

Durango Songwriters Expo - Industry Biographies

- **Al Anderson (Nashville, TN)** - Big Al is a mega-hit songwriter and monster guitar player with #1 Hits such as "The Cowboy In Me," "Trip Around The Sun," "Unbelievable," and "Love's Gonna Make It Alright." He is a very important part of The Expo and was a founding member of the legendary rock group NRBQ. We appreciate his loyalty and commitment to The Expo.
- **Cooper Anstett (Nashville, TN)** - **Digital Strategies Manager at Starstruck Entertainment.** Anstett specializes in helping artists develop their own unique online and social media presence.
- **Rinat Arinos (Los Angeles, CA)** - **Founder of Pink Shark Music LLC.** Pink Shark Music is a collection of artists, producers, and composers providing a one-stop shop for pre cleared songs, underscore cues, custom score, and top shelf quality production.
 - **CURRENT PROJECTS:** The Ellen Show (ABC), Once Upon a Time (ABC), America's Funniest Videos (ABC), Dude Perfect (CMT), S.T.R.O.N.G (NBC), and Reign (CW).
- **Bill Attebery (Kelseyville, CA)** - MC of the Expo and Founder of the Recovery Broadcast Network.
- **Butch Baker (Nashville, TN)** - **Senior VP for Horipro Entertainment in Nashville.** Butch got his start in 1979 as a touring writer and artist before finding his way to publishing.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Hit Songs and hit writers.
- **Brad Beausir (Nashville, TN)** - **Creative Director at Liz Rose Music.** Brad started working in publishing after learning how much he loves working closely with songwriters.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Something Different and out of the box.
- **Steve Bloch (Nashville, TN)** - **Founder of Southern Cow Music & Writer Zone Music LLC.** Steve has been listening to music in Nashville for over two decades and is known for having a great and honest ear.
- **Ashley Chafin (Los Angeles, CA)** - **Manager, Music Production at Disney Animation Studios and Pixar.** Ashley manages all animated features and shorts. She also does independent music supervision for indie projects.
- **Lyndsie Chlowitz (Los Angeles, CA)** - **Creative Coordinator, Live Action Music & Soundtracks at Walt Disney Studios.** Lyndsie has worked on such projects as Beauty and the Beast, Pirates of Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales, the upcoming A Wrinkle In Time and the upcoming Live Action Aladdin.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Opening and end title for an upcoming Disney feature.
- **Lindsay-Bea Davis (Toronto, Ontario, Canada)** - **Music Supervisor & Owner/Operator of Open Casket Music (Film/TV/Online Media)**
 - **CURRENT PROJECTS:** Numerous independent music supervision projects lined up!
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Looking to expand my network of composers and indie artists for upcoming projects.
- **Madeline Dowling (Portland, OR)** - **Music Supervisor at Marmoset.** Madeline has worked with top brands like Kraft, Disney, JC Penney, and Patrón, as well as hit TV shows like Grey's Anatomy, How To Get Away With Murder, Empire and Scandal.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Female-fronted indie rock and songs with untraditional/found samples
- **Sarah Feldman (Nashville, TN)** - **Creative Director at Writer's Den Music Group.** Sarah manages the roster of writers and pitch catalog. The Writer's Den currently represents Sarah Clanton, Jamie Floyd, Robert Earl Keen, Drew Kennedy, Brennen Leigh, Noel McKay, Don Schlitz and Thom Schuyler.
- **Keith Follese (Franklin, TN)** - **Songwriter/Producer.** Keith is a hit songwriter that's had #1s with an impressive artist lineup including Randy Travis ("Before You Kill Us All"), Faith Hill ("The Way You Love Me"), Tim McGraw ("Something Like That"), Martina McBride's ("I Love You"), and Lonestar ("Smile").
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** New talent and artists.

Durango Songwriters Expo - Industry Biographies

- **Lauren Funk (Nashville, TN) - Creative Director at Big Yellow Dog Music.** Big Yellow Dog' catalogue has racked up four Grammys, twenty-nine number ones, and hundreds of placements. Their roster includes Meghan Trainor, Maren Morris, and Josh Kear to name a few.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Great songs that we can get cut!
- **Stephen Bond Garvan (Sandpoint, ID) - CEO & Expediter at Garvan Media, Management & Marketing, Inc.** Stephen teams with US & European artists to accomplish their goals. He also sits on panels and provides moderating and mentoring at various events including DSE, SXSW, Midem, Folk Alliance, AMA, Canadian Music Week, Popkomm, Eurosonic, Music and Media, Way Out West, NXNE, ASCAP Expo, Bylarm, DFest, etc.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Establishing National & International artists/songwriters and guiding their careers.
- **Chris Gelbuda (Nashville, TN) - Producer and Writer for Big Yellow Dog Music.** Chris has co-written with Meghan Trainor on her multi-platinum album, *Title*. He's also penned songs for major artists including Billy Currington, Chris Young, and Sabrina Carpenter and performed/produced on recordings with Lupe Fiasco, Meghan Trainor, John Legend, and Japanese Cartoon.
- **Keatly T Halderman (Culver City, CA) - CEO at Riptide Music Group LLC.** Keatly has his hands in everything at Riptide but oversees publishing, business development, and A&R. As a songwriter and producer, he has more than 150 placements of his own songs in TV, film, trailers, advertising and video games.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Interesting, unique songs/talent with forward-moving energy.
- **Richard Harris (Los Angeles, CA) - Songwriter and Producer at Peer Music Publishing.** Richard has had cuts with Katharine McPhee (Billboard Top 40), two #1 single's with South Africa's Idol winner Elvis Blue off his double platinum selling and SAMA (South Africa's Grammys) award winning record. You can hear his music on CBS, NBC, ABC, FOX, The BBC, History Channel, Lifetime, MTV, Discovery Channel, TNT, and many others.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** New talented artists and writers.
- **Buffy Hubelbank (West Hollywood, CA) - Creative Director at Red Bull Records.** Red Bull Records bands include AWOLNATION, Beartooth, and Warm Brew. Their producers/writers include Nathan Barlowe (Keith Urban, Taylor Swift), Daniel Weber (Melanie Martinez, Powers), Mike Hart (Dove Cameron, Citizen Four, Tilian), and Grammy Award winning mixer/producer Josh Gudwin (Justin Bieber, Dua Lipa, J. Balvin).
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Good Songs
- **Susie Joyce (Nashville, TN) - Creative Coordinator/ A&R Assistant at XOMG/ Get It Done/ Amped 11.** Susie manages songwriters and artists and assists on major album projects.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** New writers and artists to develop.
- **Scott Krippayne (Seattle, WA) - Scott is an Emmy-nominated songwriter and producer.** His songs have appeared on releases by Demi Lovato, Jordin Sparks, Smashmouth, and Kool & The Gang among others. He also penned the theme song for *Paw Patrol* and has placements on ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, MTV, VH1, Disney, and more.
- **Michael Lembo (Los Angeles, CA) - President of Mikes Artist Management & Fungal Music.** Mike recently relocated his boutique artist management/record label/publishing business to Los Angeles, where he can do what he does best - find and nurture new talent. After 40 years what is the proof of his success? More than the gold and platinum records which line his office walls, Lembo is proud to note that he has continued to achieve his initial goal to "make artists' dreams come true."
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Consulting clients and that very special artist.

Durango Songwriters Expo - Industry Biographies

- **Peter Lloyd (Los Angeles, CA) - Director - A&R and Music Publishing at Hollywood Records/Disney Music Publishing.**
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** New writers, songs for New Hope Club, Olivia Holt, Sofia Carson
- **Anthony Manker (Nashville, TN) - Manager of Music Assets at Starstruck Entertainment.** Anthony comes from a diverse background in licencing and administration. In addition to his current position, he's worked with Sony/ATV, ClearBox, and SESAC and has had research cited by the U.S. Copyright office.
- **Alissa Moreno (Nashville, TN) - Songwriter/Recording Artist with Riptide Music.** Alissa is a long-time member of the expo with an impressive list of credits. She's had songs cut by numerous artists including Rascal Flatts, John Oates, Vince Gill, Morgan Heritage, and many more. She's also had placements in film and TV including Army Wives, Laguna Beach, How I Met Your Mother, and more.
- **Brian Naguit (Los Angeles, CA) - Manager, Music at CBS Television Studios.** Brian has worked on projects with Mark Batson, Raheem Devaughn, Glen Ballard, Josh Groban, Fantasia, Nas, and the Backstreet Boys.
 - **CURRENT PROJECTS:** Crazy Ex Girlfriend, Zoo, NCIS NOLA, and Salvation. Managed musical guest appearances and placements on CSI, CSI: NY, Hawaii Five - 0, and NCIS: New Orleans.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Indie Rock.
- **Chen Neeman (Los Angeles, CA) - Songwriter/Producer/Educator at Chen Neeman Music, CEO of HitSongCoach.Com.** <http://redhousestudiocoaching.com/HitSongCoach.Com>.
 - **CURRENT PROJECTS:** Hannah Montana, The Muppets, The Descendants Soundtrack 1&2, Demi Lovato, Selena Gomez, Camp Rock 2.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Always looking for new talent.
- **Amber Packer (Los Angeles, CA) - Creative Director, A&R at Big Deal Music Group.** Amber has been working with Big Deal Music since 2016 in Pop A&R. Their writers include John Ryan (Maroon 5 "Cold"), Dan Wilson (Adele "Someone Like You"), busbee (Florida Georgia Line "H.O.L.Y."), Teddy Geiger (Shawn Mendes "Treat You Better"), Joe London (Thomas Rhett "Die A Happy Man") Daylight (Shawn Mendes "Stitches"), and Shungudzo (Little Mix "Touch"), among many others.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** I'm always looking to expand our writer community and find new and interesting collaborations for our writers.
- **Bobby Rymer (Nashville, TN) - Partner/General Manager at Writer's Den Music Group.** Bobby has 30 plus years in the music industry. He's worked with folks from Emmylou Harris to Bruce Springsteen to Craig Wiseman to Peter Frampton to brand spanking new songwriters (his favorite!).
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** The same song I've heard a thousand times...told in a new way. This applies to ANY genre.
- **Josh Saxe (Nashville, TN) - Senior Director, A&R at Round Hill Music.** Josh manages the songwriting careers of Round Hill Music Nashville's roster, as well as the exploitation of purchased song catalogs. He previously held a co-chair position on the Leadership Council of Young Entertainment Professionals (YEP), Nashville's fastest growing young professionals network.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Summer uptempo hit songs.
- **Steve Schroeder (Portland, OR) - Senior A&R Roster Curator at Marmoset Music.** Steve has a variety of experience from running a small record label to being a tour manager, producing successful licensing projects and music scouting.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Interesting percussion, anti-pop, new voices.
- **Warren Sellers (Orange County, CA) - Songwriter at McClintock Music.** Warren has been a fixture at The Expo for years as both an attendee and respected industry. In addition to being a published songwriter, he's also written a book, "The Journey of A Song" that tells the back stories to some of the most beloved songs of the 60's and 70's.

Durango Songwriters Expo - Industry Biographies

- **Anthony Smith (Nashville, TN) - Singer, Songwriter, and Record Producer.** Anthony's debut album produced three top 40 singles. He's also had several major cuts including "Cowboys Like Us" (George Strait), "What Do Ya Think About That", and "Kristofferson" (Tim McGraw).
- **McKay Stevens (Los Angeles, CA) - Songwriter at Kobalt, Visionary Voices Productions, Inc.** McKay wrote the grammy nominated song "Atmosphere" with Kaskade. He also wrote Martin Garrix's smash hit "Hold On and Believe". He's also found, developed, written, and produced a number of artists and then signed them to major labels.
- **Eric Tingstad (Seattle, WA) - Composer/Recording Artist - Cheshire Records/Chessy Cat Music.** Eric is currently in production of instrumental blues project for early 2018 release. He is a grammy Award-winning multi-genre record producer and guitarist best known as a fingerstyle roots guitarist, Tingstad has performed, recorded, and produced across all genres.
- **Ralph Torre Franca (Los Angeles, CA) - Director of A&R at Angry Mob Music.** Ralph has signed writers and producers such as Bus (Ty Dolla \$ign feat. Kendrick Lamar, James Fauntelroy) and Ben Browning (of Cut Copy). He was formerly with Red Light Management.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Songwriters, artists and producers.
- **Amelia Varni (Nashville, TN) - Creative Director at Starstruck Entertainment.** As Creative Director at Starstruck Entertainment, Amelia works directly with songwriters and developing artists. Starstruck clients also include worldwide artists Kelly Clarkson, Blake Shelton and Hunter Hayes.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Co-writers for Nashville pop artists and producers.
- **Katy Wolaver (Los Angeles, CA) - Senior Director, A&R at Warner Chappell Publishing.** NOTABLE - Katy has experience in both the label and publishing worlds. She's skilled at connecting artists and songwriters for collaborations in pop, rock and country, She also finds talent and exploits copyrights. She's had cuts with artists such as Flo Rida, Cobra Starship, The Band Perry, Darius Rucker, Carrie Underwood, One Direction, Bruno Mars and many others.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Pop writers, producers, and artists.
- **Cade Wolter (Los Angeles, CA) - Artist Manager at Out Late Productions.** Cade has artists and writers signed to Warner, Ultra, Kobalt, and Reservoir. His clients have amassed over half a billion streams of their work in a wide variety of genres including songs with Flo Rida, Christina Aguilera, Tiesto, Pia Mia, Afrojack, Seal, David Guetta, Andy Grammer, Tritonal, and many more.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Always looking for more talented artists and great songs
- **Jimmy "Muffin" Yessian (Los Angeles, CA) - Passionate live performer. Appointed VP of Creative Development for Ash Street Music Publishing.** Jimmy signs and developing writers. Currently working on a 3rd studio album with Tall Men Group, a band that he formed in 2012. His song "Stand Tall America," co-written with Gary Baker ("I Swear" and "I'm Already There") was the featured song in the PBS aired documentary film "One Voice/ The Healing Pole" and is the lead song on the "Inspiration New York" CD.
- **Josh Young (Pasadena, CA) - CEO/President at Atrium Music.** Josh is a multi Emmy nominated Los Angeles based television and film editor whose vision for a better media brand of music library birthed Atrium Music, a publishing company and music library that licenses music and media content for the use in television, film, and commercial production.
 - **FOCUS TODAY:** Looking for high quality, radio ready songs for Network TV and Film placements.
- **Adam Zelkind (Los Angeles, CA) - Songwriter/Composer.** Adam is a mega award winner who's created cutting edge music for hit television and feature films. He has five ASCAP Awards including Most Performed Music on Television for two consecutive years. He also has three BMI Awards for The Surreal Life, Outback Jack, Hogan Knows Best and over 650 placement credits.