**WHAT IS BMI?**

**BMI IS THE BRIDGE THAT CONNECTS MUSIC WITH BUSINESS.**

WE COMPENSATE THE CREATORS OF THAT MUSIC AND
ENSURE BUSINESSES CAN LEGALLY ACCESS IT,
WHICH HELPS ENHANCE THEIR CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE
AND ADDS VALUE TO THEIR ORGANIZATION.

**HOW WE DO IT**

BMI represents songwriters, composers and publishers, and connects their musical works to the businesses that use them.

Songwriters and composers do just that; they create the words and music to a song. Sometimes those writers are also the performing artists who record that song, but more often, songwriters work far away from the spotlight, creating those songs for others to record and perform.

Generally speaking:

- Songwriters and composers create the songs, then give ownership of their works to publishers, who work on the writers’ behalf to get these works performed by others.

- More than 900,000 songwriters, composers and publishers have given BMI the right to provide access to their over 14 million works to multiple and diverse businesses that use music.

BMI “licenses” those businesses, giving them the legal right to publicly perform the songs in exchange for a license fee.

- The right that BMI licenses is known as the “public performing right,” and it is recognized under U.S. copyright law. It covers anything known as a public performance, which could include whenever a singer or band performs at a venue, music is played in a store, is broadcast on a radio station, streamed through a digital music service or is part of cable or television programming—among many, many other uses.

BMI collects licenses fees from its over 650,000 licensed businesses and, after deducting operating expenses, distributes these fees as royalties to the songwriters, composers and publishers we represent. Every dollar collected is distributed equally between the publisher(s) and the writer(s) of a song.