



2015
Canadian Country Music Association Awards
(CCMA Awards®)

Rules and Regulations
As of February 12, 2015

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SUMMARY:

Each year, the Canadian Country Music Association (CCMA®) honours its members who have excelled during the past year with a CCMA Award (award). The awards are handed out each fall during Country Music Week®. This document highlights the rules and regulations of these awards.

OVERVIEW:

There are currently 41 CCMA Awards. The description of each can be found in this document starting on page four (4).

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ):

1. DO YOU NEED TO BE CANADIAN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A CCMA AWARD?

All contenders/nominees must be Canadian citizens or have landed immigrant status unless otherwise stated. Eligibility information for each of the 41 awards is outlined under the award overviews beginning on page four (4).

2. DO YOU NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CCMA TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR AN AWARD?

All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing. Within a group or duo, or in the case of collaborative work(s), 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA. Click [here](#) to become a member of the CCMA.

Exception: The award for Top Selling Album is based on sales in Canada and can be won by a non-member.

3. CAN I CHOOSE TO WITHDRAW MY NAME FROM THE SELECTION PROCESS?

CCMA members have the right, should they so desire, to have their name eliminated from any particular category. Please contact Nikki Ryan by phone at (416) 947-1331 ext. 213 or by email at nryan@ccma.org by the closing of the second ballot (Monday June 15, 2015) to remove your name if desired; otherwise, the name will proceed to the third and final ballot.

4. WHAT IS THE 2015 ELIGIBILITY PERIOD?

The eligibility period for award categories 1, 3-9 and 11-41 is from March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015. The eligibility period for category 10, Single of the Year, is January 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015. Recordings must have been released for National sale and public consumption within the eligibility period.

5. DO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGE?

The Awards and Balloting rules and regulations are subject to change at the discretion of the CCMA's Board of Directors.

6. IF I FORGOT TO PAY MY CURRENT YEAR CCMA MEMBERSHIP, CAN I STILL VOTE?

Only CCMA voting members (industry or corporate level) in good standing as of April 30, 2015 can participate in the balloting process.

7. IS THERE ANY TIME WHEN AN AWARD IN A CERTAIN CATEGORY WILL NOT BE GIVEN OUT?

There must be three (3) contenders after the first ballot in any particular category in order for that category to remain in the current year. Categories with three (3) to five (5) contenders after the first ballot will move directly to the third and final ballot. If there are less than three (3) contenders, the category will be placed on hiatus for the current year only.

8. WHAT IS THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF VOTES NEEDED IN THE FIRST BALLOT IN ORDER TO MOVE FORWARD AS A CONTENDER ON THE SECOND BALLOT?

Each contender must receive a minimum of five (5) votes in any category on the first ballot in order to be eligible to appear on the second ballot.

9. HOW WILL CCMA MEMBERS KNOW WHEN AND HOW TO VOTE?

The CCMA will precede each stage of the balloting process with an announcement to members by email containing a voting login username and password. By sending this announcement to the last address provided to the association by the member, the association then considers the member deemed to have received their login information. If you do not have a working email account, please contact Nikki Ryan by phone at (416) 947-1331 ext. 213 or by email at nryan@ccma.org to receive all voting documents by mail.

10. IN CATEGORIES WHERE SALES ARE MEASURED TO DETERMINE NOMINEES, HOW ARE THESE SALES FIGURED DETERMINED?

The CCMA works closely with Nielsen Entertainment to capture sales information for the eligibility period. Physical sales figures are calculated based on scanned units and digital track sales will be converted to album sales using the formula ten (10) digital tracks sold = one (1) album sold.

11. IN CATEGORIES WHERE SPINS ARE MEASURED TO DETERMINE NOMINEES, HOW ARE THESE SPINS CALCULATED?

The CCMA works closely with Nielsen Entertainment who provides all relevant accounts of radio airplay for single tracks (spins) for Canadian country artists within the respective eligibility periods. Spins are measured from the country radio stations in Canada that are monitored by Nielsen Entertainment.

12. AM I ABLE TO CHANGE INFORMATION THAT APPEARS ON THE BALLOT?

It is the responsibility of the contenders to notify the CCMA in writing of changes to ballot information prior to the deadline of the second ballot (Monday June 15, 2015). Information as it appears on the third ballot is final.

13. HOW DO WINNERS GET THEIR PHYSICAL CCMA AWARD?

After Country Music Week, the award winner(s) will be contacted by the CCMA to confirm shipping details. An engraved award will be sent to the winner(s).

14. AM I ABLE TO ORDER ADDITIONAL CCMA AWARDS?

Once contacted by the CCMA, winner(s) will have the opportunity to purchase additional awards.

ARTIST AWARDS (14 Awards)

These awards are presented to artists (solo, duo or group) for their excellence during the current eligibility period.

ALBUM OF THE YEAR – AWARD #1

An album is defined as a collection of several pieces of music made available as a single item. The album can be a special project or commemorative package and should be judged on all aspects including, but not limited to artistic performance, production, design, art layout and liner notes. This award is for an album as a whole unit.

ELIGIBILITY

- The eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The album must have been released for National sale and public consumption within the eligibility period;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a group or duo, at least 50% of the members must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing. Within a group or duo, 50% of the members must be members of the CCMA;
- The album must contain no less than six (6) tracks;
- 50% of the tracks must have been released during the current eligibility period, having never appeared on a previous album.

SELECTION PROCESS

Album of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE AND ONLY ONE of the contenders provided. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA's Award Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO - The ten (10) contenders will then be juried by a panel of unbiased jurors. The five (5) nominees decided on by the voting panel will proceed to the third ballot for a membership vote;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Album of the Year* Award is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

CCMA DISCOVERY – AWARD #2

This award is given to ONE of the six (6) finalists that participated in the current year's CCMA Discovery Program.

ELIGIBILITY

- The act must have participated in the current year's CCMA Discovery Program. Click [here](#) for full details on the CCMA Discovery Program.

SELECTION PROCESS

- The CCMA Discovery winner is selected by a panel of jurors based on pre-established criteria.

AWARD

- The *CCMA Discovery Award* is presented at the annual *Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

FANS' CHOICE – AWARD #3

This award is given to the artist (solo, duo or group) displaying the greatest achievements in all aspects of the entertainment field within the eligibility period. The voters should give consideration not only to the recorded performance, but also to live performance, videos, social media presence, staging, public acceptance, attitude, leadership and overall contributions to the country music image.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a group or duo, at least 50% of the members must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing. Within a group or duo, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA.

SELECTION PROCESS

Fans' Choice follows a four (4) step selection process:

- STEP ONE - The ten (10) contenders for the *Fans' Choice Award* will be determined by a formula of 60% sales and 40% spins within the eligibility period and verified by the CCMA®'s Awards & Balloting Committee. These results will be compiled by *Nielsen Entertainment*;
- STEP TWO - The ten (10) contenders will then be voted on by members of the CCMA Fan Club. The online CCMA Fan Club is free to join for fans and all those signed up before the deadline of April 30 each year will be eligible to vote in this step of the process. This Fan Club vote will bring the ten (10) contenders to the final five (5) nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - The five (5) artists receiving the most votes from the CCMA Fan Club vote will appear on the third and final ballot for CCMA Membership voting as nominees. From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner. The public will also have the opportunity to vote for their favourite entertainer through an online ballot coordinated with the CCMA Awards' third

and final ballot. The public vote tally and membership vote tally will be combined to determine the winner of the Fans' Choice Award.

AWARD

- The *Fans' Choice Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR – AWARD #4

This award is based upon individual performance, either on record or in person within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The artist must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Female Artist of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE – The ten (10) contenders for the *Female Artist of the Year Award* will be determined by a formula of 60% sales and 40% spins within the eligibility period and verified by the CCMA's Awards & Balloting Committee. These results will be compiled by *Nielsen Entertainment*;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Female Artist of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA.

GROUP OR DUO OF THE YEAR – AWARD #5

A Group or Duo is defined as an act, composed of two (2) or more people, all of whom normally perform together. The act may include an individual who has, or currently does perform, as a solo artist under a name different than that of the group or duo. This award is based on the performance of the group or duo as a unit, either on record or in person within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- At least 50% of the group or duo must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- At least 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA (industry level) in

- good standing;
- Any group or duo that capitalizes in whole or in part by incorporating the name of a solo artist in the name of the group or duo is not permitted to stand for nomination in this category.

SELECTION PROCESS

Group or Duo of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE – The ten (10) contenders for the *Group or Duo of the Year* Award will be determined by a formula of 60% sales and 40% spins within the eligibility period and verified by the CCMA's Awards & Balloting Committee. These results will be compiled by *Nielsen Entertainment*;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Group or Duo of the Year* Award is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to each core member of the group/duo, courtesy of the CCMA.

INTERACTIVE ARTIST OR GROUP OF THE YEAR – AWARD #6

This award recognizes excellence in the area of an artist's social media and web related activities. This award will be presented to an artist who participates in meaningful digital interaction and maintains a professional website which serves as their main hub. Jury and third ballot voters will give consideration to not only the quantity but also the quality of an artist or group's interaction with their fans via social media outlets (ie. Facebook, Youtube, Twitter, Myspace, YouTube, Instagram etc.), content of personal website (ie. graphic design, layout, etc.).

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. In the case of a group or duo, at least 50% of the group/duo must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing. Within a group or duo, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA.

SELECTION PROCESS

Interactive Artist or Group of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE - Artists are invited to submit a package detailing number of social media followers, frequency of interaction and details of any social campaigns executed within the eligibility period by the artist or group. Click [here](#) for further details on the submission process;
- STEP TWO - A jury (consisting of industry and social media professionals) will review

submissions and vote for the final five (5) nominees. The final five (5) nominees will appear on third ballot for membership voting;

- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Interactive Artist or Group of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR – AWARD #7

This award is based upon individual performance, either on record or in person within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The artist must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Male Artist of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE – The ten (10) contenders for the *Male Artist of the Year Award* will be determined by a formula of 60% sales and 40% spins within the eligibility period and verified by the CCMA's Awards & Balloting Committee. These results will be compiled by *Nielsen Entertainment*;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Male Artist of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA.

RISING STAR AWARD – AWARD #8

This award is presented to the artist (solo, duo or group) who had significant success during the eligibility period and who has not been previously nominated in a number of CCMA Artist Award Categories (see below).

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a group or duo at least 50%

- of the members must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing. Within a group or duo, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA;
- This category is open only to those artists who have never before won the *Rising Star Award*, and who have never before been nominated for the *Fans' Choice Award*, *Single of the Year*, *Group or Duo of the Year*, *Female Artist of the Year*, *Male Artist of the Year*, *Album of the Year*, *Video of the Year*, or *Roots Artist or Group of the Year*;
- Nominees in this category are eligible in other categories in the current year;
- An individual performing artist who has been previously nominated within a group or duo and now performs as a solo artist, or has changed his/her name does not qualify;
- A group or duo who has a group member previously nominated as an individual performing artist does not qualify;
- No act (solo, duo or group) shall be nominated for the *Rising Star Award* more than twice.

SELECTION PROCESS

Rising Star follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE - The top ten (10) contenders, as determined by *Nielsen Entertainment*, to be the top spinning artists at radio, who also meet the above criteria will be placed directly on the second ballot, a membership vote;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Rising Star Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

ROOTS ARTIST OF THE YEAR – AWARD #9

This award is given to a roots artist whose music is based on traditional country styles, but through innovations and originality is different from what is considered mainstream country. Roots music embraces a multitude of musical styles, including, but not limited to: Alternative Country, Bluegrass, Celtic, Country-Blues, Folk, Gospel, Hillbilly, Honky Tonk, Rockabilly and Western Swing. This award is based on the performance of the artist either on record or in person within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a group or duo at least 50% of the members must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in

good standing. Within a group or duo, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA.

SELECTION PROCESS

Roots Artist of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Roots Artist of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

SINGLE OF THE YEAR – AWARD #10

This award acknowledges one single amongst the top spinning singles within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- For the purpose of the *Single of the Year Award*, the eligibility period is extended to January 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a group or duo, at least 50% of the members must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing. Within a group or duo, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA;
- Only eligible singles which were among the top 30 spinning singles at radio within this eligibility period will qualify. The list of qualifying singles will be provided to the CCMA directly from *Nielsen Entertainment*;

SELECTION PROCESS

Single of the Year follows a four (4) step selection process:

- STEP ONE - The top 30 spinning singles, as provided by *Nielsen Entertainment*, will appear on the first ballot;
- STEP TWO (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE of the contenders provided. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP THREE (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5)

contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;

- STEP FOUR (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner

AWARD

- The *Single of the Year* Award is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

SONGWRITER(S) OF THE YEAR – AWARD #11

This award is based on an individual song released to radio during the eligibility period and not on the songwriter(s)' body of work. A songwriter(s) may receive multiple nominations determined by the release of their songs within the eligibility period. Consideration should be given to lyrics, music, and public acceptance of the song.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The songwriter(s) must be Canadian citizen(s) or landed immigrant(s). On collaborations, at least one of the songwriters must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing. Within a collaboration, at least one of the contributing members must be a member of the CCMA.
- A song from a Greatest Hits album is eligible if not previously nominated;

SELECTION PROCESS

Songwriter(s) of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) – From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA members may vote for ONE AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced the winner.

AWARD

- The *Songwriter(s) of the Year* Award is presented at the annual *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to (each of) the songwriter(s), courtesy of the CCMA.

TOP SELLING ALBUM – AWARD #12

This award is for an album as a whole unit. The award will be given based upon Canadian record sales, physical and digital, only during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- This award is based on sales in Canada and can be won by a non-member;
- Multi-artist compilations do not qualify.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Individual digital track sales will be converted to album sales using the formula ten (10) digital tracks sold = one (1) album sold. Sales figures supplied may be audited by our accounting firm.
 - The album with the greatest unit sales will be declared the winner;
 - The results will be provided by *Nielsen Entertainment*;
 - There is no voting in this category.

AWARD

- The *Top Selling Album of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

TOP SELLING CANADIAN ALBUM – AWARD #13

This award is for an album as a whole unit. The award will be given based upon domestic and international record sales, physical and digital, only during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a group or duo, at least 50% of the members must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- Eligibility for this Award extends to all Canadian recording artists;
- Multi-artist compilations do not qualify.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Individual digital track sales will be converted to album sales using the formula ten (10) digital tracks sold = one (1) album sold.
 - Sales figures supplied may be audited by our accounting firm;
 - The album with the greatest unit sales will be declared the winner;
 - The results will be provided by *Nielsen Entertainment*;
 - There is no voting in this category.

AWARD

- The *Top Selling Canadian Album of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

VIDEO OF THE YEAR – AWARD #14

The video should be judged on all audio and video elements, artistic performance, video concept and production.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The act must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a group or duo, at least 50% of the members must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing. Within a group or duo, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA;
- This award is for an original audio visual program not more than ten (10) minutes in length, featuring the performance of not more than one song or medley.

SELECTION PROCESS

Video of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO - The top ten (10) contenders collected from the first ballot, will be juried by a panel of unbiased jurors. This jury will bring the ten (10) contenders to the final five (5) nominees. The five (5) nominees decided on by the voting panel will proceed to the third and final ballot for a membership vote;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Video of the Year* Award is presented at the annual *CCMA Awards Show* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the act, courtesy of the CCMA. In the case of a group or duo, one (1) award will be presented to each core member of the group/duo.

MUSICIAN AWARDS (7 Awards)

These awards are designed to recognize individual instrumentalists on record or stage and who are known primarily as instrumental performers.

ALL STAR BAND – BASS – AWARD #15

ALL STAR BAND – DRUMS – AWARD #16

ALL STAR BAND – FIDDLE – AWARD #17

ALL STAR BAND – GUITAR – AWARD #18

ALL STAR BAND – KEYBOARDS – AWARD #19

ALL STAR BAND – SPECIAL INSTRUMENT (Dobro, Banjo, Harmonica, Mandolin, Accordion, Sax, etc.) –AWARD #20

ALL STAR BAND – STEEL GUITAR – AWARD #21

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period for all of the above mentioned awards is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The instrumentalists for each of the above *All Star Band Awards* must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry level) in good standing;
- If a person wins the same *All Star Band Award* more than five (5) times, he or she will be added to an honour roll for that category, making he or she no longer eligible to win in that category.

SELECTION PROCESS

All *All Star Band Awards* follow a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- Each of the *All Star Band Awards* are presented at the annual *CCMA All Star Band Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented in each of the above categories, courtesy of the CCMA.

RADIO AWARDS (6 Awards)

The CCMA will present awards to Radio Station of the Year, On-Air Personality of the Year and Music Director of the Year in both large and medium or small markets. A large market is defined as a city with a population over 150,000. According to Statistics Canada 2011 census figures, cities with a population over 150,000 (in order of population) are: Toronto, Montreal, Calgary, Ottawa, Edmonton, Mississauga, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Hamilton, Quebec City, Brampton, Surrey, Halifax, Laval, London, Markham, Gatineau, Vaughan, Longueuil, Windsor, Kitchener, Burnaby, Saskatoon, Regina, Richmond, Oakville, Burlington, Richmond Hill, Greater Sudbury.

MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR (LARGE MARKET) – AWARD #22

MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM OR SMALL MARKET) – AWARD #23

These awards recognize the individuals who exemplify the development and airplay of Canadian country talent through his/her radio station.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period for both of the above mentioned awards is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The recipients must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing;
- The individuals must hold the title of either Music Director or Program/Music Director for a Canadian radio station.

SELECTION PROCESS

The *Music Director of the Year* awards follow a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Music Director of the Year (Large Market)* Award, and the *Music Director of the Year (Medium or Small Market)* Award are presented at the annual *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the Music Director in each market, courtesy of the CCMA.

ON-AIR PERSONALITY(S) OF THE YEAR (LARGE MARKET) – AWARD #24

ON-AIR PERSONALITY(S) OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM OR SMALL MARKET) – AWARD #25

These awards recognize the individuals who exemplify the development of Canadian country talent through his/her presentation on-air for a Canadian radio station, including but not limited to strong entertainment value, sense of community, knowledge of country music, and ability to communicate.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period for both of the above mentioned awards is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- Any Canadian radio station is entitled to submit for consideration;
- A minimum of one (1) person from the submitted radio station must be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

The *On-Air Personality(ies) of the Year* awards follow a two (2) step selection process:

- STEP ONE – Radio stations are invited to submit a package detailing their overall presentation and caliber of talent. Click [here](#) for further details on the submission process;
- STEP TWO – A jury of music industry professionals will independently judge each submission:
 - The tallied results of the jury will declare the winner;
 - There is no voting in this category.

AWARD

- The *On-Air Personality of the Year (Large Market) Award*, and the *On-Air Personality of the Year (Medium or Small Market) Award* are presented at the annual *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award will be presented to each core member of the winning on-air team, courtesy of the CCMA.

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR (LARGE MARKET) – AWARD #26

RADIO STATION OF THE YEAR (MEDIUM OR SMALL MARKET) – AWARD #27

These awards recognize the Canadian country radio stations that exemplify the development of Canadian country talent through presentation of the music on their station through (but not limited to) community involvement, promotions, leadership and recognition. A jury of industry professionals will independently judge each submission. The tallied results of the jury will declare the winner. There is no voting in this category.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period for both of the above mentioned awards is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- Any Canadian radio station is entitled to submit for consideration;
- A minimum of one (1) person from each of the submitted stations must be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

The *Radio Station of the Year Awards* follow a two (2) step selection process:

- STEP ONE – Radio stations are invited to submit a package detailing their overall presentation and caliber of talent. Click [here](#) for further details on the submission process;

- STEP TWO – A jury of industry professionals will independently judge each submission:
 - The tallied results of the jury will declare the winner;
 - There is no voting in this category.

AWARD

- The *Radio Station of the year (Large Market) Award*, and the *Radio Station of the Year (Medium or Small Market) Award* are presented at the annual *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the radio station in each market, courtesy of the CCMA.

INDUSTRY AWARDS (14 Awards)

These awards are presented to honour individuals and organizations that have made a significant contribution to Canadian country music in the eligibility period.

ALBUM DESIGN OF THE YEAR – AWARD #28

This award recognizes excellence in design of a specific CD and/or DVD packaging. The CD and/or DVD must have been released during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015.
- At least 50% of the design team must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing. Within a collaboration, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA;
- Previously released packaging does not qualify; however, design elements of previously released CD and/or DVD packaging qualifies when the design elements are incorporated into a new design (i.e. Greatest Hits packaging.);
- Only those relevant names listed within the CD and/or DVD packaging will be considered members of the design team.

SELECTION PROCESS

Album Design of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Album Design of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;

- A maximum of two (2) awards will be presented to the design team, courtesy of the CCMA.

BOOKING AGENCY OF THE YEAR – AWARD #29

This award recognizes a booking agency that procures employment for a Canadian country act(s) during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The booking agency must have an operating office located in Canada;
- A minimum of one (1) person from the nominated booking agency must be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Booking Agency of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Booking Agency of the Year Award* is presented at the annual, *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the company, courtesy of the CCMA.

COUNTRY CLUB OF THE YEAR – AWARD #30

This award recognizes a Canadian establishment which regularly employs Canadian country artists.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The club must have an establishment located in Canada;
- A minimum of on (1) person from the nominated country club is required to be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Country Club of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA

member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;

- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Country Club of the Year Award* is presented at the annual, *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the establishment, courtesy of the CCMA.

COUNTRY FESTIVAL, FAIR OR EXHIBITION OF THE YEAR – AWARD #31

This Award recognizes a Canadian festival, fair, or exhibition which utilizes Canadian country artists as a major element of the event and presents country music in a positive manner while attracting a large and diverse audience, and has displayed professional organization, management and production during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- A minimum of one (1) person from the nominated country festival, fair, or exhibition is required to be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.
- The festival, fair or exhibition must have an operating event in Canada.

SELECTION PROCESS

Country Festival, Fair or Exhibition of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Country Festival, Fair or Exhibition of the Year Award* is presented at the annual, *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the festival, fair or exhibition, courtesy of the CCMA.

COUNTRY MUSIC PROGRAM OR SPECIAL OF THE YEAR – AWARD #32

This award recognizes an original Canadian-produced country music program or special whose original airing on television or radio (including network or cable) was within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;

- The production company must have an operating office located in Canada;
- A minimum of on (1) person from the nominated production company is required to be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing;
- The program or special must be a minimum of thirty (30) minutes in duration.

SELECTION PROCESS

Country Music Program or Special of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Country Music Program or Special of the Year* Award is presented at the annual CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards during Country Music Week.
- One (1) award is presented to the production company, courtesy of the CCMA.

MANAGEMENT COMPANY OF THE YEAR – AWARD #33

This award recognizes a management company that oversees the career of a Canadian country act(s) during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The management company must have an operating office located in Canada;
- A minimum of on (1) person from the nominated management company is required to be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Management Company of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Meeting;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) – From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Management Company of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the management company, courtesy of the CCMA.

MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY OF THE YEAR – AWARD #34

This award recognizes a Canadian publishing firm which publishes original country works by Canadian writers.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The music publishing company must have an operating office located in Canada;
- A minimum of one (1) person from the nominated music publishing company is required to be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Music Publishing Company of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Music Publishing Company of the Year Award* is presented at the annual, *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the music publishing company, courtesy of the CCMA.

RECORD COMPANY OF THE YEAR – AWARD #35

This award recognizes a record company which has released Canadian country product for sale during the eligibility period. A record company is defined as a company or label that makes and sells musical recordings independently, in partnership with, and/or operates with full services as a division of a multi-national company.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The record company must have an operating office located in Canada;
- A minimum of one (1) person from the record company is required to be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Record Company of the Year follows a three (3) step process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Record Company of the Year Award* is presented at the annual, *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the record company, courtesy of the CCMA.

RECORD COMPANY PERSON OF THE YEAR – AWARD #36

This award recognizes an individual (an executive or any employee) of a record company, with offices located within Canada, which has released Canadian country product at retail level during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The recipient must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Record Company Person of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Record Company Person of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the record company person/promoter, courtesy of the CCMA.

RECORDING STUDIO OF THE YEAR – AWARD #37

This award recognizes a Canadian recording establishment that facilitates the production of Canadian country music product released during the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The recording studio must have an operating office located in Canada;
- A minimum of one (1) person from the nominated recording studios is required to be a member of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Recording Studio of the Year is a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Recording Studio of the Year* Award is presented at the annual, *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the establishment, courtesy of the CCMA.

RECORD PRODUCER(S) OF THE YEAR – AWARD #38

This award recognizes excellence in record production. A producer will be recognized for selected project(s) released within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The producer(s) must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. On collaborations, at least one of the producers must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing. Within a collaboration, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA;
- In the event of co-production, the co-producer team would stand collectively for the co-production.

SELECTION PROCESS

Record Producer(s) of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each

category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;

- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Record Producer(s) of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to (each of) the producer(s), courtesy of the CCMA.

RETAILER OF THE YEAR – AWARD #39

This Award recognizes outstanding support of Canadian country music by a music retailer during the eligibility period. A music retailer is defined as a company which actively sells Canadian country music, either through store locations, online purchase of digital download and/or online purchase of a manufactured CD.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- A minimum of one (1) person from each of the nominated Retailers are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing.

SELECTION PROCESS

Retailer of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Retailer of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the retailer, courtesy of the CCMA.

RON SAKAMOTO TALENT BUYER OR PROMOTER OF THE YEAR – AWARD #40

This award recognizes talent buyers or promoters who present and promote Canadian country artists in Canada.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The talent buyer or promoter must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing;
- Please note that Ron Sakamoto is no longer eligible for this award.

SELECTION PROCESS

Ron Sakamoto Talent Buyer or Promoter of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;
- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Ron Sakamoto Talent Buyer or Promoter of the Year Award* is presented at the annual CCMA Gala Dinner & Awards during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to the talent buyer/promoter, courtesy of the CCMA.

VIDEO DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR – AWARD #41

This award recognizes excellence in the area of video direction. A director will be recognized for selected project(s) released within the eligibility period.

ELIGIBILITY

- The current eligibility period is March 1, 2014 through to April 30, 2015;
- The video director must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Within a co-production, at least one of the directors must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- All final nominees are required to be members of the CCMA (industry or corporate level) in good standing. Within a collaboration, 50% of the contributing members must be members of the CCMA;
- In the event of co-productions, the co-director team would stand collectively for the co-production.

SELECTION PROCESS

Video Director of the Year follows a three (3) step selection process:

- STEP ONE (first ballot) – Each eligible CCMA member may propose ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The ten (10) contenders receiving the most mentions in each

category will appear on the second ballot, providing they meet the eligibility requirements, as determined by the CCMA Awards Verification Committee;

- STEP TWO (second ballot) – From the list of contenders supplied, each eligible CCMA member may select ONE, AND ONLY ONE contender in each category. The five (5) contenders receiving the most votes in each category will appear on the third ballot as nominees;
- STEP THREE (third ballot) - From the list of nominees supplied, each eligible CCMA member may vote for ONE, AND ONLY ONE nominee in each category. The nominee receiving the most votes will be announced as the winner.

AWARD

- The *Video Director of the Year Award* is presented at the annual *CCMA Industry Lunch & Awards* during Country Music Week;
- One (1) award is presented to (each of) the video director(s), courtesy of the CCMA.