



COUNTRY AIRCHECK

NOVEMBER 18, 8|7 CT

voter's guide

TO THE

60TH CMA
AWARDS®

A quick reference guide to
the 2026 CMA Nominees

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

CODY  JOHNSON



ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR

MALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR

SINGLE
OF THE YEAR
"THE FALL"

MUSIC VIDEO
OF THE YEAR
"THE FALL"

13B+ GLOBAL STREAMS

"THE FALL"
RIAA PLATINUM,
COUNTRY AIRPLAY #1,
400M+ GLOBAL STREAMS

SOLD OUT HEADLINE
SHOWS IN USA /
AUSTRALIA / NEW
ZEALAND / CANADA /
UNITED KINGDOM



FOR YOUR **CMA AWARDS** CONSIDERATION



LUKE COMBS

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR
MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR
ALBUM OF THE YEAR *THE WAY I AM*

MEGAN MORONEY

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR
SONG OF THE YEAR "BEAUTIFUL THINGS"



BROOKS & DUNN

VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

EMILY ANN ROBERTS

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR



OLD DOMINION

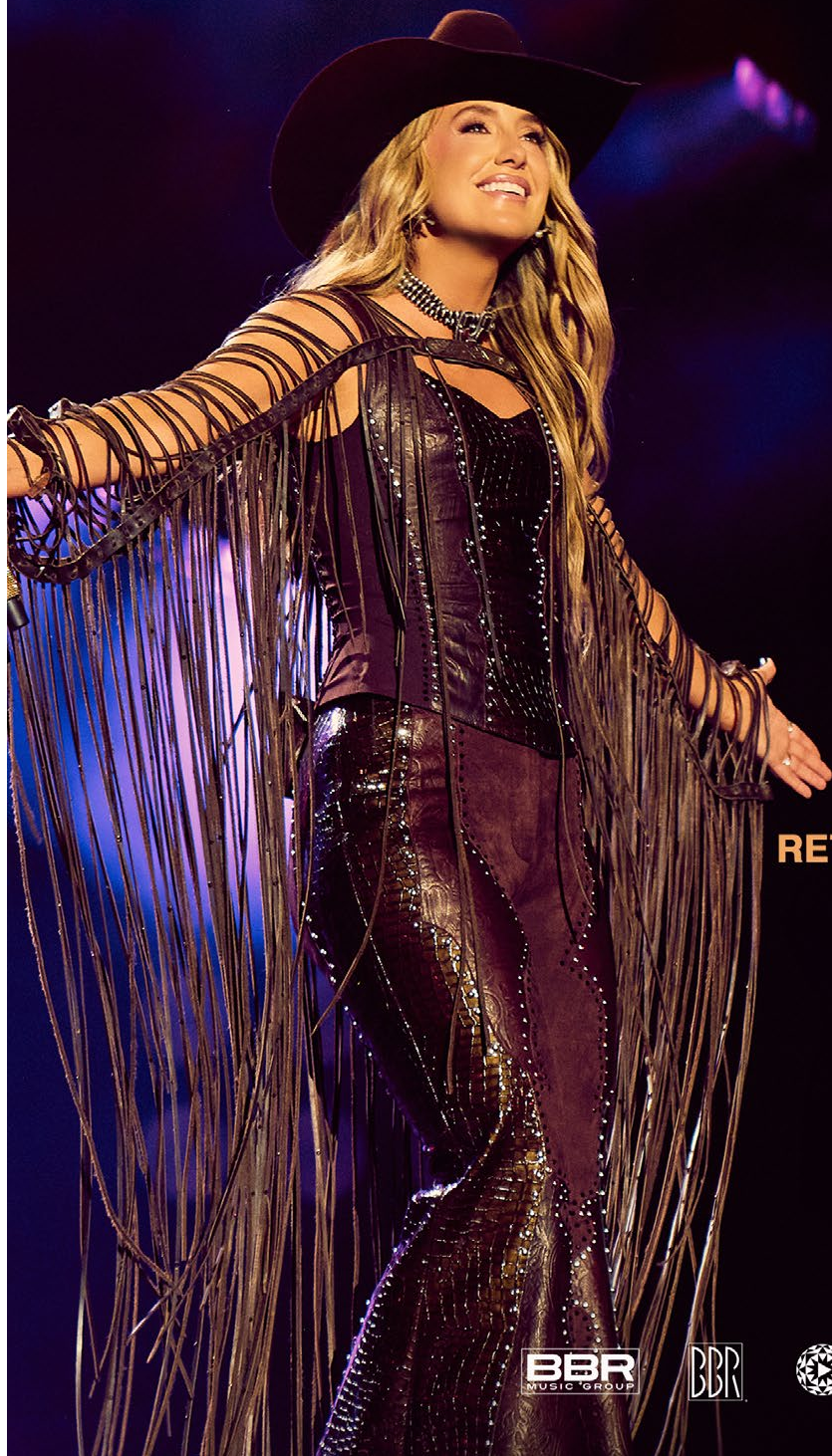
VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR



SONY MUSIC | NASHVILLE

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

LAINIEY WILSON



**ENTERTAINER
OF THE YEAR**

**FEMALE VOCALIST
OF THE YEAR**

SINGLE OF THE YEAR
"SOMEWHERE OVER LAREDO"

**RETURNING TO HOST FOR HER
THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR**



BMG

LUKE COMBS

- "The dominant hitmaker in country." – *New York Times*
- "It's hard to overstate how big a star Luke Combs has become." – *Esquire*
- "Combs has achieved massive stardom not by diluting his country music into something neutral. He's brought pop music to country, not the other way around." – *GQ*
- "He's a legend in the making, already pushing past simple stardom" – *American Songwriter*



CODY JOHNSON

- "His ability to get a crowd fired up and also draw them in for a sentimental ballad is unmatched." – *Taste of Country*
- "Texas has an important, rich history of influence on country music – going way back before George Strait amassed the most No. 1s in country history. Johnson is continuing that tradition, modernizing the audience, and respecting the authenticity of its sound." – *Music Universe*
- Johnson's superstardom will sustain itself because he embodies a culture and genre bigger than his Texas-tattooed heart." – *Tennessean*



ELLA LANGLEY

- "Welcome to the celestial pantheon of modern country masters, Ella." – *Variety*
- "No one has done more for country music this year than Langley and her crossover smash, 'Choosin' Texas.'" – *Rolling Stone*
- "It's almost unfathomable just how popular this country star has become." – *New York Magazine*
- "Country music is ascendant, and Langley is its newest superstar." – *Wall Street Journal*
- "A country star who embraces tradition and modernity in equal measure." – *Billboard*



CHRIS STAPLETON

- "One of the most reliably compelling figures in modern music" – *NPR Music*
- "The rare country star with both traditional bona fides and broad commercial appeal. He has an outlaw soul and a pop star's capacity for inescapable hooks." – *New Yorker*
- "In an age rife with division, he's maybe the only thing Americans all agree on ... one of the most reliable hit makers in music." – *GQ*
- "A generational talent." – *Forbes*



LAINY WILSON

- "One of country music's most charismatic, multi-faceted entertainers." – *Billboard*
- "Wilson is nothing short of a force of nature when she wraps her hands around a microphone." – *American Songwriter*
- "The reigning current standard-bearer for women in country." – *Variety*
- "A bona fide superstar" – *Music Row*



MIRANDA LAMBERT



- "One of the most fun, sonically creative times of her career" –*Billboard*
- "Consistent, but never predictable." –*Esquire*
- "Arguably the best ambassador country has to the world right now, in a seemingly can-do-no-wrong/doing-it-all phase of her career" –*Variety*
- "The single greatest country star to come along this century...one of our greatest working songwriters" –*Stereogum*
- "The most accomplished and consistently great artist in contemporary country music" –*NPR*

ELLA LANGLEY



From sold-out tours to record-breaking hits, Langley is redefining what it means to be a modern country star. The multi-platinum, award-winning artist released her sophomore album, *Dandelion*, to critical acclaim and had a landmark year, becoming the first woman to top the *Billboard* Hot 100, Hot Country Songs and Country Airplay charts simultaneously with "Choosin' Texas," and with "Be Her," becoming the first woman in country music to claim the top two spots on the Hot 100.

MEGAN MORONEY



Reaching multi-platinum heights, Megan Moroney has surpassed 5.5 billion streams and debuted No.1 on the *Billboard* 200 with her third studio album, *Cloud 9*, while her sold out *Cloud 9 Tour* had Moroney playing to over half a million fans in North America.

"For her, *Cloud 9* isn't the summit. It's the view below, proof of how far she's climbed and how much higher she's willing to go." –*USA Today*

KACEY MUSGRAVES



Kacey Musgraves is having one of the biggest years of her career with *Middle of Nowhere*. Featuring standout single "Dry Spell" and Miranda Lambert collaboration "Horses and Divorces," the album delivered Musgraves' biggest opening sales week to date and became her sixth Top 5 album on *Billboard*'s Top Country Albums chart. Hailed by *The New Yorker* as "the genre's greatest crossover success," the 8x Grammy winner is currently touring 34 North American cities, including two sold-out nights at Madison Square Garden.

LAINIEY WILSON



- "One of country music's brightest stars." –*Billboard*
- "Wilson is nothing short of a force of nature when she wraps her hands around a microphone." –*American Songwriter*
- "The reigning current standard-bearer for women in country." –*Variety*
- "A bona fide superstar." –*Music Row*

ZACH TOP

FOR YOUR CMA AWARD CONSIDERATION

ALBUM OF THE YEAR
AIN'T IN IT FOR MY HEALTH

**GRAMMY AWARD WINNING ALBUM*

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR



PRODUCED BY CARSON CHAMBERLAIN

LUKE COMBS



- "His rich, textured voice rings true whether he's delivering a deeply felt ballad or a raucous party song." –*Time*
- "One of the most vulnerable, expressive voices in country." –*Billboard*
- "The dominant hitmaker in country." –*The New York Times*
- "He's a legend in the making, already pushing past simple stardom." –*American Songwriter*

CODY JOHNSON



"His ability to get a crowd fired up and also draw them in for a sentimental ballad is unmatched." –*Taste of Country*

"Texas has an important, rich history of influence on country music – going way back before George Strait amassed the most No. 1s in country history. Johnson is continuing that tradition, modernizing the audience, and respecting the authenticity of its sound." –*Music Universe*

Johnson's superstardom will sustain itself because he embodies a culture and genre bigger than his Texas-tattooed heart." –*Tennessean*

CHRIS STAPLETON



"The most-gifted pure singer in country music" –*Rolling Stone*

"With his bluesy, rangy growl, Stapleton has a once-in-a-generation voice" –*Billboard*

"[His] voice has become one of the defining sounds in modern country music." –*Tennessean*

"A generational talent." –*Forbes*

ZACH TOP



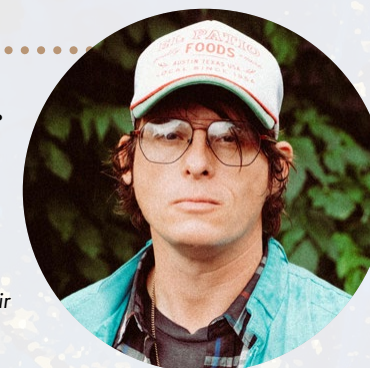
"He remains a sonic and philosophical outlier in the country music industry." –*New York Times*

"The fastest-rising star in country music." –*Variety*

"A new kind of old-school country music." –*Washington Post*

"Nashville's friskiest traditionalist." –*Los Angeles Times*

STEPHEN WILSON JR.



- "Wilson Jr. offers the kind of nuanced storytelling that has helped make stars of artists like Eric Church and Chris Stapleton, and he has the vocal prowess to back it up." –*Billboard*
- "Armed with amazing songs, strong guitar abilities and a voice that not only sounds good, but has something to say, Wilson Jr., is a force you will be hearing a lot about" –*Tennessean*
- "He's writing some of the most intricate and compelling songs around these days." –*NPR's Fresh Air*

LADY A



- Lady A is bringing back their *This Winter's Night Tour* this December, a holiday tradition blending "big, joyful moments with intimate sing-alongs and storytelling" (*USA Today*). With 11 No. 1s, nine billion streams, seven Grammys, and the diamond+ "Need You Now," the trio keeps evolving, regularly collaborating, most recently lifting their voices alongside Boyz II Men on "I Love The One," and is back in the studio working on new music.

LITTLE BIG TOWN



- "One of country music's greatest vocal groups." – *Billboard*
- "The perfect guiding light." – *Holler*
- "We shouldn't take the band for granted." – *Rolling Stone*
- "Their most vocally raw record yet." – *American Songwriter* on *It's A Dying Art*
- "Little Big Town is still chasing the same thing they always have: great songs, strong harmonies and the magic that happens when four musicians create something together in a room." – *MusicRow*

MIDLAND



- "True trendsetters" – *Rolling Stone*
- "Masters of postmodern country traditionalism ... Their latest release proves they've got a lot more miles to ride before hanging up their spurs" – *Cowboys & Indians*
- "Ultimately, if you're looking for an album that blends country making a big impact on the mainstream while staying true to its roots more than ever, it's Midland ... who arguably should be the band we've been paying attention to all along." – *Goldmine Magazine*

OLD DOMINION



Old Dominion's skyscraping anthems and electrifying live shows have cemented the multi-platinum band at the forefront of country music. Hailed as "country music's premiere craftsmen" by *Rolling Stone*, they recently completed their massive *How Good Is That – World Tour*, which took the band across the U.S., Canada, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, bringing their celebrated live show to stadiums and arenas around the world and further cementing their status as one of country music's most formidable live acts.

THE RED CLAY STRAYS



- Currently on their biggest tour to date in support of their third studio album *Grateful*, Red Clay Strays recently headlined Madison Square Garden and have two nights at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena later this month.
- "One of the fastest-rising acts in the country world." – *Billboard*
- "One of music's hottest – and most heartfelt – bands." – *Garden & Gun*
- "One of the most dominant forces in all of country music right now." – *Whiskey Riff*

DAN + SHAY

FOR YOUR CMA AWARDS CONSIDERATION
VOCAL DUO OF THE YEAR

OVER
14 BILLION
GLOBAL CAREER STREAMS

2026 STUDIO ALBUM

YOUNG

AVAILABLE NOW

"the most personal
album of their career"

billboard

SAY SO

34M STREAMS

TOP 10 AND CLIMBING
AT COUNTRY RADIO

BILLBOARD HOT 100 &
HOT COUNTRY SONGS

CULTURAL IMPACT

Surprise stadium pop-ups, cross-genre guest
performances, and a high-profile National Anthem
performance viewed by millions worldwide



THE YOUNG TOUR

BRINGING NEW MUSIC TO PACKED ARENAS NATIONWIDE NOW



BROOKS & DUNN



- Brooks & Dunn – the best-selling duo – celebrated a sold-out 2025 *Neon Moon Tour*, drawing multi-generational crowds to arenas and amphitheaters nationwide. Handpicked by Morgan Wallen for six stadium shows last year and eight in 2026, the Country Music Hall of Famers forged new territory with their first-ever UK shows earlier this year – hailed as “worth the wait.” Their *Neon Moon Tour* extends into 2026, underscoring their continued demand.

BROTHERS OSBORNE



“They mix unabashedly catchy choruses and soulful, washboard grooves built on Bruce, Bob Seger and Buck Owens with folky slow burners, capitalizing on a diverse instrumental repertoire” –*Rolling Stone*

“The lyrical thoughtfulness, the character of the production, and the sheer quality of the playing are all exemplary, setting the bar for the genre” –*Spin*

“Of all the roots-rock-inspired acts to arise in prominence in the wake of Chris Stapleton, Brothers Osborne is not only the most talented, but will likely be the most enduring” –*American Songwriter*

DAN + SHAY



- Dan + Shay’s current single, “Say So,” is Top 10 and climbing at Country radio, and featured on their acclaimed sixth studio album, *Young*. The duo has amassed more than 14 billion streams, 139 worldwide career multi-platinum, platinum and gold sales certifications to date, including 60 US RIAA and 81 international awards. The global superstars have garnered significant recognition, winning 10 ACM Awards, eight American Music Awards, four Billboard Music Awards, three Grammys, two CMA Awards and two People’s Choice Awards.

MUSCADINE BLOODLINE



Alabama natives Charlie Muncaster and Gary Stanton have spent the past decade independently making an impact on country music. The duo has amassed over two billion streams, garnered acclaim with their RIAA platinum-certified hits “Me On You” and “Porch Swing Angel” and gold-certified “Pieces” featuring Lainey Wilson, toured with Post Malone, Ella Langley and Turnpike Troubadours, and sold out headline tours nationwide. Most recently, they began their next chapter with their new single, “Escatawpa Hollow.”

THELMA & JAMES



- “With a creative chemistry so potent you can almost see sparks, Thelma & James are a much-needed new duo in country music – and an accidental, only-in-Nashville anomaly.” –*Grammy.com*
- “The magical combination of the actress-turned-country-music artist and the actor-turned-indie rock star ...” –*People*
- “Country music found its modern-day Sonny and Cher or The White Stripes.” – *Country Central*

"BE HER" – ELLA LANGLEY; PRODUCERS: MIRANDA LAMBERT, ELLA LANGLEY, BEN WEST; MIX ENGINEER: DAVE CLAUSS

The deeply relatable "Be Her" made history when Ella became the first woman ever to hold the No. 1 and No. 2 spots on *Billboard's* Hot Country Songs chart for multiple weeks. The song went on to become a No. 1 Country radio hit, spending three weeks atop the *Billboard* Country Airplay chart. *Holler* describes the track as "an undeniable bop, with an infectious rhythm and slick grooves" and "an anthem to becoming the best version of oneself."



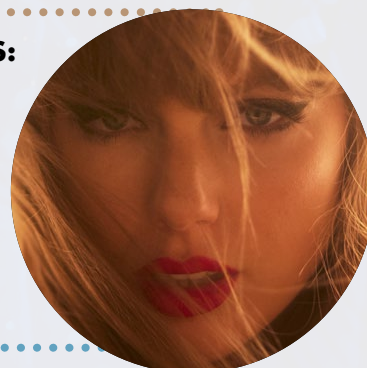
"CHOOSIN' TEXAS" – ELLA LANGLEY; PRODUCERS: MIRANDA LAMBERT, ELLA LANGLEY, BEN WEST; MIX ENGINEER: DAVE CLAUSS

The 6x Platinum phenomenon "Choosin' Texas" broke the record for most weeks at No. 1 in *Billboard* Hot 100 history. The *Associated Press* declared it "indisputably 2026's biggest hit," and The *Hollywood Reporter* cemented its impact, calling it "one of the biggest hits of the decade." With more than 1.6 billion streams worldwide, the song has become a ubiquitous part of the cultural conversation, with its instantly recognizable hook and emotional resonance connecting with audiences around the world.



"I KNEW IT, I KNEW YOU" – TAYLOR SWIFT; PRODUCERS: JACK ANTONOFF, TAYLOR SWIFT; MIX ENGINEER: LAURA SISK

- "Writing this song felt like a musical departure and coming home at the same time." –Taylor Swift
- "Taylor Swift Returns to No. 1 on U.S. Country Radio Chart for First Time in 13 Years with 'I Knew It, I Knew You.'" –People
- "'I Knew It, I Knew You' became Apple Music's all-time biggest country single of 2026." –Apple Music
- "Taylor Swift's 'I Knew It, I Knew You' became the most-streamed country song in a single day by a female artist in Spotify history" –Spotify



"SOMEWHERE OVER LAREDO" – LAINEY WILSON; PRODUCER: JAY JOYCE; MIX ENGINEERS: JASON HALL, JAY JOYCE

"One of her most commanding, dynamic vocal performances to date, crescendoing from a soft-focus, tender vocal, before gradually reaching into her upper register for powerful moments that heighten the song's emotional acuity." –*Billboard*

"Wilson's rapturous country ballad puts a new spin on the rainbow with keen storytelling and a spellbinding vocal." –*Hits Daily Double*

"Captures that distinct blend of old soul and new spirit that continues to make Lainey Wilson one of country music's most compelling voices." –*All Country News*



"THE FALL" – CODY JOHNSON; PRODUCER: TRENT WILLMON; MIX ENGINEER: JACK CLARKE

"Philosophical, moody and super compelling. A superb song in the throat of a master stylist. Essential." –Bob Oermann, *MusicRow Magazine*

"['The Fall'] established a home on the airwaves, seemingly fulfilling its destiny." –*Billboard*

"'The Fall' he refers to throughout the tune is ultimately a celebration of life's imperfection and enounces one to cherish the journey that comes, no matter how many obstacles get in the way." –*Country Now*



AIN'T IN IT FOR MY HEALTH – ZACH TOP; PRODUCER: CARSON CHAMBERLAIN; MIX ENGINEER: MATT ROVEY

- “A new kind of old-school country music.” –*Washington Post*
- “Good, clean country fun, full of clear-eyed comedic writing and tight arrangements.” –*Pitchfork*
- “A neo-neo-traditionalist, bringing back the cheek, suavity and rowdy reverence of that era.” –*New York Times*



DANDELION – ELLA LANGLEY; PRODUCERS: DEVIN DAWSON, ELLA LANGLEY, MIRANDA LAMBERT, BEN WEST; MIX ENGINEER: DAVE CLAUSS



Dandelion debuted at No. 1 on the *Billboard* 200 chart, spent its first two weeks atop the list and has never left the top five.

“Langley delivered a country landmark with her smash second album.” –*Rolling Stone*

“An instant classic.” –*People*

“It’s heartfelt hit-making at its finest, acting as the album of right now and likely one for years to come.” –*American Songwriter*

“Langley brings the past to her present, melding wistful insights with contemporary acuity.” –*Associated Press*

MIDDLE OF NOWHERE – KACEY MUSGRAVES; PRODUCERS: IAN FITCHUK, LUKE LAIRD, KACEY MUSGRAVES, DANIEL TASHIAN; MIX ENGINEERS: SERBAN GHENEA, KONRAD SNYDER

Kacey Musgraves is having one of the biggest years of her career with *Middle of Nowhere*. Featuring standout single “Dry Spell” and Miranda Lambert collaboration “Horses and Divorces,” the album delivered Musgraves’ biggest opening sales week to date and became her sixth Top 5 album on *Billboard*’s Top Country Albums chart. Hailed by *The New Yorker* as “the genre’s greatest crossover success,” the 8x Grammy winner is currently touring 34 North American cities, including two sold-out nights at Madison Square Garden.



PARKER MCCOLLUM – PARKER MCCOLLUM; PRODUCERS: FRANK LIDDELL, ERIC MASSE; MIX ENGINEER: ERIC MASSE



“His deep vocal style is something that has been all but lost in today’s country scene. His songwriting style evokes artists from Strait’s generation, with his simple but catchy choruses and anthemic melodies.” –*American Songwriter*

“For all his platinum hits, sold-out arena shows and back-to-back radio successes, Parker McCollum has never sounded more like himself than he does on his fifth studio album, appropriately self-titled.” –*MusicRow*

“Permeated with Lone Star State soul and grit.” –*Billboard*

THE WAY I AM – LUKE COMBS; PRODUCERS: LUKE COMBS, CHIP MATTHEWS, JONATHAN SINGLETON; MIX ENGINEER: CHIP MATTHEWS

- “An expert sense of craft ... *The Way I Am* is sharply crafted and unpretentious in a way that carries on the best Nashville traditions.” –*Pitchfork*
- “Singular brand of Nashville grace.” –*Billboard*
- “One of the most reliable hitmakers around.” –*NPR Music*
- “This is a superstar at the peak of his powers.” –*Music Row*



"BE HER" – SONGWRITERS: SMITH AHNQUIST, MICHAEL HARDY, ELLA LANGLEY, JORDAN SCHMIDT

Written by Ella Langley, Hardy, Smith Ahnquist and Jordan Schmidt, the Platinum-certified "Be Her" is an honest, sharply written look inward, as Ella confronts the distance between where she is and who she wants to become—someone who feels steady, honest, and fully at home in herself. The track has widely resonated with audiences, spending an impressive 18 weeks in the Top 10 of the *Billboard* Hot 100 and hitting No. 1 at Country radio.



"BEAUTIFUL THINGS" – SONGWRITERS: JESSI ALEXANDER, JESSIE JO DILLON, CONNIE HARRINGTON, MEGAN MORONEY

"Elsewhere, she takes the wise insights she's gained on life, friendships and love, using it to encourage and advise the next generation of women on 'Beautiful Things.'" –*Billboard*

"Beautiful Things" and "6 Months Later" both preach a hard-won gospel of resilience." –*LA Times*

"While written for her niece, it seemed that Moroney's 'Beautiful Things' helped more than her new family member." –*American Songwriter*



"CHOOSIN' TEXAS" – SONGWRITERS: LUKE DICK, ELLA LANGLEY, MIRANDA LAMBERT, JOYBETH TAYLOR

- "A love-triangle country tune so timeless you can imagine it being sung by Dolly, Tammy or Martina." –*New York Times*
- "'Choosin' Texas' is not only a terrific showcase for Langley's wistful storytelling and subtle tenderness, but now it's a bonafide crossover smash." –*Billboard*
- "An irresistibly and almost cheerfully woeful love-triangle lament." –*Rolling Stone*
- Declared one of the best songs of the year by *Billboard*, *NY Times*, *LA Times*, *Fader* and more.



"DRY SPELL" – SONGWRITERS: LUKE LAIRD, SHANE MCANALLY, KACEY MUSGRAVES, JOSH OSBORNE

Kacey Musgraves is having one of the biggest years of her career with *Middle of Nowhere*. Featuring standout single "Dry Spell" and Miranda Lambert collaboration "Horses and Divorces," the album delivered Musgraves' biggest opening sales week to date and became her sixth Top 5 album on *Billboard*'s Top Country Albums chart. Hailed by *The New Yorker* as "the genre's greatest crossover success," the 8x Grammy winner is currently touring 34 North American cities, including two sold-out nights at Madison Square Garden.



"GARY" – SONGWRITER: STEPHEN WILSON JR.

- "Stephen Wilson Jr. salutes the working class" –*Rolling Stone*
- "Wilson Jr. has long been known for his formidable songwriting and grunge rock infused style of country. Searing guitar, explosive percussion and lines like 'Time leaves town but the minute hand stays' reinforce his reputation as a superb musical craftsman." –*Billboard*
- "Stephen Wilson Jr. does not miss, and this is a phenomenal start to his next chapter of music." –*Whiskey Riff*



FOR YOUR CMA AWARD CONSIDERATION

McArthur

HARDY · CHURCH · WALLEN · MCGRAW

**MUSICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR
SINGLE OF THE YEAR**

BIG LIPS

FOR YOUR CMA CONSIDERATION

Carly Pearce & Riley Green

If I Don't Leave I'm Gonna Stay

MUSICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR



"A SONG TO SING" – MIRANDA LAMBERT W/ CHRIS STAPLETON; PRODUCER: DAVE COBB



- "Two of the most respected country songwriters of the past decade." –Rolling Stone
- "Miranda Lambert and Chris Stapleton are true rarities." –Stereogum
- "Two of country music's most compelling voices." –Country Now

"HORSES AND DIVORCES" – KACEY MUSGRAVES F/ MIRANDA LAMBERT; PRODUCERS: KACEY MUSGRAVES, DANIEL TASHIAN



Kacey Musgraves is having one of the biggest years of her career with *Middle of Nowhere*. Featuring standout single "Dry Spell" and Miranda Lambert collaboration "Horses and Divorces," the album delivered Musgraves' biggest opening sales week to date and became her sixth Top 5 album on *Billboard's* Top Country Albums chart. Hailed by *The New Yorker* as "the genre's greatest crossover success," the 8x Grammy winner is currently touring 34 North American cities, including two sold-out nights at Madison Square Garden.

"I CAN'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE" – ELLA LANGLEY & MORGAN WALLEN; PRODUCERS: AUSTIN GOODLOE, ELLA LANGLEY, BEN WEST

After its surprise onstage debut, "I Can't Love You Anymore" made history as the first song by two core country acts with equal lead billing to ever debut in the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart's top 10. The track, which *Holler* calls a "blockbuster collaboration," went all the way to No. 1 at Country radio and effortlessly pairs raw, conversational lyrics with aching melodies as Langley and Wallen trade verses on a love at its breaking point.

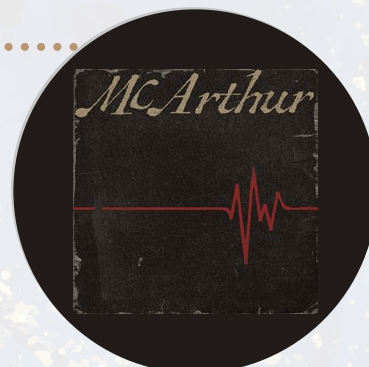


"IF I DON'T LEAVE I'M GONNA STAY" – CARLY PEARCE & RILEY GREEN; PRODUCERS: CARLY PEARCE, BEN WEST



"Their voices caress each other as much as their wandering fingers do as two of country music's best collaborators each add another blockbuster duet to their repertoire." –*Billboard*
 "With both singers bringing more than sparks to 'If I Don't Leave I'm Gonna Stay,' fans were already calling it a No. 1 hit." –*American Songwriter*
 "These two have stunning vocal chemistry. Green's twin-like harmony singing is a revelation, and they both bring simmering heat to this portrait of passion. Essential listening." –*MusicRow*

"MCARTHUR" – HARDY, ERIC CHURCH, MORGAN WALLEN & TIM MCGRAW; PRODUCER: JAY JOYCE



- "The foursome each trading off lines and joining together at various points in the song does, of course, bring to mind other country music collaborative groups such as The Highwaymen's Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson and Waylon Jennings, and The Highwomen's Brandi Carlile, Maren Morris, Amanda Shires and Natalie Hemby." –*Billboard*
- "The hitmaking country songwriter Hardy gathered big names to represent multiple generations on a family farm ... a rootsy, fiddle-topped ballad that stays humble about what a legacy means." –*New York Times*

"CHOOSIN' TEXAS" – ELLA LANGLEY; DIRECTORS: ELLA LANGLEY, CAYLEE ROBILLARD, WALES TONEY

The cinematic music video brings the song's story to life through a tale of hometown ties, complicated love, and the pull between past and present. The visual has over 90 million views and features appearances from Luke Grimes, Ava Phillippe, Miranda Lambert and Kaitlin Butts. Dubbed "serious Music Video of the Year material" by *Country Now*, the video is grounded in Texas culture and captures the spirit of the Lone Star State with a lived-in authenticity.



"DRY SPELL" – KACEY MUSGRAVES; DIRECTORS: HANNAH LUX DAVIS, KACEY MUSGRAVES

Kacey Musgraves is having one of the biggest years of her career with *Middle of Nowhere*. Featuring standout single "Dry Spell" and Miranda Lambert collaboration "Horses and Divorces," the album delivered Musgraves' biggest opening sales week to date and became her sixth Top 5 album on *Billboard*'s Top Country Albums chart. Hailed by *The New Yorker* as "the genre's greatest crossover success," the 8x Grammy winner is currently touring 34 North American cities, including two sold-out nights at Madison Square Garden.



"GARY" – STEPHEN WILSON JR.; DIRECTORS: TIM COFIELD, STEPHEN WILSON JR.

"After Wilson debuted 'Gary' in November on *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, the tribute to a blue-collar worker who leads a life of quiet desperation developed a cult-like following ... It seems only fitting that actor Gary Sinise, beloved as Lt. Dan from *Forrest Gump*, would star in the video." – *Billboard*
 "Stephen Wilson Jr. salutes the working class" – *Rolling Stone*
 "The music video for 'Gary' is everything you want from a visual piece." – *Whiskey Riff*



"THE FALL" – CODY JOHNSON; DIRECTOR: DUSTIN HANEY

"Cody Johnson's worlds collide in the new music video for his current hit single 'The Fall.' Tapping into his passion for professional bull riding, his country music career and his gift for storytelling, the CMA Entertainer of the Year nominee delivers a cinematic experience that brings to life the song's reflective, bittersweet journey through life's highs and lows." – *Country Now*



"WHITE HORSE" – CHRIS STAPLETON; DIRECTOR: RUNNING BEAR

- "A hell-raising anthem." – *Billboard*
- "The story is thrilling, heartbreaking, and keeps you on the edge of your seat. The 'White Horse' music video is cinematic excellence." – *Whiskey Riff*



Every *Anna*

for your CMA awards consideration
new artist of the year



 **WARNER
RECORDS**
NASHVILLE

FOR YOUR CMA AWARD CONSIDERATION

STEPHEN WILSON WJR.

**NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR
MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR**

"NASHVILLE'S BREAKOUT STAR"

SPIN

**"ONE OF COUNTRY MUSIC'S
MOST ELECTRIFYING
NEW ARTISTS."**

RollingStone

**"GARY"
SONG OF THE YEAR
VIDEO OF THE YEAR
(STARRING GARY SINISE)**

**"MIGHT BE THE MOST
POWERFUL MUSIC VIDEO
OF THE DECADE"**

ALL COUNTRY NEWS

**"EVERYTHING YOU WANT
FROM A VISUAL PIECE."**

WHISKEY RIFF

BIG LOUD

EVERY ANNA

Reigning ACM New Female of the Year winner Avery Anna is a defining voice in modern country music, attracting attention from esteemed media outlets like *Rolling Stone*, *Billboard*, *American Songwriter* and more. In 2027, she'll join Luke Combs for his *My Kinda Saturday Night* stadium tour and will also be featured on select dates of The Red Clay Strays' *Grateful Tour '27*. She has earned multiple Artist To Watch nods and garnered over two billion global streams.



CARTER FAITH



"One of the best country debuts in recent memory." –*Rolling Stone*

"The best old-school country revivalist to emerge on Nashville's Music Row this year." –*NPR Music*

"Nashville is always buzzing about which young artists are poised to break out to mainstream success, and these days, Faith's name is first on the list." –*Washington Post*

"A storytelling marvel." –*American Songwriter*

EMILY ANN ROBERTS

"Emily Ann Roberts is carving out a path that honors country tradition while boldly stepping into her future."

–*Cowgirl Magazine*

"With every new release Emily Ann Roberts proves she's got the country bona fides, heartfelt songwriting, an enchanting vocal, and plenty of charm." –*Billboard*

"One of the brightest stars in country music today." –*Country Living*

"Emily Ann Roberts reminds us what good country songwriting sounds like." –*Holler*



TUCKER WETMORE



Tucker Wetmore's career continues to soar as he approaches three billion global streams, takes his headlining tour around the world and continues to top the charts with three consecutive No. 1 singles at Country radio and counting. Named ACM New Male Artist of the Year and *Billboard*'s Country Rising Star, Wetmore's fourth radio single, "Who Told You That," climbs the charts as he readies his forthcoming sophomore album.

STEPHEN WILSON JR.

"One of country music's most electrifying new artists." –*Rolling Stone*

"He's writing some of the most intricate and compelling songs around these days." –*NPR's Fresh Air*

"One of the most buzzworthy up-and-comers in country music." –*American Songwriter*

