



## THURSDAY 1 JUNE 2023

### Pre Keynote Sessions

#### 10:00AM REGISTRATION OPENS

Bring your instrument. Pick a little if you will.

#### 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM LUNCH

Luncheon Talk: "Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash"  
Dr. Don Cusic. Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee

#### 1:00 - 2:30 PM DR. PAULA BISHOP, PRESIDING

Dr. Holly Riley. University of Montana. Missoula, Montana. "Guns on the Radio": An Analysis of Top 20 Billboard Hot Country Lyrics, 2002-2021."

Dr. T. Alan Holmes. East Tennessee State University. Johnson City, Tennessee. Tiffany Williams: This Generation's Coal Miner's Daughter."

Dr. Pete Ward. Durham University. Durham, UK. "Bluegrass and Religion: Initial Findings."

#### 2:30-2:45 PM Break

Dr. Tim Dodge. Auburn University. Auburn, Alabama. "The Korean War in Country Music."

Ben Atkinson. University of Lincoln. Lincoln, UK. "Women of Country Music' 30 Years On."

Kyle Kessler. Independent Scholar. Atlanta, Georgia "152 Nassau Street – A Durable History of the South's First Recording Studio. "

#### 4:15-4:30 PM Break

Dr. Jerry Gannod and Dr. James E. Akenson. Tennessee Tech University. Cookeville, Tennessee. Social Network Analysis: An Inquiry Into The Bristol Sessions.

Brian Peterson. Shasta College. Chico, California. "A New Wave of Champagne: The Aldridge Sisters, Lawrence Welk, and Country Music Television, 1977-1983."

**5:30 PM REGISTRATION & SOCIAL HOUR**

Bring your instrument!

**7:00 - 8:30 PM KEYNOTE EVENT**

**Black Country Music Futures.**

Dr. Francesca Royster. DePaul University. Chicago, Illinois

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**FRIDAY 2 JUNE 2023**

**7:30 AM REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**

**8:30-9:30 AM DR. RENE RODGERS , PRESIDING**

Dr. Gregory Hansen. Arkansas State University. Jonesboro, Arkansas. "Sustainability and Country Music within Contemporary Heritage Discourse."

Katie Beekman. Vanderbilt University. Nashville, Tennessee. "Authenticity Positioning: Or How Country Music Songwriters Remain Authentic."

**9:30-9:45 AM Break**

Dr. Stan Erraught. University of Leeds. Leeds, United Kingdom. "Inventing Country 'n' Irish."

Dr. Steacy Eston. Independent Journalist and Scholar. Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. "Perils of Fame: Wynette, Spectacle, and Violence."

**10:45-11:00 AM Break**

**11:00 AM CHARLES K. WOLFE MEMORIAL PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of**

**Finding Her Voice: Women in Country Music**

Panelist: Dr. Mary A. Bufwack, Author

Robert K. Oermann, Author

Dr. Paula Bishop, Bridgewater State University

Beverly Keel, Middle Tennessee State University,

co-founder of Change the Conversation & Nashville Music Equality

Moderator: Dr. Kristine McCusker, Middle Tennessee State University

## 12:00 PM AWARDS LUNCHEON

The Rolling Stone Chet Flippo Award for Excellence in Country Music Journalism.  
Honoree: **Alanna Nash**

The Belmont University Curb Music Industry Award for Country Music Book of the Year.  
Honorees: **Her Country: How the Women of Country Music Became the Success They Were Never Supposed to Be** by Marissa Moss  
&  
**The Running Kind: Listening to Merle Haggard** by David Cantwell

## 1:30-3:00 PM DR. KRISTINE MCCUSKER, PRESIDING

Joe Weed. Highland Studios. Los Gatos, California. "La Golondrina: Dueling Identities."

Dr. Renee Rodgers and Ms. Toni Doman. Birthplace of Country Music Museum. Bristol, Virginia. "I've Endured: Women in Old-Time Music Stories and Perspectives from the Birthplace of Country Music Museum's Special Exhibit."

Dr. Rachel Skaggs. The Ohio State University. Columbus, Ohio. "Harmonious Creativity in Country Music Songwriting."

## 3:00- 3:15 PM Break

Dr. Charlie Dahan. Middle Tennessee State University. Murfreesboro, Tennessee. "Get Up, Get into It, Get Involved: Saving the King Records Building."

LaDawn Fuhr. Arkansas State University. Jonesboro, Arkansas. "Six Degrees of Chips Moman: The Country Roots of the Do Right Man."

## 4:15 Break

travel to Columbia Studio

5:30 -7:00 - Picking and Eating and socializing before panel

## 7:00 PM SPECIAL CONFERENCE EVENT

*Located in Historic Columbia A Recording Studio at 34 Music Square E*

### **Celebrating Two Years of Black Opry**

Panelists: Holly G, Black Opry founder  
Julie Williams, Artist  
Denitia, Artist  
Aaron Vance, Artist

Moderator: Dr. Jada Watson

# SATURDAY 3 JUNE 2023

## 7:30 AM REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

## 8:30-9:30 AM DR. HOLLY RILEY, PRESIDING

Dr. Jim Clark. Barton College. Wilson, North Carolina. "Exploring The African Roots of the Banjo and String Band Music: Mentoring African American String Band Musicians."

Adam Iddings. Nashville, Tennessee. "Plucking the Earth: Mountains, Music, and the Carter Family."

## 9:30 - 9:45 AM Break

Dr. Lance Kinney. University of Alabama. Tuscaloosa, Alabama. "Color Me Country? Indeed"

Max Si-Yuan Ma. Duquesne University. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. "The Mountains Provoked Sense of Placelessness and Place in American Country Music."

## 10:45 - 11:00 AM Break

Lee Brentlinger. Independent Scholar. British Columbia, Canada "Jerry Byrd's 'Call from God': the Hawaiian Musical Troupe that Visited Lima, Ohio"

Danny Allen. Independent Scholar. Ann Arbor, Michigan. "Country Music Postcards: Fingerprints of Country Music History."

## 12:00 PM LUNCH

Luncheon Talk: "Half Mile Down: A Graphic Organizer"  
Dr. James E. Akenson. Tennessee Tech University

Various and Sundry Door Prizes

## 1:15 - 2:30 PM SHARON THOMASON, PRESIDING

Dr. Lee Bidgood. East Tennessee State University. Johnson City, Tennessee. "Malina Brothers: Sustaining Bluegrass-related Music Between Nostalgia and Irony."

Cade Botts. University of Tennessee. Knoxville, Tennessee. "Bluegrass: A Harmony"

Ryan Dooley. Independent Scholar. Nashville, Tennessee. "Banza to Banjo: Finding Meaning in Music in Colonial Jamaicaas."

## 2:30 - 2:45 PM Break

Dr. Alex Macaulay. Western Carolina University. Cullowhee, North Carolina.  
"Listening to the Storyteller: Tom T. Hall, the Silent Majority, and the Politics of Country Music."

Dr. Drew Griffin. Clemson University. Clemson, South Carolina. "Nobody Every Knew It, But I went out in the Woods and I Cried: Memory, Imagination, and Narratives in the songs of Tom T. Hall.

Dr. Mary Ann Conway. Independent Scholar. Oakhurst, New Jersey. "Weldon Myrick: The Historical Impact of Country's Legendary Man of Steel."

#### **4:00 PM CONFERENCE CONCLUSION**

Happy Trails - song leaders Holly Riley and Mark Dillon

"Some trails are happy ones,  
Others are blue.  
It's the way you ride the trail that counts,  
Here's a happy one for you.  
Happy trails to you,  
Until we meet again.  
Happy trails to you,  
Keep smiling until then.  
Who cares about the clouds when we're together?  
Just sing a song, and bring the sunny weather.  
Happy trails to you,  
Until we meet again."