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# *Ricky Skaggs Set For Induction* **Into Musicians Hall of Fame**



**The musical honors just keep pouring in** for country and bluegrass legend Ricky Skaggs. Last week, Skaggs learned he would receive this year's prestigious ASCAP Founders Award and today it was announced that the 14-time GRAMMY winner will be inducted into the Musicians Hall of Fame.

"What an incredible honor it is for me to be inducted into the Musicians Hall of Fame," says Skaggs. "Just to be named alongside so many of my musical heroes is really humbling. I'm grateful to all of the musicians who have gone before me and left a trail that I have followed and learned from. I'm so thankful for this honor."

In addition to Skaggs, this year's inductees include Garth Brooks, the late Jerry Reed, Brooks' studio backing band, the G-Men and the Sigma Sound Studio Rhythm Section.

An induction ceremony and concert will be held on Wednesday, October 26, at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Auditorium in downtown Nashville.

### **About Ricky Skaggs:**

Earning 12 #1 hit singles, 14 GRAMMY Awards, 11 IBMA Awards, nine ACM Awards, eight CMA Awards (including Entertainer of the Year), two Dove Awards, three honorary Doctorate degrees, a GMA Gospel Music Hall of Fame induction, the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum's 2013 Artist-In-Residence, an Americana Music Association Lifetime Achievement Award in the Instrumentalist category along with countless other awards, Ricky Skaggs is truly a pioneer of Bluegrass and Country music.

### **About the Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum:**

From Jimi Hendrix to Hank Williams, the Musicians Hall of Fame celebrates the achievements of musicians from virtually every decade since the golden era of studio recording, starting in the 1950s, and from every corner of the country.

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# CD REVIEWS

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BY *BRENDA L. MADDEN*



Mail CD's for Reviews To: Country Entertainment USA, P.O. Box 100985, Nashville, TN. 37224



Holly Norman • Taking Care of Bluegrass

[www.hollynorman.com](http://www.hollynorman.com)

**7**  
Stars

Holly Norman's album, Taking Care of Bluegrass: A Tribute To Elvis is an incredible bluegrass album! It's always difficult to remake hit songs, but to cross genres as well, is a lofty goal. Holly Norman definitely has reached that goal. This collection of Elvis songs has been magnificently redone. Her vocals are authentic and the arrangements are impeccable. It includes twelve Elvis songs plus an original entitled "Long Live The King."



Kenny & Amanda Smith • Unbound

[www.kenny-amandasmith.com](http://www.kenny-amandasmith.com)

**6**  
Stars

Kenny & Amanda Smith have released yet another exemplary bluegrass project entitled, Unbound. IBMA's Emerging Artist in 2003, this husband-wife duo's talent continues to mature with this group of well-selected songs. As always, Kenny's extraordinary flat-pickin' style compliments Amanda's angelic vocals. Songs of particular interest are "Hills Of Logan County" and "Every Pilgrim Needs A Highway."



Dear County • Low Country

[www.dearcountry.com](http://www.dearcountry.com)

**5**  
Stars

The debut album for California band, Dear County is entitled Low Country. The band - Arrica Rose (lead vocals, guitar), Mark Lynn (lead guitar, vocals), Nelson Saarni (bass, vocals), Julia Napier (percussion, vocals) and Michael Smartt (drums) combine a variety of genres to create a remarkable blend from opening song, "On and On" to the final song, "Ellenae."

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# Rattlesnake Eddie & The Crooked Sky Trading Post



By Brenda L. Madden



**Branson, Missouri, nestled in the beauty of the Ozark Mountains,** is known for country music, with a variety of music theaters on Highway 76, but also within those city limits, there is a little bit of the American West. The Crooked Sky Trading Post offers shopping with a Western theme and features the work of leather craftsman, Rattlesnake Eddie.

Growing up in Southern Missouri gave Eddie Wood the opportunity to work at Silver Dollar City as a gunfighter. At that time, he fell in love with the town of Branson. During the '70s, Eddie rode on the Professional Rodeo Circuit and during the off-season, he was employed in a saddle shop where he developed his skill to work with leather. It was during this time that he and three other professional cowboys were asked to participate in a "rattlesnake round-up" while in Western Oklahoma. Since he was the only one of their group to return with a rattlesnake, Chris LeDoux and the others dubbed him "Rattlesnake Eddie." He retired from the circuit after 17 years, and came back to Branson to focus on leather crafting.

Now a master leather craftsman, he creates custom leather holsters and rigs, belts and guitar straps. His creations have caught the attention of many Nashville superstars including Bill Medley (Righteous Brothers), Kenny Rogers, Billy Dean, Kelly Clarkson, Pam Tillis and Jeff Bates. Sitting down with each artist, he draws out the desired design and then carves that drawing into the leather creating a one-of-a-kind piece. His work is in such demand that he stays booked up 4 to 5 months in advance.



Rattlesnake Eddie embodies the American West, dressing in the 1880s style clothing. He participates in cowboy shooting competitions and often portrays "Doc Holliday" and others in film roles. He appeared in "Custer's Last Stand" with Lou Diamond Phillips and most recently, he portrayed "William Miles, Sr." in an upcoming film about the Baldknobbers which is slated for

release this fall.





Accepting an invitation to view the Ben Stillwater Chuckwagon Cowboy Breakfast Show in Branson, Ben and Rattlesnake Eddie became fast friends sharing their love for the old west. Ben brings the American West to life through his music and Rattlesnake Eddie through his leather masterpieces. Together, they transport Branson visitors back in time.

The Crooked Sky Trading Post is based in a 40,000 square foot facility that also houses other types of crafters. Rattlesnake Eddie loves to meet visitors to Branson, and welcomes them to browse through his trading post. All items in the store are genuine - either off the Indian reservation or made by Rattlesnake Eddie including not just leather crafts but also vintage turquoise jewelry, Native American handmade items and pioneer clothing. There

are no imports here.



The Crooked Sky Trading Post  
 Located at Branson Mill Craft Village  
 3300 North Gretna Road in Branson.

Be sure and stop by for a visit when in Branson!

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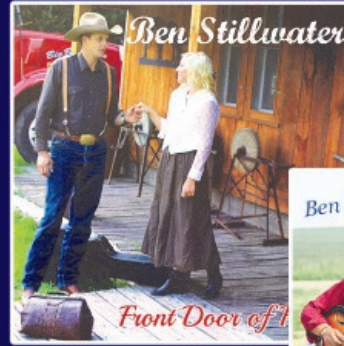


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# Rock Carnival Set to Rock NJ!

By Cindy B. Gordon



Alice Cooper, Blue Oyster Cult, Twisted Sister, Sebastian Bach and American Angel are a few among the many artists and bands that will be performing this weekend at this year's Rock Carnival 9/30 - 10/2 2016 at FIRST ENERGY PARK in Lakewood, NJ.

In its inaugural year, the festival drew a staggering 50,000+ attendees. This second annual ROCK CARNIVAL will feature classic carnival rides, entertainment, a diverse variety of food truck offerings, high-action Professional Wrestling, beer gardens pouring the tastiest of brews, and the best in local, national and international rock and heavy

metal music performances!

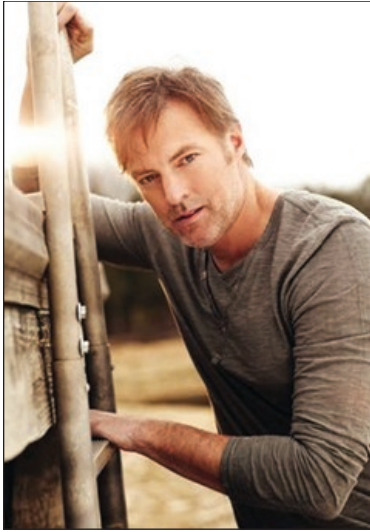


Three-day general admission and reserved seat WEEKEND PACKAGES for this year's ROCK CARNIVAL are currently available at [www.TicketFly.com](http://www.TicketFly.com). Skyboxes, reserved seats, daily general admission and VIP experiences (presented by SoundRink) are also available.



[www.TheRockCarnival.com](http://www.TheRockCarnival.com)

## ***Darryl Worley To Serve*** **As Santa Train Celebrity Guest**



**Country music star Darryl Worley** will be the celebrity guest on the Santa Train when it makes its 74th journey, on Saturday, Nov. 19. He will accompany Santa and event sponsors CSX, Dignity U Wear, Food City and the Kingsport Chamber of Commerce on the 110-mile trek. Worley will perform live at the final stop in Kingsport, Tennessee.

"I'm honored to accompany the Santa Train as the celebrity guest this year," Worley said. "The opportunity to give back and to be a part of a 74-year-old holiday tradition is one that I couldn't pass up, and I look forward to being a part of it."

Worley, who has three No. 1 singles on the Billboard U.S. country chart during his career, has been on the country music scene since 2000. Worley has released six albums during his career and as well as 18 singles on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts.

"We are thrilled to have Darryl Worley join us on this year's Santa Train," said Tori Kaplan, assistant vice president, corporate social responsibility, CSX. "The support we receive each year from celebrity guests is humbling, and we know Darryl will add to the holiday spirit of the Santa Train."

The Santa Train makes 14 stops in Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee and delivers toys, food and winter clothing to hundreds of children and families along the way.

### **About Darryl Worley:**

In his 15-year career in country music, Darryl Worley has seen nearly 20 hit singles and three chart-topping hits, including "Awful, Beautiful Life" and "I Miss My Friend." Following the tragic events of 9/11, Worley penned "Have You Forgotten," which became the biggest hit of his career after spending seven weeks at No. 1. Worley has also spent much of his career supporting the U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and has made a tradition of visiting them each year.

[www.DarrylWorley.com](http://www.DarrylWorley.com)

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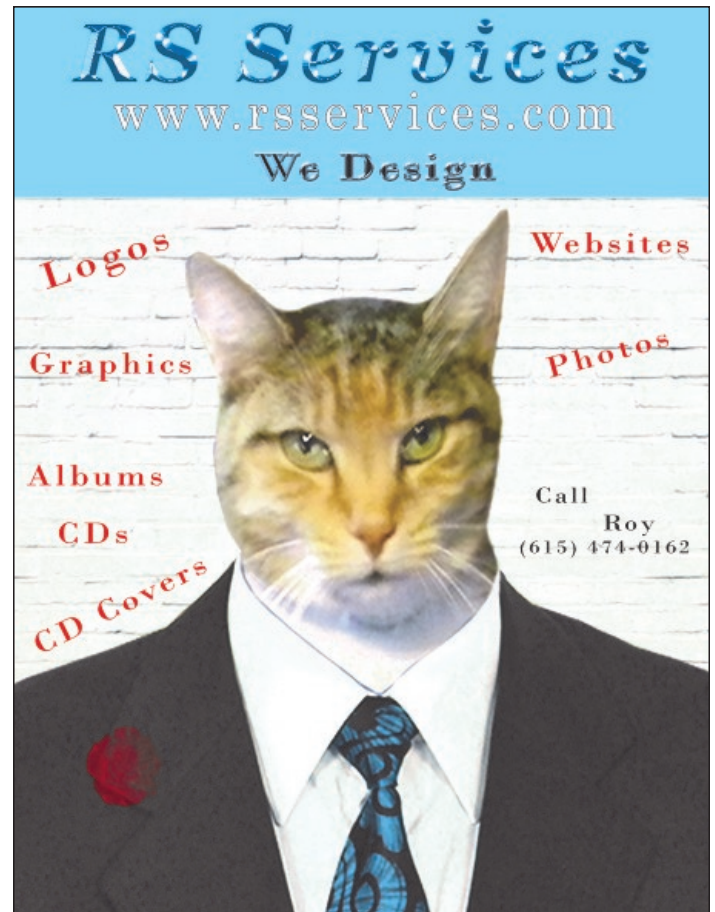
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