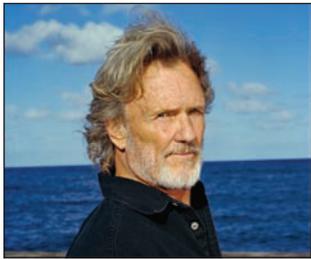


## Kris Kristofferson To Receive Icon Honors



MARY ELLEN MARK

**K**ris Kristofferson will be honored as an Icon at BMI's 57<sup>th</sup> annual Country Awards, the oldest awards saluting country's top music makers. Slated for Tuesday, November 10 at BMI's Music Row offices in Nashville, the black-tie, invitation-only gala will also celebrate the songwriters of the past year's most-performed country songs from the extensive BMI catalog.

With the penetration of a poet and the humbling grace of a troubadour, Kris Kristofferson built a legendary career most recognized for its versatility, authenticity, and sheer brilliance. He has received 48 BMI Country and Pop Awards for his compositions, including "Sunday Mornin' Comin' Down," "Why Me," "Me and Bobby McGee," "Lovin' Her Was Easier (Than Anything I'll Ever Do Again)," which was also the BMI Country Song of the Year in 1972, "Help Me Make It Through the Night," which garnered seven BMI Country and four

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## BMI Revenues Top \$905 Million in 2009

**B**MI earned more than \$905 million in revenues for its 2009 fiscal year, including its subsidiary Landmark Digital Services®, LLC. BMI increased royalty distributions to more than \$788 million for its songwriters, composers and copyright owners. With more than 400,000 songwriters, composers and music publisher affiliates, BMI is the world's largest music copyright organization.

Despite one of the most difficult economic environments in BMI's history, the company recorded its best-ever year in international

revenues, as the strength of its repertoire was evident around the globe. BMI was also able to grow revenues in the new media sector by 11 percent, and now has a portfolio of more than 6,700 digital media properties under license. In addition, the company has completed the integration of Landmark Digital Services' radio performance data into its radio survey through Landmark's BlueArrow® technology, giving BMI the industry's most comprehensive and granular data on radio airplay.

BMI continued its long-term focus on revenue

diversity, which provided stability to the company's results despite the challenges presented by the economy. Revenue from non-broadcast media such as cable, satellite and digital media continue to increase its share of BMI's total, joining general licensing as key growth areas. Thanks to long-term agreements, revenue from traditional broadcast radio and television remained strong.

"As BMI marks its 70th anniversary in the year ahead, we know we will be looking at an extremely challenging economic

*continued on page 2*

## George Clinton Honored as Icon at BMI Urban Awards T-Pain, Lil Wayne Take Top Songwriter Honors

**B**MI saluted the world's premier r&b, rap and hip-hop songwriters, producers and publishers Thursday, September 10 at its annual Urban Awards. BMI President & CEO Del Bryant and Catherine Brewton, Vice President, Writer/Publisher Relations, Atlanta, hosted the ceremony at Frederick P. Rose Hall, Home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, Broadway at 60th Street, New York City.

Hip-hop titans T-Pain and Lil Wayne shared the prestigious Songwriter of the Year prize, as trendsetters Polow Da Don and Kanye West both earned Producer of the Year titles. Song of the Year honors went to Jordin Sparks' "No Air," written by



BOY TANABARA

George Clinton is congratulated on being named an Icon by BMI President & CEO Del Bryant and Vice President Catherine Brewton.

Erik Griggs, while Universal Music Publishing Group garnered yet another Publisher of the Year crown.

The capstone of the night's festivities was the presentation of the BMI Icon Award to George Clinton,

whose achievements were celebrated with an all-star musical tribute, featuring performances by Cee-Lo Green, Nikka Costa and Parliament/Funkadelic's Bootsy Collins, Janelle

*continued on page 2*

## BMI Revenues Top \$905 Million *continued from page 1*

environment," said BMI's President & CEO Del Bryant. "We understand the significant market pressures faced by the businesses which we license, and we anticipate tough discussions in the year ahead as we negotiate new agreements for the use of our repertoire. At the same time, we are encouraged by the steady growth in our market share, and in the expanded use of

music by both traditional and digital media, both dynamics that drive our licensing income. We have an intense focus on efficiency and cost containment. These factors give us confidence in our ability to meet the challenges of this volatile economic landscape, and to provide a point of stability to our songwriters and value to our customers, as the economy works its way

to recovery."

BMI's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. BMI's consolidated financial information includes Landmark Digital Services, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary.

Details of BMI's 2009 fiscal year will appear in special section of the November/December BMI Bulletin and will be available online in mid-October. □

## T-Pain, Lil Wayne Take Top Honors *continued from page 1*



Urban Producer of the Year Polow Da Don, BMI President & CEO Del Bryant and David Renzer, Chairman of Urban Publisher of the Year Universal Music.

Monáe and Gym Class Hero's Travis McCoy, and Dallas Austin, Big Gipp and Outkast's Big Boi.

The pioneer of p-funk, Clinton's solo work and collaborations with his ace bands Parliament, Funkadelic and the P. Funk All-Stars rank among urban and rock music's most influential. From the self-penned "(I Wanna) Testify," "Atomic Dog," "One Nation Under a Groove" to "Tear the Roof Off the Sucker (Give Up the Funk)" and

"Aqua Boogie," his songs have spawned new genres of music, have been sampled in countless hits and have been used in more than 1,000 television programs and films. In 1997, George Clinton and Parliament/Funkadelic became members of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, claimed a spot on the Hollywood Rock Walk and garnered the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the NAACP Image Awards.

T-Pain and Lil Wayne

both contributed six songs to the year's most-performed list, underscoring the dominance both artists have achieved, occasionally through collaborations with each other. T-Pain's award-winning compositions include "Baby Don't Go," recorded by Fabolous; Rick Ross's "The Boss"; "Low," recorded by Flo Rida and featuring T-Pain; 2 Pistols' "She Got It"; and "Can't Believe It" and "Got Money," which he co-wrote and performed with Lil Wayne. In addition to "Can't Believe It" and "Got Money," Lil Wayne's most-performed compositions include "A Milli," "Lollipop" and "Mrs. Officer," which he co-wrote and recorded; and "Duffle Bag Boy," recorded by Playaz Circle and featuring Lil Wayne.

Song of the Year "No Air" was co-written by Erik "Bluetooth" Griggs and published by 4 X Ample Music, Irving Music and Underdog East Songs. Recorded by Jordin Sparks and featuring Chris Brown, the tune has already amassed more than 1 million performances in the

*continued on page 6*

# BMI<sup>®</sup> BULLETIN

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The BMI Bulletin<sup>®</sup> is published by Broadcast Music, Inc., 320 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019. President & CEO: Del R. Bryant, 320 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019; Corporate Secretary: Stuart Rosen, 320 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019; Treasurer: Angelo Bruno, 10 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203.

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## Urban, Swift, Johnson & Zac Brown Band Lead BMI CMA Nominations

**K**eith Urban, Taylor Swift, Jamey Johnson and the Zac Brown Band lead the BMI list of nominees for the 2009 CMA Awards. With four nominations each, the four distinct artists will vie for their respective prizes alongside a slew of



Keith Urban

additional BMI contenders at the association's annual ceremony, slated Wednesday,

November 11 in Nashville. Keith Urban's Entertainer of the Year nod comes as no surprise. A perennial favorite of both fans and the industry, Urban has developed one of the strongest stadium shows of any genre. He also garnered a slew of nominations recognizing his artistry, including Male Vocalist and Album of the Year for *Defying Gravity*.

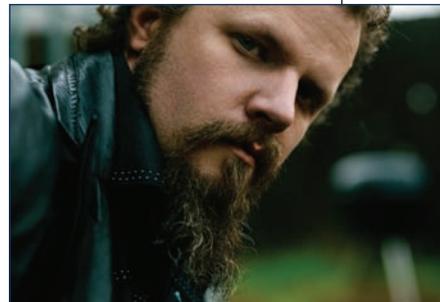
Taylor Swift has shattered records and genre-boundaries over the past year, topping country and pop charts and crossing over into other media, including television and film. Her Entertainer of the Year nomination applauds her broadening appeal, while nods for Female Vocalist and Album of the Year underscore her transition



Taylor Swift

from promising new force to established superstar.

Jamey Johnson charmed both contemporary critics and outlaw country nostalgists with his masterfully crafted *That*



Jamey Johnson

*Lonesome Song*, up for Album of the Year. His single "In Color," which he co-wrote with fellow BMI songwriters James Otto and Lee Thomas Miller, will compete in both Single and Song of the Year fields, while Johnson is also up for New Artist of the Year.

Touring veterans the Zac



Zac Brown Band

Brown Band enjoyed a leap into the mainstream over the past year, earning two #1 singles and a slew of new fans. In addition to New Artist and Vocal Group of the Year, the band's "Chicken Fried" is nominated for both Single and Song of the Year.

Breakout trio Lady Antebellum will compete in Vocal Group and Single of the Year for recent chart-topper "I Run to You."

Powerhouse vocalist Carrie Underwood will compete in the Female Vocalist and Musical Event of the Year categories, while Sugarland also garnered two nods:

Vocal Duo and Album of the Year for *Love on the Inside*. "People Are Crazy," co-written by Bobby Braddock and Troy Jones, will compete in the Song of the Year field.

Additional

BMI nominees include Miranda Lambert and Martina McBride for Female Vocalist of the Year; Randy Houser and Jake Owen for New Artist of the Year; the Eagles, Little Big Town and Rascal Flatts for Vocal Group of the Year; Big & Rich, Brooks & Dunn, Joey + Rory and Montgomery Gentry

for Vocal Duo of the Year; and The Raconteurs' "Old Enough," featuring Ashley Monroe, for the Musical Event of the Year trophy.

For a complete list of nominees, please visit [www.cmaawards.com](http://www.cmaawards.com). □

## First Annual Miami Music Festival Slated for December



The inaugural Miami Music Festival will profile a broad selection of the indie music sphere's most promising emerging artists December 10-12, 2009 in the Florida hotspot. Presented by In Tune Partners, *The Miami Herald*, *El Nuevo Herald*, Miami.com and city and county government departments, the first annual conference and festival will offer more than 600 performances on 25 stages

in the Brickell area of downtown Miami.

A major music hub, Miami boasts both local entertainment infrastructure and an enviable identity as a destination city—ideal traits for the home of a new music festival.

BMI will co-produce the event along with Yamaha Corporation of America, Broadjam.com, Sound Exchange and others. Performance lineups, panelists and additional details will be announced soon. For up-to-date information, visit [miamimusicfestival.org](http://miamimusicfestival.org) □

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BMI Pop Awards, and "For the Good Times," which won a BMI Country Award each year between 1971 and 1979 as well as five BMI Pop Awards between 1970 and 1974. Three Grammys line his shelves. He is a three-time BMI Country Songwriter of the Year, and eight of his compositions have generated substantially more than one million performances. While he wrote most of his masterpieces alone, his co-writers include giants Shel Silverstein, Marijohn

Wilkin, and Fred Foster. He has starred in numerous films, including Lone Star, the Blade trilogy, Pat Garrett & Billy the Kid, A Star Is Born, for which he garnered the Golden Globe trophy for Best Motion Picture Actor, and Songwriter, for which he received an Oscar nomination for Original Song Score. Along with Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, and Johnny Cash, Kristofferson also formed the Highwaymen. He is a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame,

Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, and Songwriters Hall of Fame, which also honored him with the prestigious Johnny Mercer Award in 2006. Recording now for New West Records, he will release a new album in September of this year. A Rhodes Scholar capable of choosing virtually any path, Kristofferson decided to write songs, and for that, purveyors and lovers of American music are eternally grateful.

Hosted by BMI President & CEO Del Bryant and

Nashville Writer/Publisher VP Jody Williams, the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Country Awards will recognize the songwriters and publishers of the top BMI country songs played on American radio and television during the previous year. In addition to the Icon presentation, BMI will bestow prestigious honors on the Country Songwriter of the Year, Country Publisher of the Year and Most Performed Country Song of the Year, also known as the Robert J. Burton Award. □

T-Pain, Lil Wayne Take Top Honors continued from page 2

United States alone, as more than 3.5 million copies have been digitally purchased worldwide. In addition to achieving platinum-sales

status in the U.S., New Zealand and Australia, "No Air" climbed into the top ten of charts over the world.

Polow Da Don and Kanye West shared the Producer of the Year win thanks to individually logging the most producer credits on charting songs over the past year. The BMI Top Urban Producers list also featured contemporary hit-makers L.O.S. Da Mystro, Jim Jonsin, T-Pain and JR Rotem.

Universal Music Publishing Group earned its second consecutive BMI Urban Publisher of the Year trophy by scoring the highest percentage of copyright ownership in award songs. The publishing powerhouse placed fifteen hits on the most-performed list, including Mario's "Crying Out for Me"; David Banner's "Get Like Me," featuring Chris Brown; Usher's "Love In This Club," featuring Young Jeezy; Alicia Key's "Teenage Love Affair"; and Mariah Carey's "Touch My Body"; along with Song of the Year "No Air" and compositions

from Songwriter of the Year T-Pain.

Additional multiple award-winners included T.I., with three BMI Urban Awards, and Chris Brown, Jim Jonsin, Plies, Polow Da Don, JR Rotem, Kanye West and Young Jeezy, who each contributed two songs to the most-performed list.

The BMI and Coca-Cola

#1 Show held prior to the ceremony also recognized the BMI-affiliated writers whose songs reached #1 on the Billboard R&B/Hip-Hop Songs, Hot Rap Tracks, Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Airplay and Hot 100 charts during the past year.

A complete list of BMI Urban Awards winners can be found at [bmi.com/urban](http://bmi.com/urban).

## BMI Icons

The Icon designation is given to BMI songwriters and artists who have had "a unique and indelible influence on generations of music makers."

The elite list of past honorees includes such musical greats as Willie Nelson, James Brown, the Bee Gees, Chuck Berry, Merle Haggard, Dolly Parton, Isaac Hayes, Ray Davies, Crosby, Stills & Nash, the Jacksons, Gloria Estefan, Carlos Santana, Whisperin' Bill Anderson, Charlie Daniels, Steve Winwood, Loretta Lynn, Hank Williams, Jr., Bo Diddley, Little Richard and Al Green, among others.

## Herbie Hancock Named L.A. Philharmonic Creative Chair

Grammy award-winning BMI composer Herbie Hancock will assume the role of Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra creative chair next year. The jazz giant intends to pursue a strategy of cultural and musical "cross-pollination," integrating visual art including dance and media such as computer graphics and film clips, along with miscellaneous music genres including jazz, into performances. Hancock's duties will include the hiring and mentorship of

new musicians, as well as programming for L.A.'s Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Hollywood Bowl.

The 69-year-old Hancock garnered two Grammys last year, including album of the year for *River: The Joni Letters*, a tribute to icon Joni Mitchell. Currently, he is hard at work on a new album that will feature an international cast of special guests, including Tracy Chapman, African singer Oumou Sangare, Chaka Khan and Ravi Shankar's daughter Anoushka Shankar. □

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