



## **Brett Kissel Proves it Starts with a Song, Leading 2014 CCMA Awards Nominations Jann Arden and Rick Mercer Announced to Co-Host CCMA Awards Show *Join the celebration: #CCMANomDay***

**July 16, 2014 (Toronto, ON)** – Today, the **Canadian Country Music Association® (CCMA®)** announced the full list of nominees for the 2014 Canadian Country Music Association Awards; as well as the dynamic duo of Canadian favourites, **Jann Arden** and **Rick Mercer**, who will co-host the **2014 CCMA Awards Show**, broadcast on **CBC-TV** at 8:00 p.m. local time (8:30 NT) with an encore airing on **CMT (Canada)** at 10:00 p.m. ET on Sunday, September 7.

On the heels of a successful year, **Brett Kissel** leads the pack with a total of eight nominations, including: ***Single of the Year, Album of the Year, Male Artist of the Year, CMT Video of the Year, Songwriter of the Year, Interactive Artist of the Year, Record Producer of the Year*** and ***Album Design of the Year***.

Following close behind are celebrated artists **Dean Brody** and **Gord Bamford**, with six and five nominations each, respectively. **Deric Ruttan** has four nominations, as does **Tim Hicks**, who announced the nominees for Group or Duo of the Year live this morning as part of **#CCMANomDay**. **Dallas Smith** and **Wes Mack** are both up for three CCMA Awards, as is newcomer **Jess Moskaluke** who has three nominations, including ***Female Artist of the Year, Rising Star*** and ***Interactive Artist of the Year***.

The **CCMA Fans' Choice Award** nominees were also announced today. This prestigious award, voted on by Canadian country music fans is stacked with powerhouse male performers **Gord Bamford, Paul Brandt, Dean Brody, George Canyon** and **Johnny Reid**. Voting for the **Fans' Choice Award** is now open to the public at <http://ccmafanvote.dmds.com/VotePublic.html>. Those who vote will have the opportunity to submit their name for the **Ultimate Fan Contest**, which consists of one lucky winner being flown to Edmonton to attend **Country Music Week®** and present the **Fans' Choice Award** live on the **2014 CCMA Awards Show**.

**MEDIA NOTE:** To view a complete listing of the 2014 Canadian Country Music Association Awards nominees, go to [www.cma.org](http://www.cma.org).

The **CCMA** and broadcast partners **CBC** and **CMT** are thrilled to announce Juno-Award winner singer-songwriter **Jann Arden** and CBC-TV's Gemini-Award winning host and comedian, **Rick Mercer**, will host the **2014 CCMA Awards Show**.

"To say I am excited about co-hosting the CCMA Awards is an understatement," says **Arden**. Reuniting with Rick Mercer to celebrate the very best of Canadian country music is going to be an amazing adventure filled with lots of laughs and a whole lot of surprises!"

"I'm thrilled to be co-hosting the CCMA Awards with Jann Arden. Jann is one of my favourite people," says **Mercer**. "Usually when Jann and I get together it involves a helmet or harness, this time it's country music and cowboy hats – although it's too soon to rule out helmets."

Forty-one CCMA Awards will be given out over four award ceremonies during **Country Music Week** in Edmonton, Alberta, September 4 – 7. Eight awards will be given out on the **2014 CCMA Awards Show**. More tickets have just been released for the **2014 CCMA Awards Show**, and are available at all Ticketmaster locations, online at [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca) or by phone at 1-855-985-5000.

**About the Canadian Country Music Association® (CCMA®)**

Established in 1976, the CCMA is a membership-based, not-for-profit organization committed to the promotion and recognition of Canadian country music. Built upon the foundation to *educate, elevate and celebrate* Canadian talent, the CCMA progressively heralds the spirit, community and creativity that country music fosters through year-round initiatives, culminating every fall with Country Music Week and the CCMA Awards.

**About CBC/Radio-Canada**

CBC/Radio-Canada is Canada's national public broadcaster and one of its largest cultural institutions. The Corporation is a leader in reaching Canadians on new platforms and delivers a comprehensive range of radio, television, Internet and satellite-based services. Deeply rooted in the regions, CBC/Radio-Canada is the only domestic broadcaster to offer diverse regionally and cultural perspectives in English, French and eight Aboriginal languages.

**About CMT (Canada)**

Available in over 9.5 million homes, Corus Entertainment's CMT is Canada's source for country music lifestyle programming. Exploring themes relevant to country music and country music fans, the network offers an exciting mix of comedy and dramatic series, movies and country music news, videos, concerts and specials. CMT's Video Advantage Program, established in 2000, supports the production of original music videos for Canadian artists. The station's website, [www.cmt.ca](http://www.cmt.ca), is Canada's number one website dedicated to country music.

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