

28TH ANNUAL MUSICROW AWARDS

MUSICROW

TUESDAY MAY 17, 2016

2016 MUSICROW AWARDS NOMINEES REVEALED



MUSICROW AWARDS REWIND



In 2015...

Michael Carter was presented with the Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year award.



In 2014...

Brandy Clark won Breakthrough Artist of the Year.



In 2013...

Kacey Musgraves claimed Breakthrough Artist and Breakthrough Songwriter.



In 2012...

Breakthrough Songwriters Johnny Bulford & Phil Barton perform "A Woman Like You".

MusicRow is pleased to reveal the nominees for the 28th annual *MusicRow* Awards.

The winners will be revealed during a private ceremony at BMI on Wednesday, June 29.

Awards will be presented for **Producer of the Year**, **Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year**, **Song of the Year** and **Breakthrough Artist of the Year**.

MusicRow will also recognize the Top 10 Album All-star Studio Musicians who played on the greatest number of Top 10 country albums within the eligibility period (May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016).

Subscribed members of *MusicRow* will be emailed a ballot on Wednesday, May 18. Voting closes on Tuesday, May 24 at 5 p.m.

Nominees in the Producer, Breakthrough Songwriter, Song and Breakthrough Artist categories were selected by *MusicRow* editors, writers and staff. Outside nominations were considered for the Breakthrough Songwriter category, with *MusicRow* determining the final nominees.

The *MusicRow* Awards are Nashville's longest-running music industry trade publication honors.

"It's always a pleasure to celebrate the incredible talent in our industry," 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."

(Continued on page 4)

**Ballots will be emailed to *MusicRow* subscribers in the afternoon of Wednesday, May 18
VOTING CLOSES Tuesday, May 24 at 5:00 p.m.**

FINAL NOMINATIONS

The MUSIC of the ROW is in
good hands with these nominees...



BROTHERS OSBORNE

Breakthrough Artist of the Year
Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year



COREY CROWDER

Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year



DAVE COBB

Producer of the Year



ZACH CROWELL

Producer of the Year



JAY JOYCE

Song of the Year
Producer of the Year



A THOUSAND HORSES

Breakthrough Artist of the Year



JUSTIN WILSON

Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year



Warner/Chappell



SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE CONGRATULATES OUR
MUSICROW AWARD NOMINEES!

CAM

**BREAKTHROUGH
ARTIST OF THE YEAR**

SONG OF THE YEAR

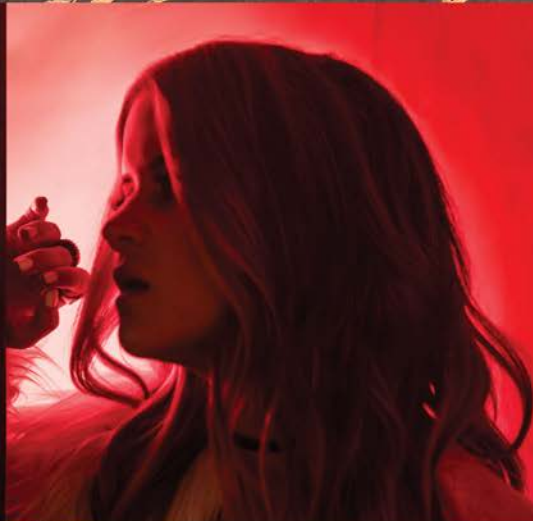
“BURNING HOUSE”



ARISTA
NASHVILLE

**Maren
Morris**

**BREAKTHROUGH
SONGWRITER
OF THE YEAR**



COLUMBIA
NASHVILLE

OLD DOMINION

**BREAKTHROUGH
ARTIST OF THE YEAR**



RCA
RECORDS LABEL

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PRODUCER OF THE YEAR: ABOUT THE NOMINEES By Jessica Nicholson

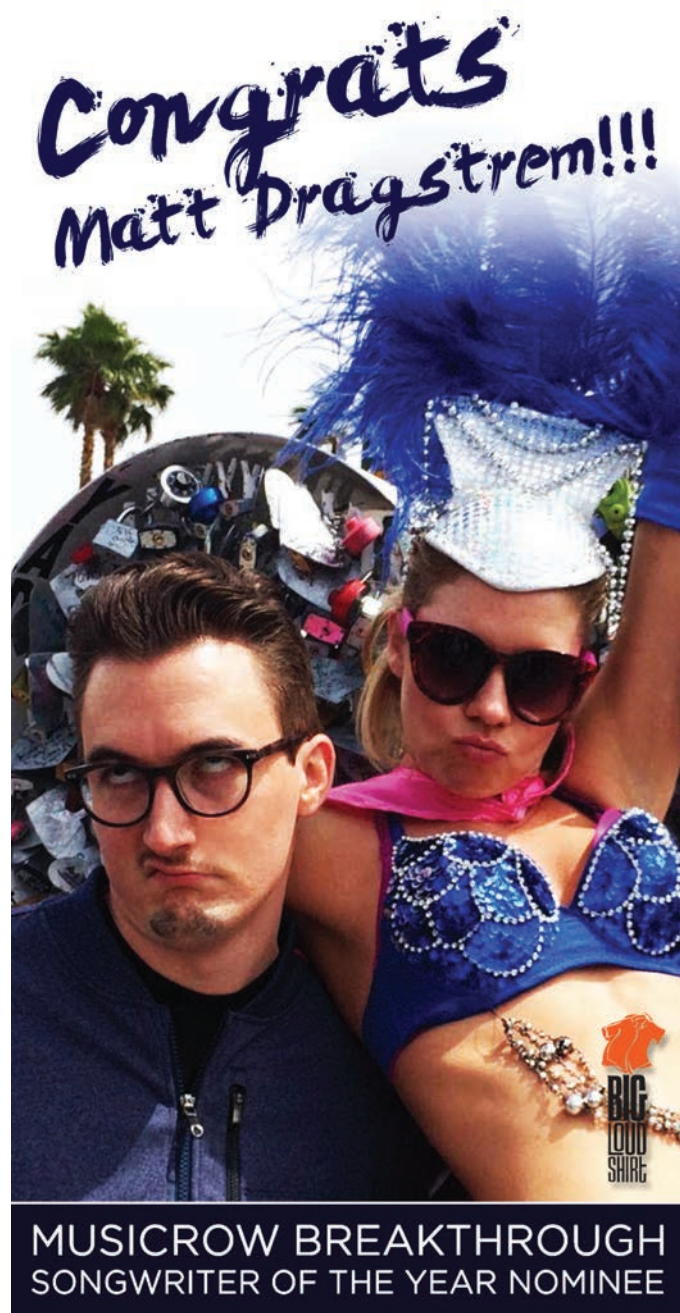
Dave Cobb earned two Grammys this year—as producer of Chris Stapleton’s *Traveller* (Best Country Album) and Jason Isbell’s *Something More Than Free* (Best Americana Album). Cobb was also at the helm of Sturgill Simpson’s 2014 acclaimed project *Metamodern Sounds in Country Music*. On the 2016 *Southern Family* compilation, Cobb worked with Miranda Lambert, Zac Brown, Brandy Clark, and more. His other projects include A Thousand Horses’ *Southernality* featuring their No. 1 country single, “Smoke.”

Zach Crowell worked alongside fellow nominee Shane McAnally to co-produce Sam Hunt’s breakthrough album *Montevallo*, which has been certified double platinum. The producer-songwriter received 2015 ACM nominations for production work on *Montevallo* as well as Hunt’s single, “Take Your Time.” Additional Hunt hits co-produced by Crowell include “Leave the Night On,” “House Party,” and “Break Up in a Small Town.” Crowell produced two tracks on Carrie Underwood’s *Storyteller* album, including the single, “Heartbeat.”

Dann Huff worked extensively on Thomas Rhett’s new album, *Tangled Up*, and produced his ACM Award-winning single, “Die a Happy Man.” Huff also produced Maddie & Tae’s “Girl in a Country Song,” alongside Aaron Scherz. One of his longest working relationships has been with Keith Urban, including the hit single, “John Cougar, John Deere, John 3:16.” Huff also has production credits in 2015 with Hunter Hayes’ *The 21 Project* and Billy Currington’s *Summer Forever*.

Jay Joyce Eric Church took the country industry by surprise when he dropped the Jay Joyce-produced project *Mr. Misunderstood* on the eve of the 2015 CMA Awards. The project spawned the *MusicRow* Award-nominated single “Record Year.” Joyce also produced six tracks for Carrie Underwood’s *Storyteller* project, including lead single “Smoke Break.” Other credits include Zac Brown Band’s “Homegrown,” Brothers Osborne’s breakthrough hit, “Stay a Little Longer” and Little Big Town’s award-winning “Girl Crush.”

Shane McAnally protégé Sam Hunt has been burning up the country sales chart with his project *Montevallo*, which was certified double-platinum by the RIAA and produced with fellow nominee Zach Crowell. Additionally, McAnally solely produced Old Dominion’s debut project *Meat and Candy*, featuring the No. 1 single “Break Up With Him.” He has also worked on Kacey Musgraves’ 2015 album *Pageant Material* and tracks from Jake Owen’s upcoming project.



SMACKPRODUCTIONS

CONGRATULATES

SHANE MCANALLY

2016 *MUSICROW* PRODUCER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE



**KACEY MUSGRAVES | SAM HUNT | OLD DOMINION
KELLY CLARKSON | JAKE OWEN | WALKER HAYES
AND COMING SOON..... MIDLAND, BRANDON LAY, JoSMITH**

CATEGORY ONE

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Voted by *MusicRow*'s subscribed members to honor a Nashville producer's work on albums active during the eligibility period. Achievements may include, but are not limited to, single chart performance and album sales.



Dave Cobb

Chris Stapleton, Jason Isbell, A Thousand Horses, Wheeler Walker Jr., Sturgill Simpson



Zach Crowell

Carrie Underwood, Sam Hunt, Keith Urban



Dann Huff

Thomas Rhett, Maddie & Tae, Hunter Hayes



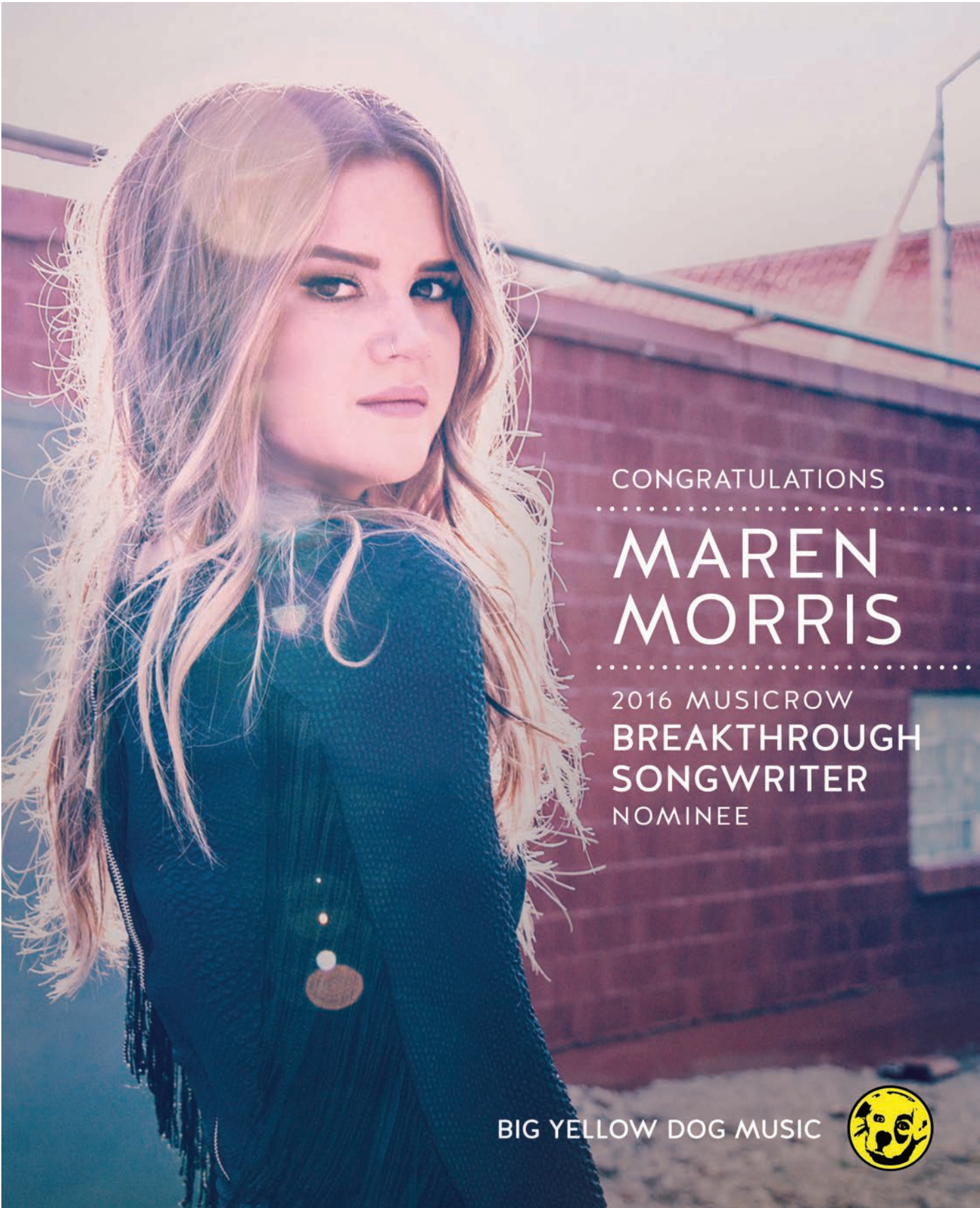
Jay Joyce

Carrie Underwood, Brothers Osborne, Eric Church, Little Big Town, Zac Brown Band, Thomas Rhett



Shane McAnally

Sam Hunt, Kacey Musgraves, Old Dominion



CONGRATULATIONS

**MAREN
MORRIS**

2016 MUSICROW
**BREAKTHROUGH
SONGWRITER**
NOMINEE

BIG YELLOW DOG MUSIC



BLACK RIVER
ENTERTAINMENT

PROUDLY CONGRATULATES



KELSEA BALLERINI
AND
FOREST GLEN
WHITEHEAD



FOR THEIR
SONG OF THE YEAR
NOMINATION FOR
"PETER PAN"



JOSH KERR
FOR HIS
BREAKTHROUGH
SONGWRITER
NOMINATION



BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER: ABOUT THE NOMINEES By Craig Shelburne

Jaron Boyer landed two major hits with Dierks Bentley's "Somewhere on a Beach" and Dustin Lynch's "Hell of a Night." Growing up as a fan of country and hip-hop, musical influences come through in his songwriting.

Corey Crowder made a name for himself in songwriting circles through his back-to-back No. 1 singles for Chris Young: "I'm Comin' Over" and "Think of You," the latter featuring special guest Cassadee Pope.

Matt Dragstrem co-wrote Florida Georgia Line's "Sippin' on Fire" on the same day he signed his songwriting deal with Big Loud Shirt. His first cut was Kenny Chesney's "Rock Bottom," co-written with Craig Wiseman.

Josh Hoge is a co-founder of Whiskey Jam, which has grown into a destination for music discovery in publishing circles. Hoge co-wrote six songs on Chris Young's latest album, *I'm Comin' Over*, including the chart-topping title track.

Josh Kerr quickly found a comfortable co-writing arrangement with Kelsea Ballerini. Their shared writing credits include "Love Me Like You Mean It" and "Dibs," which were both gold-certified No. 1 country hits.

Maren Morris made the industry take notice with "My Church," the powerful lead single from her 2016 Columbia Nashville project. She's also landed cuts with Kelly Clarkson, Tim McGraw and the cast of ABC's *Nashville*.

John and TJ Osborne of Brothers Osborne became entrenched in Nashville's songwriting community long before their No. 1 hit, "Stay a Little Longer." Letting their blues and country roots shine through, they co-wrote every song on their debut EMI Records Nashville album, *Pawn Shop*.

Jody Stevens built his career as an artist and producer before racing up the country chart as a songwriter. Top credits include "Let Me See Ya Girl" for Cole Swindell and "Home Alone Tonight" for Luke Bryan and Karen Fairchild.

(More Breakthrough Songwriter Nominees on page 10)

Sony/ATV
 MUSIC PUBLISHING congratulates our
MUSICROW AWARD NOMINEES

Song of the Year
"BURNING HOUSE"
 (Jeff Bhasker)
"RECORD YEAR"
 (Eric Church/Jeff Hyde)

Breakthrough Songwriter of the Year

 **JOSH HOGE**
 "I'm Comin' Over" - Chris Young
 "Think Of You" - Chris Young & Cassadee Pope

JODY STEVENS 
 "Let Me See Ya Girl" - Cole Swindell
 "Home Alone Tonight" - Luke Bryan

BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER: ABOUT THE NOMINEES By Craig Shelburne

(Continued from page 9)

Cole Taylor moved to Nashville in 2013 and landed a publishing deal that same year. Since then, he's secured cuts like Luke Bryan and Karen Fairchild's "Home Alone Tonight" and Florida Georgia Line's "Sippin' On Fire."

Justin Wilson, a Nashville resident since 1995, struggled through label mergers and disappointing publishing deals before finally landing hits with Michael Ray's "Kiss You in the Morning" and Randy Houser's "We Went."



UMPG NASHVILLE

CONGRATULATES OUR
MUSICROW AWARD NOMINEES



LORI MCKENNA

Song of the Year
"Humble and Kind" by Tim McGraw



COLE TAYLOR

Breakthrough Songwriter



BILL SATCHER

(A Thousand Horses)
Breakthrough Artist of the Year



UNIVERSAL MUSIC
PUBLISHING GROUP
NASHVILLE

Magic Mustang Music

Congratulates

JUSTIN

WILSON

2016

MUSICROW

Breakthrough

Songwriter

of the year

Nominee



CATEGORY TWO

BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER OF THE YEAR

Voted by *MusicRow*'s subscribed members to honor a Nashville songwriter who wrote or co-wrote a Top 10 song for the first time.



Jaron Boyer

Peertunes (SESAC) "Hell Of A Night," recorded by Dustin Lynch; "Somewhere on A Beach," recorded by Dierks Bentley



Corey Crowder

Warner/Chappell - Liz Rose Music (ASCAP) "I'm Comin' Over," recorded by Chris Young; "Think of You," recorded by Chris Young, duet with Cassadee Pope



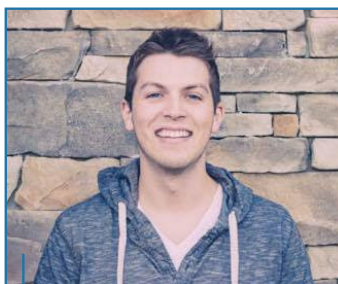
Matt Dragstrem

Big Loud Songs/Round Hill Songs (ASCAP) "Sippin' on Fire," recorded by Florida Georgia Line



Josh Hoge

EMI/Sony/ATV (SESAC) "I'm Comin' Over," recorded by Chris Young; "Think of You," recorded by Chris Young, duet with Cassadee Pope



Josh Kerr

Songs of Black River (ASCAP) "Love Me Like You Mean It," recorded by Kelsea Ballerini; "Dibs," recorded by Kelsea Ballerini



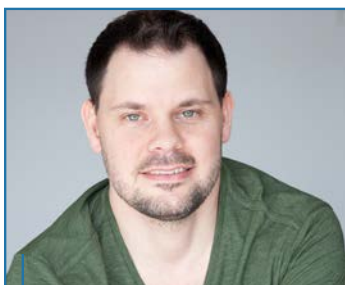
Maren Morris

Big Yellow Dog (BMI) "My Church," recorded by Maren Morris



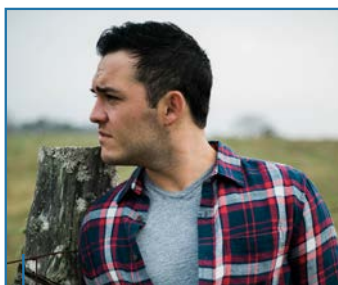
John and TJ Osborne

Warner/Chappell - Kingpen (ASCAP) "Stay A Little Longer," recorded by Brothers Osborne



Jody Stevens

Sony/ATV (BMI) "Let Me See Ya Girl," recorded by Cole Swindell; "Home Alone Tonight," recorded by Luke Bryan feat. Karen Fairchild



Cole Taylor

UMPG (ASCAP) "Sippin' on Fire," recorded by Florida Georgia Line; "Home Alone Tonight," recorded by Luke Bryan feat. Karen Fairchild



Justin Wilson

Magic Mustang (SESAC) "We Went," recorded by Randy Houser; "Kiss You in the Morning," recorded by Michael Ray

great  songs

“Peter Pan”

Kelsea Ballerini

Jesse Lee

Forest Whitehead

Kelsea Ballerini

Song of the Year Nominee

olê

majorlyindie.com

SONG OF THE YEAR: ABOUT THE NOMINEES By Craig Shelburne

“Burning House”

Cam shared a devastating dream with her co-writers Tyler Johnson and Jeff Bhasker, leading them to write “Burning House.” The ballad established Cam’s career at country radio, earned a Grammy nomination and achieved platinum status.

“Buy Me a Boat”

Chris Janson sailed to stardom after “Buy Me a Boat” caught the attention of country radio, CMT and millions of fans. Co-written with Chris DuBois, the tune has more hooks than a tackle box and became one of the summer’s biggest hits.

“Humble and Kind”

Lori McKenna wrote “Humble and Kind” as a letter to her children, but its wise message reached Tim McGraw too. With his own daughters growing up and leaving home, his perspective and believability resonated with listeners of every age.

“Peter Pan”

Even before it was a single, Kelsea Ballerini says she saw “Peter Pan” connect with girls at her shows. Written with Forest Glen Whitehead and Jesse Lee, the song shows the heartache that comes from loving someone who won’t let a relationship mature.

“Record Year”

When the breakup is final, you turn to vinyl. That’s the theme of Eric Church’s “Record Year,” where he drops the needle on heroes like Willie Nelson and Stevie Wonder. Co-written with Jeff Hyde, the song shows the healing power of music.

The *MusicRow* Awards are often a key predictor for select CMA Awards categories. For example, Song of the Year honors at both ceremonies went to “Girl Crush” (2015), “I Drive Your Truck” (2013), “If I Die Young” (2011), “The House That Built Me” (2010) and “In Color” (2009).



WRENSONG MUSIC PUBLISHING
AND **SMACKSONGS** CONGRATULATE

OLD DOMINION

ON THEIR 2016 *MUSICROW* BREAKTHROUGH
ARTIST OF THE YEAR NOMINATION



CATEGORY THREE

SONG OF THE YEAR

Voted by *MusicRow*'s subscribed members to honor Nashville writers and publishers on the craft of songwriting, not necessarily chart performance.



“Burning House”

Recorded by: Cam
Writers: Cam, Jeff Bhasker, Tyler Johnson
Publishers: Marvelous Oaks Records, One Year Yesterday Publishing, Creative Pulse Music/These Are Pulse Songs, Sony/ATV Songs/Way Above Music, BMI/ASCAP



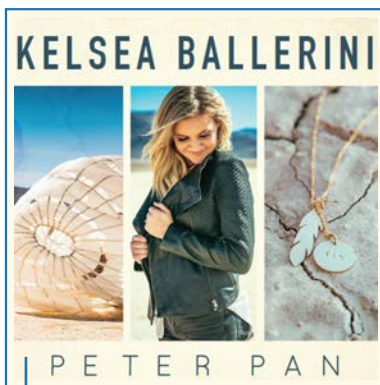
“Buy Me a Boat”

Recorded by: Chris Janson
Writers: Chris Janson, Chris DuBois
Publishers: Red Vinyl/Buckkilla/House of Sea Gayle, BMI/ASCAP



“Humble and Kind”

Recorded by: Tim McGraw
Writer: Lori McKenna
Publisher: Songs of Universal/Hoodie, BMI



“Peter Pan”

Recorded by: Kelsea Ballerini
Writers: Kelsea Ballerini, Forest Glen Whitehead, Jesse Lee
Publishers: Songs of Black River/KNB/Ole Purple Cape/Honey Lee/Ole, ASCAP/BMI



“Record Year”

Recorded by: Eric Church
Writers: Eric Church, Jeff Hyde
Publishers: Sony/ATV Tree Publishing/Longer and Louder Music; Sony/ATV Tree Publishing/Little Louder Songs/Mammaw's Fried Okra Music, BMI

CONGRATULATIONS **A Thousand Horses**



ON THEIR **MUSICROW**

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST OF THE YEAR
NOMINATION

FROM YOUR **BMLG** FAMILY
BIG MACHINE LABEL GROUP



WARNER MUSIC
NASHVILLE

CONGRATULATES



ON HIS
MUSICROW
BREAKTHROUGH
ARTIST
OF THE YEAR
NOMINATION



BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST: ABOUT THE NOMINEES By Jessica Nicholson

A Thousand Horses

Republic Nashville band A Thousand Horses made an impression on country listeners last year with their singles, including the No. 1 hit "Smoke," as well as "(This Ain't No) Drunk Dial." Produced by Dave Cobb, the Nashville band's album *Southernality* earned a Top 5 debut, while the video for "Smoke" earned a Group Video of the Year nomination at the 2015 CMT Music Awards. The group is on tour with Jason Aldean and climbing the charts with a new single, "Southernality."

Brothers Osborne

John and TJ Osborne, known professionally as Brothers Osborne, have upped the ante in country music over the past year with their infectious singles "Stay A Little Longer" and current release "21 Summer," both from their 2016 EMI Records Nashville project *Pawn Shop*. "Stay A Little Longer" earned a gold certification and was the duo's first No. 1 song. Raised in Deale, Maryland, the brothers made their Grand Ole Opry debut in April. They are now on the road opening shows for Miranda Lambert.

Cam

The singer-songwriter's "Burning House" caused a stir in 2015, earning Grammy and ACM nominations. The critically-acclaimed single went on to achieve platinum status. In December, she launched her debut album for Arista Nashville/RCA Records, *Untamed*, with producers Jeff Bhasker and Tyler Johnson. One of CMT's Next Women of Country, the California native performed her current single, "Mayday," on the *American Country Countdown Awards* this month.

Chris Janson

The past year has been a wild ride for Janson after signing to Warner Bros. Records/Warner Music Nashville in March 2015. After years of false starts on other labels, his breakthrough single "Buy Me a Boat" earned platinum sales and picked up Country Song of the Year honors at the iHeartRadio Awards. He's appeared on *Conan*, toured with Blake Shelton, and earned three ACM Award nominations. The Missouri native's new single is the intensely personal ballad, "Holdin' Her."

Old Dominion

While some of Old Dominion's members have penned hits for artists, the band's singles "Break Up With Him" and "Snapback" have brought this group into a spotlight of their own. While building a foundation as a touring band, they worked with producer Shane McAnally on their RCA Nashville debut album, *Meat and Candy*. Named for the band's ties to Virginia, Old Dominion won an ACM Award for Best New Vocal Duo or Group.



**Universal Music Group Nashville
 Congratulates
 Breakthrough Artist of the Year Nominee**

**Brothers
 Osborne**



CATEGORY FOUR

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Voted by *MusicRow*'s subscribed members to honor a Nashville artist who achieved significant career progress for the first time.



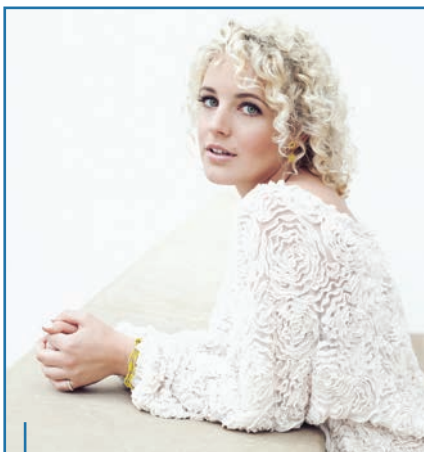
A Thousand Horses

Republic Nashville



Brothers Osborne

EMI Records Nashville



Cam

Arista Nashville/RCA Records



Chris Janson

Warner Bros.



Old Dominion

RCA Nashville

PAST WINNERS

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

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.

2015: Jay Joyce
2014: Frank Liddell
2013: Dann Huff
2012: Frank Liddell
2011: Paul Worley
2010: Frank Liddell & Mike Wrucke
2008-09: Frank Rogers
2007: Byron Gallimore
2006: Dann Huff
2005: Frank Rogers
2004: Buddy Cannon
2003: James Stroud
2002: Keith Stegall
2001: Mark Wright
1999-2000: Byron Gallimore

PRODUCER HONOR ROLL

Producer earning the most Top 20 singles and Top 10 albums for each year. Became Producer of the Year in 1999.

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

BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER

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

2015: Michael Carter
2014: Nicolle Galyon and Cole Swindell (tie)
2013: Kacey Musgraves
2012: Johnny Bulford and Phil Barton
2011: Kimberly Perry
2010: Chris Young
2009: James Otto
2008: Luke Bryan
2007: Chris Tompkins and Josh Kear
2006: Jason Matthews
2005: Vicky McGehee
2004: Jim Brown/Don Rollins
2003: Lee Thomas Miller
2002: Anthony Smith
2001: Troy Verges
2000: Carolyn Dawn Johnson
1999: Phil Vassar
1998: Harley Allen
1997: Cathy Majeski, Sunny Russ, Stephony Smith
1996: Jim Lauderdale

TOP SONGWRITERS

Songwriter earning the most Top 20 singles for each year. Category merged with Breakthrough Songwriter in 1998.

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

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST

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

2015: Sam Hunt
2014: Brandy Clark
2013: Kacey Musgraves
2012: Eli Young Band
2011: The Band Perry
2010: Zac Brown Band
2009: Jamey Johnson
2008: Lady Antebellum

CRITICS' PICK/NEW ARTIST

To recognize an outstanding new artist who released their first single in the awards year. Became Breakthrough Artist in 2008.

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

SONG OF THE YEAR

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

- 2015: "Girl Crush," Hillary Lindsey, Lori McKenna, Liz Rose; published by Warner-Tamerlane, Songs of Crazy Girl, Songs of Universal, Hoodie, HillarodyRathbone, BMG
- 2014: "All Kinds Of Kinds," written by Phillip Coleman and Don Henry; published by Carnival Music, Warner-Tamerlane
- 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
- 2012: "You and Tequila," written by Deana Carter and Matraca Berg; published by Deanaling Music, Hannaberg Music, Songs of Universal Inc., WB Music Corp
- 2011: "If I Die Young," written by Kimberly Perry; published by Pearlfeather, Rio Bravo
- 2010: "The House That Built Me," written by Allen Shamblin, Tom Douglas; published by Sony/ATV-Tree Publishing Co., Tomdouglasmusic, Built On Rock 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
- 2008: "Letter To Me," written by Brad Paisley; published by EMI April Music, New Sea Gayle Music
- 2007: "Stealing Kisses," written by Lori McKenna; published by Melanie Howard Music, Inc.
- 2006: "What Hurts The Most," written by Jeffrey Steele, Steve Robson; published by Songs of Windswept Pacific, Almo Music Corp.
- 2005: "Whiskey Lullaby," written by Bill Anderson, Jon Randall; published by Sony/ATV-Tree, Mr. Bubba, Reynsong, Who Ya Say, Wrensong
- 2004: "Almost Home," written by Craig Morgan, Kerry Kurt Phillips; published by Magic Mustang Music Inc., Sufferin' Succotash Songs
- 2003: "Red Ragtop," written by Jason White; published by Sony/ATV Music
- 2002: "Where Were You (When The World Stopped Turning)," written by Alan Jackson; published by EMI Music Publishing
- 2001: "There Is No Arizona," written by Jamie O'Neal, Shaye Smith, Lisa Drew; published by EMI Music, Zomba 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
- 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
- 1998: "Something That We Do," written by Clint Black, Skip Ewing; published by Blackened Music, Opryland Music Group
- 1997: "Friends," written by Jerry Holland; published by That's A Smash Publishing, Mike Curb Music
- 1996: "What Mattered Most," written by Vince Melamed, Gary Burr; published by MCA Music, Patrick Joseph Music

28TH ANNUAL
MUSICROW
 AWARDS

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST
 BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER
 SONG OF THE YEAR
 PRODUCER OF THE YEAR
 TOP 10 ALBUM ALL-STAR MUSICIANS

BALLOTS EMAILED TO SUBSCRIBED
 MEMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 18