



EMBARGOED UNTIL 6am EST
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OFF-CAMERA NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED FOR THE 43rd ANNUAL ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS

ENCINO, CA (March 19, 2008) – The Academy of Country Music is announcing nominations for the following categories, which, due to time constraints, will not be televised during the 43rd ANNUAL ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS:

NATIONAL ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

Bill Cody's Classic Country Weekend
Blair Garner After MidNite
Danny Wright All Night
The Big D and Bubba Show
The Lia Show

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – MAJOR MARKET

KEEY (Minneapolis, MN) - Chris Carr
KSON (San Diego, CA) - Cliff and Company: Cliff, Morgan, Tanner and Tori
WMIL (Greenfield, WI) - Karen, Scott and Radar
WSIX (Nashville, TN) - Gerry House & The House Foundation: Mike Bohan, Al Voecks, Duncan Stewart and Richard Falken
WUSN (Chicago, IL) - Trish Biondo

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – MEDIUM MARKET

WBBS (Syracuse, NY) - Ron Bee and Becky Palmer
WOKQ (Dover, NH) Mark Ericson and Danielle Carrier
WWGR (Bonita Springs, FL) - Valleri St. John
WYCT (Pensacola, FL) - Brent Lane, Dana Cervantes and Jim Sanborn
WYNK (Baton Rouge, LA) - Scott Innes

ON-AIR PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR – SMALL MARKET

KCLR (Columbia, MO) - Carrie Bremer & Scotty Cox
WBKR (Owensboro, KY) - Moon, Chad and Kelly
WGSQ (Cookeville, TN) - Gator & The StyckMan
WGSQ (Cookeville, TN) - McFly and The Ride Home: Marty McFly and Stewart James
WKDQ (Evansville, IN) - The Donut Holes: Jon Prell, Lori Mae, Gene Stewart and Kim Kavanaw

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR – MAJOR MARKET

KYGO (Denver, CO)
WMIL (Greenfield, WI)

(more)

WQYK (St. Petersburg, FL)
WUBE (Cincinnati, OH)
WXTU (Philadelphia, PA)

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR – MEDIUM MARKET

KSSN (Little Rock, AR)
KUAD (Windsor, CO)
WGNA (Schenectady, NY)
WUSY-FM (Chattanooga, TN)
WYRK (Buffalo, NY)

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR – SMALL MARKET

WFRY (Watertown, NY)
WGSQ (Cookeville, TN)
WJCL (Savannah, GA)
WTCR (Huntington, WV)
WWJO (St. Cloud, MN)

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Mark Bright
Tony Brown
Byron Gallimore
Frank Rogers
Mark Wright

AUDIO ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Chuck Ainlay
Jeff Balding
Julian King
Kyle Lehning
Justin Niebank

TOP BASS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Mike Brignardello
Dennis Crouch
Alison Prestwood
Michael Rhodes
Jimmie Lee Sloas

TOP PERCUSSIONIST/DRUMMER OF THE YEAR

Shannon Forrest
Paul Leim
Chris McHugh
Greg Morrow
Lonnie Wilson

TOP FIDDLE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Glen Duncan
Stuart Duncan
Larry Franklin
Joe Spivey
Jonathan Yudkin

(more)

TOP GUITARIST OF THE YEAR

Tom Bukovac
J.T. Corenflos
Kenny Greenberg
Dann Huff
Bryan Sutton

TOP PIANO/KEYBOARDS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Tony Harrell
John Jarvis
Steve Nathan
Michael Rojas
Matt Rollings

TOP SPECIALTY INSTRUMENT(S) PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Eric Darken
Jerry Douglas
Dan Dugmore
Aubrey Haynie
Jim Horn

TOP STEEL GUITAR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Dan Dugmore
Paul Franklin
Lloyd Green
Gary Morse
Russ Pahl

VENUE OF THE YEAR

Crystal Grand Music Theatre, Lake Delton, WI
DTE Energy Music Center, Detroit, MI
Nissan Pavilion, Bristow, VA
Rialto Square Theatre, Joliet, IL
Star Plaza Theatre , Merrville, IN

NIGHTCLUB OF THE YEAR

Billy Bob's, Ft. Worth, TX
Cowboy's, Colorado Springs, CO
Coyote Joe's, Charlotte, NC
Joe's, Chicago, IL
Wild Bill's, Duluth, GA

CASINO OF THE YEAR

Casino Rama, Orillia, ONT
Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville, CT
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Mt. Pleasant, MI
Star of the Desert Arena, Primm, NV
Turning Stone Casino, Verona, NY

DON ROMEO TALENT BUYER OF THE YEAR

Todd Boltin, Variety Attractions
Gil Cunningham, Neste Event Marketing

Gary Osier, Gary Osier Presents

(more)

Fran Romeo, Romeo Entertainment Group

Randy Wright, Integrity Events

PROMOTER OF THE YEAR

Brad Garrett, Police Productions

Don Kronberg, Nitelite Promotions

Darin Lashinsky, Outback Concerts

Brian O'Connell, LiveNation

Glenn Smith, Glenn Smith Presents

ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC

About the Academy of Country Music

Founded in 1964, the **ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC** is an artist and industry-driven organization, that provides the financial resources to ensure the on-going philanthropic work of its Charitable Fund. The Academy of Country Music Charitable Fund promotes and supports music education and humanitarian programs that transform the human spirit. Through its charitable donations, the ACMCF works towards promoting Learning Through Music and Healing Through Music. The Academy is comprised of more than 4,500 professional members and more than 40,000 associate members and is headquartered in Encino, Calif.

About the Academy of Country Music Awards

The 43rd **ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS** is dedicated to honoring and showcasing the biggest names and emerging talent in the country music industry. The show is produced for television by Dick Clark Productions and will be broadcast LIVE from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas Sunday, May 18, 2008 at 8:00 PM live ET/delayed PT on the CBS Television Network. The show is executive produced by R.A. Clark, and produced by Barry Adelman. The executive in charge of production is Bob Bardo.

For more information on the **ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC** and the **ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS**, please visit www.acmcountry.com. For more information on the **ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC CHARITABLE FUND**, please visit www.acmcf.org.

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