February 23, 2022, Issue 1 +

Powered by Country Aircheck











### Welcome Back...

... to that same old place that you laughed about. With apologies to Mr. Kotter and his sitcom theme song (by John Sebastian, of course), Country Radio Seminar has returned live and in-person. What was once easily taken for granted,

occasionally complained about and at times made fun of now gets revisited with fresh perspective. Hard won perspective, perhaps, and right on time.

The challenges facing Country radio and country music have been greater (see 2020), but not by much.

In PPM markets at least, Country is less competitive than it has ever been (catch up here and here). That's certainly not the whole story, however. The audience remains robust, ratings in CDM and diary markets are not at similar record lows and country artists are continuing their return to the road. And that's where fans are won - face to face.

So it is with **CRS**, which will face ratings declines and dozens of other topics over these three days (see the Day Ahead schedule below). Speaking of faces, covering them is still recommended as COVID remains an issue. Read on for last-minute reminders on this year's protocols. Also facing a new paradigm are the esteemed members of the next Country Radio Hall of Fame class, announced later today. Finally, excited faces are expected when the CRS/Country Aircheck Awards are handed out at the ... wait for it ... New Faces of Country Music dinner and show. After a reminder of how much this business can accomplish in person – with a little fun and a lot of good music along the way - seminar attendees may head home, not with Mr. Kotter's theme song in their head, but with Fonzie's.



I Saw Squad Today: The CRS team readies for the event in the calm before the storm Tuesday (2/22). Pictured are (front, I-r) Lisa Hendin, Libby Trbovic, Jessy Blackman, Ashley Bourque, Kelly Yeatts, Sheree Latham, Chasity Crouch and (back, I-r) Dawson Simmons, Heather Martin, RJ Curtis and Brooke Sanders.

#### **Need To Know Bases**

A quick review of important protocols for anyone needing a lastminute catch-up:

• Come On Get Appy: CRS partner 3P America is the conduit for the required proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within 48 hours. Compliance is required in order to pick up credentials. Begin by registering a user account via the portal link here. Search CRS '22 on the "company directory" page and select



THE SONG YOU HAVE ALL BEEN ASKING FORTHE FOLLOW UP TO THE MULTI-WEEK #1 AND GOLD SINGLE
"WHISKEY & RAIN"

HOLY WATER



MICHAEL RAY

IMPACTING MONDAY 3.7.22

WARNER WEAK





the CRS link. Follow the prompts, provide the required information and answer the health questionnaire. Upload clear photos of the requested documents, and expect approval within a few hours.

- Simply The Test: An onsite testing option will be offered for those not using the 3P app ... but expect delays. Find additional information about 3P America's end-to-end digital compliance and the CRS COVID protocols here.
- Really Masking For It: CRB will also provide and prefer masks in all CRS event spaces at the Omni Nashville Hotel, including meeting rooms, performance halls and pre-function areas. Meeting room seating will be configured for social distancing, and hand sanitizer stations will be located throughout.
- Take Know For An Answer: Voluntary COVID testing is available through the end of the week. And attendees are "strongly encouraged to exercise personal responsibility ... monitor their health daily" and refrain from attending if "experiencing any symptoms of illness or not feeling well."
- On A Platter: Lunches on Wednesday and Friday will be served buffets. Thursday's UMG Luncheon at the Ryman remains a boxed lunch, and the Friday night New Faces dinner continues as a plated meal. In addition to the Day Ahead listings in this sheet, the agenda is available here.

Faces Facing The Faces
"I don't have much CRS experience," admits New Faces
performer Jameson Rodgers. "In 2018, I played the stage outside of New Faces hoping to get a record deal, but mostly provided A+ background noise that night. The record deal didn't come from it, but did shortly after, thankfully." Lainey Wilson makes an even bigger leap. "This is my first year even being invited to a CRS event," she says. "Every other year, I would basically panhandle passes from people just so I could get a glimpse of what it might feel or look like to be recognized or play one of the events."

Parker McCollum did get recognized in a surreal sort of way, at a UMG lunch. "When I walked offstage, [Keith Urban] said, 'Wow, Parker, that was really great, man. You sing really nice.' I said, 'Oh, thanks, Keith,' like we were on a first name basis and knew each other really well." New artists mingling with the genre's top performers can be unsettling at times, according to Walker Hayes. "I remember my first CRS, passing all these massive artists through the building thinking I should collect as many autographs as I can," he says. "I was more distracted by them than I was focused on working. My label rep had to calm me down." Gabby Barrett will be bookending her experience this year. "My most meaningful CRS memory is singing the National Anthem at CRS 2020 before everything shut down," she says. "It will definitely be a full circle moment to return and be able to perform live and inperson at New Faces this year!"

Read full profiles in Country Aircheck's February print edition, out this week.

## The Day Ahead

Wednesday, 2/23 8-11:30am **A&O&B Client Seminar** Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 5-6

7am-6pm **3P America Wellness & Testing Center** Omni, Level 3, Mockingbird 2-3

8am-7pm Wellness Check-In Desk Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

\* \* WELCOME TO CRS 2022! \* \*











# LIVE AT THE RYMAN 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

■ THURS., FEB 24<sup>TH</sup>11:30 AM >>



#### 8-8:50am

#### **Streaming Summit Networking Breakfast**

Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 1-2

#### 8am-5pm The Row

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

#### 8:30am-12pm

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Juice Bar

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

#### 8:30am-4:30pm

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Internet Café

Omni, Level 2, Legends Hallway, Musiac Row 4

#### 9-9:50am

#### **Introducing Chartmetric**

Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C

#### 10-10:50am

#### Twitch/Live-Streaming For Music

Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C

#### 11-11:50am

**Music Discovery Through Streaming: Spotify Fan Study** 

Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C

#### 11:45am-12pm Ian Flanigan Pre-Lunch Performance

Sponsored by PickleJar

Omni, Level 2, Broadway Hallway

#### 12-1:50pm

#### Warner Music Nashville Lunch + Performance

Sponsored by Warner Music Nashville

Zac Brown Band, Jessie James Decker, Morgan Evans, Cody Johnson, Randall King, Drew Parker, Michael Ray, Ingrid Andress, Breland, Chris Janson

Omni, Level 2, Broadway Ballroom

#### 2-2:30pm

## CRS Honors: Artist Humanitarian Award Presentation + CRHoF 2022 Announcement

Artist Humanitarian Award Winner Jason Aldean; Class of 2022 CRHoF announcement; Callista Clark performs the National Anthem

Omni, Level 2, Legends Ballroom A-C

#### 2:30-3pm

#### Heads Of State: iHeartMedia's Bob Pittman

Sponsored by All Access Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C

#### 3-3:50pm

Talk Data To Me: 2021 In Review

Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C

#### 4-4:50pm

#### Road To The Next Big Thing: Connected Car

Sponsored by XPeri

Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C



## **JASON ALDEAN & CARRIE UNDERWOOD**



SINGLE OF THE YEAR | VIDEO OF THE YEAR | MUSIC EVENT OF THE YEAR

"A momentous duet that emphasizes each of their individual talents through their intertwining harmonies." - American Songwriter





#### 4-5pm

## Heads Of State: Townsquare's Bill Wilson and Warner's John Esposito

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 5-6pm

#### **CMA** Welcome Reception

Sponsored by CMA
Omni, Level 2, Broadway Ballroom Hallway

#### 6-8:30pm

#### **Amazon Music Presents: Country Heat At CRS**

Sponsored by Amazon Music Omni, Level 2, Broadway Ballroom

#### 8pm

#### **BMG/BBRMG Live At Brooklyn Bowl**

Dustin Lynch, Chase Rice, Lindsay Ell with Chayce Beckham, Twinnie Brooklyn Bowl, 925 3rd Ave. N.

#### 8:30pm-12am Acoustic Throwdown

Sponsored by Spin Doctors Music Group Hampton Inn & Suites, 4th Avenue

#### Thursday, 2/24

#### 6:30-7:50am Believers Breakfast

Sponsored by Curb Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C 6:30am-2pm

Ryan Griffin And Red Street Records' Hangover Cure

Omni, Level 1, Bongo Java

#### 7am-4pm

**3P America Wellness & Testing Center** 

Omni, Level 3, Mockingbird 2-3

#### 8-8:50am

#### **Programming Mentoring Breakfast**

Rod Phillps, Kurt Johnson, Ashley Wilson, Ryan Wild, Aaronee Cottam, Bruce Logan, Tim Roberts, Pepper Daniels, Ashley Morrison, John Foxx, Clay Walker, Marci Braun, Kenny Jay, Meg Stevens

Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 5-6

#### 8am-4:30pm Wellness Check-In Desk

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

#### 8am-5pm Exhibitor Booths

Omni, Level 2, Broadway Hallway

#### 8am-5pm The Row

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

#### 8:30am-5pm

#### St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Internet Café

Omni, Level 2, Legends Hallway, Music Row 4





#### 9-9:50am

## Cashing In On Creativity: 10 Turbo Charged Ideas To Capture Attention & Revenue

Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 3-4

#### 9-9:50am

**Heads Of State: Alpha's Bob Proffitt and BMG's Jon Loba** Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 9-9:50am

#### The Net Worth Of Networking

Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 1-2

#### 9-9:50am

#### **Video Builds The Radio Star**

Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C

#### 9am-12pm

#### St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Juice Bar

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

#### 10-11:15am

#### CRS Research Presented by NuVoodoo Media

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 11:30am-1:50pm

#### **Team UMG At The Ryman Luncheon**

Kassi Ashton, Dierks Bentley, Priscilla Block, Boy Named Banjo, Brothers Osborne, Jordan Davis, Sam Hunt, Little Big Town, Kylie Morgan, Jon Pardi, Keith Urban Ryman Auditorium

#### 2-2:50pm

#### Digesting The Date: A 2022 Reality Check

Sponsored by Quu Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 2:50-3:20pm

#### **Rev Up Your Socials**

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 3:30-4pm

## Sayonara, Stale Thinking: Prioritizing Innovation On Your Team

Featuring Futuri's Daniel Anstandig Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 4-4:50pm

## Heads Of State: Beasley's Caroline Beasley and UMG's Mike Dungan

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 7-10pm

#### Bob Kingsley's Acoustic Alley

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

#### 10pm

#### **Paddle Royale Ping Pong Tournament**

Ingrid Andress, Morgan Evans, Gator Harrison, Clay Hunnicutt, Kid Rock, Lady A, Scott McCreery, Jon Pardi, Mitchell Tenpenny, Royce Risser, Tim Roberts

Omni, Level 2, Legends C

#### 10pm-12am Acoustic Throwdown

Sponsored by Spin Doctors Music Group Hampton Inn & Suites, 4th Avenue

#### 11:30pm-12:30am

#### Salt, Lime & Tequila With Ryan Griffin

Omni, Level 1, Main Lobby Library

#### Friday, 2/25

#### 7am-6pm

#### **3P America Wellness & Testing Center**

Omni, Level 3, Mockingbird 2-3

#### 7:30-8:50am

#### **Women Mentoring Breakfast**

Sponsored by NuVoodoo Media Services

Marci Braun, Jessica "Carsen" Humphreville, Mandy McCormack, Jenna Johnson, Dawn Santolucito, Kelly Ford, Hillary Borden, Monta Vaden, Angela Lange, Rachel Whitney, Tali Canterbury, Kimsey Kerr, Dana Swearingen, Mackenzie Cooper, Traci Lee, Rakiyah Marshall, Becky Brenner, Jensen Sussman, Amber Anderson, Lynn Oliver-Cline Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 5-6

#### 7:30-8:50am

#### **Label Mentoring Breakfast**

Tim Foisset, David Friedman, Matt Brum-Taylor, Nikki Wood, Sarah Knabe, Tanya Shrage, Norbert Nix Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 3-4





#### 7:30-10am **Records Nashville Breakfast**

Omni, Level 1, Kitchen Notes

8am-5pm The Row

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

8am-6:30pm Wellness Check-In Desk

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway 8:30am-4:30pm

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Internet Café Omni, Level 2, Legends Hallway, Music Row 4

9-9:50am

Heads Of State: Hubbard's Ginny Morris and BMLG's **Scott Borchetta** 

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

9-9:50am

Radio Punchbusters: The Anti-Tune-Out Approach To Non-Commercial

Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 1-2

9am-12pm

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Juice Bar

Omni, Level 2, 5th Avenue Hallway

10-10:30am

Someone's Got To Say It: Country Radio Has A New Role

Featuring Country's Radio Coach's John Shomby Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

10:40-11am

**Leading Through An Ever Changing Landscape** 

Featuring Strategy & Leadership, LLC's Liz Allen Fey Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

11-11:50am

I'm A Fraud: Dealing With Imposter Syndrome

Omni, Level 3, Cumberland 1-2

11-11:50am **Standy By Your Brand** 

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

11:45am-12pm **Pre-Lunch Performance** 

Sponsored by PickleJar Ómni, Level 2, Broadway Hallway

12-1:50pm

Big Machine Label Group Lunch + Performance

Sponsored by BMLG

Lady A, Carly Pearce, Riley Green, Callista Clark, Laci Kaye Booth, Jackson Dean, Tiera Kennedy

Omni, Level 2, Broadway Ballroom

2-2:50pm

Don't Hate Us Cuz You Ain't Us! What We Can Learn From Other Music Formats

Omni, Level 2, Legends A-C

2-2:50pm

The Business Of Touring

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

3-3:50pm

Heads Of State: Audacy's David Field and Sony Music Nashville's Randy Goodman

Sponsored by CMA

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

4-4:50pm

Artist Spotlight Interview: Blake Shelton

Sponsored by BMI

Omni, Level 2, Legends D-G

5:30-6:15pm

**New Faces of Country Music Cocktail Reception** 

Sponsored by Futuri

Omni, Level 2, Broadway Hallway

6:30-10pm

**New Faces of Country Music Dinner and Performance** 

CRS/Country Aircheck Áwards Presentations; Tom Rivers Humanitarian Award Winner Heather Froglear; Gabby Barrett, Walker Hayes, Parker McCollum, Jameson Rodgers, Lainey Wilson Omni, Level 2, Broadway Ballroom

10pm-12am Acoustic Throwdown

Sponsored by Spin Doctors Music Group Hampton Inn & Suites, 4th Avenue

