



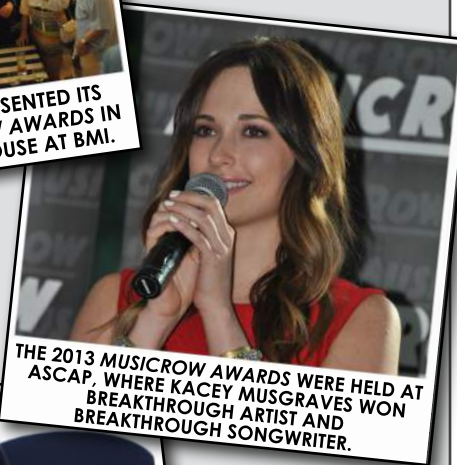
MUSICROW AWARDS

2015 MusicRow Awards Nominees Revealed

by Sarah Skates



IN 2012, MUSICROW PRESENTED ITS 24TH ANNUAL MUSICROW AWARDS IN FRONT OF A PACKED HOUSE AT BMI.



THE 2013 MUSICROW AWARDS WERE HELD AT ASCAP, WHERE KACEY MUSGRAVES WON BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST AND BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER.



BRANDY CLARK WON BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST OF THE YEAR AT THE 2014 MUSICROW AWARDS HELD AT BMI.

M

usicRow is pleased to announce the nominees for the 27th annual *MusicRow Awards*, Nashville's longest running music industry trade publication honors. The 2015 award winners, voted on exclusively by Subscriber Members of the publication, will be revealed during a

ceremony at ASCAP on Tuesday, June 23 at 5:30 p.m. Awards will be presented for **Breakthrough Songwriter, Breakthrough Artist, Producer of the Year, Song of the Year**, and the **Top Ten Album All-Star Musicians**.

"It's an honor for us to celebrate the incredible talent in our industry and present the *MusicRow Awards* for the 27th year," said Publisher/Owner **Sherod Robertson**. "Having a platform where industry peers can spotlight the accomplishments of respected artists, songwriters, songs and producers makes this event very special. These awards also give us an opportunity to salute the top musicians that are such an important part of our industry's success."

The **BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER** award honors a writer who had his or her first Top 10 hit during the eligibility period (May 1, 2014 - April 30, 2015), but the nominees are hardly overnight success stories.

Michael Carter, longtime band leader for Luke Bryan, scored three No. 1 hits as a songwriter that helped him qualify for nomination. He had a hand in writing Bryan's "Roller Coaster" and Thomas Rhett's "Get Me Some of That." Carter is also producer for last year's Breakthrough Songwriter Cole Swindell, and co-writer of Swindell's hit "Hope You Get Lonely Tonight." Swindell returns this year as a Breakthrough Artist nominee.

(continued on page 4)

**BALLOTS WILL BE EMAILED TO
MUSICROW SUBSCRIBERS IN
THE AFTERNOON OF
TUES., MAY 19
VOTING CLOSSES AT
5 P.M. ON TUES., MAY 26**



Sony/ATV congratulates our MUSICROW AWARD NOMINEES

Breakthrough Artist

**CHASE RICE
COLE SWINDELL**

Breakthrough Songwriter

MICHAEL CARTER

"Roller Coaster" - Luke Bryan
"Get Me Some Of That" - Thomas Rhett
"Hope You Get Lonely Tonight" - Cole Swindell

HEATHER MORGAN

"Beat Of The Music" - Brett Eldredge

Song of the Year

"ALL ABOUT THAT BASS"

[Kevin Kadish]

"RAISE 'EM UP"

[Tom Douglas | Jaren Johnston]

"SOMETHING IN THE WATER"

[Chris DeStefano]

Producer of the Year

ROSS COPPERMAN

[Dierks Bentley | Brett Eldredge | Keith Urban | Eli Young Band]

MUSICROW AWARDS **FINAL NOMINATIONS**



UNIVERSAL MUSIC
PUBLISHING GROUP
NASHVILLE

congratulates our Music Row Award nominees



Sam Hunt
BREAKTHROUGH
ARTIST



Lori McKenna
SONG OF THE YEAR
"Girl Crush" by Little Big Town



Ryan Hurd
BREAKTHROUGH
SONGWRITER

MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

Also garnering a cut by Swindell were rising songwriters **Josh Martin** and **Adam Sanders** who teamed with the artist to pen his latest smash “Ain’t Worth The Whiskey.”

Heather Morgan is the sole female vying for Breakthrough Songwriter honors, as a co-writer of Brett Eldredge’s No. 1 “Beat Of The Music.”

Also earning their first top 10 hits during the eligibility period were **Justin Weaver** and **Jesse Frasure**, whose respective songs went all the way to No. 1. Weaver co-wrote the thumppng Brantley Gilbert hit “Bottoms Up.” After tallying album credits as a writer and producer for years, Frasure scored a charttopper with “Sun Daze” by Florida Georgia Line.

Nominees **Brent Anderson** and **Ryan Hurd** are co-writers on “Lonely Tonight,” recorded by Blake Shelton ft. Ashley Monroe, which reached No. 1 at country radio. Additionally, Hurd scored Top 10s on the *MusicRow* chart with “Later On” (The Swon Brothers) and “Payback” (Rascal Flatts).

Before Breakthrough Songwriter nominees **Matthew Ramsey** and **Brad Tursi** started climbing the radio charts with their band Old Dominion, they penned their first top 10 hits recorded by other artists. Ramsey co-wrote “Chainsaw,” recorded by The Band Perry, and “Say You Do,” recorded by Dierks Bentley, both of which went No. 1 on *MusicRow*’s chart. Tursi is in the middle of major hit with Tyler Farr’s “A Guy Walks Into A Bar.”

The **BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST** category is stacked with entertainers who are also talented tunesmiths, having co-written almost all of their debut albums.

The fastest rising female act in eight years, **Maddie & Tae** scored with sassy debut single “Girl In A Country Song.” It reached No. 1 at country radio, sold over 600K downloads, and reeled in over 22 million VEVO views of the video. They co-wrote all four titles on their EP, and earned an ACM nod for Vocal Duo of The Year. They are about to head out on Dierks Bentley’s *Sounds of Summer Tour*.

Kelsea Ballerini’s self-penned debut single “Love Me Like You Mean It” is quickly scaling the country radio and sales charts, as she preps today’s (May 19) release of her debut album, *The First Time*. She is co-headlining the career-boosting *CMT Next Women of Country Tour*.

Chase Rice’s album, *Ignite The Night*,

debuted at No. 1 on *Billboard*’s Top Country Albums. It yielded the Platinum-certified, Top 5 hit “Ready Set Roll” and new follow-up single “Gonna Wanna Tonight.” He sold out nearly every stop on his own *Ignite The Night Tour* last year, and will keep the momentum going on Kenny Chesney’s *The Big Revival Tour* this summer.

Sam Hunt’s *Montevallo* is the best-selling country debut album since 2011, and the best-selling country album of 2015, with sales topping 500K. The Georgia native earned back-to-back Platinum singles

BMG CONGRATULATES
CHRYSA LIS
HILLARY LINDSEY, LORI MCKENNA & LIZ ROSE!

GIRL CRUSH

NOMINATED FOR **SONG OF THE YEAR!**
27TH ANNUAL MUSICROW AWARDS

THANK YOU
LITTLE BIG TOWN, SANDBOX ENTERTAINMENT
AND CAPITOL NASHVILLE



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

WARNER/CHAPPELL CONGRATULATES OUR MUSICROW AWARDS NOMINEES



SONG OF THE YEAR

LIZ ROSE
"GIRL CRUSH"

SONG OF THE YEAR

BRETT JAMES
"SOMETHING IN THE WATER"



BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER

JUSTIN WEAVER

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

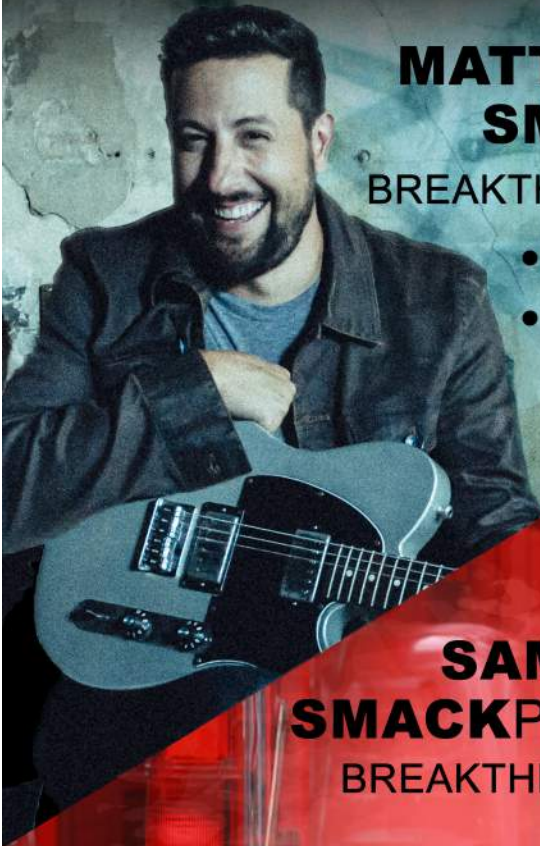
JAY JOYCE





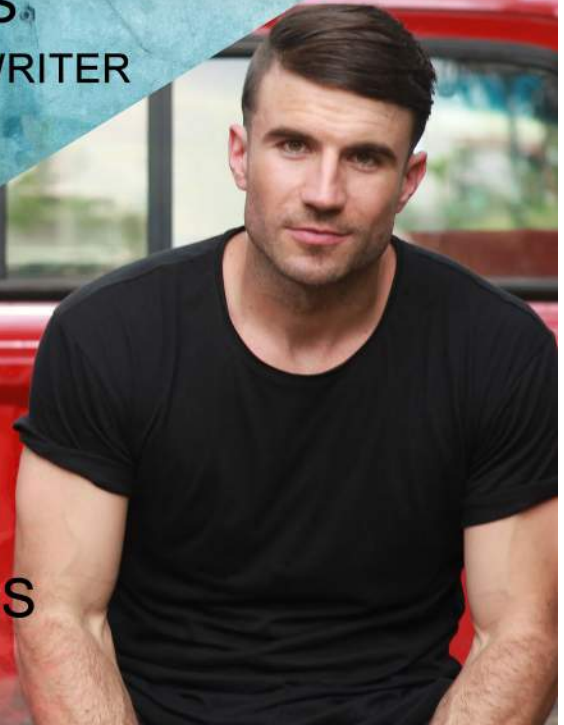
MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

SMACK CONGRATULATES OUR 2015 MUSICROW NOMINEES



MATTHEW RAMSEY
SMACKSONGS
 BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER

- "SAY YOU DO"
- "CHAINSAW"



SAM HUNT
SMACKPRODUCTIONS
 BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST



SHANE McANALLY
SMACKPRODUCTIONS
 PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

- SAM HUNT
- KACEY MUSGRAVES
- OLD DOMINION

SMACKSONGS

SMACKPRODUCTIONS



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

with “Leave the Night On” and “Take Your Time.” Hunt co-wrote every song on his album, including “Cop Car,” made famous by Keith Urban. He also has writing credit on the Billy Currington hit “We Are Tonight.” Hunt spent the fall on the CMT tour with Kip Moore.

Cole Swindell, *MusicRow's* 2014 Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year, is back with a nomination for Breakthrough Artist after a blockbuster year. He earned three straight No. 1s: Platinum-certified “Chillin’ It” and Gold certified “Ain’t Worth The Whiskey,” and “Hope You Get Lonely Tonight.” As a songwriter, he has credits including “This Is How We Roll” (Florida Georgia Line ft. Luke Bryan), “Roller Coaster” (Bryan) and “Get Me Some of That” (Thomas Rhett), the latter two penned with Breakthrough Songwriter nominee Michael Carter. Next up Swindell will head out on tours headlined by Jason Aldean and Kenny Chesney.

This year’s **PRODUCER OF THE YEAR** nominees kept sounds fresh for superstars and gave cache to the genre’s next headliners. Veteran studio whizzes **Byron Gallimore** and **Frank Liddell** had stellar years, helping their respective longtime artist collaborators, Tim McGraw and Miranda Lambert, turn in innovative albums. Gallimore also led studio efforts for his own Streamsound artists Kristian Bush and Austin Webb, while Liddell helmed quality

projects by wife Lee Ann Womack, David Nail and Stoney LaRue.

A few of the Producer of the Year nominees collaborated with other nominees on this list. **Shane McAnally** produced Breakthrough Artist nominee Sam Hunt, as well as rising band Old Dominion, which includes Breakthrough Songwriter nominees Matthew Ramsey and Brad Tursi. McAnally also co-produced 2013 Breakthrough Artist winner Kacey Musgraves.

Jay Joyce produced Little Big Town’s latest album, which includes Song of the Year nominee “Girl Crush.” Joyce also reunited with longtime collaborator Eric Church and worked with Zac Brown Band, Thomas Rhett and Brothers Osborne.

Joyce and fellow Producer nominee **Ross Copperman** each helmed tracks for Keith Urban, who tapped a myriad of producers for his latest album. Additionally, first-time nominee Copperman worked with Eli Young Band and helped Dierks Bentley conjure a new sound.

The **SONG OF THE YEAR** category is filled with frequent collaborators. It’s no surprise “**Girl Crush**” was written by a trio of songwriters who write together so often they are collectively known as The Love Junkies. **Liz Rose**, **Lori McKenna** and **Hillary Lindsey** penned the ballad of lustful jealousy and Little Big Town took it to No. 1.



Congratulations
JEFFREY STEELE
 TOM DOUGLAS & JAREN JOHNSTON

on your
SONG OF THE YEAR
 nomination for

"Raise Em' Up" Keith Urban ft. Eric Church



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS



CONGRATULATIONS

FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE

SONG OF THE YEAR NOMINEE FOR "DIRT"

— WRITTEN BY —

RODNEY CLAWSON & CHRIS TOMPKINS



MAJOR BOB MUSIC
CONGRATULATES **JESSE FRASURE**

*BREAKTHROUGH
SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION*

"SUN DAZE"





MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

Big Yellow Dog Music Congratulates Our 2015 Music Row Awards Nominees



ADAM SANDERS

**Breakthrough
Songwriter of
the Year**



MEGHAN TRAINOR

**Song of the Year
"All About That Bass"
(Meghan Trainor/Kevin Kadish)**



**BIG
YELLOW
DOG
MUSIC**



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

Likewise, **Jaren Johnston**, **Jeffrey Steele** and **Tom Douglas** write together often. They are the minds behind “**Raise Em Up**,” a thoughtful montage about raising everything from a whiskey glass to a child. Keith Urban ft. Eric Church made it a radio hit.

After a track record of success, **Chris Tompkins** and **Rodney Clawson** re-teamed for “**Dirt**,” filled with meaningful imagery of football fields, farms and burial. Florida Georgia Line made the song famous.

Frequent co-writers **Chris DeStefano** and **Brett James** had the idea for a song called “**Something in the Water**” at one of their regular appointments, but co-writer **Carrie Underwood** brought the twist of fate to the session, suggesting the phrase meant the baptismal water. She recorded the song and it went straight to No. 1.

Songwriter/producer **Kevin Kadish** didn’t know what to expect when he was paired with a young new artist named **Meghan Trainor**. They hit it off so quickly they ended up co-writing most of her debut album, which he also produced, including the mega-hit “**All About That Bass**,” which is now vying for Song of the Year.

The *MusicRow Awards* are often a key predictor for select CMA Awards. In past years Song of the Year honors at both ceremonies went to “I Drive Your Truck” (2013), “If I Die Young” (2011), “The House That Built Me” (2010) and “In Color”

(2009). Almost every year since 2006, *MusicRow’s* Breakthrough Artist winners also received the CMA New Artist/Horizon Award later the same year, including Kacey Musgraves (2013), The Band Perry (2011), Zac Brown Band (2010), Lady Antebellum (2008), Taylor Swift (2007), and Carrie Underwood (2006).

Last year’s *MusicRow Award* winners were Breakthrough Artist Brandy Clark, Producer Frank Liddell, Breakthrough Songwriters (tie) Nicolle Galyon and Cole Swindell, and Song of the Year “All Kinds Of Kinds” by Phillip Coleman and Don Henry, published by Carnival Music and Warner-Tamerlane.

In 2015, awards nominees were selected by *MusicRow* editors and critics. Additionally, outside nominations were considered for the Breakthrough Songwriter category, with *MusicRow* determining the final nominees. The Top Ten Album All-Star Musicians are determined by tallying which musicians played on the most Top Ten albums during the eligibility period. **The eligibility period is May 1, 2014 - April 30, 2015.**

Subscribed Members of *MusicRow* will be emailed a ballot later today (May 19). Voting closes at 5 p.m. on Tues., May 26. If not already a Subscribed Member of *MusicRow*, click here to subscribe and receive your ballot.

AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

MUSICGROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS



TIM MCGRAW
KRISTIAN BUSH
AUSTIN WEBB



CONGRATULATES
**BYRON
GALLIMORE**



**PRODUCER
OF THE
YEAR
NOMINEE**

MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS



SEA GAYLE

~ m u s i c ~

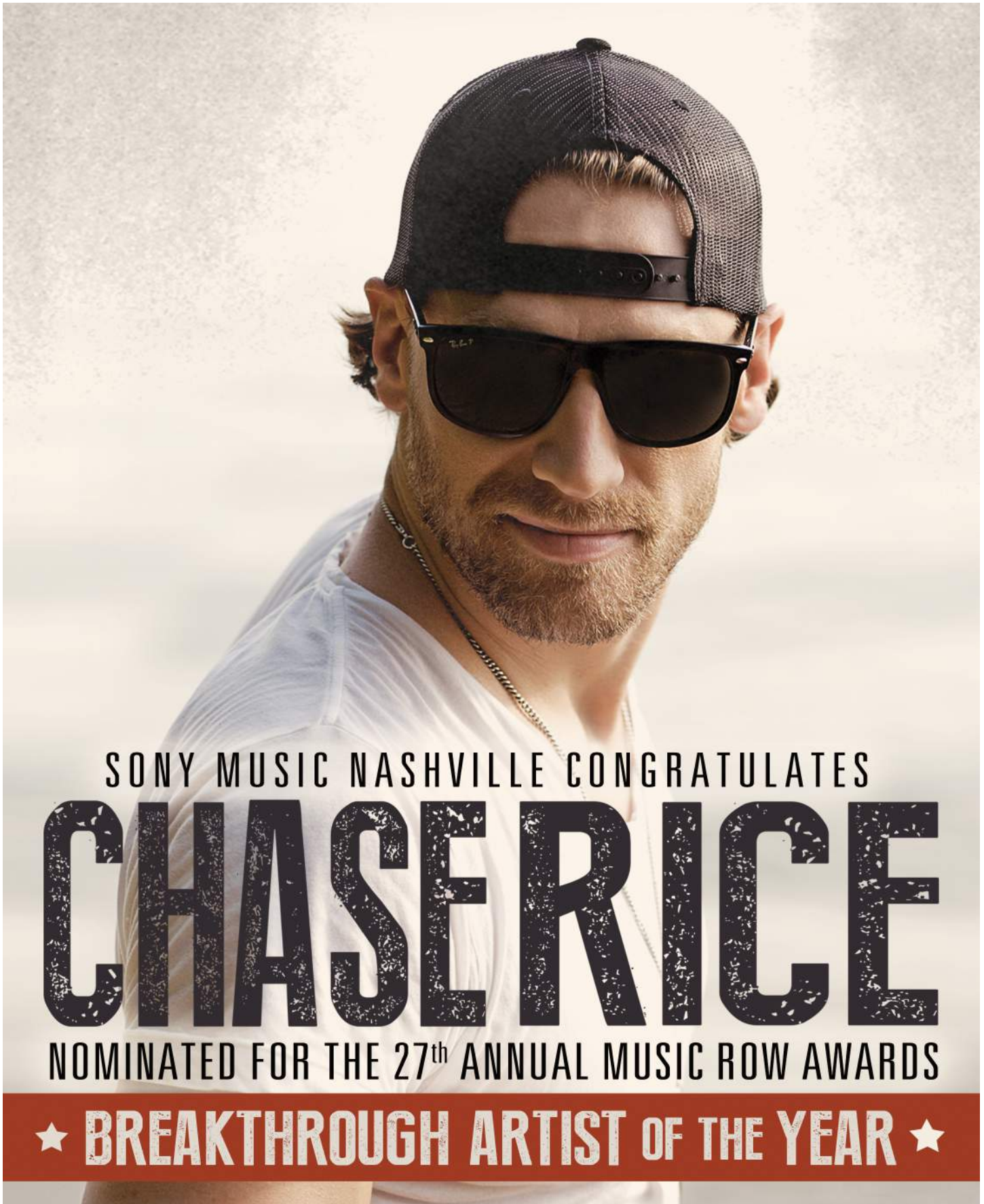
Congratulates

BRENT ANDERSON



**2015 MusicRow
Breakthrough Songwriter Nominee**

MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS



SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE CONGRATULATES

CHASE RICE

NOMINATED FOR THE 27th ANNUAL MUSIC ROW AWARDS

★ **BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST OF THE YEAR** ★

MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

CATEGORY 1

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

TO HONOR A NASHVILLE PRODUCER'S WORK ON ALBUMS ACTIVE DURING THE AWARDS TIME PERIOD.
CAN INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SINGLE CHART PERFORMANCE AND ALBUM SALES.



Ross Copperman

(Dierks Bentley, Keith Urban, Eli Young Band)



Byron Gallimore

(Tim McGraw, Kristian Bush, Austin Webb)



Jay Joyce

(Keith Urban, Eric Church, Little Big Town, Zac Brown Band, Thomas Rhett, Brothers Osborne, Cage The Elephant, Halestorm)



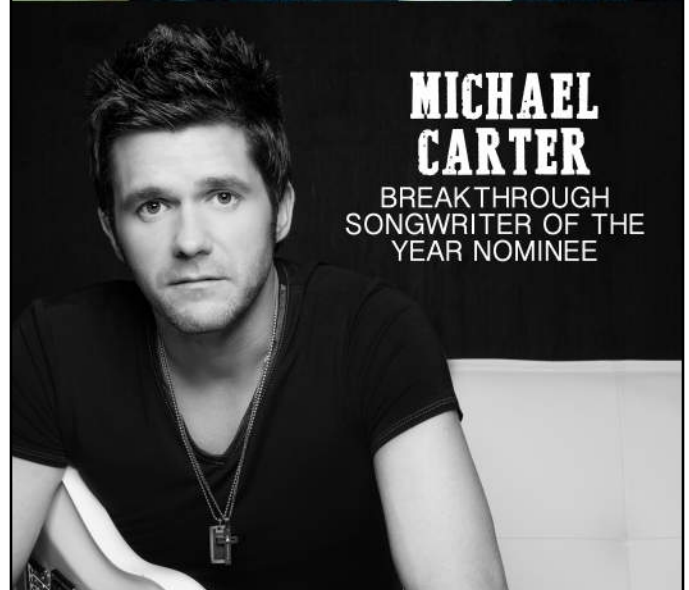
Frank Liddell

(Miranda Lambert, Lee Ann Womack, David Nail, Stoney LaRue)



Shane McAnally

(Sam Hunt, Kacey Musgraves, Old Dominion)



**MUSICROW
AWARDS****FINAL NOMINATIONS**

CONGRATULATIONS

BRAD TURSI

MUSIC ROW BREAKTHROUGH WRITER AWARD

NOMINEE

FOR CONTINUING SUCCESS WITH SONGS LIKE TYLER FARR'S "GUY WALKS INTO A BAR", KENNY CHESNEY'S "SAVE IT FOR A RAINY DAY", OLD DOMINION'S "SHUT ME UP" AND "BREAK UP WITH HIM" AND "IF I DRINK THIS BEER" FROM THE NASHVILLE TELEVISION SERIES ALONG WITH HIS RECENT CUTS WITH LUKE BRYAN, DAVID NAIL, JOSH TURNER, RANDY HOUSER, MADDIE AND TAE, THE SWON BROTHERS, JOHN KING, JOEY HYDE AND WILLIAM MICHAEL MORGAN.

**© BIG
DEAL
MUSIC**

MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS



WARNER MUSIC
NASHVILLE

CONGRATULATES

COLE
SWINDELL

FOR HIS
MUSICROW
BREAKTHROUGH
ARTIST
OF THE YEAR
NOMINATION



WARNER MUSIC
NASHVILLE

MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS



JUSTIN WEAVER

MUSICROW
BREAKTHROUGH
SONGWRITER
NOMINEE

CONGRATS FROM YOUR
CORNMAN FAMILY!



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

CATEGORY 2

BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER

TO HONOR A NASHVILLE SONGWRITER WHO FOR THE FIRST TIME WROTE OR CO-WROTE A TOP 10 SONG.

Brent Anderson

Sea Gayle Publishing

"Lonely Tonight," recorded by Blake Shelton ft. Ashley Monroe

Michael Carter

Sony/ATV

"Get Me Some of That," recorded by Thomas Rhett

"Hope You Get Lonely Tonight," recorded by Cole Swindell

"Roller Coaster," recorded by Luke Bryan

Jesse Frasure

Major Bob Music

"Sun Daze," recorded by Florida Georgia Line

Ryan Hurd

UMPG

"Lonely Tonight," recorded by Blake Shelton ft. Ashley Monroe

"Later On," recorded by The Swon Brothers

"Payback," recorded by Rascal Flatts

Josh Martin

Self Published

"Ain't Worth The Whiskey," recorded by Cole Swindell

Heather Morgan

Sony/ATV

"Beat Of The Music," recorded by Brett Eldredge

Matthew Ramsey

SMACKSongs

"Chainsaw," recorded by The Band Perry

"Say You Do," recorded by Dierks Bentley

Adam Sanders

Big Yellow Dog

"Ain't Worth The Whiskey," recorded by Cole Swindell

Brad Tursi

Big Deal Music

"A Guy Walks Into A Bar," recorded by Tyler Farr

Justin Weaver

Warner/Chappell, Cornman Music

"Bottoms Up," recorded by Brantley Gilbert



FINAL NOMINATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS CHASERICE

ON YOUR
BREAKTHROUGH
ARTIST OF THE YEAR
NOMINATION



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS



Congratulates

OUR

MUSIC ROW AWARDS
NOMINEES

Maddie & Tae



BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST
OF THE YEAR



IN JUST TEN SHORT MONTHS...
OVER 800,000 TOTAL SINGLE SALES • OVER 60 MILLION STREAMS
OVER 25 MILLION VIDEO STREAMS
OVER 1.1 BILLION AUDIENCE IMPRESSION AT COUNTRY RADIO
THE FASTEST FEMALE #1 IN 7 YEARS "GIRL IN A COUNTRY SONG"

**MUSICROW AWARDS** **FINAL NOMINATIONS**

CATEGORY 3

SONG OF THE YEAR

TO HONOR NASHVILLE WRITERS AND PUBLISHERS ON THE CRAFT OF SONGWRITING, NOT NECESSARILY CHART POSITION.

“All About That Bass”

Writers: Kevin Kadish, Meghan Trainor
Publishers: Over Thought, Under-Appreciated Songs, Sony/ATV, Allegro, Year of the Dog Music, MTrain Music
Recorded by Meghan Trainor (Epic Records);
Producer: Kevin Kadish

“Dirt”

Writers: Rodney Clawson, Chris Tompkins
Publishers: Big Loud Songs, Play Animal, Big Red Toe, Farm Town
Recorded by Florida Georgia Line (Republic Nashville);
Producer: Joey Moi

“Girl Crush”

Writers: Hillary Lindsey, Lori McKenna, Liz Rose
Publishers: Warner-Tamerlane, Songs of Crazy Girl, Songs of Universal, Hoodie, HillarodyRathbone, BMG
Recorded by Little Big Town (Capitol Nashville);
Producer: Jay Joyce

“Raise Em Up”

Writers: Jaren Johnston, Jeffrey Steele, Tom Douglas
Publishers: Sony-ATV Harmony, Texa Rae, Jeffrey Steele, BPJ, tomdouglasmusic
Recorded by Keith Urban ft. Eric Church (Capitol Nashville);
Producers: Nathan Chapman, Keith Urban

“Something In The Water”

Writers: Chris DeStefano, Brett James, Carrie Underwood
Publishers: Carrie-Okie, EMI April, Sugar Glider, Sony/ATV, WB
Recorded by Carrie Underwood (Arista Nashville);
Producer: Mark Bright

CONGRATULATIONS

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST NOMINEE



KELSEA
BALLERINI

DEBUT ALBUM FEATURING THE SMASH HIT
"LOVE ME LIKE YOU MEAN IT"
AVAILABLE NOW



CONGRATULATIONS
FROM YOUR
BLACK RIVER
ENTERTAINMENT
FAMILY

MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

Congratulations

SAM HUNT

MONTEVALLO

Certified[®] GOLD

Back-To-Back PLATINUM

#1 Singles

"Leave The Night On"

"Take Your Time"

Nominated for

ACM New Artist of the Year



Breakthrough Artist of the Year Nominee



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

CATEGORY 4

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST

TO HONOR A NASHVILLE ARTIST WHO ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT CAREER PROGRESS FOR THE FIRST TIME.



Kelsea Ballerini
(BLACK RIVER)



Sam Hunt
(UMG NASHVILLE)



Maddie & Tae
(BIG MACHINE LABEL GROUP)



Chase Rice
(SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE)



Cole Swindell
(WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE)



MUSICGROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

PAST WINNERS

Awards were selected by critics until 2008, when they became reader voted.

Producer Honor Roll

Producer scoring the most Top 20 singles and Top 10 albums for each year.

1982-89: Jimmy Bowen
 1990: Tony Brown
 1991-92: Allen Reynolds
 1993: Tony Brown
 1994: James Stroud
 1995: Allen Reynolds
 1996: Tony Brown
 1997: Wilbur C. Rimes
 1998: No award presented

(Becomes Producer of the Year in 1999)

Producer of the Year

To honor a producer's work on albums active during the awards time period. Can include, but is not limited to, single chart performance and album sales.

1999: Byron Gallimore
 2000: Byron Gallimore
 2001: Mark Wright
 2002: Keith Stegall
 2003: James Stroud
 2004: Buddy Cannon
 2005: Frank Rogers
 2006: Dann Huff
 2007: Byron Gallimore
 2008: Frank Rogers
 2009: Frank Rogers
 2010: Frank Liddell & Mike Wrucke
 2011: Paul Worley
 2012: Frank Liddell
 2013: Dann Huff
 2014: Frank Liddell

Top Songwriters

Songwriter scoring the most Top 20 singles for each year.

1985: Troy Seals
 1986: Dave Loggins
 1987-90: Don Schlitz
 1991: Pat Alger
 1992: Garth Brooks
 1993: Clint Black
 1994: Gary Burr
 1995: Tom Shapiro
 1996: Mark D. Sanders
 1997: Craig Wiseman

(Category merged with Breakthrough Songwriter in 1998)

Breakthrough Songwriter

To honor a Nashville songwriter(s) who, for the first time in their career, wrote or co-wrote a Top 10 song.

1996: Jim Lauderdale
 1997: Cathy Majeski, Sunny Russ, Stephony Smith
 1998: Harley Allen
 1999: Phil Vassar
 2000: Carolyn Dawn Johnson
 2001: Troy Verges
 2002: Anthony Smith
 2003: Lee Thomas Miller
 2004: Jim Brown/Don Rollins
 2005: Vicky McGehee
 2006: Jason Matthews
 2007: Chris Tompkins and Josh Kear
 2008: Luke Bryan
 2009: James Otto
 2010: Chris Young
 2011: Kimberly Perry
 2012: Johnny Bulford and Phil Barton
 2013: Kacey Musgraves
 2014: Nicolle Galyon and Cole Swindell (tie)

Critics' Pick/New Artist

To recognize an outstanding new artist who released their first single in the awards year.

2000: Eric Heatherly
 2001: Mark McGuinn
 2002: Blake Shelton
 2003: Joe Nichols
 2004: Buddy Jewell
 2005: Miranda Lambert
 2006: Carrie Underwood
 2007: Taylor Swift

(Becomes Breakthrough Artist in 2008)

Breakthrough Artist

Voted by readers to honor an artist who achieved significant career progress for the first time.

2008: Lady Antebellum
 2009: Jamey Johnson
 2010: Zac Brown Band
 2011: The Band Perry
 2012: Eli Young Band
 2013: Kacey Musgraves
 2014: Brandy Clark

Song of the Year

To honor writers and publishers on the craft of songwriting, not necessarily chart position.

1996: **"What Mattered Most,"** written by Vince Melamed, Gary Burr; published by MCA Music, Patrick Joseph Music

(continued on page 27)



MUSICROW AWARDS FINAL NOMINATIONS

- 1997: **"Friends,"** written by Jerry Holland; published by That's A Smash Publishing, Mike Curb Music
- 1998: **"Something That We Do,"** written by Clint Black, Skip Ewing; published by Blackened Music, Opryland Music Group
- 1999: **"Don't Laugh At Me,"** written by Allen Shamblin, Steve Seskin; published by Built On Rock Music, David Aaron Music, Love This Town Music
- 2000: **"He Didn't Have To Be,"** written by Brad Paisley, Kelley Lovelace; published by EMI April Music, Sea Gayle Music, Love Ranch Music
- 2001: **"There Is No Arizona,"** written by Jamie O'Neal, Shaye Smith, Lisa Drew; published by EMI Music, Zomba Music
- 2002: **"Where Were You (When The World Stopped Turning),"** written by Alan Jackson; published by EMI Music Publishing
- 2003: **"Red Ragtop,"** written by Jason White; published by Sony/ATV Music
- 2004: **"Almost Home,"** written by Craig Morgan, Kerry Kurt Phillips; published by Magic Mustang Music Inc., Sufferin' Succotash Songs
- 2005: **"Whiskey Lullaby,"** written by Bill Anderson, Jon Randall; published by Sony/ATV-Tree, Mr. Bubba, Reynsong, Who Ya Say, Wrensong
- 2006: **"What Hurts The Most,"** written by Jeffrey Steele, Steve Robson; published by Songs of Windswept Pacific, Almo Music Corp.
- 2007: **"Stealing Kisses,"** written by Lori McKenna; published by Melanie Howard Music, Inc.
- 2008: **"Letter To Me,"** written by Brad Paisley; published by EMI April Music, New Sea Gayle Music
- 2009: **"In Color,"** written by Jamey Johnson, James Otto, Lee Thomas Miller; published by New Songs of Sea Gayle, EMI Blackwood, Warner Tamerlane, Eldorotto Music
- 2010: **"The House That Built Me,"** written by Allen Shamblin, Tom Douglas; published by Sony/ATV-Tree Publishing Co., Tomdouglassmusic, Built On Rock Music
- 2011: **"If I Die Young,"** written by Kimberly Perry; published by Pearlfeather, Rio Bravo
- 2012: **"You and Tequila,"** written by Deana Carter and Matraca Berg; published by Deanaling Music, Hannaberg Music, Songs of Universal Inc., WB Music Corp
- 2013: (tie) **"I Drive Your Truck,"** written by Jessi Alexander, Connie Harrington, Jimmy Yeary; published by Vistaville Music, Happy Tears Music, EMI Blackwood, Watch This Girl Publishing, Great Day At This Time Music, Beattyville Music.
- "Merry Go 'Round,"** written by Kacey Musgraves, Josh Osborne, Shane McAnally; published by 351 Music, Warner Tamerlane, Crazy Water Music, Little Blue Egg, Universal Music, Want A Fresh One
- 2014: **"All Kinds Of Kinds,"** written by Phillip Coleman and Don Henry; published by Carnival Music, Warner-Tamerlane




27TH ANNUAL

MUSICROW AWARDS

RSVP TO INVITE@MUSICROW.COM

**BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST • BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER • SONG OF THE YEAR
PRODUCER OF THE YEAR • TOP TEN ALBUM ALL-STAR MUSICIANS**

MUSICROW

TUESDAY, JUNE 23 5:30PM AT ASCAP (INVITATION ONLY)

ASCAP
WE CREATE MUSIC