

Sports, Arts, & Entertainment

Eagles founding member Bernie Leadon inks a global pact with Warner Chappell Music

Country-Rock Pioneer Set to Release First Solo Album in Two Decades, Too Late to Be Cool, on October 10

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (September 29, 2025) - Warner Chappell Music (WCM), the music publishing arm of Warner Music Group (NASDAQ: WMG), announced the signing of Eagles founding member and Rock & Roll Hall of Famer Bernie Leadon to a long-term, worldwide publishing agreement. A pioneer in the melding of rock with country, folk, and bluegrass, the singer/songwriter/multi-instrumentalist is slated to release his first solo album in more than two decades, Too Late to Be Cool, on October 10. Most recently, Leadon was a headliner at the AMERICANAFEST in Nashville, Tennessee.

Leadon said: “I have been associated with Warner Chappell and the rest of Warner Music since 1971. I am delighted to renew my connections with them now at this point in the 21st Century. Warner Chappell and Warner Music have always been at the pinnacle of support for songwriters and other music creators, and that reality is still very evident in the current leadership and staff. My sincere thanks go to all of them.”

WCM’s Guy Moot, Co-Chair and CEO, and Carianne Marshall, Co-Chair and COO, said: “It’s no exaggeration to say that much of the music we call Americana today owes a deep debt to Bernie’s boundary-crossing inspiration. He has helped shape a canon of iconic music, from his early years with genre-defying groups like The Flying Burrito Brothers and Dillard & Clark to



Smiles galore describes the jubilation when Warner Chappell Music announces ink deal with Eagles founding member and Rock & Roll Hall of famer Bernie Leadon. Shown here are (L-R): Greg Sowders (WCM), Guy Moot (WCM), Bernie Leadon, Carianne Marshall (WCM), and Trevian Kutti (Photo Credit: Courtesy of Warner Chappell Music)

his generation-defining work with the Eagles to his countless collaborations with other artists. His creativity, musical brilliance, and pure devotion to his craft have made him a true American treasure, with six decades of extraordinary songs and sounds to his credit. We’re honored and excited to welcome him into the Warner Chappell family.”

Greg Sowders, SVP, A&R and Catalog, WCM added: “As a master musician, songwriter and member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Bernie inspired me to start my first real band. And now as his music publisher, I continue to be inspired by his writing and playing, particularly by his new album Too Late Too Be Cool. His legend continues.” Leadon penned all the songs on his upcoming album, including

the recently released tracks “Too Many Memories,” “Just a Little,” and “Go On Down to Mobile.” It also marks Leadon’s reunion with esteemed producer/engineer and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee Glyn Johns (Rolling Stones, The Who, Eric Clapton, and dozens more). Too Late to Be Cool was recorded live to analog tape with all the musicians performing together in the studio, with no overdubs.

His early work with groundbreaking groups like Dillard & Clark and The Flying Burrito Brothers helped set the stage for the Americana movement, fusing traditional instrumentation with a new, forward-thinking songwriting style. These formative years placed him at the heart of a cultural shift that bridged Nashville, roots music, and rock.

In 1971, Leadon co-founded the Eagles alongside Glenn Frey, Don Henley, and Randy Meisner. His signature contributions—on guitar, banjo, mandolin, and harmony vocals—were central to the band’s early sound. His arrangements and performances remain immortalized on the Eagles collection, Their Greatest Hits 1971–1975, the best-selling album in U.S. history. After stepping away from the Eagles in 1975 to pursue more organic music-making, Leadon built a reputation as one of the most versatile and respected collaborators in the business. His work with artists such as Linda Ronstadt, Emmylou Harris, Stephen Stills, and Alabama showcased his rare musical fluency—equally at home flatpicking an acoustic solo or arranging intri-

cate vocal harmonies. In 1998, he was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame with The Eagles, further solidifying his legacy.

About Warner Chappell Music

Warner Chappell Music, the global music publishing company of Warner Music Group, is home to a wide array of legendary songwriters and a rich catalog of contemporary hits and influential standards. With offices in more than 20 countries, Warner Chappell provides deep expertise across a range of creative services and the most innovative opportunities for songwriters and copyright holders.

Warner Chappell, which has a history dating back more than 200 years, currently publishes and administers music from A-Lin, Angèle, Anderson .Paak, Aya Nakamura, Bruno Mars, Capital Bra, Celeste, Cole Porter, Coco Jones, Dave, David Bowie, David Tao, Dua Lipa, Duran Duran, Fraser T. Smith, Gamble and Huff, Gene Autry Music Group catalog, George Gershwin, George Michael, Grateful Dead, Juanes, Justin Tranter, Kacey Musgraves, Katy Perry, Kool & the Gang, Laufey, Led Zeppelin, Lin Xi, Lizzo, Madonna, Marco Antonio Solís, Maria Becerra, Mitski, MNEK, Morgan Wallen, Oscar Holter, Pablo Alborán, Quevedo, Quincy Jones, RAYE, ROSÉ, Saweetie, Stormzy, Summer Walker, Teddy Swims, Tom Petty Catalog, Tones and I, Weir Bird, Wyman Wong, Zach Bryan, and 831, among many others. Follow Warner Chappell Music on Instagram, X, Facebook, and TikTok.

Memphis Madness moves downtown with “Ballin’ on Beale” from sports page 1

food trucks and vendors in Handy Park, which will be activated as a festival area throughout the evening.

On the court, the 2025–26 Tigers will be introduced before diving into interactive competitions:

A game of T.I.G.E.R. between head coaches Penny Hardaway and Alex Simmons.

A shooting competition featuring Memphis student-athletes alongside fans, alumni and a special round with representatives from St. Jude.

Fans can expect T-shirt tosses, giveaways and plenty of surprises throughout the night.

To close out the event, both the men’s and women’s teams will participate in a meet-and-greet and autograph session with fans.

Fans are encouraged to arrive early, wear Tiger blue and pack Beale Street for a night that promises to be uniquely Memphis.

Grizzlies host Garage Sale from sports-ent. 5

on-court apparel. The Grizzlies Den will only be accessible to Grizzlies Garage Sale shoppers from inside the Grand Lobby.

Memphis Grizzlies Preparatory Charter School is a tuition-free program designed to educate young men grades six through eight, preparing all students to excel academically and demonstrate integrity. Established in 2012 by the Memphis Grizzlies Foundation, Grizzlies Prep provides an excellent academic foundation, social-emotional development and incredible opportunities so families can feel confident in the future.

FedExForum has a clear bag policy that limits the size and types of bags that may be brought into the venue for all events. Only clear bags made of plastic, vinyl, or PVC no larger than 6x8x2 inches will be allowed inside FedExForum. Clear bags may not have an all-over print or decoration that prohibits full view of its contents. Clear bags may contain a strap, but metal or chain straps are prohibited. Guests will be limited to one (1) clear bag per person. For more information, visit fedexforum.com/arena-policy-updates.

For more information on the Grizzlies Garage Sale, visit grizzlies.com/community. Fans who want to support the Memphis Grizzlies and purchase 2025-26 season tickets, single game tickets or partial plans can do so now by going online to grizzlies.com/tickets. For more information on the Grizzlies, visit grizzlies.com, ‘like’ Memphis Grizzlies on Facebook or follow @memgrizz on Twitter/X and Instagram.

Karissa Ella two steps her “Honky Tonk Heartbeat” in her new official music video full of energy and fun

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (September 30, 2025) – Emerging country music songstress, Karissa Ella releases her official music video for “Honky Tonk Heartbeat,” out now. Directed by Oceanna Colgan, and produced by Colgan and Kelsey Kopecky, the video was filmed in Nashville alongside some of Karissa’s favorite female dancers, joining in a choreographed line dance routine. Featuring neon lights, sparkly fringe, and a drink or two is this classic tribute to honky tonk nights that we never want to end.

“I truly had the best time filming this music video! Who knew line dancing at 8:00 AM could be so fun? You can’t help but dance and sing along to this song and think we captured that perfectly in the video. I can’t wait for the world to see it!”

“Honky Tonk Heartbeat” was a fan favorite from her latest EP Growing Wings, which dropped earlier this year. With tracks and a title embracing change and the life lessons that come with it, Karissa’s music provides solace in the growing pains, and being kind to yourself wherever you are in life. She’s had a wildly successful summer, opening on-stage for country stars including Carly Pearce and Dierks Bentley. Karissa has also participated in several major music festivals across the country, such as Country Concert and The Country Fest in



Ohio, and Features Fest XVII. She plans to release additional music later this year and continue touring across the country.

About Karissa Ella Emerging female artist Karissa Ella is quickly becoming known as one of the most compelling new acts in country music. Recognized by Billboard, CMT, PEOPLE magazine, and many more, she is the definition of a powerhouse vocalist and stand-out performer. Her July EP re-

lease, Growing Wings, continues to receive praise from fans and critics alike, commending her vulnerability and maturity through her lyrics and tone.

With a trio of EPs Karissa Ella,

Blossom, and It’s Personal, Karissa has captivated audiences with her authentic storytelling and relatability from the very beginning. Whether she releases heartbreakers “I Hope Heaven’s Like,” and “Mamas Do,” or

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sing-along anthems, “Well Tequila,” and “Honky Tonk Heartbeat,” she taps into every kind of emotion we all feel at one time or another.

The Belmont University alum has graced the stage with top country musicians including Martina McBride, Tyler Hubbard, and David Nail. This summer, she opened for chart-toppers Carly Pearce, Dierks Bentley, and Zach Top, and continues to perform at major music festivals across the nation. Karissa Ella continues to rise and fans won’t want to miss her climb to the top. The small-town dreamer from Ohio continues to stun Nashville and has no plans of slowing down.

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune’s “Charlie Kirk, Safety, and First & Second Amendment Rights!” Special Edition.