

Sports, Arts, & Entertainment

GRAMMY Museum Mississippi honors Trombone Shorty with Crossroads of American Music Award and raises \$201,000 at gala to benefit museum & music education

CLEVELAND, Miss. (October 31, 2025) — GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi has announced that the “Brass and Bayou” 2025 Gala, which was held on Oct. 30, has raised a total of \$201,000. Proceeds will directly benefit the Museum’s education programs. The 2025 Gala was held at GRAMMY Museum Mississippi in Cleveland, Miss., and honored GRAMMY®-winning artist Trombone Shorty with the seventh annual Crossroads of American Music Award. This year’s Gala also Pass Christian Elementary School teacher Cherynne Wright with the sixth annual L.U.C.Y. Award (Lifting Up Children and Youth).

“It was such a special night filled with unforgettable music and generosity as we celebrated incredible GRAMMY winner Trombone Shorty at our 2025 Brass and Bayou Gala,” said Emily Havens, Executive Director of GRAMMY Museum Mississippi. “We were also deeply honored to recognize our L.U.C.Y. Award recipient, Cherynne Wright, for her outstanding achievements and devotion to music education. Thanks to the support of our amazing sponsors and everyone who purchased a ticket and joined us, we raised over \$201,000 for the Museum. These are vital funds that will help us continue our mission of inspiring and educating students about the power and value of music.”

The 2025 GRAMMY Museum Mississippi Gala was presented by Quality Steel, with additional support provided by platinum sponsors Cannon Motors of Mississippi, Kirk Auto, the Paul Janoush Family and Whole Cellars Package Store. The event featured a special performance by Atlanta-based dance/music ensemble Tasteful Tea.

The Gala also included a special menu catered by chef Gary Lott., and a live and silent auction with items to bid on from GRAMMY-winning artists such as Taylor Swift, Eric Church and Trombone Shorty.

Established by the Museum’s Board of Directors, the Crossroads of American Music Award honors an artist who has made significant musical contributions influenced by the creativity born in the cradle of American music. Past recipients of the Crossroads of American Music Award are GRAMMY winners the late Charley Pride and Jerry Lee Lewis, Bobby Rush, Marty Stuart, Keb’ Mo’, and Rosanne Cash.

The annual GRAMMY Museum



Trombone Shorty performs with bandmates at Brass & Bayou 2025 Gala (Photo/Courtesy: GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi)



Emily Havens (Executive Director, GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi) with Trombone Shorty (Photo/Courtesy: GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi)

Mississippi Gala is the Museum’s signature fundraising event. Proceeds from this year’s gala will benefit the Museum’s education program, which seeks to use music as a gateway to learning by inspiring and cultivating creativity, critical thinking

and self-expression.

ABOUT TROMBONE SHORTY
Born Troy Andrews in New Orleans, Trombone Shorty got his start earlier than most: at 4 years old, he made his first appearance

at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival performing with Bo Diddley; at age 6 he was leading his own brass band; and by the time he was a teenager, he was hired by Lenny Kravitz to play on his Electric Church World Tour. Since 2010, Trombone Shorty

has released five Top 10 hits on the Billboard Jazz Albums chart, including 2022’s Lifted; toured with everyone from Jeff Beck to the Red Hot Chili Peppers and collaborated across genres with Pharrell, Bruno Mars, Mark Ronson, Foo Fighters, ZHU, Zac Brown, Normani, Ringo Starr, and countless more. Trombone Shorty has also played countless major music festivals, including Coachella, Bonnaroo, Lollapalooza, Newport Folk, and Newport Jazz; he’s performed four times at the GRAMMY Awards®, six times at the White House, on dozens of TV shows, and at the star-studded Sesame Street Gala, where he was honored with his own Muppet. In 2011, he launched the Trombone Shorty Foundation to support youth music education. In 2016, he received the prestigious Caldecott Honor for his first self-titled children’s book. In 2022, Trombone Shorty won his first GRAMMY as a featured artist on Jon Batiste’s Album of the Year-winning record We Are. Meanwhile in New Orleans, Shorty leads his own Mardi Gras parade atop a giant float crafted in his likeness, hosts the annual Tremé Threauxdown shows that have drawn guests such as Usher, Nick Jonas, Dierks Bentley, Andra Day, and Leon Bridges to sit in with his band, and has taken over the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival’s hallowed final set, which has seen him closing out the internationally renowned gathering after performances by

the likes of Neil Young, the Black Keys and Kings of Leon. In addition to touring across the globe nearly year-round, Trombone Shorty leads a cultural exchange trip to Cuba with his Trombone Shorty Foundation wherein 100 students gather over a 5-day period for music workshops and concerts. The fourth trip of his kind took place in January of 2025 and included an ever-expanding group of special guest artists.

ABOUT GRAMMY MUSEUM MISSISSIPPI

Developed by the Cleveland Music Foundation—a nonprofit organization founded in 2011—the 28,000-square-foot GRAMMY Museum Mississippi is housed near the campus of Delta State University, home of the Delta Music Institute’s Entertainment Industry Studies program, which features the most unique audio recording facilities in the South. Affiliated with the GRAMMY Museum Foundation™, GRAMMY Museum Mississippi is dedicated to exploring the past, present, and future of music, and the cultural context from which it emerges, while casting a focused spotlight on the deep musical roots of Mississippi. The Museum features a dynamic combination of public events, educational programming, engaging multimedia presentations, and interactive permanent and traveling exhibits, including a Mississippi-centric area that introduces visitors to the impact of Mississippi’s songwriters, producers, and musicians on the traditional and modern music landscape. For more information, visit grammymuseumms.org.

Senate passes Blackburn resolution designating October as “National Country Music Month”

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Today, U.S. Senators Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) and Tim Kaine (D-Va.) released the following statements after their resolution designating October as “National Country Music Month” passed the Senate. This resolution honors the contributions of country music to the story and history of the U.S. and encourages the American people to observe “National Country Music Month” with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

“Tennessee is the heart of country music, from the birthplace of country in Bristol to the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville,” said Senator Blackburn. “Country music captures the spirit of our nation, reminding every American of the importance of faith, family, freedom, hope, opportunity, and patriotism. It is my honor to recognize October as National Country Music Month.”

“Whether listening with my family or playing harmonica with friends, music has always played a major role in my life,” said Senator Kaine. “I’m glad the Senate unanimously passed this bipartisan resolution to designate October as National Country Music Month so we can honor and celebrate the history of an incredible genre that was born in Bristol.”

“With the Schumer shutdown, Democrats are trying to bring us closer to government-run health care,” says U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn ... from sports-Military page 3

shutdown crisis to ensure that anybody at any income level can enroll in government health care, no matter the cost to taxpayers. For them, it’s just one step closer toward socialized medicine where the government controls which doctor you see, which health insurance you use, and

Opinion

what kind of care you receive.

Tennesseans reject this radical agenda. The more people learn about Obamacare, the more they learn about all the waste and fraud in the program. As I’ve

noted before, Biden’s COVID credits enabled 6.4 million individuals to improperly report their income level so that they could enroll in fully funded Obamacare plans—costing taxpayers \$27 billion in 2025 alone.

Last year, nearly 12 million enrollees never filed a claim, yet taxpayers sent money directly to insurance companies to subsidize their unused plans. In many cases, insurance agents enroll individuals in Obamacare without their knowledge because they have their name, address, phone number, and contact information. At the same time, Americans are

“While Democrats desperately attempt to prop up this broken program, Republicans are fighting for policy solutions that expand health care freedom. We want to empower Americans to benefit from health savings accounts and association health plans and use health insurance across state lines...”

also learning that the Affordable Care Act is anything but affordable. When Democrats enacted the law in 2010, they claimed that

it would lower premiums. The opposite has happened. Since 2013, the ACA benchmark plan premium has increased by 237 percent, more than three-times the rate for employer-sponsored plans. As these premiums go up, taxpayers are on the hook to subsidize the insurance companies.

While Democrats desperately attempt to prop up this broken program, Republicans are fighting for policy solutions that expand health care freedom.

We want to empower Americans to benefit from health savings accounts and association health

plans and use health insurance across state lines.

We want to build on the integrity measures secured in the One Big Beautiful Bill that ensure that health care subsidies only go to those who deserve them. We want Americans to have options so they can receive the care that best fits their needs.

We can’t address any of these issues, however, until Democrats come to the table and join Republicans in reopening the government. It’s time to get back to work for the American people.

RFD-TV honors American heroes with Veterans Day Country Concert, featuring Lee Greenwood, Gatlin Brothers, Bellamy Brothers, Lisa Matassa, and many others on Nov. 8th
See article on sports page 1 and sports-Military 2