florence, AL

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR (MAJOR MARKET)

KMLE-FM – Phoenix, AZ

WKKT-FM – Charlotte, NC

WKLB-FM – Boston, MA

WQYK-FM – St. Petersburg, FL

WYCD-FM – Southfield, MI

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR (LARGE MARKET)

KAJA-FM – San Antonio, TX

WLHK-FM – Indianapolis, IN

WMIL-FM – Greenfield, WI

WUBE-FM – Cincinnati, OH

WQDR-FM – Raleigh, NC

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM MARKET)

KUZZ-FM – Bakersfield, CA

WHKO-FM – Dayton, OH

WIVK-FM – Knoxville, TN

WQMX-FM – Akron, OH

WUSY-FM – Chattanooga, TN

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR (SMALL MARKET)

KKNU-FM – Eugene, OR

KTTS-FM – Springfield, MO

WGSQ-FM – Cookeville, TN

WXFL-FM – Florence, AL

WYCT-FM – Pensacola, FL



ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

**JASON
ALDEAN**

Jason Aldean is the reigning ACM Male Vocalist of the Year, an award he's won for three consecutive years. He's riding high with his sixth-consecutive platinum album, *Old Boots, New Dirt*, and the lead single, "Burnin' It Down," became his sixth multi-platinum single. That smash climbed to No. 1 and inspired his Burn It Down Tour, which sold more than two million tickets. He gave fans a backstage look at life on the road with his first-ever photo book and donated \$615,000 from the tour to breast cancer research. Meanwhile, the hits kept rolling in, like "Just Gettin' Started," "Tonight Looks Good on You," and "Gonna Know We Were Here." He's also released music with Tyler Farr ("Damn Good Friends") and labelmate Jordan Rager ("Southern Boy"). Aldean grew up in Georgia and spent summers with his father in Florida. At 14, he learned to play guitar and started performing in local venues. Independent label Broken Bow Records took a chance and released his first single, "Hicktown," in 2005. Following up with a No. 1 hit, "Why," Aldean won the ACM Award for 2005 New Male Vocalist of the Year. He has since returned to the podium thanks to hits like "Don't You Wanna Stay" (2011 Single Record and Vocal Event, with Kelly Clarkson) and "The Only Way I Know" (2012 Vocal Event with Luke Bryan and Eric Church). His touring achievements were rewarded with the 2012 ACM Crystal Milestone Award. Aldean's We Were Here Tour continues through 2016.

NOMINATED FOR:

**ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR**

**MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

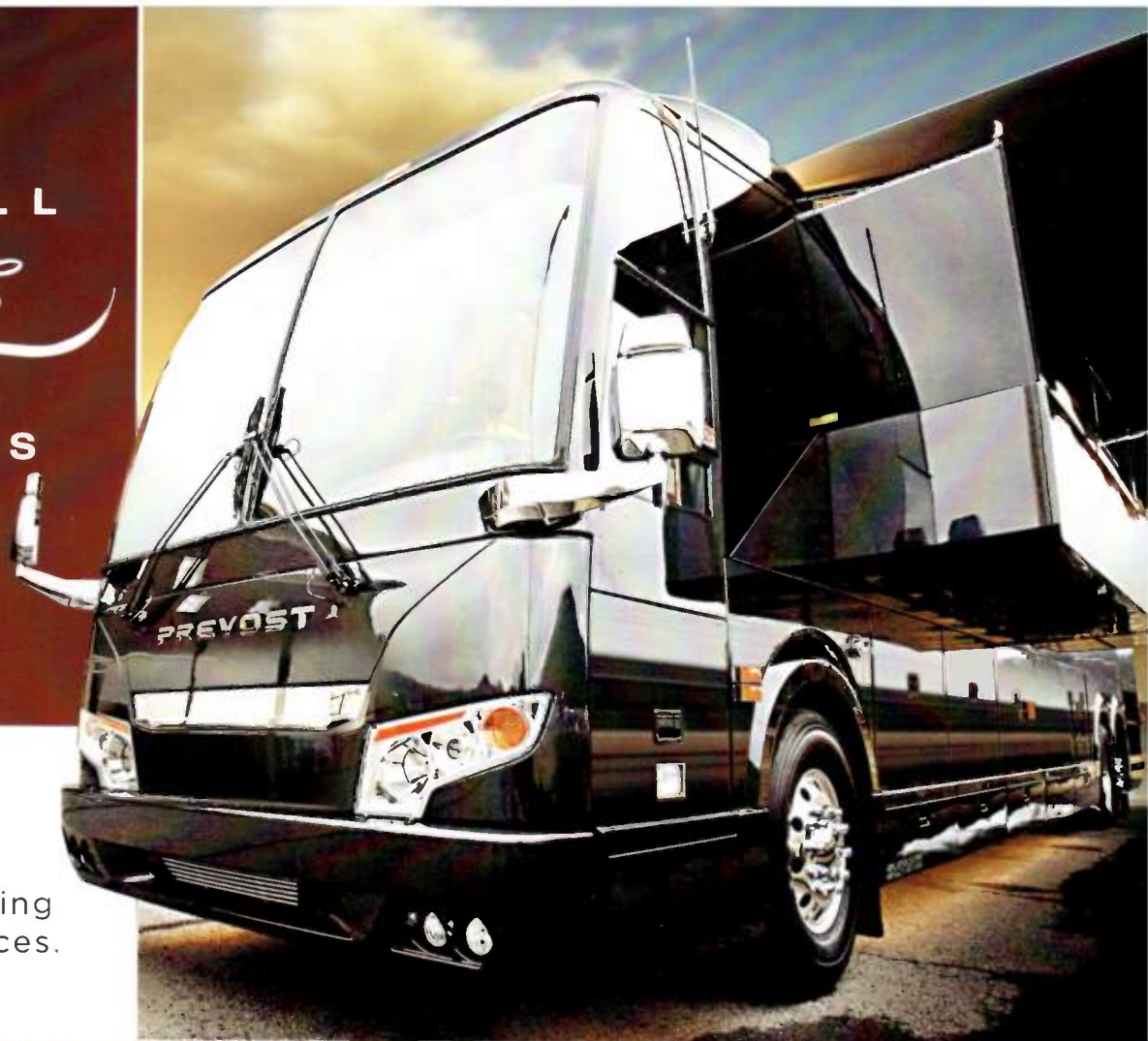
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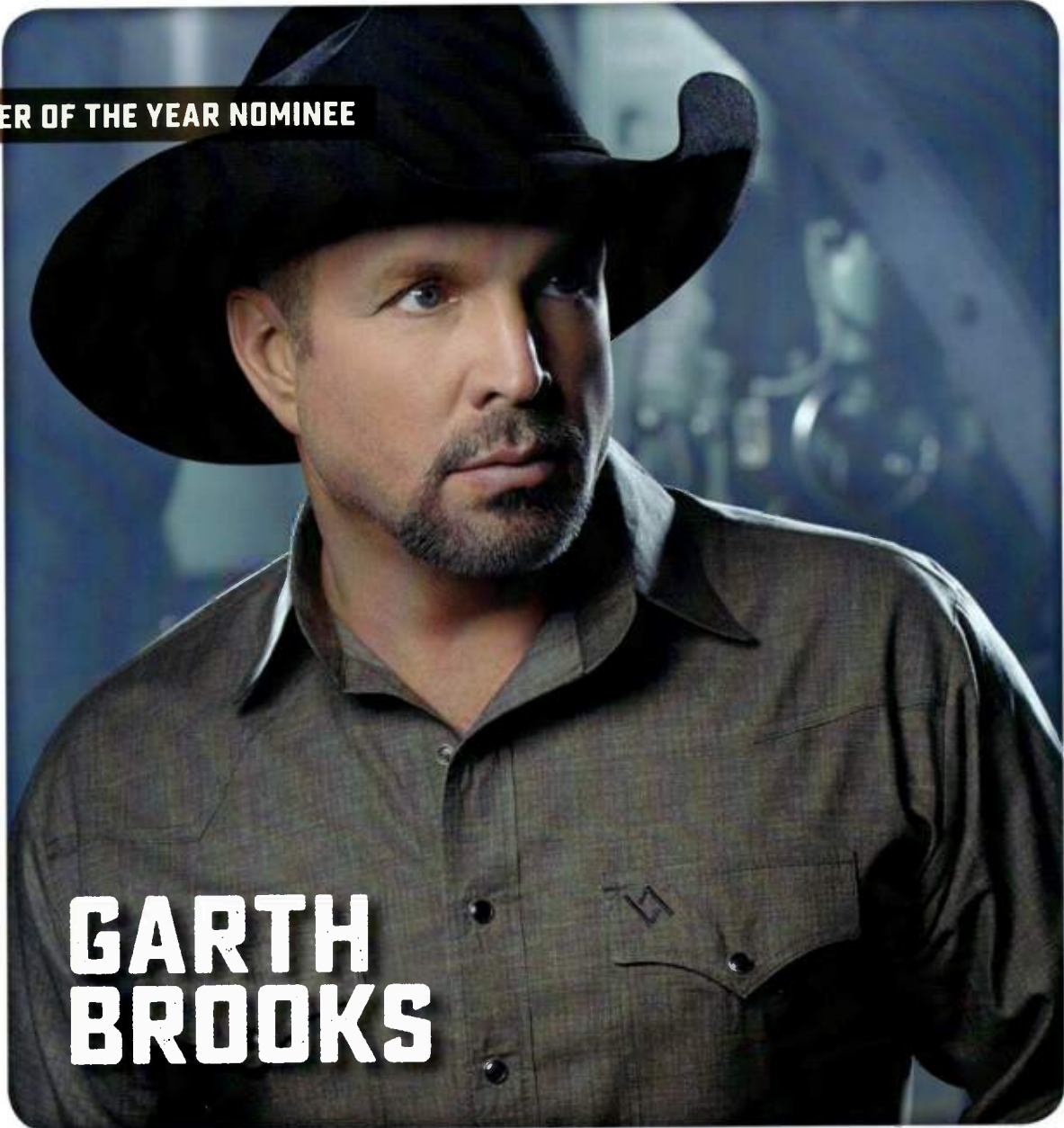


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ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

GARTH BROOKS

Garth Brooks continues his long-awaited comeback with a blockbuster tour of North America—and inevitably the world. As one of country music's iconic performers, Brooks can sell out arenas for multiple shows, giving a new generation a chance to discover what made him one of the most recognizable and influential performers of all time, across all genres. As the ACM Artist of the Decade for the 1990s, Brooks is no stranger to the winner's circle. He claimed 1990 ACM trophies in the categories of Album (*No Fences*), Single Record ("Friends in Low Places"), Song and Video (both for "The Dance"). That same year he earned the first of back-to-back Male Vocalist awards. By the decade's end, he embodied country music by dominating radio playlists, album sales charts and network TV specials while racking up six ACM Entertainer of the Year statuettes. Compelling music videos for "We Shall Be Free" and "The Red Strokes" claimed ACM trophies in the 1990s as well. Brooks received additional recognition from the Academy with the 1994 Jim Reeves Memorial Award, the 1997 Gene Weed Special Achievement Award, the 2005 40th Anniversary Milestone Award, the 2010 Cliffie Stone Pioneer Award and the ACM 50th Anniversary Milestone Award. The proud Oklahoma native joined the Grand Ole Opry in 1990 and the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2012. He is the top-selling solo artist in history, selling 136 million albums, according to the RIAA. In 2014 he issued his first new album of original material in 13 years, the platinum-certified *Man Against Machine*.

NOMINATED FOR:

ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR



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ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

LUKE
BRYAN

Luke Bryan brings a down-home approach to country music, even though he's selling out shows for multiple nights. He won ACM Entertainer of the Year awards for 2012 and 2014 while maintaining a winning streak at radio. In early 2015, he wrapped up the *Crash My Party* era when that album's sixth single, "I See You," hit No. 1. He sustained his success with "Kick the Dust Up," the lead release from the album *Kill the Lights*, which debuted at No. 1 on the *Billboard* 200. That platinum project also includes "Strip It Down" and "Home Alone Tonight" with Karen Fairchild. The 2015 recipient of the ACM's Gene Weed Special Achievement Award, Bryan remains a popular collaborator. He's already picked up two ACM Awards in the Vocal Event of the Year category: "This Is How We Roll" with Florida Georgia Line (2014), and "The Only Way I Know" with Jason Aldean and Eric Church (2012). He also won 2009 trophies for New Artist of the Year and New Solo Vocalist of the Year. Bryan's father worked as a peanut farmer in Leesburg, Georgia. Bryan consequently named his fan club The Nut House and honors his rural roots through his Farm Tour concerts in smaller communities. In early 2015 he issued *Spring Break...Checkin' Out*, which debuted at No. 1 on *Billboard*'s country album chart. Bryan is currently in the midst of his *Kill the Lights* Tour. This is his fourth year to co-host the ACM Awards.

NOMINATED FOR:

ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR

VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR



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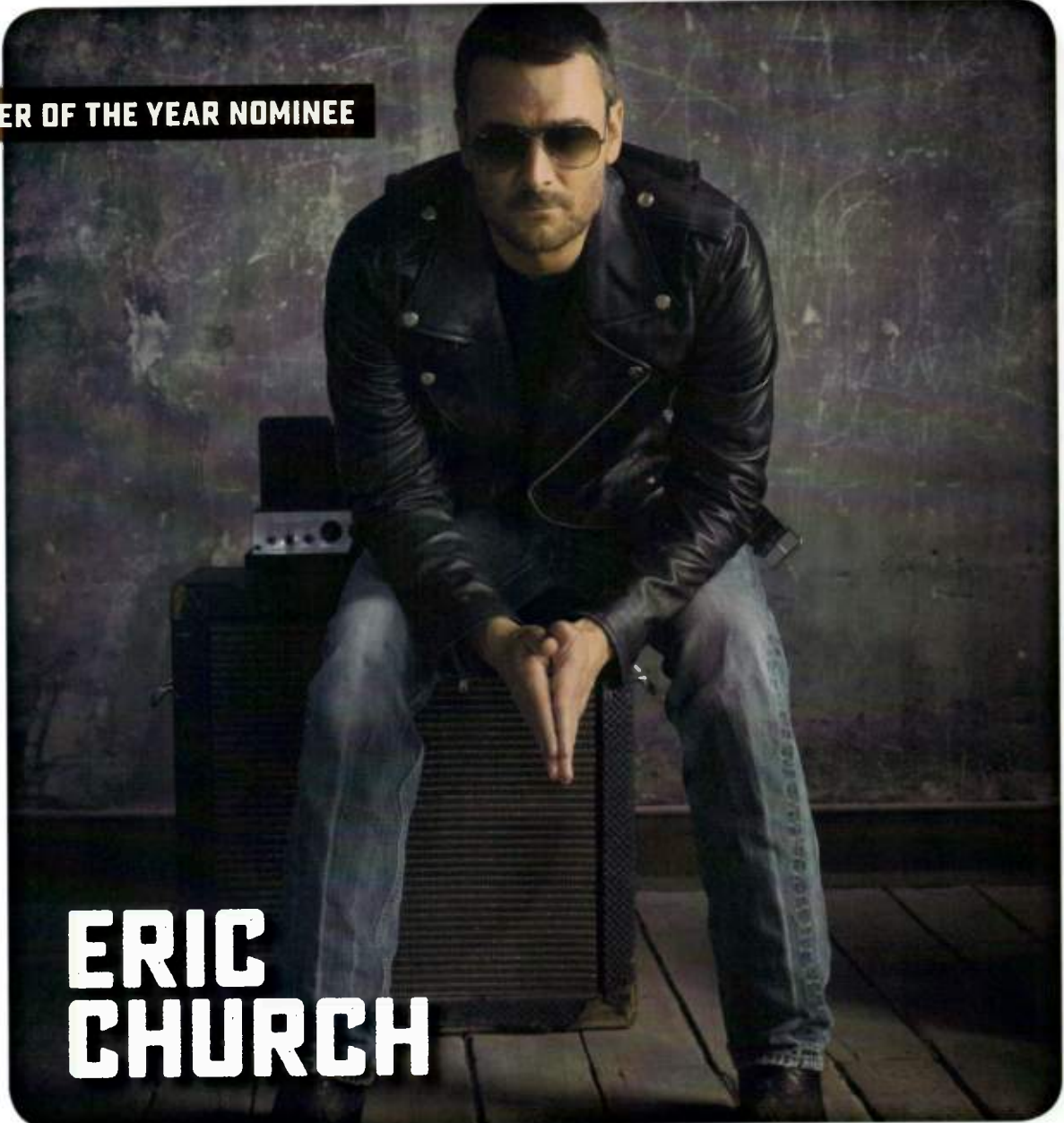
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ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE



ERIC CHURCH

Eric Church caught everyone off guard with *Mr. Misunderstood*, an unannounced album that arrived at retailers (and at the doorstep of his premium fan club members in the form of a white vinyl record) in November. He wrote the first song for the project late last summer, and had a total of 20 composed within three weeks. He recorded 10 of those tunes over the course of three more weeks, then released the album 30 days later. The title track recalls a young man whose life is changed by a raw roots music, an early romance and the determination to achieve his dreams by paying his dues. That storyline echoes Church's own journey to country stardom. In 2015, he earned a No. 1 smash hit with Keith Urban ("Raise 'Em Up"), recorded with the iconic Hank Williams Jr. ("Are You Ready for the Country?") and introduced the fifth and final single from his platinum album, *The Outsiders* ("Like a Wrecking Ball"). The North Carolina native won his first ACM trophy as Solo Vocalist of the Year for 2010, then followed up with a pair of 2012 awards for Album (*Chief*) and Vocal Event ("The Only Way I Know" with Jason Aldean and Luke Bryan). In recognition of his extensive European tour, he received the ACM's Jim Reeves International Award for 2014. Last year, Church celebrated the opening of a cameo exhibition at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum dedicated to his life and career. His latest single is "Record Year."

NOMINATED FOR:

**ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR**

**MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

**VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR**

SONG OF THE YEAR

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ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE



MIRANDA LAMBERT

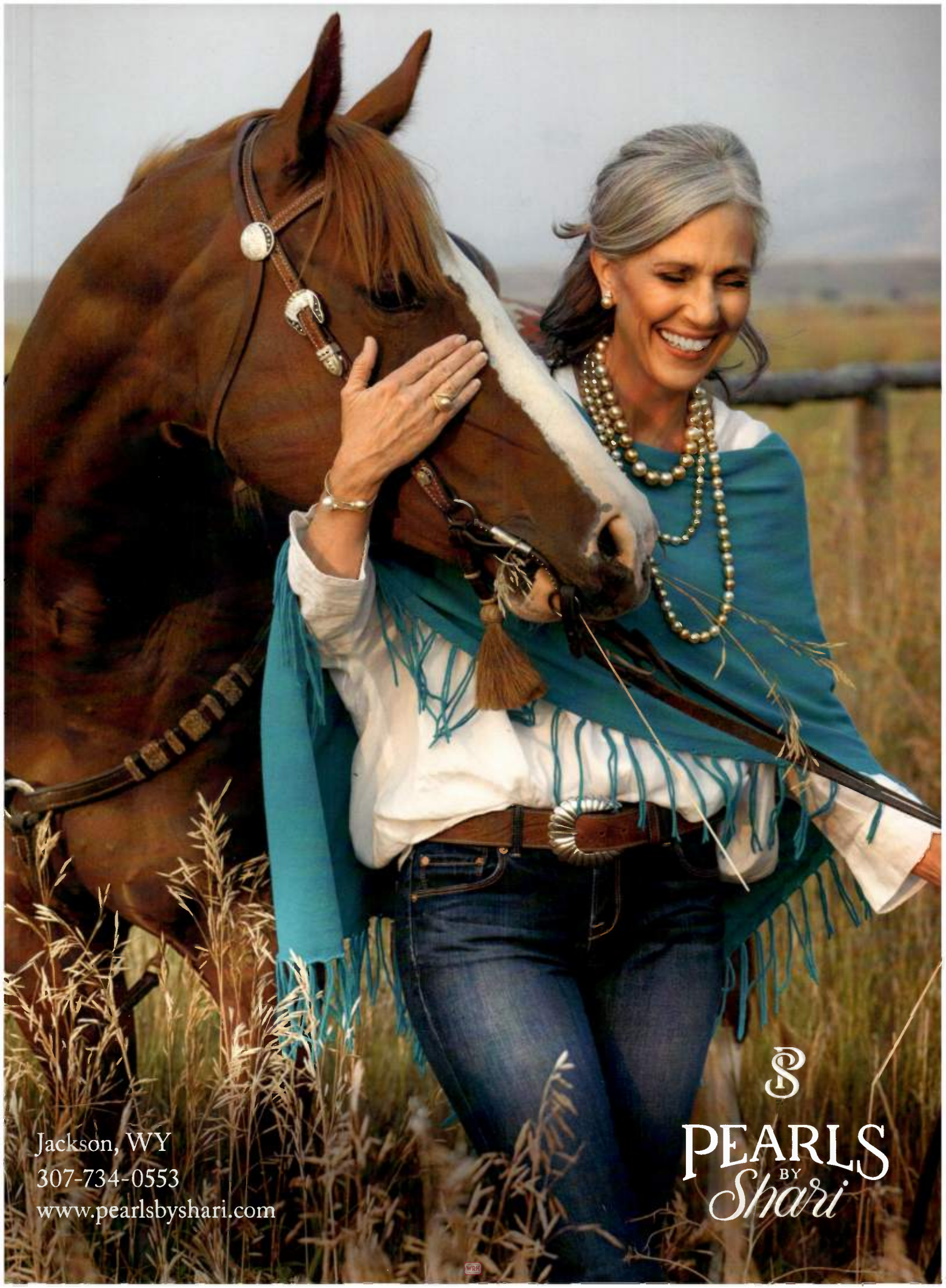
Miranda Lambert is the reigning ACM Female Vocalist of the Year, an award she's received six consecutive years. In 2015, she offered radio the fiery "Little Red Wagon" (her latest gold certification) as well as the smoldering "Smokin' and Drinkin'" with Little Big Town. Both singles come from *Platinum*, which won the 2014 ACM trophy in the Album category. Its lead single, "Automatic," also claimed a statuette in the Song of the Year category. Of course the native of Lindale, Texas, is a familiar face at the ACM podium. She has been recognized across various categories for hits like "Mama's Broken Heart," "We Were Us," "Over You," "The House That Built Me" and "White Liar," as well as additional Album of the Year victories for *Four the Record*, *REVOLUTION*, and *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*. In 2015, she received the ACM 50th Anniversary Milestone Award as the most awarded solo female artist in Academy history. That impressive success proves her 2006 win for New Female Vocalist was well-deserved. Her entrepreneurial spirit is carried through in her line of wines, her Pink Pistol boutique store, and her bed and breakfast in Oklahoma. She also remains active in her animal charity, MuttNation Foundation. In 2015, she established Women Creators Fund, a scholarship at Nashville's Belmont University. Looking ahead, Lambert will be headlining the Keeper of the Flame Tour in 2016 and will open shows on Kenny Chesney's stadium tour. In addition to working on her own music, she sings on new albums from producer Dave Cobb and Lady Antebellum's Charles Kelley.

NOMINATED FOR:

ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR

FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR

VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR



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Shari

A THOUSAND HORSES

A THOUSAND HORSES COMBINED THE WORDS "SOUTHERN" AND "PERSONALITY" to create the title of their debut album, *Southernality*. The band signaled a strong start with "Smoke," a No. 1 hit that became their first gold single. Growing up, lead singer Michael Hobby and guitarist Bill Satcher met while checking out guitars

at the only music store in Newberry, South Carolina. Graham DeLoach, a cousin of Satcher's who plays bass, would come up from Georgia to visit during summers and holidays. They all moved to Nashville and met Brown, a friend of a friend who joined the band on guitar. They lived together and wrote songs, eventually landing a record deal in 2010 with a rock label in Los Angeles. Through that contract, they started working with producer Dave Cobb, who stuck with them after that label deal ended. They got a second chance with Republic Nashville, which issued *Southernality* in June. After "Smoke," the band released "(This Ain't No) Drunk Dial" and continued touring heavily. Their music draws heavily on their Southern influences, such as the Allman Brothers Band, Lynyrd Skynyrd and Tom Petty, while still being influenced by the country music that was popular when they were younger, like Alabama, Garth Brooks and Alan Jackson. They're currently on the road opening shows on Jason Aldean's We Were Here Tour. Their new single is "Southernality."



NOMINATED FOR:
NEW VOCAL DUO OR GROUP OF THE YEAR



NOMINATED FOR:
VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR
(ARTIST/PRODUCER)

GARY ALLAN

GARY ALLAN CRACKED OPEN A NEW SINGLE WITH "HANGOVER TONIGHT," a collaboration with Chris Stapleton that hinted at new music on the way. For nearly 20 years, Allan has given country radio an edge through the songs that emerge from his darker moments. However, a glimmer of hope shines through "Every Storm (Runs Out of Rain)," an empowering song that carried Allan back to the top of the country chart in 2013 and delivered his first-ever platinum single. A California native, Allan was offered a record deal as a teenager but his father refused to sign the contract on his behalf. As a result, he didn't arrive on the country music scene until 1996 with "Her Man." Three years later, he landed his first ACM nod as New Male Vocalist of the Year and returned to the Top 10 with "It Would Be You." He earned platinum plaques for the albums *Smoke Rings in the Dark*, *Alright Guy* and *See If I Care*, while *Used Heart for Sale*, *Greatest Hits* and *Living Hard* reached gold status. He opened a fashion boutique, The Label, in 2011. In concert, Allan draws on signature hits like "Man to Man," "Tough Little Boys," "Nothin' On But the Radio," and the gold-certified "Best I Ever Had" and "Watching Airplanes." His latest album, *Set You Free*, features "Pieces" and "It Ain't the Whiskey."



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KELSEA BALLERINI

KELSEA BALLERINI BRIGHTENED COUNTRY MUSIC

in 2015 with her debut single, "Love Me Like You Mean It." The perky, up-tempo track climbed to No. 1, earned a gold single, and received a stamp of approval from one of her musical heroes, Taylor Swift. Ballerini was raised in Knoxville, Tennessee, singing in school and church choirs and taking voice lessons. Growing up, she enjoyed a diverse range of music, from Frank Sinatra to Britney Spears, then became a dedicated country fan after discovering artists like Keith Urban, Dixie Chicks, Shania Twain and Sugarland. When she was 15, she moved to Nashville with her mother after her parents split up—a challenging time that inspired her to focus on songwriting. In 2013, she landed a publishing deal with Black River Entertainment and received a record deal from Black River (wrapped as a gift) at the company's Christmas party that year. Her early career momentum prompted CMT to include her in its Next Women of Country campaign and tour, while *Billboard* presented her with its Rising Star award at the annual Women of Music honors. Ballerini repeated her success at country radio with the flirtatious "Dibs." Following her first concerts in Australia, she is wrapping up a tour with Billy Currington before spending the summer touring with Rascal Flatts. Her debut album is appropriately titled *The First Time*.



NOMINATED FOR:

FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR

NEW FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR



DIERKS BENTLEY

DIERKS BENTLEY ASCENDED TO NEW HEIGHTS with "Drunk on a Plane" and "I Hold On," two platinum singles from his acclaimed album, *Riser*. In addition, "Say You Do" touched a nerve with listeners, earning gold status and climbing to No. 1 at country radio. At last year's ACM Awards, the comical video for "Drunk on a Plane" brought Bentley his second ACM Award, following his 2003 win for New Artist of the Year. For more than a decade after that initial trophy, the Arizona native established himself as a force at country radio. "Home" offered a thoughtful perspective for patriotic listeners, tunes like "5-1-5-0" kept the party rolling, and slower singles like "I Wanna Make You Close Your Eyes" showed his sensual side. Bentley is a licensed pilot who often flies back to Nashville after his concerts to spend time with his wife and children. In 2015, he marked the 10th anniversary of his Miles & Music for Kids event with an all-star concert and motorcycle ride in Nashville. To date, the annual tradition has raised nearly \$4 million for children's hospitals. Meanwhile, he opened a location of Dierks Bentley's Whiskey Row restaurant/bar in Tempe, Arizona, performed on *Late Night with David Letterman*, and wrapped his successful Sounds of Summer Tour. This year he'll return to Europe for several shows and launch his eighth studio album, *BLACK*.

NOMINATED FOR:

MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

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NEW FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

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JOSH OSBORNE

NOMINEE FOR
SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR

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SINGLE OF THE YEAR - "TAKE YOUR TIME" SAM HUNT

VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR - "WILD CHILD" KENNY CHESNEY AND GRACE POTTER

ALBUM OF THE YEAR - MONTEVALLO SAM HUNT

BROTHERS OSBORNE

BROTHERS OSBORNE BROKE THROUGH IN 2015 with "Stay a Little Longer," a sexy, gold-certified single that ushered in their debut album,

Pawn Shop. Of course, they are not exactly overnight sensations. John and TJ were raised in the blue-collar waterfront town of Deale, Maryland, in a family of seven. Their mother was a

hairdresser and their father was a plumber, although he wrote songs and played informal shows for friends in a shed behind the house. In time, he converted the building into a home studio for his guitar-playing sons. Then they formed a father-and-sons band called Deuce and a Quarter and started playing covers in local bars. Their repertoire ranged from Merle Haggard and Dwight Yoakam to Lynyrd Skynyrd and Bob Seger. After both siblings moved to Nashville, they formed Brothers Osborne with TJ on vocals. They landed a publishing deal in 2011, followed by a label deal the year after that. After two Top 40 country singles ("Let's Go There" and "Rum"), they released a five-song EP on EMI Nashville in 2014 and built a fan base through relentless touring. On *Pawn Shop*, Lee Ann Womack lends her vocals to "Loving Me Back," while musical influences like Hank Williams, Tom Petty and Bruce Springsteen shine through. After road work with Jon Pardi, Brothers Osborne will tour with Miranda Lambert in 2016.



NOMINATED FOR:

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

NEW VOCAL DUO OR GROUP OF THE YEAR



CAM

CAM IGNITED HER CAREER WITH "BURNING HOUSE,"

a heartbreaking song inspired by a bad dream about an ex-boyfriend. Fueled by country radio, fans responded to the emotional ballad in a big way. She earned a platinum single, toured with Brad Paisley, and received a Grammy nomination. All of this momentum ushered in her debut album, *Untamed*, in December. Cam released the project through RCA Records in New York and Arista Nashville. Her first single, the peppy "My Mistake," brought press attention from diverse outlets like *Billboard*, *Perez Hilton* and *The Washington Post*. Her fondness for yellow has also turned heads. Always incorporated into her wardrobe, the color reflects her cheery and relatable personality. She also shortened her given name of Camaron Ochs to present a friendly nickname to fans. Cam was born in Southern California, but her family relocated to the northern part of the state when she was a child. Starting in the fourth grade, Cam was part of the Contra Costa Children's Choir, which sang in 14 different languages and toured internationally. She studied psychology research at the University of California-Davis and pursued a music career in Los Angeles before relocating to Nashville. Her new single is "Mayday."

NOMINATED FOR:

NEW FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

SINGLE RECORD OF THE YEAR (ARTIST/PRODUCER)

SONG OF THE YEAR (ARTIST/SONGWRITER)

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

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KENNY CHESNEY

KENNY CHESNEY STAKED HIS CLAIM WITH THE BIG REVIVAL, a carefully-crafted collection that ushered in four consecutive No. 1 hits: "American Kids," "Til It's Gone," "Wild Child" (featuring Grace Potter) and "Save It for a Rainy Day." In his astonishing career, Chesney has accrued 26 No. 1 singles and become an iconic figure in the touring industry. His dates on the 50-city Big Revival Tour grossed \$144 million. Chesney earned the ACM Entertainer of the Year trophy for 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. That impressive feat led to an ACM 50th Anniversary Milestone Award. He also earned a 2011 ACM Crystal Milestone Award for selling more than 10.5 million concert tickets. A native of East Tennessee, Chesney won his first ACM Award as the 1997 New Male Vocalist of the Year. Five years later, he picked up Male Vocalist of the Year. Those early wins along with his first Entertainer award helped him secure the rare ACM Triple Crown achievement. In addition, he's won ACM trophies for 2002 Single of the Year ("The Good Stuff") and 2007 Vocal Event ("Find Out Who Your Friends Are" with Tracy Lawrence and Tim McGraw). Tonight, Chesney closes out the 4th Annual ACM Party for a Cause Festival, benefitting ACM Lifting Lives. Chesney's Spread the Love Tour launches this month in Auburn, Alabama, and concludes with back-to-back stadium dates in Foxborough, Massachusetts, in August.



NOMINATED FOR:
VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR
(ARTIST/PRODUCER)



NOMINATED FOR:
VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

DAN + SHAY

DAN + SHAY ASCENDED TO NO. 1 ON THE COUNTRY CHART for the first time in 2015 with "Nothin' Like You," a sweet ode to romance and individuality. These gentlemen have kept their momentum going since first enchanting listeners in 2014 with "19 You + Me," their debut single that achieved platinum status. Dan + Shay used the last lyric of that song as the corresponding album's title, *Where It All Began*. The project debuted at No. 1 on *Billboard's* country albums chart in 2014. Dan Smyers grew up in suburban Pittsburgh while Shay Mooney is a native of Natural Dam, Arkansas. They met at a late-night jam session at Smyers' house and found a musical bond in their harmony-driven singing and detailed songwriting. They cite Rascal Flatts, Tim McGraw and Keith Urban as musical influences, along with '90s pop and R&B. The pair wrote or co-wrote all 12 songs on the album, which covers the emotional spectrum of love and new relationships. In addition, Smyers co-produced the album with Danny Orton and Scott Hendricks. The duo built on their early success with the breezy "Show You Off" and a sparkling rendition of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." After their headlining *Where It All Began* Tour, the duo will join Darius Rucker on the road this summer. Dan + Shay's new single is "From the Ground Up."



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BRETT ELDREDGE

BRETT ELDREDGE ENTERED THE BILLBOARD COUNTRY ALBUMS CHART AT NO. 1 in September with *Illinois*, named in honor of his home state. A month after the album release, the charismatic singer notched his fourth consecutive No. 1 hit, "Lose My Mind." He's also racked up quite a few plaques along the way. His debut album, *Bring You Back*, achieved gold status in February, matching the certifications for two of its singles, "Beat of the Music" and "Mean to Me." Eldredge endeared himself to country fans with the charming No. 1 hit, "Don't Ya." Released in 2012, that single served as the breakthrough he needed and earned his first platinum certification. In 2015 he co-headlined CMT on Tour with Thomas Rhett and has opened shows for Dierks Bentley, Miranda Lambert, Little Big Town, Darius Rucker, Taylor Swift and Keith Urban. A native of Paris, Illinois, Eldredge became interested in singing at local events as a teenager. He cites Ray Charles, Ronnie Dunn and Frank Sinatra as musical influences, particularly because of their powerful voices. After he moved to Nashville following college, Eldredge began to learn guitar so he could play songwriters nights. He is prominently showcased in the feature film, *American Saturday Night: Live from the Grand Ole Opry*. His latest single is "Drunk on Your Love."



NOMINATED FOR:

**MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

**NEW MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**



NOMINATED FOR:

**VOCAL GROUP
OF THE YEAR**

ELI YOUNG BAND

ELI YOUNG BAND CRANKED IT UP WITH *TURN IT ON*, a 2015 digital EP that ushered in four original tunes from the Texas-based band. They also landed a dance club smash with "Honey I'm Good," a collaboration with pop star Andy Grammer. Country fans still raise a glass to the band's smash(ed) hit, "Drunk Last Night," which reached platinum in 2015. The early buzz on that single helped the band's corresponding album, *10,000 Towns*, debut at No. 1 on *Billboard's* country albums chart in 2014. Eli Young Band examined the heartbreak and thrill of an aspiring artist in their ACM-nominated anthem, "Even If It Breaks Your Heart." The song's success followed the double-platinum popularity of "Crazy Girl," the most-played single of 2011 and an ACM Award-winning Song of the Year. Eli Young Band has toured with Kenny Chesney, Tim McGraw, Rascal Flatts and many others. Their catalog includes Top 40 singles like "Always the Love Songs" and "When It Rains," which established their presence at country radio in the early 2000s. More recently they have found an audience with singles like "Say Goodnight" and "Dust." Eli Young Band is lead singer Mike Eli, guitarist James Young, bassist Jon Jones and drummer Chris Thompson. This is their fourth nomination for ACM Vocal Group of the Year. Listen for new music on Valory Music Co. this year.

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KAREN FAIRCHILD

KAREN FAIRCHILD STEPPED OUTSIDE HER LITTLE BIG TOWN FAMILY to record "Home Alone Tonight" with Luke Bryan for his smash album, *Kill the Lights*. Of course, lending her sultry alto to a hit song is something Fairchild has done in Little Big Town for more than a decade. Fairchild was born in Gary, Indiana, and moved with her family to Marietta, Georgia, as a child. Growing up, her favorite artists included Dolly Parton and Don Williams. She enrolled in Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, to study elementary education. There, she met Kimberly Schlapman and they formed a friendship that endured well beyond collegiate choral events. After graduation, Fairchild moved to Nashville and worked in an office on Music Row for a time. Although she and Schlapman were considering solo careers, they decided a male-female ensemble could work in country music and began to audition guys for it. Once Little Big Town was established, Fairchild recorded four songs with John Mellencamp for his 2008 album, *Life, Death, Love and Freedom*. Fairchild is also a longtime fashionista. She and Schlapman made a special appearance on Lifetime's *Project Runway* in February. Fairchild unveiled her own fashion line, simply titled Fair Child, this year.



NOMINATED FOR:
VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR



NOMINATED FOR:
VOCAL DUO
OF THE YEAR

FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE

FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE, THE REIGNING ACM DUO OF THE YEAR, neatly summed up their philosophy on music and life with the title of their latest album, *Anything Goes*. The crowd-pleasing set debuted at No. 1 on the *Billboard* 200 chart and reached gold in a matter of weeks. The duo's Tyler Hubbard and Brian Kelley are justifiably famous for arena-ready anthems, yet they dug deeper with "Dirt," a thoughtful look at life's journey. The sentimental single reached double-platinum status and led to more No. 1 hits from *Anything Goes*, including the platinum "Sun Daze" and gold "Sippin' on Fire." The undeniable title track and the candid "Confession" maintained the momentum gained from smashes like "Cruise" (nine-times platinum) and "Round Here" (double-platinum). A deluxe edition of their debut album, *Here's to the Good Times*, offered "This Is How We Roll," a triple-platinum duet with Luke Bryan that captured the 2014 ACM statuette for Vocal Event of the Year. Just three years ago, Florida Georgia Line picked up ACM Awards for New Artist of the Year and New Vocal Duo or Group. The following year, they notched their first Vocal Duo of the Year win. Hubbard hails from Monroe, Georgia, while Kelley is from Ormond Beach, Florida. They met as students at Belmont University in Nashville. In January the duo announced the headlining Dig Your Roots Tour.

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MICKEY GUYTON

MICKEY GUYTON MADE HER MARK AT COUNTRY RADIO with "Better Than You Left Me," an empowering ballad she co-wrote after a fight with a former flame. The single introduced her to country audiences, although she had been steadily climbing toward that moment for years. Guyton grew up in Arlington, Texas, and clearly remembers hearing 10-year-old LeAnn Rimes beautifully sing the national anthem at a Texas Rangers game. Although she was a child herself, Guyton decided to be a singer too. She moved to Los Angeles after high school and worked two jobs (including one in the hosiery department at Nordstrom) to make ends meet. Through mutual friends, she met producer Julian Raymond, who introduced her to managers Gary Borman and Steve Moir. In 2011, she landed a contract with Capitol Nashville and sang "Crazy" for President Obama during a PBS taping—her first national television appearance. In 2015, Guyton toured with Brad Paisley and joined him on stage each night to sing "Whiskey Lullaby." She's also an inspiration for 15-year-old *American Idol* contestant Tristan McIntosh, who auditioned with Guyton's "Why Baby Why" and won a ticket to Hollywood. Following an EP, Guyton is expecting to release new music in 2016.



NOMINATED FOR:
**NEW FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**



NOMINATED FOR:
**ALBUM
OF THE YEAR**
**SINGLE RECORD
OF THE YEAR**

SAM HUNT

SAM HUNT DIDN'T HAVE TO MAKE MODERN COUNTRY FANS LOVE HIM, and he absolutely took their time with his major label debut album, *Montevallo*. With his R&B influences infused throughout, the platinum project launched four massive singles: the platinum-certified trio of "Break Up in a Small Town," "House Party" and "Leave the Night On," and his double-platinum signature hit, "Take Your Time." Growing up in Cedartown, Georgia, Hunt seemed poised for a football career. Although he was the starting quarterback at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, and spent a brief time with the Kansas City Chiefs, he heeded the call of a music career in Nashville. He'd been writing songs in college and found a publishing deal soon after his move to Music City. Before achieving stardom on his own, he landed high-profile cuts with Kenny Chesney's "Come Over," Billy Currington's "We Are Tonight" and Keith Urban's "Cop Car." Hunt found an early, eager audience on Spotify with 2013's *Between the Pines*, a mixtape of acoustic songs that was reissued in 2015. *Montevallo* bowed at No. 1 on the *Billboard* country albums chart the same week that "Leave the Night On" topped the Hot Country Songs chart. He became the first artist in 22 years to achieve that feat. After headlining the Lipstick Graffiti Tour in 2015, Hunt will appear at select festivals this summer.

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CHRIS JANSON

CHRIS JANSON FOUND SMOOTH SAILING WITH "BUY ME A BOAT," a platinum-certified smash that followed a decade of paying dues in Nashville. A Missouri native, Janson moved to Nashville at age 18 after turning down a scholarship to study veterinary medicine. He gained a following by playing Tootsie's in downtown Nashville, with his dynamic stage presence appealing to locals and tourists alike. For a year at Tootsie's, he performed four shows a day. Once his reputation spread, he signed two label deals, but neither one panned out. However, his songwriting career kept him going, particularly with Tim McGraw's "Truck Yeah." For the sake of having something new to promote on a summer tour, Janson recorded and released "Buy Me a Boat" independently. Bobby Bones aired it on his national radio show simply because he liked it, then his listeners sent it to No. 1 on the iTunes country chart. CMT got on board and paid for a music video to be shot. The Grand Ole Opry has welcomed him to the stage more than a hundred times. In October, Janson released his debut album, *Buy Me a Boat*, via Warner Music Nashville. His latest single is "Power of Positive Drinkin'."



NOMINATED FOR:
**NEW MALE VOCALIST
 OF THE YEAR**
**SINGLE RECORD
 OF THE YEAR**
(ARTIST/PRODUCER)



NOMINATED FOR:
**VOCAL DUO
 OF THE YEAR**

JOEY + RORY

HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM JOEY + RORY STRENGTHENED THEIR DEEP EMOTIONAL CONNECTION with country fans over the past year as the couple endured Joey Feek's brave battle with cancer. Nonetheless they have maintained a musical presence, giving listeners another way to feel like part of the family. In 2015, the couple filmed a concert DVD in their farmhouse near Nashville, and received a Grammy nomination for "If I Needed You." In February, they debuted at No. 1 on the *Billboard* country albums chart with the beautiful collection, *Hymns That Are Important to Us*, which closes with a heartbreaking original track, "When I'm Gone." Rory Feek documented their journey and Joey's passing on March 4th, 2016, on his personal blog, sharing anecdotes and revelations about their challenging situation, along with sweet photos of their young daughter, Indiana (named for Joey's beloved home state). Married in 2002, Joey + Rory first charmed viewers of CMT's *Can You Duet?* Although they didn't win, they landed a contract with an independent label, released the album *The Life of a Song*, and claimed the 2009 ACM Award for Top New Vocal Duo. As a songwriter, Rory Feek has landed hits with Easton Corbin's "A Little More Country Than That" and Blake Shelton's "Some Beach." Joey and her sister-in-law, Marcy, operated Marcy Jo's Mealhouse for a number of years. This is Joey + Rory's fourth nomination in the Vocal Duo category.



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JANA KRAMER

JANA KRAMER JUMPED BACK INTO THE SCENE in 2015 with "I Got the Boy," a sentimental single about seeing your first love find someone new. Thanks to that thoughtful ballad, Kramer climbed into the Top 10 and received a gold single. She issued her second full-length album, *Thirty-One*, in October, and co-headlined CMT's Next Women of Country Tour in the fall. Kramer initially drew the attention of country fans in 2012 with the bittersweet tune, "Why Ya Wanna." Sung from the perspective of a woman who's not sure how to remain friends with an ex, the emotional single reached the Top 5 and led to her first ACM Award for 2012 New Female Vocalist of the Year. Her self-titled debut album also offered the singles "Whiskey" and "I Hope It Rains." Kramer co-wrote six of the 11 songs on *Thirty-One* and filmed the touching music video for the first single, "Love," in Honduras. In 2015, she received her first platinum certification for "Why Ya Wanna." An accomplished actress, Kramer's notable television credits include *One Tree Hill* (as Alex Dupre), *Grey's Anatomy*, *Friday Night Lights*, *90210* and *Entourage*. Kramer was born in Detroit and raised in Rochester, Michigan. She married football player Michael Caussin in 2015 and the couple welcomed a daughter named Jolie Rae this year. Kramer will open select shows for Rascal Flatts in April.



NOMINATED FOR:
**FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**



LITTLE BIG TOWN

LITTLE BIG TOWN, THE REIGNING ACM VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR, enticed listeners with "Girl Crush," a double-platinum single they performed on last year's ACM Awards, the *Billboard Music Awards*, *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, the *Grammy Awards*, the *Grand Ole Opry* and *Late Night With Jimmy Kimmel*. In 2015, the smoldering single grew to become a centerpiece of their Pain Killer Tour, inspired by the name of their latest album.

Little Big Town introduced the *Pain Killer* project with "Day Drinkin'," a whistling, gold-certified single that exhibited their fun-loving side. Comprised of Karen Fairchild, Kimberly Schlapman, Phillip Sweet and Jimi Westbrook, the group rode a similar wave of success in 2012 with the double-platinum "Pontoon," which hit No. 1 and earned a Grammy. In addition, they picked up 2012 ACM Awards for Video of the Year for the stunning "Tornado," as well as their first victory as Vocal Group of the Year. Of course, country fans who love harmony singing have been infatuated with Little Big Town long before "Girl Crush." In 2005, the quartet landed their first Top 10 hit with "Boondocks" and received the 2006 ACM Award for New Vocal Duo or Group. This year marks Little Big Town's 10th nomination in the Vocal Group of the Year category.

NOMINATED FOR:

**VOCAL GROUP
OF THE YEAR**

**SINGLE RECORD
OF THE YEAR**

SONG OF THE YEAR

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

**VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR**

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MADDIE & TAE

MADDIE & TAE SPREAD THEIR WINGS WITH “FLY,” an empowering Top 10 single they wrote about inner strength and learning as you go. As their second hit, it showed a softer side of the duo, who glided up to No. 1 on the country chart in 2014 with “Girl in a Country Song.” Maddie Marlow is a native of Sugar Land, Texas, and Tae Dye hails from Ada, Oklahoma. Growing up as fans of the Dixie Chicks, Marlow and Dye met at the age of 15 through a vocal coach and spent a summer in Nashville learning about music publishing. After interest from Big Machine Label Group, Marlow decided against college and Dye graduated high school early in order to relocate to Nashville. They wrote “Girl in a Country Song” with producer Aaron Scherz on St. Patrick’s Day—and luck was on their side. The humorous single rose to platinum status and reminded listeners that women in country music are more than just pretty characters. Following an EP in 2014, Maddie & Tae released their full-length debut album, *Start Here*, last August. The duo co-wrote all 11 songs on the album. In addition to being part of CMT’s Next Women of Country initiative, the duo toured extensively with Dierks Bentley in 2015. They hooked country fans again with their third single, “Shut Up and Fish.”



NOMINATED FOR:

**VOCAL DUO
OF THE YEAR**

**NEW VOCAL DUO
OR GROUP
OF THE YEAR**



NOMINATED FOR:

**FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

KACEY MUSGRAVES

KACEY MUSGRAVES MAY NOT BE CUT OUT FOR BEAUTY PAGEANTS, but it’s likely she’d win a few talent competitions with her witty songwriting, sweet voice and clever music videos. In 2015, she topped the Billboard country albums chart with *Pageant Material* and indulged her love of kitschy country with the music video for “Biscuits.” She followed that with another music video co-starring one of her heroes, Willie Nelson, singing a duet of his lesser-known gem, “Are You Sure?” Other musical contributions include her most delightful rendition of “A Spoonful of Sugar” for the *We Love Disney* compilation, as well as lending vocals to “Guess You Had to Be There” on Brian Wilson’s new album, *No Pier Pressure*. Her composition “You Can’t Stop Me” also landed in the series *Nashville*, as sung by the character Sadie Stone. As a new artist, Musgraves brought a fresh perspective to country music with *Same Trailer Different Park*, a collection that candidly portrayed small-town life on “Merry Go Round” and offered open-minded social commentary on “Follow Your Arrow.” *Same Trailer Different Park* won the 2013 ACM Award for Album of the Year. After touring with the likes of Kenny Chesney and Katy Perry, the East Texas native extended her headlining Kacey Musgraves Country & Western Rhinestone Revue into 2016. She’ll also open George Strait’s concerts in Las Vegas this year.

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OLD DOMINION

OLD DOMINION STRUCK GOLD WITH "BREAK UP WITH HIM," the first song the five members of the band collectively wrote. With hundreds of shows under their belt, Old Dominion first established a fan base on the road, promoting an independently-released, self-titled EP. When "Break Up With Him" broke through at SiriusXM's The Highway, then crossed over to terrestrial radio, Old Dominion signed a recording contract with RCA Nashville. By the end of 2015, the persuasive single topped the country airplay chart for two weeks, earned a gold plaque and was voted the No. 1 song of 2015 by The Highway's listeners. In November, Old Dominion released their album, *Meat and Candy*. Four of the five members have connections to Virginia, which prompted the band's name. Singer Matthew Ramsey and drummer Whit Sellers met in middle school around Roanoke. Sellers befriended guitarist Brad Tursi and bassist Geoff Sprung at Harrisonburg's James Madison University. Separately, they relocated to Nashville to pursue music careers, eventually meeting up with Detroit-raised multi-instrumentalist Trevor Rosen. The Band Perry, Dierks Bentley, Luke Bryan, Kenny Chesney, Tyler Farr, Blake Shelton, Keith Urban and Chris Young have all recorded songs written by various members of the band. This summer, Old Dominion will open Chesney's stadium tour. Notable TV appearances include *Today* and *Late Night with Jimmy Kimmel*. Their catchy new single is "Snapback."



NOMINATED FOR:

**VOCAL GROUP
OF THE YEAR**

**NEW VOCAL DUO
OR GROUP
OF THE YEAR**



NOMINATED FOR:

**NEW VOCAL DUO
OR GROUP
OF THE YEAR**

PARMALEE

PARMALEE HAS SHOWN PERSISTENCE OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS to become one of country music's most durable bands. With three Top 10 singles, the group is winning fans through its country-rock hybrid. Matt and Scott Thomas are brothers who grew up in Greenville, North Carolina, watching their father sing in a local Southern rock band. When the band's drummer was too drunk to show up one night, Matt took over guitar, Scott played drums, and their cousin Barry Knox learned bass so he could be in the band. In 2001, their friend Josh McSwain joined the group and they started rehearsing in a barn near Parmelee, North Carolina. Before long, they named their band after the town, adjusting the spelling to make pronunciation easier. After hearing from countless people that they belonged in Nashville, the band recorded several tracks there in 2010, inside their parked RV. Before their follow-up trip, though, the band was assaulted after a club show in North Carolina, leaving Scott Thomas with life-threatening injuries. After a slow recovery, the band headed back to Nashville for a showcase in early 2011 and signed to Stoney Creek Records. Their 2013 album, *Feels Like Carolina*, includes the gold-certified No. 1 hit, "Carolina," as well as "Close Your Eyes" and "Already Callin' You Mine." They'll spend the summer playing clubs and festivals across the U.S.



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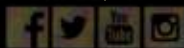
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WRH

ERIC PASLAY

ERIC PASLAY TAPPED INTO HIS TRADITIONAL COUNTRY ROOTS for "She Don't Love You," which cuts a vivid portrait of a woman who's too lonely to love again, then twists the knife on the final lyric. Even before that poignant single climbed the country charts, Paslay was recognized in Nashville as one of its most bankable songwriters. He received his first ACM nomination in the 2012 Song of the Year category for co-writing Eli Young Band's "Even If It Breaks Your Heart." Other notable cuts include Love and Theft's "Angel Eyes," Jake Owen's "Barefoot Blue Jean Night" and Rascal Flatts' "Rewind." Paslay was born in Abilene, Texas, and raised in Waco and Temple. As a diabetic himself, he considered becoming a pediatric endocrinologist, but songwriting turned into a passion when he was a teenager. He studied the music business at MTSU in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and recruited top songwriters to speak at the school. He landed an internship at Cal IV publishing company, and in 2006, he signed on as a songwriter. After securing a contract with EMI Nashville, Paslay broke through with "Friday Night," and "Song About a Girl." The first single from his upcoming sophomore album is titled "High Class."



NOMINATED FOR:
SONG OF THE YEAR
(ARTIST/SONGWRITER)



NOMINATED FOR:
VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR

GRACE POTTER

GRACE POTTER POSSESSES ONE OF ROCK'S MOST COMMANDING VOICES, but she drifts into country music every so often, thanks to one of her biggest fans, Kenny Chesney. In 2015, the singers notched a No. 1 country single with "Wild Child," from Chesney's album, *The Big Revival*. Chesney and Potter have made beautiful music together before. He harmonizes on "Stars" on the deluxe edition of Grace Potter & The Nocturnals' 2012 album, *The Lion The Beast The Beat*. Potter had never met Chesney when he asked her to record "You and Tequila," their 2011 hit, but he sought her out after hearing heartfelt songs like "Apology." Within three days of receiving the phone call, she joined Chesney in Nashville to cut the bittersweet ballad. He even offered her an opening slot on the 2012 Brothers of the Sun Tour with Tim McGraw. A Vermont native, Potter draws on her soul, rock and songwriting influences to create an invigorating and electric style off music. Grace Potter & The Nocturnals are festival regulars and have headlined multiple shows at the Ryman Auditorium. Potter married her bandmate Matt Burr in 2013. She received the ASCAP Harry Chapin Vanguard Award in 2015 for her humanitarian efforts to end world hunger. Upcoming gigs include New Orleans Jazz Fest, Bonnaroo, and Red Rocks Amphitheatre. She released a solo project, *Midnight*, in 2015.

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RAELYNN

RAELYNN LEFT QUITE AN IMPRESSION ON VIEWERS OF *THE VOICE*. When she first appeared on the show in the second season, she performed Pistol Annies' "Hell on Heels," a choice that perfectly showcased her musical influences and lively personality. After her run on the show ended, she impacted country radio with "God Made Girls," which achieved gold status and became her signature song. The innovative video received two CMT Music Award nominations. She also co-stars in Blake Shelton's fun-loving video for "Boys 'Round Here" and chimes in with the occasional "That's right!" alongside Pistol Annies. In addition, she lends her distinctive vocals to Shelton's album track, "Buzzin'." Raelynn, whose given name is Rachael Woodward, made her Grand Ole Opry debut in 2014. She cites Miranda Lambert as one of her favorite artists and participated in the superstar's Certified Platinum Tour and Roadside Bars & Pink Guitars Tour. Rascal Flatts also invited Raelynn to open shows on their Riot Tour. She wrote the song "Always Sing" in support of music education. In 2015, she released a five-song EP titled *Me*, which features the fan favorite, "Boyfriend." A new single, "For a Boy," suggests more music is on the way.



NOMINATED FOR:
**NEW FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**



NOMINATED FOR:
**VOCAL GROUP
OF THE YEAR**

RASCAL FLATTS

RASCAL FLATTS STEPPED UP WITH *REWIND*, their latest album to debut at No. 1 on the *Billboard* country albums chart. The title track became their 29th Top 10 *Billboard* hit and their eighth single to achieve platinum status. While maintaining an active touring schedule, including a residency in Las Vegas, the group continues to find success at radio with "Payback," "Riot" and "I Like the Sound of That." Band members Gary LeVox, Jay DeMarcus and Joe Don Rooney spent the late '90s playing gigs at tucked-away Nashville venues like Fiddle & Steel Guitar Bar. Remembering their roots, the band returned there in 2014 to play a show before the club closed its doors for good. Early in their career, Rascal Flatts received the 2000 ACM Award for New Vocal Duet or Group and won 2002 Single of the Year for "I'm Movin' On." Remarkably they also racked up seven straight years of winning the ACM Award for Vocal Group of the Year, for 2002-2008. The ACM honored them with the 2007 Humanitarian Award, while the Grand Ole Opry inducted them in 2011. In 2014, the trio accepted the ACM's Jim Reeves International Award for promoting country music abroad. They concluded 2015 by singing on the CBS special, *A Home for the Holidays*. This is their 11th nomination in the Vocal Group of the Year category.

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LAKE LIBS

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ADJECTIVE ADJECTIVE/EXCLAMATION

us to pass on a sincere "Thanks A Bunch" for this
EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

Wicked Sweet honor!
ADJECTIVE/EXCLAMATION

Anyway, we just got back from Biking around
VERB ENDING IN "ING"

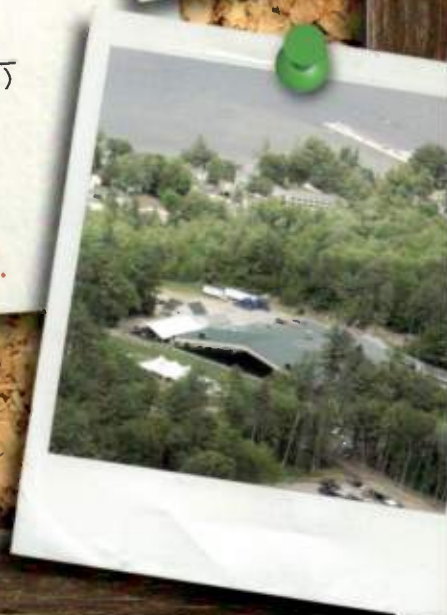
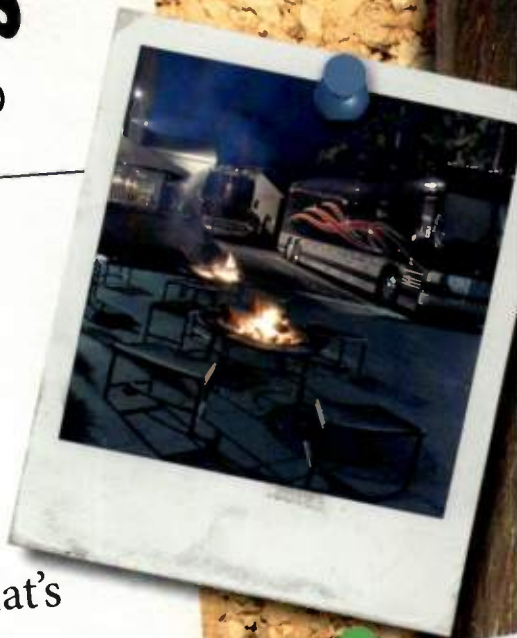
town and are heading out to spend the rest of
the day Hiking Relaxing
VERB ENDING IN "ING"

looking forward to having some Hot Chicks
ADJECTIVE NOUN

from catering serve us some S'mores
TYPE OF FOOD (PLURAL)

by the Campfire.
NOUN

Wish we were the House band!
NOUN XO!



♪ **Playin' Should Never Feel Like Work** ♪

THOMAS RHETT

THOMAS RHETT TITLED HIS NEW ALBUM *TANGLED UP* to reflect all the musical styles that influenced its irresistible sound: country, pop, R&B, rap, rock and oldies. The project's two lead singles showed the ups and downs of romance. The catchy "Crash and Burn" casually shrugs off another failed attempt at finding love, while "Die a Happy Man" paints a picture of satisfying relationship. Both platinum singles shot to No. 1. Plus, "Die a Happy Man" was the first country single to spend six weeks at the top since 2008. Of course, there's much more to be happy about. The title track to his debut album, *It Goes Like This*, earned double-platinum status over the summer, while "Make Me Wanna" and "Get Me Some of That" scored platinum. All three songs also reached No. 1 at country radio. One of his early hits, "Beer With Jesus," also secured a gold certification in 2015. On the encouragement of his father, singer-songwriter Rhett Akins, Thomas Rhett played a short set in Nashville prior to another artist's showcase. Soon after, he landed a publishing deal and record deal. His songwriting catalog includes songs recorded by Jason Aldean ("I Ain't Ready to Quit"), Lee Brice ("Parking Lot Party") and Florida Georgia Line ("Round Here"). In 2016, Rhett is traveling with Aldean's We Were Here Tour and appearing at numerous festivals.



NOMINATED FOR:
NEW MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR
ALBUM
OF THE YEAR
SINGLE RECORD
OF THE YEAR



CHASE RICE

CHASE RICE SHOT OUT OF THE GATE WITH "Ready Set Roll," a radio-ready anthem that opened yet another chapter of a diverse career. Rice grew up on a farm near Asheville, North Carolina. He played college football, worked on NASCAR pit crews, and competed on *Survivor* before turning his attention to music. Taking a grassroots approach, Rice built a sizable audience through heavily touring the Southeast and releasing albums independently. Major labels in Nashville turned him down, which only propelled him to work harder. In 2012, a song he co-wrote started climbing the chart—and not just any song, but Florida Georgia Line's "Cruise." That leverage allowed him to release the *Ready Set Roll* EP on his own in 2014. The title track hit the Top 5 and reached platinum. He followed that release with the album *Ignite the Night* (issued with support from Columbia Nashville) as well as the powerful single, "Gonna Wanna Tonight." He joined Kenny Chesney's Big Revival Tour last summer, then headlined the JD and Jesus Tour in the fall. This month he'll launch the Back to College Tour at his alma mater of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His latest single is "Whisper."

NOMINATED FOR:
NEW MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR



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CHRIS STAPLETON

CHRIS STAPLETON CONNECTED WITH EVERYDAY COUNTRY FANS in 2015 with

Traveller, more than a decade after becoming a standout songwriter in the Nashville music community. The acclaimed album captured the attention of country traditionalists, mainstream media outlets, and especially TV viewers as Stapleton made the transition from best-kept secret to

Saturday Night Live. Stapleton grew up in eastern Kentucky. His father, who was a coal miner, introduced a diverse array of music while driving with his son—and those sounds of outlaw country, Ray Charles and Otis Redding seeped in. With encouragement from some Nashville songwriters he knew, Stapleton moved to Music City in 2001. He's had major cuts with Kenny Chesney, Thomas Rhett, Darius Rucker, George Strait and Josh Turner while earning Grammy nominations as a member of a blues-influenced bluegrass band, The SteelDrivers. Last year he received his first ACM nomination in the Song of the Year category for Luke Bryan's "Drink a Beer." Stapleton wrote or co-wrote 12 of the 14 songs on *Traveller*. ("Tennessee Whiskey" is an outstanding George Jones cover.) With co-producer Dave Cobb, he recorded *Traveller* in historic RCA Studio A on Music Row. Since its May release, the Grammy-winning album has reached platinum status and spent two weeks atop the *Billboard* 200. Stapleton will continue touring in 2016.



NOMINATED FOR:

**MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

**NEW MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

**ALBUM OF THE YEAR
(ARTIST/PRODUCER)**

**VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR**

**SONG OF THE YEAR
(ARTIST/SONGWRITER)**



NOMINATED FOR:

**FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

CARRIE UNDERWOOD

CARRIE UNDERWOOD ADDED ANOTHER CHAPTER to her career with 2015's *Storyteller*, her first album of new material in three years. However, she's hardly been taking it easy in the meantime. She released *Greatest Hits: Decade #1* in 2014 and the double-disc set ushered in two more top titles: "Little Toy Guns" and the Grammy-winning "Something in the Water." The platinum-certified collection gave fans a chance to reflect on Underwood's long-lasting career. An elite member of the ACM's Triple Crown award, she's received two Entertainer trophies (2008, 2009), three for Female Vocalist (2006-2008) and the New Female Vocalist award (2005). In addition to her 2013 Gene Weed Special Achievement Award for starring in the live broadcast of *The Sound of Music*, she's been a winner in the categories of Album (2006, *Some Hearts*), Video (2006, "Before He Cheats") and Single ("Jesus Take the Wheel," 2005). Proving her endurance since winning *American Idol* in 2005, Underwood notched numerous certifications in 2015, include five-times platinum for "Before He Cheats," triple-platinum for "Jesus, Take the Wheel" and "Blown Away," double-platinum for "All-American Girl," platinum for "Something in the Water," "Wasted" and "See You Again," and gold for "Little Toy Guns" and *Storyteller*. Her enchanting new album offered the hits "Smoke Break" and "Heartbeat" and inspired her latest trek, The *Storyteller* Tour—Stories in the Round.



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NOMINEES

KEITH URBAN

KEITH URBAN KEPT HIS FUSE BURNING IN 2015, as that gold-certified album sparked a fifth hit single: "Raise 'Em Up." The Grammy-nominated anthem carried Urban and Eric Church straight to the top of the country airplay chart. The good-natured Australian also mentored aspiring talent on *American Idol* and attended the opening of a spotlight exhibit at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum about his career. His remarkable achievements include ACM Awards in the categories of New Male Vocalist (2000), Male Vocalist (2004, 2005) and Album (2004, for *Be Here*). An extraordinary guitarist and an exceptional team player, Urban also shared wins for Vocal Event in 2008 ("Start a Band" with Brad Paisley) and 2013 ("We Were Us" with Miranda Lambert"), as well as Video ("Highway Don't Care" with Tim McGraw and Taylor Swift). In recognition of his worldwide appeal, he was the 2009 recipient of the ACM's Jim Reeves International Award. Prior to releasing his new Capitol Records Nashville album, *Ripcord*, Urban sent the singles "John Cougar, John Deere, John 3:16" and "Break on Me" sailing up the chart. He also experimented with producers Rick Rubin and Nile Rodgers to give the new album—his first since 2013—some unexpected textures. Following the final season of *American Idol*, Urban will kick off his latest world tour of arenas and amphitheaters in June.



NOMINATED FOR:

**VOCAL EVENT
OF THE YEAR**
(ARTIST/PRODUCER)

SONG OF THE YEAR



CHRIS YOUNG

CHRIS YOUNG MADE QUITE AN ENTRANCE WITH "I'm Comin' Over," a sensual single that spent three weeks at No. 1 and achieved platinum status. The album of the same name arrived at No. 1 on *Billboard*'s country chart in November and he performed the title track on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*. It's been a 10-year journey to mark the occasion, following Young's rise from *Nashville Star* to bona fide country star. Young won that competition series in 2006, but neither of the singles from his first RCA album cracked the Top 40. His luck changed in a big way when "Gettin' You Home (The Black Dress Song)" exploded in 2009, becoming the first of five consecutive No. 1 hits. Radio embraced releases like "The Man I Want to Be," "Voices," "Tomorrow," "You," "Aw Naw," "Who I Am With You," and "Lonely Eyes." All seven singles struck gold, while "Tomorrow" ultimately rose to platinum. Young has wanted to be a country singer since he was a freshman in high school. His grandfather was a performer on the Louisiana Hayride radio show. Young's current single is "Think of You," a duet with Cassadee Pope. Meanwhile, Vince Gill lends his vocals to an album cut, "Sober Saturday Night." In 2015, Young co-headlined a tour with Lee Brice. He will be performing in theaters and festivals throughout the summer.

NOMINATED FOR:

ALBUM OF THE YEAR
(ARTIST/PRODUCER)

**SINGLE RECORD
OF THE YEAR**
(ARTIST/PRODUCER)

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NOMINEES

ZAC BROWN BAND

ZAC BROWN BAND NAMED THEIR NEW-EST ALBUM *JEKKYL + HYDE*, alluding to the hard-to-pin-down musical approach that the group has employed for more than a decade. Despite their eclectic influences, the Georgia-based ensemble has managed to sustain a uniquely identifiable sound that runs through early hits like "Chicken Fried" up to their latest No. 1 singles, "Loving You

Easy" and the platinum "Homegrown." Zac Brown Band picked up their first ACM trophy as the 2008 New Vocal Duo or Group and this is their seventh consecutive nomination for Vocal Group. Their collaboration with Alan Jackson on "As She's Walking Away" earned them a 2010 ACM trophy in the Vocal Event category. On *Jekyll + Hyde*, special guests include Sara Bareillis on "Mango Tree" and Soundgarden's Chris Cornell on the mainstream rock hit, "Heavy Is the Head." Brown also sings on Swedish DJ Avicii's worldwide hit, "Broken Arrows." The band released *Greatest Hits So Far...* in 2014 and collaborated with rock star Dave Grohl on a 2013 EP. *Jekyll + Hyde* is the first release in a partnership with Republic Records, Big Machine Label Group, fashion designer John Varvatos' label and Brown's Southern Ground imprint. Zac Brown Band's lineup is keyboardist Coy Bowles, vocalist-guitarist Brown, multi-instrumentalist Clay Cook, percussionist Daniel de los Reyes, fiddler Jimmy DeMartini, drummer Chris Fryar, multi-instrumentalist John Driskill Hopkins and bassist Matt Mangano.



NOMINATED FOR:

**VOCAL GROUP
OF THE YEAR**

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NOMINEES

ALBUM

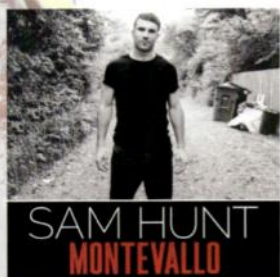
OF THE YEAR



I'm Comin' Over **CHRIS YOUNG**

PRODUCERS: Corey Crowder, Chris Young

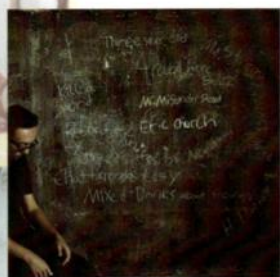
RECORD LABEL: RCA Records



Montevallo **SAM HUNT**

PRODUCERS: Zach Crowell, Shane McAnally

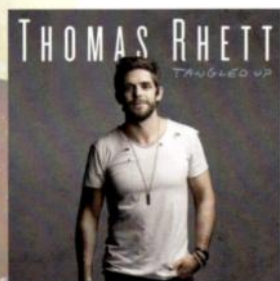
RECORD LABEL: MCA Nashville



Mr. Misunderstood **ERIC CHURCH**

PRODUCER: Jay Joyce

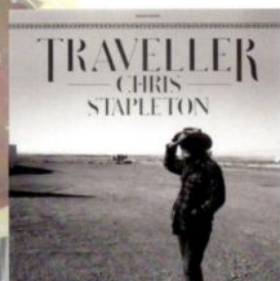
RECORD LABEL: EMI Records Nashville



Tangled Up **THOMAS RHETT**

PRODUCERS: Dann Huff, Jesse Frasure, Chris DeStefano, Joe London

RECORD LABEL: The Valory Music Co.

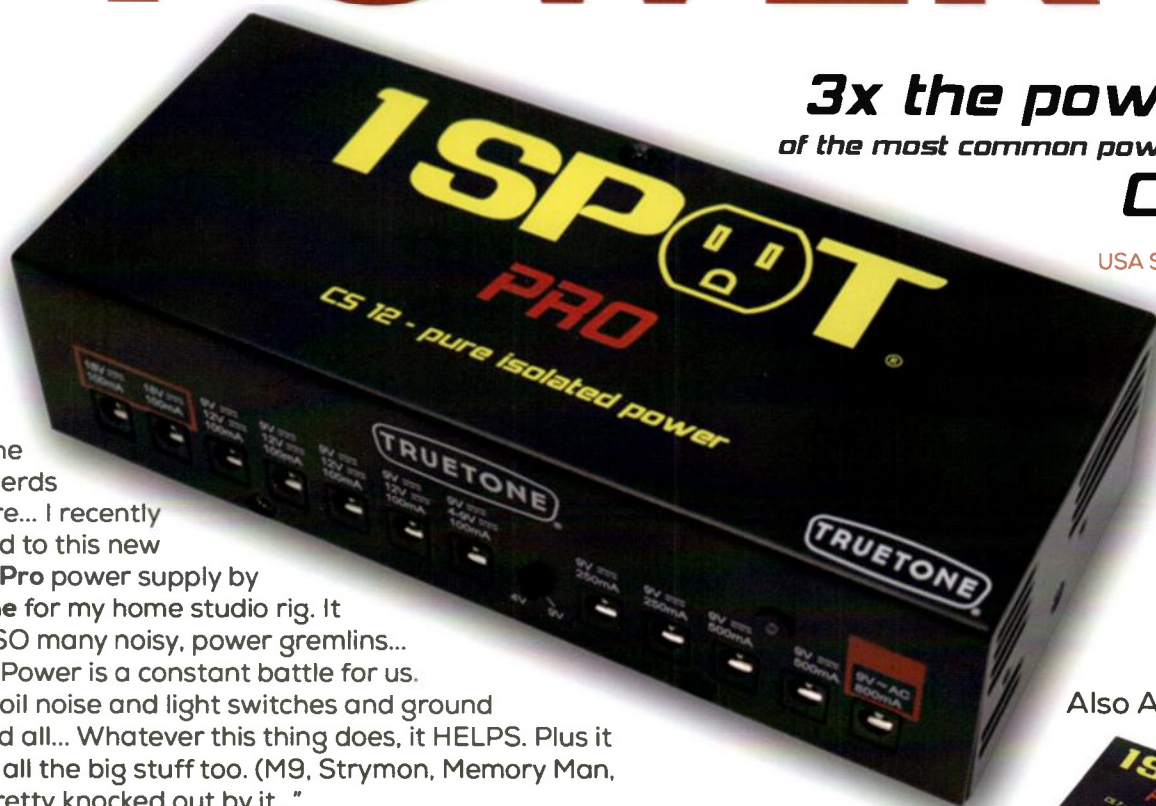


Traveller **CHRIS STAPLETON**

PRODUCERS: Dave Cobb, Chris Stapleton

RECORD LABEL: Mercury Records

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- Derek Wells
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Guitar Player of the Year.

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NOMINEES

SINGLE RECORD OF THE YEAR



"Burning House" CAM

PRODUCERS: Jeff Bhasker, Tyler Johnson, Camaron Ochs

RECORD LABELS: Arista Nashville, RCA Records



"Buy Me A Boat" CHRIS JANSON

PRODUCERS: Brent Anderson, Chris DuBois, Chris Janson

RECORD LABEL: Warner Music Nashville



"Die A Happy Man" THOMAS RHETT

PRODUCERS: Dann Huff, Jesse Frasure

RECORD LABEL: The Valory Music Co.



"Girl Crush" LITTLE BIG TOWN

PRODUCER: Jay Joyce

RECORD LABEL: Capitol Records Nashville



"I'm Comin' Over" CHRIS YOUNG

PRODUCERS: Corey Crowder, Chris Young

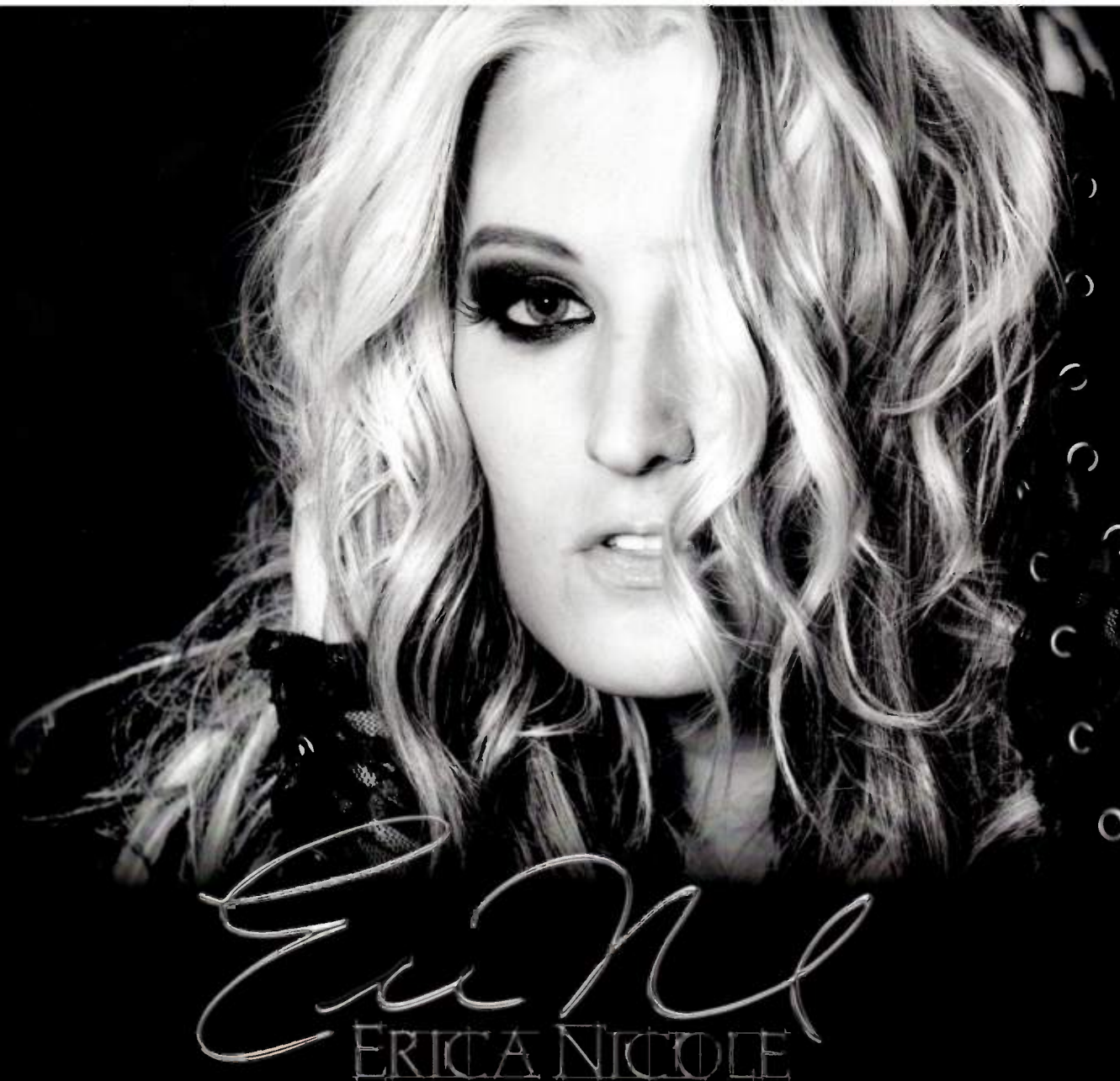
RECORD LABEL: RCA Nashville



"Take Your Time" SAM HUNT

PRODUCERS: Zach Crowell, Shane McAnally

RECORD LABEL: MCA Nashville



“ I think Erica Nicole has the potential to be great in this industry. She's not only talented and pretty, she's also nice...and that's a great combination. And it doesn't hurt that Kent Wells, my producer, believes in her and has produced some wonderful things on her. I wish them both the best. **”**

—Dolly Parton

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Martina McBride **”**

—One Stop Country

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—Music Row

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—Music Row Country Breakout Chart

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walk down the ACM red carpet **”**

—Erica Nicole



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NOMINEES

SONG

OF THE YEAR



"Burning House" CAM

SONGWRITERS: Jeffrey Bhasker, Tyler Johnson, Cam

PUBLISHERS: Marvelous Oaks Records (ASCAP), Creative Pulse Music (BMI), One Year Yesterday Publishing (BMI), Sony/ATV Songs LLC (BMI), These Are Pulse Songs (BMI), Way Above Music (BMI)



"Girl Crush" LITTLE BIG TOWN

SONGWRITERS: Hillary Lindsey, Lori McKenna, Liz Rose

PUBLISHERS: HillarodyRathbone Music (ASCAP), Hoodie Songs (BMI), Songs of Crazy Girl Music (BMI), Songs of Universal Inc (BMI), Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. (BMI)



"Nobody To Blame" CHRIS STAPLETON

SONGWRITERS: Chris Stapleton, Barry Bales, Ronnie Bowman

PUBLISHERS: House of Sea Gayle Music (ASCAP), WB Music Corp (ASCAP), Quackhead Music (BMI), RayLynn Publishing (BMI)



"Raise 'Em Up"

KEITH URBAN FEATURING ERIC CHURCH

SONGWRITERS: Tom Douglas, Jaren Johnston, Jeffrey Steele

PUBLISHERS: Jeffrey Steele Music (BMI), Sony/ATV Tree Publishing (BMI), TomDouglasMusic (BMI), Sony/ATV Harmony (ASCAP), Texa Rae Music (ASCAP)



"She Don't Love You" ERIC PASLAY

SONGWRITERS: Eric Paslay, Jennifer Wayne

PUBLISHERS: Five Stone Publishing (ASCAP), Spirit Two Nashville (ASCAP), Songwriters of Platinum Pen Publishing (BMI)

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NOMINEES

VIDEO

OF THE YEAR



"Biscuits" KACEY MUSGRAVES

DIRECTOR: Mark Klasfeld
PRODUCER: Nicole Acacio



"Burning House" CAM

DIRECTOR: Trey Fanjoy
PRODUCER: Trent Hardville



"Girl Crush" LITTLE BIG TOWN

DIRECTORS: Karla Welch, Matthew Welch
PRODUCER: Amanda Prunesti



"Mr. Misunderstood" ERIC CHURCH

DIRECTORS: Reid Long, John Peets
PRODUCER: Megan Smith



"Riser" DIERKS BENTLEY

DIRECTOR: Wes Edwards
PRODUCER: Jennifer Rothlein

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NOMINEES

VOCAL EVENT

OF THE YEAR



"Hangover Tonight"

GARY ALLAN FEATURING CHRIS STAPLETON

PRODUCERS: Gary Allan, Greg Droman

RECORD LABEL: MCA Nashville



"Home Alone Tonight"

LUKE BRYAN FEATURING KAREN FAIRCCHILD

PRODUCERS: Jeff Stevens, Jody Stevens

RECORD LABEL: Capitol Nashville



"Raise 'Em Up"

KEITH URBAN FEATURING ERIC CHURCH

PRODUCERS: Nathan Chapman, Keith Urban

RECORD LABELS: Hit Red Records, Capitol Nashville



"Smokin' And Drinkin'"

MIRANDA LAMBERT FEATURING
LITTLE BIG TOWN

PRODUCERS: Frank Liddell, Chuck Ainlay,
Glenn Worf

RECORD LABEL: RCA Nashville



"Wild Child"

KENNY CHESNEY WITH GRACE POTTER

PRODUCERS: Buddy Cannon, Kenny Chesney

RECORD LABELS: Blue Chair Records, Columbia Nashville



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NOMINEES

RADIO AWARDS

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR

MAJOR MARKET



WYCD-FM
SOUTHFIELD, MI

LARGE MARKET



WLHK-FM
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

MEDIUM MARKET



WUSY-FM
CHATTANOOGA, TN

SMALL MARKET



KTTS-FM
SPRINGFIELD, MO

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

NATIONAL



The Bobby Bones Show
The Bobby Bones Show

MAJOR MARKET



Chris Carr, Maverick and Kia
KEEY-FM St. Louis Park, MN

LARGE MARKET



Randy Carroll and Jamie Martin
KAJA-FM San Antonio, TX

MEDIUM MARKET



The Dex & Mo Show
WUSY-FM Chattanooga, TN

SMALL MARKET



Bill Barrett, Tim Fox & Tracy Berry
KKNU-FM Eugene, OR

INDUSTRY AWARDS WINNERS

CASINO OF THE YEAR (SMALL CAPACITY)

Wolf Den at Mohegan Sun – Uncasville, CT

CASINO OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM CAPACITY)

Mohegan Sun Arena – Uncasville, CT

FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR

Stagecoach – Indio, CA

NIGHTCLUB OF THE YEAR

Boondocks – Springfield, IL

VENUE OF THE YEAR (SMALL CAPACITY)

The Rave/Eagles Ballroom – Milwaukee, WI

VENUE OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM CAPACITY)

Ascend Amphitheatre – Nashville, TN

VENUE OF THE YEAR (LARGE CAPACITY)

Gorge Amphitheatre – Quincy, WA

DON ROMEO TALENT BUYER OF THE YEAR

Gil Cunningham – Neste Event Marketing

PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

Brian O'Connell – Live Nation

SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR

Ross Copperman

OFF CAMERA AWARDS

STUDIO RECORDING AWARDS WINNERS

BASS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Michael Rhodes

DRUMMER OF THE YEAR

Shannon Forrest

GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Derek Wells

PIANO/KEYBOARDS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jim 'Moose' Brown

SPECIALTY INSTRUMENT(S) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Danny Rader

STEEL GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Paul Franklin

AUDIO ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Justin Niebank

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Dave Cobb

ACM Cliffie Stone Pioneer Award



CRYSTAL GAYLE

CRYSTAL GAYLE TRAVERSED NEW TERRITORY AS THE FIRST FEMALE COUNTRY ARTIST to achieve platinum album sales with her 1977 project *We Must Believe in Magic*, containing her crossover smash "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue." The Kentucky native and younger sister of Loretta Lynn has been connecting with fans of country-pop for five decades, starting with the release of her debut single in 1970. Often working with hit-making producer Allen Reynolds, Gayle scored 20 No. 1 country hits during the 1970s and '80s, including "You Never Miss a Real Good Thing (Till He Says Goodbye)," "I'll Get Over You" and "Talking in Your Sleep." She toured worldwide and starred in several prime-time television specials. In total, Gayle's career yielded six Gold albums and four prestigious ACM Awards.



THE STATLER BROTHERS

THE STATLER BROTHERS WAS A PIONEERING QUARTET comprised of Harold Reid, Don Reid, Phil Balsley, original member Lew DeWitt — and later member Jimmy Fortune. The Virginia natives intertwined gospel-inspired harmonies with country songs, getting their professional break in 1964 as Johnny Cash's backing vocalists and opening act. This launched a career that would yield numerous hits in the 1960s through 1980s, including "Flowers on the Wall," "Bed of Rose's," "Do You Know You Are My Sunshine?," "Elizabeth," "My Only Love" and "Too Much on My Heart." Many of their signature songs were helmed by producer Jerry Kennedy. The Statlers often used humor in their music and performances, leading to frequent appearances on Cash's popular television show and their own successful program on The Nashville Network (TNN) in the early to mid-1990s. The Statlers garnered two ACM Awards and 2008 induction to the Country Music Hall of Fame.



TANYA TUCKER

SINCE THE RELEASE OF HER DEBUT SINGLE, "DELTA DAWN," at age 13, Tanya Tucker has been influencing generations of female artists. The 1972 hit, under the guidance of legendary producer Billy Sherrill, was the first in Tucker's string of 56 Top 40 singles, including 10 No. 1s. Boosting her success was her willingness to address difficult topics, such as adultery and revenge in the song "Blood Red and Goin' Down." During the '70s and '80s, Tucker scored with "Would You Lay with Me (In a Field of Stone)," "Texas (When I Die)," "Can I See You Tonight" and "One Love at a Time." The 1990s marked a professional high-point for Tucker, thanks to memorable songs "Two Sparrows in a Hurricane," "Down to My Last Teardrop" and "It's a Little Too Late." Tucker is the recipient of two ACM Awards. Today, more than fifty years since her first record deal, she is still actively touring and making music.

ACM Gary Haber Lifting Lives Award



CARRIE UNDERWOOD

THIS BRAND NEW AWARD WAS CREATED BY THE ACM LIFTING LIVES Board of Directors to recognize a country music artist or industry professional who is committed to serving others, has a generosity of spirit and shows a dedication to helping those in need. Named in honor of late ACM Lifting Lives Chairman Gary Haber, the first trophy goes to two-time ACM Entertainer of the Year Carrie Underwood — one of Haber's longtime clients and an enthusiastic supporter of ACM Lifting Lives. Underwood was one of the first artists to partner with Lifting Lives, bringing much needed musical instruments to the public schools in her hometown, Checotah, Oklahoma. This year, Carrie gave her time as a headliner for the ACM Party for a Cause Festival, as well as for a number of charitable endeavors including the Make-a-Wish Foundation, the Ryan Seacrest Foundation, Operation Homefront and her own C.A.T.S. Foundation, which gives back to her hometown community.

ACM Career Achievement Award



GLEN CAMPBELL

OVER THE COURSE OF SIX DECADES AND 45 MILLION RECORDS SOLD, Glen Campbell blazed a trail as one of country music's most diverse entertainers. His blend of country and pop sounds in the '60s and '70s resulted in the classics "Gentle on My Mind," "By the Time I Get to Phoenix," "Wichita Lineman" and "Rhinestone Cowboy," just a few of his 29 Top 10 singles. His lauded career earned 10 Academy of Country Music awards, including the 1998 Cliffee Stone Pioneer Award, and induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Campbell also flourished as a first-call session guitarist, performing with the Wrecking Crew and contributing to iconic songs by the Beach Boys (*Pet Sounds* album), The Righteous Brothers ("You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling") and The Monkees ("I'm a Believer"). Born the son of an Arkansas sharecropper, Campbell's combination of talent and personality made him successful as an actor in *True Grit* alongside John Wayne, and as host of his popular television show, *The Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour*.

In recent years, Campbell faced his struggle with Alzheimer's disease head-on, launching a farewell tour and documenting it in the acclaimed 2014 film, *Glen Campbell: I'll Be Me*. A song featured in the documentary, "I'm Not Gonna Miss You," was co-written by Campbell and won the 2015 Grammy Award for Best Country Song and was also nominated for Best Original Song at the 2015 Academy Awards.

ACM Tex Ritter Award



DOLLY PARTON'S COAT OF MANY COLORS

DOLLY PARTON'S COAT OF MANY COLORS aired on NBC in 2015, inspiring millions of viewers with its story of faith and family. Set in 1955 in the Great Smoky Mountains, the film showcases a poignant time in Parton's childhood, as her family struggles with loss, grapples with religion and ultimately triumphs with the healing power of love. Alyvia Alyn Lind stars as the nine-year-old singer who was given a patchwork coat made by her mother, played by Jennifer Nettles. Rick Schroder portrays Parton's father, along with Gerald McRaney as her grandfather. The movie was watched by more than 13 million viewers, making it one of the most-watched TV movies of all time.

ACM Poet's Award



JIMMY WEBB

THE REMARKABLE CAREER OF SONGWRITER Jimmy Webb began in 1965, crossing numerous genres and sales milestones. He is the pen behind platinum-selling classics recorded by multiple artists. "Up, Up and Away" was recorded by The 5th Dimension, Nancy Sinatra and Diana Ross & The Supremes. "MacArthur Park" was recorded by Waylon Jennings, Dionne Warwick, Donna Summer and Glen Campbell. Webb and fellow 2016 ACM Special Award honoree Campbell had a particularly fruitful professional relationship, resulting in the hits "Wichita Lineman," "Galveston," "By the Time I Get to Phoenix" and others. Among the stellar artists who have recorded or performed Webb's compositions are Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Judy Collins, Isaac Hayes, Art Garfunkel, Linda Ronstadt and Carly Simon. Webb is a member of both the Songwriters Hall of Fame in New York and the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame. More than fifty years into his career, Webb still performs regularly.



EDDIE RABBITT (POSTHUMOUSLY)

EDDIE RABBITT SCORED COUNTRY/POP CROSSOVER SUCCESS starting in 1979 with hits "I Love a Rainy Night," "Drivin' My Life Away," "Every Which Way But Loose" and "Suspicious." His career began in the late 1960s as a professional songwriter who penned Elvis Presley's "Kentucky Rain" and Ronnie Milsap's "Pure Love." While working to build his career as an artist, Rabbitt opened for Dolly Parton and Kenny Rogers. Rabbitt also recorded duets with Juice Newton ("Both to Each Other (Friends and Lovers)") and fellow 2016 ACM honoree Crystal Gayle ("You and I"). Rabbitt is an ACM Award winner and Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame inductee. He died May 7, 1998, at age 56.

SPECIAL AWARDS

ACM Crystal Milestone Award



LITTLE BIG TOWN

LITTLE BIG TOWN, THE REIGNING ACM VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR, enticed listeners with "Girl Crush," a double-platinum single they performed on last year's ACM Awards, the *Billboard Music Awards*, *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, the Grammy Awards, the Grand Ole Opry and *Late Night With Jimmy Kimmel*. Despite some initial controversy and confusion over the subject matter, the smoldering single told through the eyes of a jilted lover grew to become the most downloaded country song in 2015. "Girl Crush" held the top spot of the *Billboard* Hot Country Songs chart for 13 consecutive weeks, setting the longest run in the top spot for a group since the Browns' 10-week run in 1959 with "The Three Bells." The single's success helped Little Big Town earn its 10th nomination this year in the ACM Vocal Group of the Year category.

ACM Mae Boren Axton Award



KEITH URBAN

KEITH URBAN HAS GIVEN HIS TIME, TALENT AND SUPPORT to both the Academy of Country Music and ACM Lifting Lives, proving to be a great friend and advocate for both organizations for years. Since his first appearance on the ACM Awards in 2001, Urban has performed or presented on every show since then, with the exception of 2007. His remarkable achievements include ACM Awards in the categories of New Male Vocalist (2000), Male Vocalist (2004, 2005) and Album (2004, for *Be Here*). An extraordinary guitarist and an exceptional team player, Urban also shared wins for Vocal Event in 2008 ("Start a Band" with Brad Paisley) and 2013 ("We Were Us" with Miranda Lambert), as well as Video ("Highway Don't Care" with Tim McGraw and Taylor Swift). In recognition of his worldwide appeal, he was the 2009 recipient of the ACM's Jim Reeves International Award. Following the final season of *American Idol*, Urban will kick off his latest world tour of arenas and amphitheaters in June.

ACM Jim Reeves International Award



JEFF WALKER

AUSTRALIA NATIVE JEFF WALKER GREATLY IMPACTED THE INTERNATIONAL REACH of country music, advocating on behalf of foreign-born artists as well as working to expose country artists overseas. He moved to Nashville in 1974 and established his marketing and promotions firm in 1980. Over the next 35 years, the company became known as The AristoMedia Group/Marco Music Group, and grew to encompass divisions offering publicity, web development, radio promotion, video promotion and label/distribution services. An active member of the Music Row community, Walker served on the boards of the Country Radio Broadcasters, the Country Music Association and the Academy of Country Music. Walker passed away on Aug. 24, 2015, at age 65.

THANK YOU

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THE WEEK VEGAS GOES COUNTRY 2016

After celebrating a record-setting 50th anniversary in Texas last year, the Academy of Country Music settled back into its longtime home-away-from-home in Las Vegas for 2016. In the few waking hours between the ACM Party for a Cause Festival at the Las Vegas Festival Grounds and the 51st ACM Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena, there were plenty of events to keep fans moving during The Week Vegas Goes Country!



On April 2nd, the affable Darius Rucker once again hosted the **ACM LIFTING LIVES GOLF CLASSIC**, which brought together artists, record label execs and other members of the country music community to raise funds and awareness for the **ACM LIFTING LIVES DIANE HOLCOMB EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**. A long-standing part of ACM Lifting Lives, this fund provides immediate financial relief to those in need in the music industry.



Cabela's

Also on April 2nd, Luke Bryan and Justin Moore brought archery into the digital age at this year's **ACM & CABELA'S CELEBRITY TIC TAC TOE ARCHERY TOURNAMENT**. The event pitted some of country's biggest stars against each other in a no-holds-barred digital archery competition.



RAM

Across the Las Vegas Festival Grounds, the **RAM RIDE & DRIVE TEST TRACK** gave fans a unique interactive adventure zone demonstrating the capabilities of Ram Trucks.



And finally, when tonight's live broadcast of the 51st ACM Awards wraps up, the annual **ACM ALL-STAR JAM** will keep the party going into the night! The long-running show, held in MGM Grand Marquee Ballroom will give lucky ticket holders a concert like they've never seen. It's One Night, One Stage - All Stars, and you never know who might show up!

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Now in its fourth year, the ACM Party for a Cause® Festival brings fans and a who's who of contemporary country music to the same place to raise help raise money for ACM Lifting Lives, the charitable arm of the Academy. Through Party for a Cause, yearly concert specials on CBS and various other fundraisers, Lifting Lives has contributed some \$8 million dollars to worthy groups that improve lives through the power of music for students, patients and veterans. That charitable component will figure more prominently into this year's festival, as fans have asked to learn more about the organizations their money is supporting. The new "Cause Way" will feature booths and video presentations from some of the groups that ACM Lifting Lives has funded.

"Some great fan feedback from the past couple of years has been, 'It's Party for a Cause, tell us more about what that cause is,'" said ACM Senior Vice President of Operations & Events Erick Long, who heads up the festival team. "We have our own charity ACM Lifting Lives, which is the cause, but then where does that money go? Which charities? So that was really cool to actually develop this 'Cause Way' so that now people can actually get a little bit more information on site about the beneficiaries of Lifting Lives."

Party for a Cause moved into a new home this year, the Las Vegas Festival Grounds, which so far has only been home to

the massive Rock in Rio event. Although it's a new location, fans enjoyed some familiar sights, including great food and bars, more than 60 vendors onsite, cool sponsor activations and, of course, amazing talent. Superstar headliners Carrie Underwood, Dierks Bentley and Kenny Chesney were tapped to anchor the three-day fest. All three are nominated for ACM Awards this year, as are many of the other names on the bill. In fact, Chesney is performing on the live ACM Awards broadcast here at the MGM Grand Garden Arena tonight before heading uptown to close out the Party for a Cause Festival.

"It's two very different audiences, very different realities, but in the end, in one night, me and the band are going to be able to reach out to a whole lot of people who really love country music and really rock two different kinds of rooms," Chesney said. "You bring everything you've got – all your heart, your songs, your love and your passion for being there – and you fling it into the world. It doesn't matter where the show is, or who is there, to me, any time you take the stage, you're playing for those fans."

Fellow headliner Bentley, who closed out the show on April 2nd, was excited to return to the Party for a Cause stage, which he last played in 2013. This year's event included sets from 32 country artists, giving fans three days of amazing music.

"Those fans that come out are so excited to be here to see the awards show and who wins, but while these fans are already here, let's throw a party and raise some money for a great cause and make the most of the moment," Bentley said.

Underwood headlined the kick-off day on April 1st, which featured a powerful all-female lineup dubbed "ACM Women of Country Night."

"Everybody has their own sound, their own look, their own kind of music, their own voice, and I kind of feel like that's just something that's very unique to women right now," Underwood said. "You can walk around Nashville on any given night and see somebody who is beautiful and talented and who wrote all these incredible songs."

In addition to a diverse lineup of superstars and up-and-comers, headliner Chesney said the fact that the festival supports ACM Lifting Lives is an important one to remember, particularly pointing out the good work of the Diane Holcomb Emergency Relief Fund for members of the music industry in need.

"Lifting Lives has done so much great work, and they do it very quietly," Kenny said. "I know that there are several people who've needed help who were able to discreetly reach out, have not just their needs met, but met quickly. That's the stuff no one hears about, and a lot of time, that's the stuff that makes the biggest difference. It may be one life, or one family, but the people Lifting Lives helps are people who gave their life to this music, and somehow found themselves somewhere they never thought they'd be. To me, there is so much good done every day – and we hear about those things, which is good. It inspires people to give, but it's the stories you don't hear... the people who might otherwise have nowhere to turn or could fall through the cracks and the fact we may never know they needed help. That's what sets Lifting Lives apart."



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Savannah Benefield
Brand Integration &
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MUSICIAN/BANDLEADER/INSTRUMENTALIST

ON-AIR PERSONALITY

PRODUCER/ENGINEER

RADIO

RECORD COMPANY

TALENT AGENT

TALENT BUYER/PROMOTER

TV/MOTION PICTURE

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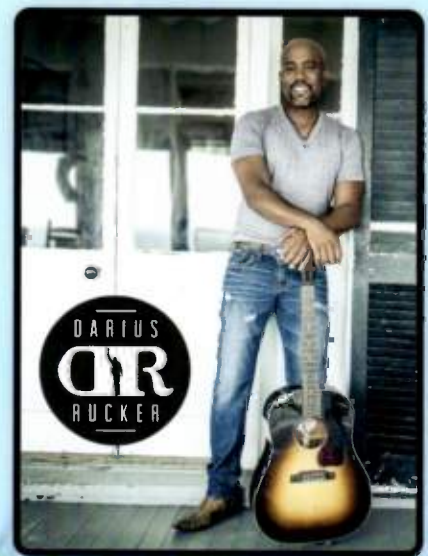
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PAST WINNERS

Note: Winners are honored for work done in the previous calendar year, thus a trophy awarded on the show in 2015 would be dated 2014.

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

1970 Merle Haggard
1971 Freddie Hart
1972 Roy Clark
1973 Roy Clark
1974 Mac Davis
1975 Loretta Lynn
1976 Mickey Gilley
1977 Dolly Parton
1978 Kenny Rogers
1979 Willie Nelson
1980 Barbara Mandrell
1981 Alabama
1982 Alabama
1983 Alabama
1984 Alabama
1985 Alabama
1986 Hank Williams Jr.
1987 Hank Williams Jr.
1988 Hank Williams Jr.
1989 George Strait
1990 Garth Brooks
1991 Garth Brooks
1992 Garth Brooks
1993 Garth Brooks
1994 Reba McEntire
1995 Brooks & Dunn
1996 Brooks & Dunn
1997 Garth Brooks
1998 Garth Brooks
1999 Shania Twain
2000 Dixie Chicks
2001 Brooks & Dunn
2002 Toby Keith
2003 Toby Keith
2004 Kenny Chesney
2005 Kenny Chesney
2006 Kenny Chesney
2007 Kenny Chesney
2008 Carrie Underwood
2009 Carrie Underwood
2010 Taylor Swift
2011 Taylor Swift
2012 Luke Bryan
2013 George Strait
2014 Luke Bryan

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

1965 Bonnie Owens
1966 Bonnie Guitar
1967 Lynn Anderson
1968 Cathie Taylor
1969 Tammy Wynette
1970 Lynn Anderson
1971 Loretta Lynn
1972 Donna Fargo

1973 Loretta Lynn
1974 Loretta Lynn
1975 Loretta Lynn
1976 Crystal Gayle
1977 Crystal Gayle
1978 Barbara Mandrell
1979 Crystal Gayle
1980 Dolly Parton
1981 Barbara Mandrell
1982 Sylvia
1983 Janie Fricke
1984 Reba McEntire
1985 Reba McEntire
1986 Reba McEntire
1987 Reba McEntire
1988 K.T. Oslin
1989 Kathy Mattea
1990 Reba McEntire
1991 Reba McEntire
1992 Mary-Chapin Carpenter
1993 Wynonna
1994 Reba McEntire
1995 Patty Loveless
1996 Patty Loveless
1997 Trisha Yearwood
1998 Faith Hill
1999 Faith Hill
2000 Faith Hill
2001 Martina McBride
2002 Martina McBride
2003 Martina McBride
2004 Gretchen Wilson
2005 Sara Evans
2006 Carrie Underwood
2007 Carrie Underwood
2008 Carrie Underwood
2009 Miranda Lambert
2010 Miranda Lambert
2011 Miranda Lambert
2012 Miranda Lambert
2013 Miranda Lambert
2014 Miranda Lambert

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

1965 Buck Owens
1966 Merle Haggard
1967 Glen Campbell
1968 Glen Campbell
1969 Merle Haggard
1970 Merle Haggard
1971 Freddie Hart
1972 Merle Haggard
1973 Charlie Rich
1974 Merle Haggard
1975 Conway Twitty
1976 Mickey Gilley
1977 Kenny Rogers

1978 Kenny Rogers
1979 Larry Gatlin
1980 George Jones
1981 Merle Haggard
1982 Ronnie Milsap
1983 Lee Greenwood
1984 George Strait
1985 George Strait
1986 Randy Travis
1987 Randy Travis
1988 George Strait
1989 Clint Black
1990 Garth Brooks
1991 Garth Brooks
1992 Vince Gill
1993 Vince Gill
1994 Alan Jackson
1995 Alan Jackson
1996 George Strait
1997 George Strait
1998 Tim McGraw
1999 Tim McGraw
2000 Toby Keith
2001 Alan Jackson
2002 Kenny Chesney
2003 Toby Keith
2004 Keith Urban
2005 Keith Urban
2006 Brad Paisley
2007 Brad Paisley
2008 Brad Paisley
2009 Brad Paisley
2010 Brad Paisley
2011 Blake Shelton
2012 Jason Aldean
2013 Jason Aldean
2014 Jason Aldean

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR (formerly Top Vocal Duet from 1980-1996)

1980 Moe Bandy & Joe Stampley
1981 David Frizzell & Shelly West
1982 David Frizzell & Shelly West
1983 Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers
1984 The Judds
1985 The Judds
1986 The Judds
1987 The Judds
1988 The Judds
1989 The Judds
1990 The Judds
1991 Brooks & Dunn
1992 Brooks & Dunn
1993 Brooks & Dunn
1994 Brooks & Dunn
1995 Brooks & Dunn
1996 Brooks & Dunn
1997 Brooks & Dunn
2000 Brooks & Dunn
2001 Brooks & Dunn
2002 Brooks & Dunn
2003 Brooks & Dunn
2004 Brooks & Dunn
2005 Brooks & Dunn
2006 Brooks & Dunn
2007 Brooks & Dunn
2008 Sugarland
2009 Brooks & Dunn

2010 Sugarland
2011 Thompson Square
2012 Thompson Square
2013 Florida Georgia Line
2014 Florida Georgia Line

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

1966 Bonnie Owens & Merle Haggard
1967 Sons of the Pioneers
1968 Johnny & Jonie Mosby
1969 Kimberleys
1970 Kimberleys
1971 Conway Twitty & Loretta Lynn
1972 Statler Brothers
1973 Brush Arbor
1974 Conway Twitty & Loretta Lynn
1975 Conway Twitty & Loretta Lynn
1976 Conway Twitty & Loretta Lynn
1977 Statler Brothers
1978 Oak Ridge Boys
1979 Moe Bandy & Joe Stampley
1980 Alabama
1981 Alabama
1982 Alabama
1983 Alabama
1984 Alabama
1985 Alabama
1986 Forester Sisters
1987 Highway 101
1988 Highway 101
1989 Restless Heart
1990 Shenandoah
1991 Diamond Rio
1992 Diamond Rio
1993 Little Texas
1994 The Mavericks
1995 The Mavericks
1996 Sawyer Brown
1998 Dixie Chicks
1999 Dixie Chicks
2000 Dixie Chicks
2001 Lonestar
2002 Rascal Flatts
2003 Rascal Flatts
2004 Rascal Flatts
2005 Rascal Flatts
2006 Rascal Flatts
2007 Rascal Flatts
2008 Rascal Flatts
2009 Lady Antebellum
2010 Lady Antebellum
2011 Lady Antebellum
2012 Little Big Town
2013 The Band Perry
2014 Little Big Town

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR

2003 Dierks Bentley
2004 Gretchen Wilson
2008 Julianne Hough
2009 Luke Bryan
2010 The Band Perry
2011 Scotty McCreery
2012 Florida Georgia Line
2013 Justin Moore
2014 Cole Swindell

NEW VOCAL DUO OR GROUP OF THE YEAR

- 1989 Kentucky Headhunters
- 1990 Pirates of the Mississippi
- 1991 Brooks & Dunn
- 1992 Confederate Railroad
- 1993 Gibson Miller Band
- 1994 The Mavericks
- 1995 Lonestar
- 1996 Ricochet
- 1997 The Kinleys
- 1998 Dixie Chicks
- 1999 Montgomery Gentry
- 2000 Rascal Flatts
- 2001 Trick Pony
- 2002 Emerson Drive
- 2005 Sugarland
- 2006 Little Big Town
- 2007 Lady Antebellum
- 2008 Zac Brown Band
- 2010 The Band Perry
- 2012 Florida Georgia Line

NEW VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

- 2009 Joey + Rory

NEW VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

- 2009 Gloriana

NEW FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

- 1977 Debby Boone
- 1978 Christy Lane
- 1979 Lacy J. Dalton
- 1980 Terri Gibbs
- 1981 Juice Newton
- 1982 Karen Brooks
- 1983 Gus Hardin
- 1984 Nicolette Larson
- 1985 Judy Rodman
- 1986 Holly Dunn
- 1987 K.T. Oslin
- 1988 Suzy Bogguss
- 1989 Mary-Chapin Carpenter
- 1990 Shelby Lynne
- 1991 Trisha Yearwood
- 1992 Michelle Wright
- 1993 Faith Hill
- 1994 Chely Wright
- 1995 Shania Twain
- 1996 LeAnn Rimes
- 1997 Lee Ann Womack
- 1998 Jo Dee Messina
- 1999 Jessica Andrews
- 2000 Jamie O'Neal
- 2001 Carolyn Dawn Johnson
- 2002 Kellie Coffey
- 2005 Carrie Underwood
- 2006 Miranda Lambert
- 2007 Taylor Swift
- 2008 Julianne Hough
- 2012 Jana Kramer

NEW MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

- 1977 Eddie Rabbitt
- 1978 John Conlee
- 1979 R.C. Bannon
- 1980 Johnny Lee
- 1981 Ricky Skaggs
- 1982 Michael Murphey
- 1983 Jim Glaser
- 1984 Vince Gill
- 1985 Randy Travis
- 1986 Dwight Yoakam
- 1987 Ricky Van Shelton
- 1988 Rodney Crowell
- 1989 Clint Black
- 1990 Alan Jackson
- 1991 Billy Dean
- 1992 Tracy Lawrence
- 1993 John Michael Montgomery
- 1994 Tim McGraw
- 1995 Bryan White
- 1996 Trace Adkins
- 1997 Kenny Chesney
- 1998 Mark Wills
- 1999 Brad Paisley
- 2000 Keith Urban
- 2001 Phil Vassar
- 2002 Joe Nichols
- 2005 Jason Aldean
- 2006 Rodney Atkins
- 2007 Jack Ingram
- 2008 Jake Owen
- 2012 Brantley Gilbert

NEW SOLO VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

- 2009 Luke Bryan
- 2010 Eric Church

DICK CLARK ARTIST OF THE DECADE

- 1960s Marty Robbins (presented 1969)
- 1970s Loretta Lynn (presented 1979)
- 1980s Alabama (presented 1989)
- 1990s Garth Brooks (presented 1999)
- 2000s George Strait (presented 2009)

SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR

- 1965 Roger Miller
- 2011 Dallas Davidson
- 2012 Dallas Davidson
- 2013 Shane McAnally
- 2014 Luke Laird

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

(currently awarded to Artist, Producer & Record Company)

- 1967 **Gentle On My Mind**; Glen Campbell; Al Delroy (A&R); Capitol Records
- 1968 **Glen Campbell & Bobbie Gentry**; **Bobbie Gentry**; Capitol Records
- 1969 **Okie From Muskogee**; Merle Haggard; Capitol Records
- 1970 **For the Good Times**; Ray Price; Columbia Records
- 1971 **Easy Lovin'**; Freddie Hart; Capitol Records
- 1972 **Happiest Girl/USA**; Donna Fargo (birth name: Yvonne Vaughn Silver); Dot
- 1973 **Behind Closed Doors**; Charlie Rich; Epic Records
- 1974 **Back Home Again**; John Denver; RCA Records
- 1975 **Feelings**; Conway Twitty, Loretta Lynn; MCA Records
- 1976 **Gilley's Smoking**; Mickey Gilley; Playboy
- 1977 **Kenny Rogers**; Kenny Rogers; United Artists Records
- 1978 **Ya'll Come Back Saloon**; Oak Ridge Boys; ABC/Dot
- 1979 **Straight Ahead**; Larry Gatlin; Columbia Records
- 1980 **Urban Cowboy**; Full Moon; Asylum
- 1981 **Feel's So Right**; Alabama; RCA Records; Produced by Harold Shedd & Larry McBride
- 1982 **Always on My Mind**; Willie Nelson; Columbia Records; Produced by Chips Moman
- 1983 **The Closer You Get**; Alabama; RCA Records; Produced by Harold Shedd
- 1984 **Roll On**; Alabama; RCA Records; Produced by Harold Shedd
- 1985 **Does Ft. Worth Ever Cross Your Mind**; George Strait; RCA Records; Produced by Jimmy Bowen
- 1986 **Storms of Life**; Randy Travis; Warner Bros. Records; Produced by Kyle Lehning
- 1987 **Trio**; Dolly Parton, Emmylou Harris, Linda Ronstadt; Warner Bros. Records; Produced by George Massenburg
- 1988 **This Woman**; K.T. Oslin; RCA Records; Produced by Harold Shedd
- 1989 **Killin' Time**; Clint Black; RCA Records; Produced by James Stroud & Mark Wright
- 1990 **No Fences**; Garth Brooks; Capitol Records; Produced by Allen Reynolds
- 1991 **Don't Rock the Jukebox**; Alan Jackson; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall & Scott Hendricks
- 1992 **Brand New Man**; Brooks & Dunn; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Scott Hendricks & Don Cook
- 1993 **A Lot About Livin'**; Alan Jackson; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall
- 1994 **Not A Moment Too Soon**; Tim McGraw; Curb Records; Produced by James Stroud & Byron Gallimore
- 1995 **The Woman In Me**; Shania Twain; Mercury Records; Produced by Robert John Lange
- 1996 **Blue Clear Sky**; George Strait; MCA Records; Produced by George Strait & Tony Brown
- 1997 **Carrying Your Love With Me**; George Strait; MCA Records; Produced by George Strait & Tony Brown
- 1998 **Wide Open Spaces**; Dixie Chicks; Monument Records; Produced by Blake Chancey & Paul Worley
- 1999 **Fly**; Dixie Chicks; Monument Records; Produced by Blake Chancey & Paul Worley
- 2000 **How Do You Like Me Now?**; Toby Keith; Mercury Records; Produced by Toby Keith & James Stroud
- 2001 **O Brother, Where Art Thou?**; Soundtrack – O Brother, Where Art Thou?; Mercury Records; Produced by T-Bone Burnett
- 2002 **Drive**; Alan Jackson; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall
- 2003 **Shock 'N Y'all**; Toby Keith; DreamWorks Records; Produced by James Stroud & Toby Keith
- 2004 **Be Here**; Keith Urban; Capitol Records Nashville; Produced by Dann Huff & Keith Urban
- 2005 **Time Well Wasted**; Brad Paisley; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Chris DuBois & Frank Rogers
- 2006 **Some Hearts**; Carrie Underwood; 19 Recordings Limited/Arista Records; Produced by Dann Huff & Mark Bright
- 2007 **Crazy Ex-Girlfriend**; Miranda Lambert; Columbia Nashville; Produced by Frank Liddell & Mike Wrucke
- 2008 **Fearless**; Taylor Swift; Big Machine Records; Produced by Scott Borchetta, Nathan Chapman & Taylor Swift
- 2009 **Revolution**; Miranda Lambert; Columbia Nashville; Produced by Frank Liddell & Mike Wrucke
- 2010 **Need You Now**; Lady Antebellum; Capitol Records Nashville; Produced by Lady Antebellum & Paul Worley
- 2011 **Four The Record**; Miranda Lambert; RCA; Produced by Chuck Ainlay, Frank Liddell & Glenn Worf
- 2012 **Chief**; Eric Church; EMI-Nashville; Produced by Jay Joyce
- 2013 **Same Trailer Different Park**; Kacey Musgraves; Mercury Records; Produced by Kacey Musgraves, Luke Laird & Shane McAnally
- 2014 **Platinum**; Miranda Lambert; RCA Nashville; Produced by Chuck Ainlay, Frank Liddell & Glenn Worf

SINGLE RECORD OF THE YEAR

(currently awarded to Artist, Producer, & Record Company)

- 1967 **"Gentle On My Mind"** Glen Campbell; Al Delroy (A&R); Capitol Records
- 1968 **"Little Green Apples"** Roger Miller; Smash
- 1969 **"Okie From Muskogee"** Merle Haggard; Capitol Records
- 1970 **"For the Good Times"** Ray Price; Columbia Records
- 1971 **"Easy Lovin'"** Freddie Hart; Capitol Records
- 1972 **"Happiest Girl/USA"** Donna Fargo (birth name: Yvonne Vaughn Silver); Dot
- 1973 **"Behind Closed Doors"** Charlie Rich; Epic Records
- 1974 **"Country Bumpkin"** Cal Smith; MCA Records
- 1975 **"Rhinestone Cowboy"** Glen Campbell; Capitol Records
- 1976 **"Bring It On Home"** Mickey Gilley; Playboy Records
- 1977 **"Lucille"** Kenny Rogers; United Artists
- 1978 **"Tulsa Time"** Don Williams; ABC Records
- 1979 **"All The Gold in California"** Larry Gatlin & Gatlin Bros.; Columbia Records
- 1980 **"He Stopped Loving Her Today"** George Jones; Epic Records; Produced by Billy Sherrill
- 1981 **"Elvira"** Oak Ridge Boys; MCA Records; Produced by Ron Chancey
- 1982 **"Always On My Mind"** Willie Nelson; Columbia Records; Produced by Chips Moman
- 1983 **"Islands In The Stream"** Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers; RCA Records; Produced by Barry Gibb & Karl Richardson
- 1984 **"To All The Girls I've Loved Before"** Julio Iglesias & Willie Nelson; Columbia Records; Produced by Richard Perry
- 1985 **"Highwayman"** Johnny Cash, Kris Kristofferson, Waylon Jennings, & Willie Nelson; Columbia Records; Produced by Chips Moman
- 1986 **"On The Other Hand"** Randy Travis; Warner Brothers Records; Produced by Keith Stegall & Kyle Lehning
- 1987 **"Forever And Ever Amen"** Randy Travis; Warner Brothers Records; Produced by Kyle Lehning
- 1988 **"Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses"** Kathy Mattea; Mercury Records; Produced by Allen Reynolds
- 1989 **"Better Man"** Clint Black; RCA Records; Produced by James Stroud & Mark Wright
- 1990 **"Friends In Low Places"** Garth Brooks; Capitol Records; Produced by Allen Reynolds
- 1991 **"Don't Rock the Jukebox"** Alan Jackson; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall & Scott Hendricks
- 1992 **"Boot Scootin' Boogie"** Brooks & Dunn; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Don Cook & Scott Hendricks
- 1993 **"Chattahoochee"** Alan Jackson; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall
- 1994 **"I Swear"** John Michael Montgomery; Atlantic Records; Produced by Scott Hendricks
- 1995 **"Check Yes Or No"** George Strait; MCA Records; Produced by George Strait & Tony Brown
- 1996 **"Blue"** LeAnn Rimes; Curb Records; Produced by Wilbur C. Rimes
- 1997 **"It's Your Love"** Tim McGraw & Faith Hill; Curb Records; Produced by Byron Gallimore, James Stroud, & Tim McGraw
- 1998 **"This Kiss"** Faith Hill; Warner Brothers Records; Produced by Byron Gallimore & Faith Hill
- 1999 **"Amazed"** Lonestar; BNA Records; Produced by Dann Huff
- 2000 **"I Hope You Dance"** Lee Ann Womack & Sons of the Desert; MCA Records; Produced by Mark Wright
- 2001 **"Where Were You (When the World Stopped Turning)"** Alan Jackson; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall
- 2002 **"The Good Stuff"** Kenny Chesney; BNA Records; Produced by Buddy Cannon, Kenny Chesney, & Norro Wilson
- 2003 **"It's Five O'Clock Somewhere"** Alan Jackson & Jimmy Buffet; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall
- 2004 **"Live Like You Were Dying"** Tim McGraw; Curb Records; Produced by Byron Gallimore, Darran Smith, & Tim McGraw
- 2005 **"Jesus Take the Wheel"** Carrie Underwood; Arista; Produced by Mark Bright
- 2006 **"Give It Away"** George Strait; MCA Nashville; Produced by George Strait & Tony Brown
- 2007 **"Stay"** Sugarland; Mercury Records; Produced by Byron Gallimore, Kristian Bush, & Jennifer Nettles
- 2008 **"You're Gonna Miss This"** Trace Adkins; Capitol Nashville; Produced by Frank Rogers
- 2009 **"Need You Now"** Lady Antebellum; Capitol Records Nashville; Produced by Lady Antebellum, Paul Worley
- 2010 **"The House That Built Me"** Miranda Lambert; Columbia Nashville; Produced by Frank Liddell, Mike Wrucke

- 2011 **"Don't You Wanna Stay"** Jason Aldean & Kelly Clarkson; Broken Bow Records; Produced by Michael Knox

- 2012 **"Over You"** Miranda Lambert; RCA; Produced by Chuck Ainlay, Frank Liddell, Glenn Worf

- 2013 **"Mama's Broken Heart"** Miranda Lambert; RCA Nashville; Produced by Chuck Ainlay, Frank Liddell & Glenn Worf

- 2014 **"I Don't Dance"** Lee Brice; Curb Records; Produced by Lee Brice

SONG OF THE YEAR

(currently awarded to Artist, Songwriter, & Publisher)

- 1966 **"Apartment #9"** Tammy Wynette; Songwriters Bobby Austin, Fuzzy Owen, & Johnny Paycheck

- 1967 **"It's Such A Pretty World Today"** Wynn Stewart; Songwriters Dale Noe; Published by Freeway Music

- 1968 **"Wichita Lineman"** Glen Campbell; Songwriter Jim Webb

- 1969 **"Okie From Muskogee"** Merle Haggard; Songwriters Roy Burris & Merle Haggard Published by Sony/ATV Tree

- 1970 **"For the Good Times"** Ray Price

- 1971 **"Easy Lovin'"** Freddie Hart; Songwriter Freddie Hart

- 1972 **"Happiest Girl/USA"** Donna Fargo (birth name: Yvonne Vaughn Silver); Published by Embassy Music Corp & EMI Algee Music Corp

- 1973 **"Behind Closed Doors"** Charlie Rich; Songwriter Kenny O'Dell

- 1974 **"Country Bumpkin"** Cal Smith; Songwriter Don Choate; Published by Sony/ATV Tree

- 1975 **"Rhinestone Cowboy"** Glen Campbell; Songwriter Larry Weiss; Published by WB Music Corp

- 1976 **"Don't the Girls Get Prettier at Closing Time"** Mickey Gilley; Songwriter Baker Knight; Published Sixteen Stars Music;

- 1977 **"Lucille"** Kenny Rogers; Songwriters Roger Dale Bowling & Hal Bynum; Published by Andite Invasion, Missed Memories Music, & Sony/ATV Songs LLC

- 1978 **"You Needed Me"** Anne Murray; Songwriter Charles R. Goodrum; Published by Chappell & Co, Inc. & Ironside Music;

- 1979 **"It's A Cheatin' Situation"** Moe Bandy; Songwriters Curly Putnam & James Throckmorton

- 1980 **"He Stopped Loving Her Today"** George Jones; Songwriters Bobby Braddock & Curly Putman; Published by Tree Publishing

- 1981 **"You're The Reason God Made Oklahoma"** David Frizzell & Shelly West; Songwriters Larry Collins & Sandy Pinkard; Published by Cibie Music Companies, Senor, Peso Music, & Wallet Music

- 1982 **"Are The Good Times Really Over"** Merle Haggard; Songwriter Merle Haggard; Published by Shade Tree Music;

- 1983 **"The Wind Beneath My Wings"** Gary Morris; Songwriters Jeff Silbar & Larry Henley; Published by Warner House of Music & WB Gold Music;

- 1984 **"Why Not Me"** The Judds; Songwriters Brent Maher, Harlan Howard, & Sonny Tockmorton; Published by Blue Quill Music, Cross Keys Music, Tree Publishing, & Welbeck Music

- 1985 **"Lost in the Fifties (In The Still Of The Night)"** Ronnie Milsap; Songwriters Fred Parris, Mike Reid, & Troy Seals; Published by Llee Music, Lodge Hall, Two Sons Music, & WB Music Corp.

- 1986 **"On The Other Hand"** Randy Travis; Songwriters Don Schlitz & Paul Overstreet; Published by Don Schlitz Music, MCA Music Publishing, Scarlet Moon Music, & Writers Group Music

- 1987 **"Forever And Ever Amen"** Randy Travis; Songwriters Don Schlitz; Published by Don Schlitz Music, MCA Music Publishing, Scarlet Moon Music, & Writers Group Music

- 1988 **"Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses"** Kathy Mattea; Songwriters Gene Nelson & Paul Nelson; Published by Believus Or Not Music, Screen GEMS-EMI Music, & Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.

- 1989 **"Where've You Been"** Kathy Mattea; Songwriters Don Henry & Jon Vezner; Published by Cross Keys Music (ASCAP) & Wrensong (ASCAP)

- 1990 **"The Dance;"** Garth Brooks; Songwriter Tony Arata; Published by Morganactive Music & Pookie Bear Music

- 1991 **"Somewhere in My Broken Heart"** Billy Dean; Songwriters Billy Dean & Richard Leigh; Published by EMI April Music Inc., EMI Blackwood Music Inc., & Lion-Hearted Music (ASCAP/BMI)

- 1992 **"I Still Believe in You"** Vince Gill; Songwriters John Jarvis & Vince Gil; Published by Benefit Music & Inspector Barlow Music (ASCAP/BMI)

- 1993 **"I Love The Way You Love Me"** John Michael Montgomery; Songwriters Chuck Cannon & Victoria Shaw; Published by BMG Songs Inc. & Taste Auction (ASCAP/BMI)

- 1994 **"I Swear"** John Michael Montgomery; Songwriters Frank J. Myers & Gary Baker; Published by Morganactive Music & Rick Hall Music (ASCAP)

- 1995 **"The Keeper Of The Stars"** Tracy Byrd; Songwriters Danny Mayo, Dickey Lee, & Karen Staley; Published by Murrah Music Corp., New Haven Music, Pal Time Music Inc. (BMI), Sixteen Stars Music; & Songs of Poly Gram Int'l

- 1996 **"Blue"** LeAnn Rimes; Songwriter Bill Mack; Published by Forry Knox Music (BMI) & Trio Music

- 1997 "It's Your Love"** Faith Hill & Tim McGraw; Songwriter Stephony Smith; Published by EMI Blackwood Music Inc. (BMI)
- 1998 "Holes In The Floor Of Heaven"** Steve Wariner; Songwriters Billy Kirsch & Steve Wariner; Published by Hamstein Cumberland, KidJulie (BMI), & Steve Wariner
- 1999 "Amazed"** Lonestar; Songwriters Aimee Mayo, Chris Lindsey, & Marv Green; Published by Careers-BMG Music Publishing Inc., Golden Wheat Music, Silverkiss Music, Songs of Nashville DreamWorks (BMI), & Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.
- 2000 "I Hope You Dance"** Lee Ann Womack & Sons of the Desert; Songwriters Mark D. Sanders & Tia Sillers; Published by Choice is Tragic Music, Ensign Music Corp. (BMI), MCA Music Publishing, & Soda Creek Songs (ASCAP)
- 2001 "Where Were You (When the World Stopped Turning)"** Alan Jackson; Songwriter Alan Jackson; Published by EMI April Music Inc. & Tri-Angels Music (ASCAP)
- 2002 "I'm Movin' On"** Rascal Flatts; Songwriters D. Vincent Williams & Phillip White; Published by Las Vegas, Murrah Music Corp. (BMI), Songs of Megalex, & WB Music Corp. (ASCAP)
- 2003 "Three Wooden Crosses"** Randy Travis; Songwriters Douglas Johnson & Kim Williams; Published by Kim Williams Music (ASCAP), Mike Curb Music (BMI), Sony/ATV Tunes (ASCAP), & Sweet Radical Music (BMI)
- 2004 "Live Like You Were Dying"** Tim McGraw; Songwriters Craig Wiseman & Tim Nichols; Published by Big Loud Shirt (ASCAP) & ICG/Warner (BMI)
- 2005 "Believe"** Brooks & Dunn; Songwriters Craig Wiseman & Ronnie Dunn; Published by Big Loud Shirt Industries (ASCAP), Showbilly Music (BMI), & Sony / ATV Tree Publishing Co. (BMI)
- 2006 "Give It Away"** George Strait; Songwriters Bill Anderson, Buddy Cannon, & Jamey Johnson; Published by 2006 Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, Mr. Bubba Music Inc., EMI Blackwood Music Inc. (BMI), & Run Slow Music
- 2007 "Stay"** Sugarland; Songwriter Jennifer Nettles; Published by Jennifer Nettles Publishing (ASCAP)
- 2008 "In Color"** Jamey Johnson; Songwriters Jamey Johnson, Lee Thomas Miller & James Otto; Published by Big Gassed Hitties (BMI), Eldorotto Music Publishing (BMI), EMI Blackwood Music Inc., Lucky Thumb Music (BMI), New Song of Sea Gayle (BMI) & Noah's Little Boat Music (BMI)
- 2009 "Need You Now"** Lady Antebellum; Songwriters Dave Haywood, Josh Kear, Charles Kelley, Hillary Scott; Published by EMI Foray Music (SESAC), Darth Buddha (ASCAP), Dwhaywood Music (BMI), Hillary Dawn Publishing (SESAC), Radiobullets Publishing (BMI), Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. (BMI), Year Of The Dog Music (ASCAP)
- 2010 "The House That Built Me"** Miranda Lambert; Songwriters Allen Shamblin, Tom Douglas; Published by Built On Rock (ASCAP), Sony/ATV Tree Publishing (BMI), Tomdouglassmusic (BMI)
- 2011 "Crazy Girl"** Eli Young Band; Songwriters Lee Brice & Liz Rose; Published by Cake Taker Music (BMI), Mike Curb Music (BMI), Sony/ATV Tree Publishing (BMI), Sweet Hysteria Music (BMI)
- 2012 "Over You"** Miranda Lambert; Songwriters Miranda Lambert & Blake Shelton; Published by Pink Dog Publishing (BMI), Sony ATV/Tree Publishing (BMI)
- 2013 "I Drive Your Truck"** Lee Brice; Songwriters Connie Harrington, Jessi Alexander & Jimmy Yeary; Published by Beattyville Music (BMI), EMI Blackwood Music, Inc. (BMI), Great Day At This Music (BMI), Happy Tears Music (ASCAP), Vistaville Music (ASCAP), Watch This Girl Publishing (BMI)
- 2014 "Automatic"** Miranda Lambert; Songwriters Miranda Lambert, Natalie Hemby & Nicolle Galyon; Published by EMI Blackwood Music Inc. (BMI), Pink Dog Publishing (BMI), Sony ATV/Tree Publishing (BMI), Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp (BMI), Wruckestrike (BMI)

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

(formerly ACM/Launch Video of the Year from 2003-2004)
(currently awarded to Artist, Director & Producer)

- 1984 "All My Rowdy Friends Are Comin' Over Tonight"** Hank Williams Jr.; Directed by John Goodhugh
- 1986 "Whoever's In New England"** Reba McEntire; Directed by Jeff Schock & Jon Small; Produced by Jon Small
- 1987 "80's Ladies"** K.T. Oslin; Directed by Jack Cole; Produced by Marc Ball
- 1988 "Young Country"** Hank Williams Jr.; Directed by Bill Fishman & Preacher Ewing; Produced by Brent Bowman
- 1989 "There's A Tear In My Beer"** Hank Williams Jr.; Directed by Ethan Russell; Produced by Joanne Gardner
- 1990 "The Dance"** Garth Brooks; Directed by Garth Brooks & John Lloyd Miller; Produced by Marc Ball
- 1991 "Is There Life Out There?"** Reba McEntire; Directed by Jack Cole; Produced by Robin Beresford
- 1992 "Two Sparrows in a Hurricane"** Tanya Tucker; Directed by Joanne Gardner; Produced by Brent Hedgecock
- 1993 "We Shall Be Free"** Garth Brooks; Directed by Garth Brooks & Tim Miller; Produced by Tim Miller
- 1994 "The Red Strokes"** Garth Brooks; Directed by Jon Small;

Produced by Jon Small & Steven Carter

- 1995 "The Car"** Jeff Carson; Directed by Michael Salomon; Produced by Maureen Ryan
- 1996 "I Think About You"** Collin Raye; Directed by Steven Goldmann; Produced by Susan Bowman
- 1997 "It's Your Love"** Faith Hill & Tim McGraw; Directed by Sherman Halsey; Produced by Sherman Halsey
- 1998 "This Kiss"** Faith Hill; Directed by Steven Goldmann; Produced by Susan Bowman
- 1999 "Breathe"** Faith Hill; Directed by Lili Hill; Produced by Anastasia Simone
- 2000 "Goodbye Earl"** Dixie Chicks; Directed by Evan Bernard; Produced by Keeley Gould
- 2001 "Only In America"** Brooks & Dunn; Directed by Michael Merriman; Produced by Stephanie Reeves
- 2002 "Drive (For Daddy Gene)"** Alan Jackson; Directed by Steven Goldman; Produced by Robin Rucker
- 2003 "Beer For My Horses"** Toby Keith & Willie Nelson; Directed by Michael Salomon; Produced by Mark Kalbfeld
- 2004 "Whiskey Lullaby"** Alison Krauss & Brad Paisley; Directed by Rick Schroder; Produced by Don Lepore
- 2005 "When I Get Where I'm Going"** Brad Paisley & Dolly Parton; Directed by Jim Shea; Produced by Mark Kalbfeld & Peter Tilden
- 2006 "Before He Cheats"** Carrie Underwood; Directed by Roman White; Produced by Randy Brewer
- 2007 "Online"** Brad Paisley; Directed by Jason Alexander; Produced by Mark Kalbfeld & Peter Tilden
- 2008 "Waitin on a Woman"** Brad Paisley; Directed by Jim Shea & Peter Tilden; Produced by Mark Kalbfeld & Jim Shea
- 2009 "White Liar"** Miranda Lambert; Directed by Chris Hicky; Produced by Tameron Hedge
- 2010 "The House That Built Me"** Miranda Lambert; Directed by Trey Fanjoy; Produced by Trent Hardville
- 2011 "Red Solo Cup"** Toby Keith; Directed by Michael Salomon; Produced by Mark Kalbfeld
- 2012 "Tornado"** Little Big Town; Directed by Shane Drake; Produced by Iris Baker
- 2013 "Highway Don't Care"** Keith Urban, Taylor Swift & Tim McGraw; Produced by Chandra LaPlume & Tameron Hedge; Directed by Shane Drake
- 2014 "Drunk On A Plane"** Dierks Bentley; Produced by Clarke Gallivan; Directed by Wes Edwards

VOCAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

(currently awarded to Artist, Producer, & Record Company)

- 1997 "It's Your Love"** Faith Hill & Tim McGraw
- 1998 "Just To Hear You Say That You Love Me"** Faith Hill & Tim McGraw; Produced by Dann Huff & Faith Hill
- 1999 "When I Said I Do"** Clint Black with Lisa Hartman Black; Produced by Clint Black
- 2000 "I Hope You Dance"** Lee Ann Womack with Sons of the Desert; MCA Records; Produced by Mark Wright
- 2001 "I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow"** Soggy Bottom Boys; Produced by T-Bone Burnett
- 2002 "Mendocino County Line"** Willie Nelson with Lee Ann Womack; Produced by Matthew Serletic
- 2003 "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere"** Alan Jackson & Jimmy Buffett; Arista Records Nashville; Produced by Keith Stegall
- 2004 "Whiskey Lullaby"** Brad Paisley featuring Alison Krauss; Arista Nashville; Produced by Frank Rogers
- 2005 "When I Get Where I'm Going"** Brad Paisley & Dolly Parton; Arista; Produced by Chris DuBois & Frank Rogers
- 2006 "Building Bridges"** Brooks & Dunn with Vince Gill & Sheryl Crow; Arista Nashville; Produced by Kix Brooks, Ronnie Dunn, & Tony Brown
- 2007 "Find Out Who Your Friends Are"** Tracy Lawrence featuring Tim McGraw & Kenny Chesney; Rocky Comfort/CO5; Produced by Tracy Lawrence & Julian King
- 2008 "Start a Band"** Brad Paisley Duet with Keith Urban; Arista Nashville; Produced by Frank Rogers
- 2009 "Hillbilly Bone"** Blake Shelton featuring Trace Adkins; Reprise Records/ Warner Music Nashville; Produced by Scott Hendricks
- 2010 "As She's Walking Away"** Zac Brown Band featuring Alan Jackson; Atlantic/ Bigger Picture/Southern Ground; Produced by Keith Stegall & Zac Brown
- 2011 "Don't You Wanna Stay"** Jason Aldean with Kelly Clarkson; Broken Bow Records; Produced by Michael Knox
- 2012 "The Only Way I Know"** Jason Aldean with Luke Bryan & Eric Church; Broken Bow Records; Produced by Michael Knox
- 2013 "We Were Us"** Keith Urban & Miranda Lambert; Capitol Records Nashville, Hit Red Records & RCA Nashville; Produced by Keith Urban & Nathan Chapman
- 2014 "This Is How We Roll"** Florida Georgia Line & Luke Bryan; Republic Nashville; Produced by Joey Moi



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