



MUSICROW AWARDS

MUSICROW
Monday May 14, 2012

MusicRow Awards Final Nominations

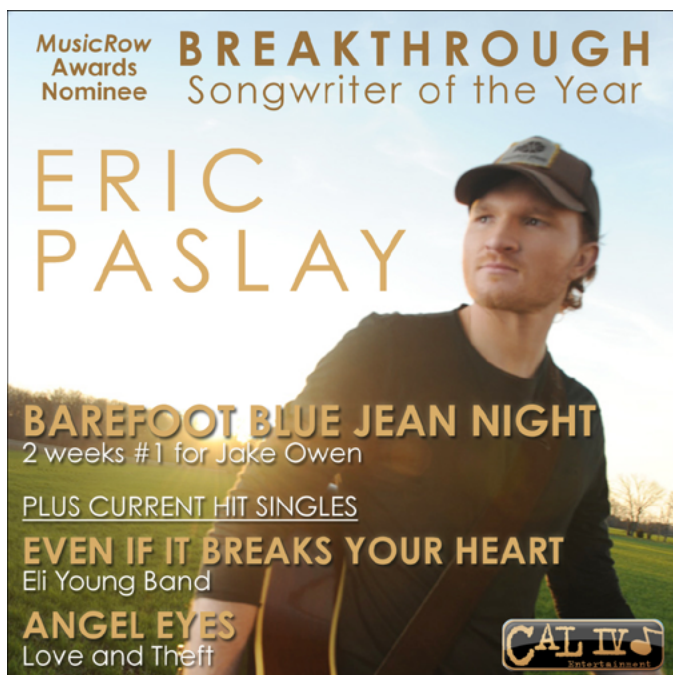
by Sarah Skates

MusicRow is pleased to announce the nominees for our 24th annual *MusicRow* Awards, Nashville's longest running industry trade awards show. The *MusicRow* editorial team selects a slate of nominees which is then voted on by the magazine's readers. Outside nominations are accepted for Breakthrough Songwriter, saluting writers and co-writers who scored their first Top 10 hit on *MusicRow*, *Billboard* or Mediabase during the eligibility period (5/1/11–4/30/12).

This year's nominations are wide-reaching, covering numerous labels, publishers, artists and songwriters, and resulting in only a few nominees scoring multiple nods. Rising artist Kip Moore is one of those few. His hit "Somethin' 'Bout A Truck" led to nominations for Breakthrough Artist and Breakthrough Songwriter, along with co-writer Dan Couch.

A Song of the Year nod goes to "Springsteen," which Eric Church wrote with Ryan Tyndell and Jeff Hyde, and took to the top of the charts. It also secured a Breakthrough Songwriter nod for Tyndell. And another member of team Church in the awards running is Jay Joyce vying for Producer of the Year.

Producer nominees Frank Liddell and Mark Bright were behind the board for hit projects by Breakthrough Artist nominees Eli Young Band and Scotty McCreery, respectively.



MusicRow Awards Nominee **BREAKTHROUGH Songwriter of the Year**

ERIC PASLAY

BAREFOOT BLUE JEAN NIGHT
2 weeks #1 for Jake Owen

PLUS CURRENT HIT SINGLES

EVEN IF IT BREAKS YOUR HEART
Eli Young Band

ANGEL EYES
Love and Theft

CAL TV entertainment

Elsewhere, songs recorded by Liddell and Bright for other artists earned Breakthrough Songwriter nominations. Liddell produced "Let It Rain," which was David Nail's first Top 10 as a writer. Bright's work with Carrie Underwood led to a Breakthrough Songwriter nom for Chris DeStefano who penned "Good Girl." Brantley Gilbert and Thompson Square complete the Breakthrough Artist category.

Blake Shelton's chart topper "God Gave Me You," written by Dave Barnes, is nominated for Song of the Year. Meanwhile, Shelton's producer Scott Hendricks is nominated in his field. Rounding out the Producer of the Year category is Michael Knox.

Jake Owen's hits "Alone With You" and "Barefoot Blue Jean Night" earned Breakthrough Songwriter nominations for rising tunesmiths Catt Gravitt ("Alone"); and Eric Paslay and Terry Sawchuk ("Barefoot"). Completing this category are Johnny Bulford and Phil Barton for "A Woman Like You;" and Preston Brust, Chris Lucas, and Jaren Johnston for "You Gonna Fly."

Dierk Bentley's "Home," Taylor Swift's "Mean," and Kenny Chesney's "You And Tequila," wrap up the nominees for Song of the Year.

The *MusicRow* Awards are becoming a key predictor for select CMA Awards. In recent years Song of the Year honors at both ceremonies went to "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 The Band Perry (2011), Zac Brown Band (2010), Lady Antebellum (2008), Taylor Swift (2007), and Carrie Underwood (2006).

The Top Ten Album All-Star Musicians will also be saluted at the *MusicRow* Awards. Winners are determined by a tally of who played on the most Top Ten albums during the eligibility period.

The *MusicRow* Awards will be hosted by BMI at the organization's offices on Wed., June 20 at 5:30 p.m. Readers will receive ballots later today (5/14). **Ballots must be returned before voting closes at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 18.**



UMG NASHVILLE CONGRATULATES OUR MUSICROW AWARD NOMINEES...



DAVID NAIL

BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER NOMINEE

"Let It Rain"



KIP MOORE

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST NOMINEE

BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER NOMINEE

"Somethin' 'Bout A Truck"



SCOTTY MCCREERY

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST NOMINEE





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ARTISTS ON YOUR
MUSICROW AWARDS NOMINATIONS



SONG OF THE YEAR

TAYLOR SWIFT, "MEAN"

Big Machine; written by Taylor Swift;
published by Sony/ ATV Tree Publishing,
Taylor Swift Music

BREAKTHROUGH ARTIST OF THE YEAR



ELI YOUNG BAND
(Republic Nashville)



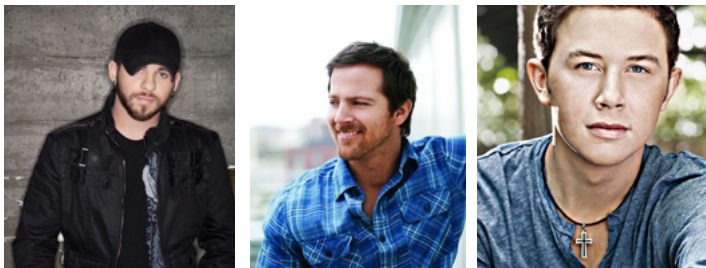
BRANTLEY GILBERT
(The Valory Music Co.)

MUSICROW AWARDS

FINAL NOMINATIONS

AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

Eligibility Period: May 1, 2011 – April 30, 2012



(Clockwise: Brantley Gilbert, Kip Moore, Scotty McCreery, Thompson Square and Eli Young Band)

Breakthrough Artist

To honor an artist who achieved significant career progress for the first time.

- **Brantley Gilbert** (Valory Music Co.)
- **Eli Young Band** (Republic Nashville)
- **Kip Moore** (MCA Nashville)
- **Scotty McCreery** (Mercury)
- **Thompson Square** (Stoney Creek)

Producer of the Year

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

(Pictured Clockwise)

- **Mark Bright** (Carrie Underwood, Scotty McCreery, Luke Bryan)
- **Scott Hendricks** (Blake Shelton, Jana Kramer)
- **Michael Knox** (Jason Aldean, Montgomery Gentry)
- **Frank Liddell** (Miranda Lambert,



David Nail, Eli Young Band, Pistol Annies, Kellie Pickler)
• **Jay Joyce** (Eric Church, Thomas Rhett, Randy Montana, Emmylou Harris)

Song of the Year

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

- **"God Gave Me You"**—Blake Shelton, Warner Music Nashville; written by Dave Barnes, published by No Gang Music administered by Razor & Tie Music Publishing
- **"Home"**—Dierks Bentley, Capitol Records Nashville;

(Continued on page 8)

congratulations

Chris DeStefano

MusicRow Breakthrough Songwriter Nominee

"good girl"



olê

Ryan Tyndell

Nominated for

Breakthrough Songwriter & Song of the Year – Springsteen (Eric Church)

great songs

www.majorlyindie.com



RAZOR & TIE®

Congratulations to our
MusicRow Award Nominees

DAVE BARNES
SONG OF THE YEAR NOMINEE
"God Gave Me You"

&

CATT GRAVITT
BREAKTHROUGH SONGWRITER NOMINEE
"Alone With You"

Both No.1 Hits



Canival Music
congratulates
Breakthrough Writer
nominee

David Nail "Let It Rain"

48 weeks to #1
a record-setting hit
meant to last,
built to move people...

"Chip away at loss,
regret, missteps and
other human failings...
Nail seems eager to
take on real life."
- *The Los Angeles Times*



CARNIVAL MUSIC

Carnival Music Where Creativity Lives
At the Corner of Roy Acuff + Music Square

MUSICGROW AWARDS

FINAL NOMINATIONS

written by Brett Beavers, Dierks Bentley, and Dan Wilson, published by Big White Tracks, Chestnut Barn Music, Chrysalis Music/BMG Rights, Chrysalis One Songs

- **“Mean”**—Taylor Swift, Big Machine; written by Taylor Swift; published by Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, Taylor Swift Music
- **“Springsteen”**—Eric Church, EMI Nashville; written by Eric Church, Jeff Hyde and Ryan Tyndell, published by Sony/ATV Tree Publishing/Sinnerlina Music, Purple Cape Music/Ole, Bug Music Inc./Mammaw’s Cornbread Music
- **“You and Tequila”**—Kenny Chesney, BNA, featuring Grace Potter; written by Matraca Berg and Deana Carter; published by Deanaling Music, Hannaberg Music, Songs of Universal Inc., WB Music Corp.

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

Breakthrough Songwriter

To honor a Nashville songwriter who for the first time wrote or co-wrote a Top 10 song.

- **Johnny Bulford and Phil Barton** **“A Woman Like You,”** recorded by Lee Brice
- **Kip Moore and Dan Couch** **“Somethin’ ‘Bout A Truck,”** recorded by Kip Moore
- **Chris DeStefano** **“Good Girl,”** recorded by Carrie Underwood
- **Catt Gravitt** **“Alone With You,”** recorded by Jake Owen
- **Preston Brust, Chris Lucas, and Jaren Johnston** **“You Gonna Fly,”** recorded by Keith Urban
- **David Nail** **“Let It Rain,”** recorded by David Nail
- **Eric Paslay and Terry Sawchuk** **“Barefoot Blue Jean Night,”** recorded by Jake Owen
- **Ryan Tyndell** **“Springsteen,”** recorded by Eric Church

PAST WINNERS

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

Producer Honor Role

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

SONG OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

“YOU AND TEQUILA”

Words and Music by MATRACA BERG and DEANA CARTER

Moderately fast

In a by, here I am a gain,
 This ty days and this ty night...
 kick - in' dust in the can - you wind, and wait - in' for
 been put - tin' up a real good fight. And there were times...
 out I see to go down,
 thought you'd win.

* Recorded a half step lower.

Copyright © 2011 SONGS OF UNIVERSAL, INC., WINNERS MUSIC and DEANALING MUSIC LLC
All Rights Reserved. Songs of Universal, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

UNIVERSAL

UNIVERSAL MUSIC PUBLISHING GROUP NASHVILLE



MUSICGROW AWARDS

FINAL NOMINATIONS

2008: Frank Rogers
 2009: Frank Rogers
 2010: Frank Liddell & Mike Wrucke
 2011: Paul Worley

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

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

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
 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