

# Panelist/Mentor/Teacher Bios

## TAXI Road Rally 2019

**Adam LeBlanc's** career in the music industry started as a musician, touring and recording with The Brian Jonestown Massacre (TVT Records), then with an artist on J Records. Transitioning into a role behind the scenes as a Producer / DJ Manager led to A&R Consulting for labels and eventually to various posts as an A&R in Records and Publishing. Adam has worked with artists as varied as underground electronic rock sensation Celldweller and Blue Stahli, to KPOP act SPICA, who have sold 2,200,000 records and he signed and brought to the states. He had direct involvement in 10 recent artist signings and over 40 total releases for prominent labels, publishers and artists. As an A&R, Producer or Composer, he's credited on 22 releases with over 100 synchronization placements in popular TV programs, films, games and other media. He also sourced and placed a song on a #2 Billboard charting platinum KPOP album in 9/14.

**Adam Zelkind** is an eight-time award winning songwriter/composer/producer. He has created cutting edge music for more than 1,197 television episodes, as well as various records, feature films and ads. His awards include ASCAP's Most Performed Music on Television for two consecutive years. He has worked with artists and writers such as, Kenny Loggins, Amy Stroup, Katie Herzig, Tom Higgenson Plain White T's, Jake Shimabukuro, Chris Gelbuda, Spectre Jones, Kristian Bush (Sugarland), Bret James, Glen Phillips (Toad The Wet Sprocket), Big Al Anderson, Josh Kelley, Walt Aldridge, Darryl Worley, Gary Burr, Ashley Gorley, Meghan Lindsey (The Voice & Steel Magnolia), Sara Watkins (Nickel Creek), Sara Lee Guthrie & Johnny Irion (US Elevator), Will Champlin, Dustin Christensen, Marlin Hookman Bonds. His work has become a prominent force on many shows including the hit CW show Hart of Dixie, having had 20 songs featured on this show alone. Many of his songs can be heard in recent films The Big Ugly (8 songs and was Executive Music Producer), Disconnect, Marine Home Front 3, Slumber Party Slaughter, No Manches Frida, Can't Have You. He co-wrote and produced with The Crazy Z's "My Favorite Show", which was an end title feature on the HBO hit series The Leftovers. Some of his wildest composer credits include: Rock of Love, Flavor of Love, I Love Money, Real Chance of Love, The Surreal Life, From G's to Gents, I Love New York, Charm School, My Fair Brady, Out Back Jack, Next Action Star, Teen Mom, The Steve Harvey Show.

**Angela Mukul** is a songwriter and artist who goes by the name of LeyeT. She's topped Hype Machine's popular charts, Spotify's Fresh Finds & Viral Charts and has had her music premiered via Billboard. Apart from her own artist career, she is the Director of Communications and Artist Relations at Los Angeles Songwriters Collective – a songwriting community focused on helping songwriters and music creatives alike connect, grow and create together. She's also worked as a freelance music coordinator, finding new talent to represent and curate music for specific Film/TV & advertising searches.

**Barry DeVorzon** has long been a prominent name in the recording industry. He has had a total of twenty hit records, which he has written and/or produced. He discovered the highly successful group, The Association, and developed one of the most successful independent record and publishing companies of that time. He later sold his record company and his publishing company Tamerlane to Warner Music. He has composed the music for a number of major features, among which are *Bless The Beasts And The Children*, *Hard Times*, *Dillinger*, *The Warriors*, *Ninth Configuration*, *Xanadu*, *Tattoo*, *Looker*, and *Exorcist III*. His television credits include *S.W.A.T.*, *Simon and Simon*, *Renegades*, *Private Benjamin*, *V*, *The New Twilight Zone*, *Intimate Strangers*, and *The Belarus File*. His work in motion pictures and television has resulted in a number of hit records and soundtracks: *Bless The Beasts And The Children*, *Nadia's Theme* (the Theme From The Young And The Restless), *Theme from S.W.A.T.*, *No More Drama*, *In The City* from the Long Run and Hell Freezes Over albums, and *The Warriors* soundtrack album. He was nominated for an academy award for *Bless The Beasts And The Children* and won a Grammy for *Nadia's Theme*. His music for television has earned him six Emmys and numerous nominations. In addition to composing, Barry DeVorzon has enjoyed a successful career as a recording artist. His hit instrumental *Nadia's Theme* went gold as did the LP by the same name. Earlier in his career as Barry of Barry And The Tamerlanes, he had a top ten hit with *I Wonder What She's Doing Tonight*. Currently Barry DeVorzon is co-founder and president of MasterWriter and WordXpress. MasterWriter is a best-selling software program for songwriters, poets and creative writers. WordXpress is a newly released educational software program.

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**Ben McLane, Esq** is an entertainment attorney veteran focusing primarily on music, with many gold/platinum albums and Billboard Top 10 and #1 chart hits to his credit for his work in conjunction with musical artists/projects in various genres over the years. He has also been involved in artist management, talent scouting, promotions, and record label operations in the entertainment field, and has been a speaker at prestigious industry conferences such as SXSW and NAMM. Ben currently teaches Music Business Law & Contracts at Los Angeles College of Music in Pasadena, CA (and has also been an instructor at Musicians Institute Hollywood, CA). He is a 1991 graduate of Pepperdine Law School, lives and works in the Los Angeles area, and is the author of the book "Music Business In 10 Easy Lessons". More info at: [www.benmclane.com](http://www.benmclane.com).

**Beth Wernick** began her career in the music industry as a publicist in New York City, working with iconic recording artists like *Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers*, *Fleetwood Mac*, *Heart*, *Ambrosia*, *Judy Collins*, *Tanya Tucker*, *KC and the Sunshine Band*, *War*, and many others. After moving to Los Angeles, Beth worked at Rhino Records, and later on co-founded Imaginary Friends Music Partners with singer/songwriters Stacy Robin & Donna Rawlins. Imaginary Friends is a one-stop, Exclusive song catalog, which licenses the music of unsigned, indy artists to TV shows, films, commercials etc. In 17+ years of pitching songs, Imaginary Friends has had a *wealth* of placements, including regular uses on CBS' Daytime Drama - *The Young & The Restless*, *ABC's Nashville* and *American Crime*, Hallmark Movies, NBC's *Nightshift*, MTV's *Siesta Key*, the film *The Bleeder*, plus *numerous* Reality TV Series and Films. Beth gives full credit to the truly gifted artists, bands and songwriters whose music she is honored to represent.

**Bill Gordon** started playing professionally at age fourteen, as drummer and leader of his rhythm & blues show-band in Baltimore. A graduate of Wiesbaden Conservatory and Berklee, he's composed, performed and produced mainstream jazz, evocative solo piano ballads, quirky pop songs, a quasi-avant-garde funk fable, and music for film and TV. Bill has recorded extensively, appeared as soloist, accompanist and bandleader, and taught throughout the United States and Europe. He writes and performs with jazz & indie-pop singer/songwriters, does annual European tours, and continues writing film and TV tracks (*The Glass Castle*, *Nashville*, *Entourage*, etc.). Bill taught at media school SAE Institute Miami for ten years and wrote their music and music business courses. He presents music business and song workshops around the country, and his DIY textbook, *It's Music, Not Theory, Damn It!* is used at SAE campuses in the U.S. He's been a TAXI Success Story poster child since 2004.

**Bob Mair** is the CEO, Owner, and Founder of Black Toast Music and Black Toast Records. Bob is also a composer and producer, himself. Since its launch in 1990, the company has placed music in *hundreds* of TV series, including such hits as *Homeland*, *The Good Wife*, *Modern Family*, *New Girl*, *Girls*, *The Walking Dead*, *Shameless*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *Longmire*, *True Blood*, *Dexter*, *Madam Secretary*, *Treme*, *The Wire*, and many others. Black Toast has also placed music in high profile motion pictures including *Pitch Perfect 2* & most recently *Pitch Perfect 3*, *Girls Trip*, *Saban's Power Rangers*, *Neighbors*, *American Reunion*, and most recently, *Daddy's Home 2!* Black Toast has also placed music in video games such as Konami's Dance Dance Revolution, as well as National advertising campaigns for Domino's Pizza, Microsoft, Walmart, and Whole Foods. Bob's company has also signed dozens of TAXI members and placed countless songs and instrumentals from them in TV shows, Feature Films and TV Commercials.

**Bob Mete** is a musician well known for his dedication to and promotion of jazz, especially with young musicians. Bob studied Business and Jazz at Western Connecticut State University, and furthered his studies in music at the Hartt School of Music. He has received several music-inspired awards, such as Outstanding Jazz Educator of the Year from the National Band Association, and is a founding member of the Board of Directors for the Charlottesville Jazz Society. Bob graduated from the Ansell School of Business, Western Connecticut State University in 1977, with a BBA in Marketing. Recent Placements: *Super Girl- The Fosters- Kevin Probably Saved The World- Public Storage- The Voice, Ghosted, Comedians in Cars- Rosewood- Halt & Catch Fire- Scout- 4 episodes-Nashville- Silicon Valley- Late Night with Stephen Colbert- 3AM, Looking- Ray Donovan- Californication, Any Day -Adult Beginners -Netflix-Hemlock Grove- Seasons 1 & 3-, Daredevils Corazon Valiente, Donna Karan- PureDKNY- Verbena- Donna Karan's PureDKNY- MTV's Guy Code- The Glades- Hallmark Movies- The Unexpected Groom---* *With Love Christmas - Search Party, Chicago Legal- Chicago Fire- The Price -Graves- Younger-Whole Foods- Evil Things.* **Redd Productions** is a music production company specializing in Classic Jazz in the Sinatra style, Smooth Jazz, New Age and Neo-Classical. Located in sleepy Charlottesville, VA we have a deep pool of world-class artists in which to draw upon to take our original scores to the next level. Studios located in Earlsyville, VA & Ocean City, MD.

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**Bobby Borg** is a former major label, independent, and DIY recording/touring artist with over 25 years experience working along side the most respected managers, producers, and A&R executives in the music industry. He served as the VP of Special Events for the Los Angeles chapter of the American Marketing Association, and as Chairman of Music Business at Musician's Institute in Hollywood, California. A recipient of UCLA Extension's Distinguished Instructor of the Year Award, Borg teaches DIY music marketing, music publishing, and general music business classes both online and on-campus and he speaks regularly at Berklee College of Music and other distinguished schools worldwide. Borg is the author of [Music Marketing For The DIY Musician](#), [Business Basics For Musicians](#), and over 1,000 magazine and blog articles for Billboard.com, Hypebot, SonicBids, Music Connection, Disc Makers, BandZoogle, and more. He is the founder of Bobby Borg Consulting, where he assists rising music professionals globally. He lives in Los Angeles. His website is [www.bobbyborg.com](http://www.bobbyborg.com).

**Bree Noble** is a recognized expert in the music business community known for helping DIY musicians to build their fan base, to become more creative and productive, and to make consistent income from music. Besides being an in-demand speaker, award-winning Podcaster and founder and host of the annual Profitable Musician Online Summit, Bree has traveled the path of a struggling singer-songwriter herself and understands first-hand the career obstacles and mindset challenges artists face in today's music business. Bree's new book, *The Musician's Profit Path*, was released on Amazon in early 2019 and immediately hit the top 10 Music Business Books for Kindle. Bree created the Musician's Profit Path framework as a direct result of her journey from unknown Indie artist to profitable, professional musician. Her greatest joy is celebrating the success of her students, especially the members of her Female Musician Academy.

**Charles "Casey" Hurowitz** is a successful TAXI member who writes for Film/TV. He has numerous songs and instrumentals signed to Taxi client music libraries. Casey's music has been heard on over 80 TV shows including *America's Got Talent*, *Chicago Fire*, *The Night Shift* (NBC), *The Young And The Restless*, *Salvation* (CBS), *Catfish*, *When I Was 17*, *Extreme Crips*, *16 And Pregnant*, *Made* (MTV), *Beverly Hills Nannies*, *The Fosters* (ABC Family/Freeform), *The Originals* (CW), *Mecum Auto Auctions* (NBC Sports), *Nascar Raceday* (Fox Sports), *PGA Tour Golf* (Golf), *American Pickers*, *Pawn Stars* (History), *Auction Kings*, *Buying Alaska* (Discovery), *Giuliana & Bill*, *Style Exposed* (Style), *My First Home*, *Toddlers And Tiaras*, *NY Ink*, *Say Yes To The Dress* (TLC), *The Real Housewives Of NYC*, *Flipping Out*, *Interior Therapy* (Bravo). Casey has also placed music for other artists on HBO and Canadian TV.

**Chas Ferry** is a recording engineer who has worked with Iggy Pop, David Bowie, Rod Stewart, Steve Perry and Trevor Rabin to name a few. He worked for ten years with famed Tangerine Dream Member Christopher Franke as Assitant and Music Editor on *Babylon 5*, *Walker Texas Ranger*, *Big Brother*, *The Amazing Race* and *Pacific Blue*. Chas is currently working as Mastering Engineer/Producer for Varese Sarabande Records. Last year, he re-mastered material from Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Barry Manilow and Eric Carmen to name a few. Chas' music Library, HollywoodTrax, is currently supplying music to FOX Sports, the entire Universal Comcast production group as well as being actively sub published in over 15 foreign countries and represented by Manhattan Music in the U.S. This year Chas Mastered Sheryl Crow's New Single "Dancing With Your Shadow" and Iggy Pop's New Single "Gold."

**Chen Neema** is an award winning and multi platinum selling songwriter/producer Chen Neeman's songs have been recorded by artists such as Miley Cyrus, Demi Lovato, Selena Gomez, Joe Jonas, Zendaya, and The Muppets, among others. His songs have appeared on four #1 albums on the Billboard 200, and eleven top ten Billboard 200 albums. Chen's songs have sold 15 million records worldwide, and can be heard on radio, film, TV, and in video games, consumer products and sports arenas. Chen also created and manages HitSongCoach.com, an education website dedicated to nurturing, guiding and empowering aspiring artist and writers through coaching in songwriting and production techniques.

**Chris "Hot Rod" Long** began his career as a music journalist and concert promoter in 1989. By 1991 he had his first A&R job at Chameleon Records under producer Chuck Plotkin (Bruce Springsteen Bob Dylan) and was responsible for signings of Kyuss and Ethyl Meatplow. Through the years, Chris worked with such bands as Stone Temple Pilots Rage Against the Machine and Ice T's Body Count and served as A&R marketing consultant for The Los Angeles Times, Delicious Vinyl, and Fuel 2000 Records—working with Jethro Tull, Julian Lennon, and Ian Hunter. Chris also managed Platinum-selling band Crossfade (Columbia) and co-managed Jonah with legendary music attorney Alan Mintz. He was the first person to shop Christina Perri to major labels and currently manages Ed Sloan (Crossfade) and several producers new to the US. Chris stays busy and is also an A&R consultant for Sunset Blvd Records and a Brand Ambassador at Vezt, the worlds first blockchain based publishing company as well as co-owner of a music library.

**Clark Van Norris - TBA**

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**Cristina Cano** is a marketer at CD Baby where she has helped develop global digital-marketing strategies and plan the annual DIY Musician Conferences in Spain, Nashville, and Austin. She is a strong advocate for the empowerment of independent artists and also works as a consultant to DIY musicians to help develop their marketing and release strategies. Cristina is a singer/songwriter, producer, and frontwoman in her band, Siren and the Sea. She has been playing music for two decades, has toured internationally as a professional multi-instrumentalist, and has released all her own music independently through CD Baby.

**Chuck Henry** is a recording artist, producer, composer, and publisher with a phenomenal list of credits that ranges from radio, network and cable television, national commercials, and independent and festival films. His company "10 West Music" has signed over 80 composers - many of which are Taxi members, and his catalog can be heard multiple times daily on reality TV shows, talk shows, game shows, documentaries, entertainment news programs, and TV dramas. His music has been in over 9,000 episodes of 900 different television shows. He is also signed with Intencity Records as "Eterna" doing "Chill-out Global EDM". The original recording contract that led to his current deal started with a submission to a TAXI listing years ago. In addition, Chuck does the music for international burlesque star and renowned fashion icon Dita Von Teese. He is also a long-time TAXI member who is among the first wave of members to selflessly share his knowledge and experience with newer members.

**Chuck Schlacter** is a guitarist and composer who writes instrumental music for Film/TV. His compositions include world music, jazz and gypsy jazz, tension and dramedy. Chuck has been a TAXI Member since 2006 and has over 1,500 compositions signed with fifteen production music libraries. His music has been heard on NetFlix, SyFy, Oxygen, Animal Planet, NBC, ABC, CBS, FOX, E!, Discovery, OWN, TLC, MTV, Bravo! and A&E. In 2013, Chuck started Opening Line Music Group. Every composer writing for Opening Line is from a relationship built through TAXI - primarily from the TAXI Rally. There are 42 composers producing music for the catalog. Opening Line has been focused on developing international distribution and is represented in thirty countries. Chuck lives in Brentwood, Tennessee - just outside of Nashville. He is a graduate of SUNY Oswego with a BA in music.

**Cliff Goldmacher** has worked as a staff songwriter for a major Nashville publisher. His songwriting collaborators include multi-platinum selling and Grammy winning artists Ke\$ha, Keb' Mo', Mickey Hart (Grateful Dead), Chris Barron (Spin Doctors), Mindy Smith & Lisa Loeb. Cliff's songs have been cut by major label artists in genres ranging from country, pop and jazz to classical crossover. His music has also been used on NPR's "This American Life" and in national advertising campaigns. Cliff's song, "Till You Come To Me," went to #1 on the jazz charts.

**Craig Pilo** is a graduate of the University of North Texas College of Music. Craig Pilo just finished his 13<sup>th</sup> year touring with Frankie Valli. Some of his past touring credits include Edgar Winter, Jefferson Starship, Jersey Boys, Player, Jordan Sparks, and Maynard Ferguson. When he's not touring, he has a busy session schedule as both a drummer and a producer/composer. As a drummer, he's been featured in *Dirty Dancing II*, *(Havana Nights)*, *Basic*, *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*, & *Ally McBeal*. As a producer/composer his music has been featured in hundreds of TV shows, recent credits include: *Keeping up with the Kardashians*, *Catfish*, *The Toy Box*, *Basketball Wives*, *Mob Wives*, *Girl Code*, *MTV Challenge*, *RuPaul's Drag Race*, *Access Hollywood*, *The Emmy Awards*, *Dog the Bounty Hunter*, *Love & Hip Hop*, *LA Hair*, *The Gary Owen Show*, *Inside Amy Schumer*, *Hollywood Divas*, and *Mama June*. You can read more about Craig's CD's, TV Credits, touring schedule, @CraigPilo.com.

**Curtis S.D. Macdonald** has had years of experience composing, recording, and editing for major film and TV companies in Los Angeles, including Disney, Mattel Entertainment, DIC Entertainment, PBS, Universal, Warner Bros., and Netflix. He also found time to compose and record over 20 albums on the Eversound and CMMP record labels in the New Age/Pop Instrumental genre.

**Darlene Koldenhoven** is a GRAMMY Award winning vocalist, three-time Grammy nominee, award-winning producer and recording artist, vocal contractor, songwriter, arranger, credentialed voice teacher/coach, studio owner, certified sonic therapist, and author of a book with 7 instructional CDs, [Tune Your Voice: Singing and the Mind's Musical Ear](#), that is endorsed by everyone from Julliard to American Idol. Darlene also has four #1 vocal albums on the radio charts, an Independent Music Award, two Broadcasters Awards and two nominations. She has an MVP Award given by the Los Angeles Chapter of The Grammys for Best Session Singer for singing on thousands of feature films, records, TV shows, commercials, and live shows. Darlene is known worldwide for her featured soprano solo in Yanni, Live at the Acropolis and as choir nun and real life vocal coach/music director for both *Sister Act* films with Whoopi Goldberg.

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**Dave Cool** (yes, that's his real name) is the Director of Artist & Industry Outreach at Bandzoogle. Built for musicians by musicians, Bandzoogle makes it easy to build a beautiful website and sell your music, merch & tickets commission-free. Dave has spoken at dozens of music conferences including SXSW, Canadian Music Week, SF MusicTech, TAXI Road Rally, and ASCAP EXPO. He has also been interviewed by The Economist, Newsweek International, CNN.com, and the Financial Post for his insights on the music industry. He's a recovering punk rock drummer, comedy nerd, wine snob, and vintage hockey card collector.

**Dean Krippaehne** is a veteran songwriter, musician, author and music producer. His many credits include: *Dancing with the Stars*, *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, *Oprah*, *Duck Dynasty*, *Scorpion*, *Keeping Up with the Kardashians*, *One Life to Live*, *Parenthood*, *Vampire Diaries*, *Dr. Oz*, *The Today Show*, *Biography A&E*, *Lucky Dog*, *Muzak*, *Amazon* and *T-Mobile* to name just a few. As a songwriter, he has earned Gold and Platinum records and a Billboard Top 10 with Universal artist Stefanie Heinzmann and continues to work with the former MCA/Music Blitz rock band, Quickie, as well as other indie artists. His books include: "Demystifying the Cue," and "Demystifying the Genre" (both #1 Amazon best-sellers), and "Write, Submit, Forget, Repeat." Dean is also a Founding Partner of NXT CHNL and continues to own and operate the boutique music library *All Screen Music*.

**Derek Nakamoto** is a veteran record producer and composer. He has spent 30 successful years of making the recording industry more eclectic. Initially, he joined Sony/Epic recording artist Hiroshima as a band member and composer and was later chosen by French composer Michel Colombier to collaborate with singer Paul Anka. His list of pop credits includes Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston, Jermaine Jackson and Michael Bolton. Production credits include Teddy Pendergrass's comeback album "Truly Blessed" for EMI Records, "For the Love" for MCA artists The O'Jays as well as critically acclaimed debut records for Nicky Holland for Sony/Epic and Fernando Saunders "The Spin" for A&M. His international work includes legendary Angolan singer Waldemar Bastos "Classics of My Soul," featuring the London Symphony Orchestra and (Kodo singer) Yoko Fujimoto's debut album "Morissa Komorisa." Derek's long collaboration with Contemporary Jazz Pianist Keiko Matsui spanning 23 albums. "Doll," "Sapphire," and "Dreamwalk" solidified Keiko as a force in the Contemporary Jazz genre.

**Dr. Chrispy (AKA Chris Boshuizen)** is an award-winning aerospace engineer-turned music producer and songwriter, with a mission to inspire people, through a common love of music, to pursue art or STEM careers. Chris worked at NASA developing lunar landers, and later started an aerospace company with friends, Planet.com, launching over 200 spacecraft into space to map the global environment every day. All the while, he spent every spare minute writing music and producing his own tracks. Having spent years writing synthwave and ambient instrumentals, Chris decided to pursue music full time, and with a new-found thirst for contemporary EDM/Pop, Dr. Chrispy was born. He recently released his debut synthwave album "VHS" to critical acclaim, which he recorded in his home studio in San Francisco, and he has several singles and a new album in the works ([www.drchrispy.com](http://www.drchrispy.com)). In 2014 Chris won the Advance Award for being the greatest Australian not living in Australia.

**Elyse Schiller** - Music Creative/Synch Licensing Director with 20 years of experience composing, producing, pitching and placing music for Film, TV, and Advertising. She has produced music for dozens of network marketing campaigns, main-titles and award-winning brands, and developed and placed indie artists and composer's music in numerous high-profile television shows, films, and trailers. Clients include ABC, Disney, E! Entertainment Television, Fox, HBO, NBC, Netflix, Showtime, Sony, Lionsgate, New Line, Paramount and Warner Bros. As an artist Elyse's music has been featured in TV shows "C.S.I.", "Queen Sugar", "Famous In Love", films "Unfinished Business", "Take The Lead", and more. Currently Elyse is Director of Synch Licensing at Masterphonic, working with Grammy Award winning songwriter/producer Stephen Bray and is A&R consultant and producer for Fundamental Music.

**Erick Gilbertson** is a producer/composer, and co-owner at RnE Audio. RnE is a custom music house specializing in creating premium music solutions for international, national, and digital advertising campaigns. Some of our recent clients include Nike, Tommy Hilfiger, Gap, Toyota, YouTube, Microsoft, Saks 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Dunkin Donuts, Target, Google, Amazon, Samsung, Wendy's, McDonalds, JBL, Delta, Virgin, Brookside Chocolate, Facebook, Subway, Uber, Comcast, GE and many more. Prior to joining RnE, he composed and produced hundreds of songs for his own music library, as well as for other music publishers, jingle companies, production music libraries, and video games.

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**Erin M. Jacobson, Esq.** is a practicing attorney, experienced deal negotiator, and a seasoned advisor of intellectual property rights who protects musicians, songwriters, music publishers, and a wide variety of other music professionals. Ms. Jacobson's clients include Grammy and Emmy Award winners, legacy artists and catalogues, heirs and estates, and independent artists and companies. Ms. Jacobson regularly handles all types of agreements within the music industry, with an emphasis on music publishing and licensing. In addition to being named a Super Lawyers Rising Star and one of the Top Women Attorneys in Southern California, Ms. Jacobson is a frequent author and speaker, and has been featured in publications including *Billboard* and *Forbes*. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Association of Independent Music Publishers (AIMP). More information on Ms. Jacobson can be found at [www.themusicindustrylawyer.com](http://www.themusicindustrylawyer.com).

**Fett** is an independent music producer and engineer, author, music career coach, co-founder of the Azalea Music Group in Nashville, and recording/mixing engineer for the 2015 Australian #1 Album: Jason Owen's *Friday Night*. He helps artists and songwriters reach their fullest sonic and emotional impact with the recordings he produces, and also teaches them how to do it themselves. Fett is the author of the popular book "*Fett's Mixing Roadmap: A Step-by-step Guide To Mixing Music In The Studio*", host of *EmpoweringWomenInAudio.com* and teacher of hands-on recording and production clinics for women. He is the former Technology Editor for *Performing Songwriter* magazine, and occasional journalist for *CMA Close Up*, *Drum!* and *Keyboard* magazines. His diverse list of clients includes Davy Jones of the Monkees, Grammy-winning songwriter Don Henry, and international guitar virtuosos Tommy Emmanuel and Muriel Anderson.

**Frank Palazzolo** is an independent Music Supervisor in Los Angeles. Just *some* of his credits include: *The Path* on Hulu, *Pure Genius*, *About a Boy*, *Graceland*, *The Leftovers*, and *Rise*, which will debut on NBC this coming March. Frank's film credits include; *Scream 4*, *Why Him*, *A Dog's Purpose*, *Take Me Home*, and *The Truth About Emanuel*. He is also an established songwriter/producer with multiple syncs in Trailers, TV Shows, Feature Films, and TV Commercials.

**Gilli Moon** is a singer, songwriter, artist, and producer. She has worked with highly respected artists such as *Simple Minds*, *Placido Domingo*, *Eric Idle* and *will.i.am*, and is a songwriting award winner in the Netherlands, U.S., and Australia. Her songs have been featured in independent films and network U.S. television programs, and she has released six albums. She is the President of Songsalive! (a nonprofit songwriters organization), CEO of record label Warrior Girl Music, and a certified professional coach. She has three books out, the most recent, *Just Get Out There* and *The 360 Degree Songwriter*.

**Jacob Nathan** has worked in music licensing since 2009. Currently the Creative Director of A&R for Fervor Records, he has worked to unearth music from all corners of the globe. Whether chasing down dusty reels or brokering agreements with large catalogues, he has proven adept at navigating the twists and turns of both vintage and current music industry trends. As a Music Supervisor, he has worked on projects of all shapes and sizes - from studio blockbusters to broadcast television to indie festival darlings. His recent credits include Music Supervision on TBS's smash hit "The Last OG," and he served as a consultant on Blumhouse's 2018 critically-acclaimed "Halloween."

**James Kocian**, Producer/A&R for street lamp records, part time TAXI screener, and former taxi member James Kocian has won various production and songwriting awards; placed hundreds of songs on TV shows, in film, and with nationally recognized artists across multiple genres including CCM, Cont. Gospel, Singer/Songwriter, Pop, & Modern Country. In 2019 James wrote and produced one entire 12 song, full-length project for Universal Music, and then followed that up with another UMG 4 song writing/production deal for an upcoming national release. In his A&R role he continues to seek new talent for the roster, and has overseen multiple releases this year. He also leads worship at his church and oversees a powerful program called Celebrate Recovery. His song, "This Changes Everything" was the theme for the ELCA Mass Gathering in Houston, TX where he performed live at NRG stadium for over 32,000 people." He enjoys sharing the pitfalls and failures he's experienced to help emerging creatives avoid the same setbacks he's endured. Known for staying as long as it takes (2, 3, 4 am!) at the drive-by mentoring song bar, he knows the feeling of just wanting some tangible direction from a music pro. His life was changed by TAXI and the relationships developed at taxi rally, and he is always happy to help others however he can.

**Jeff Freundlich** is the COO of Fervor Records, known for one stop licensing of authentic period recordings and select indie artists. He mentors up and coming songwriters through a rigorous A&R process at Fervor. Jeff is also a composer and songwriter with a wide range of credits across film and television, including *Lucifer*, *The Big Bang Theory* and Apple TV+'s highly anticipated series, *Home Before Dark*.

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**Jeff Walker** uses his Rhymecology platform to write and teach the Art of Hip-Hop lyrics across the world. His rhymes have been featured on 60 Minutes, TNT (Inside the NBA), Fox Sports Radio, Power 106FM, ESPN and more. As a writer he has written for the likes of The Black Eyed Peas, [will.i.am](http://will.i.am), Jamie Foxx, & Randy Jackson. He is the author of *The Art of Hip-Hop Lyrics* and *Using Hip-Hop to Heal*. For all things Rhymecology, including coaching, clothing and credits, visit [rhymecology.com](http://rhymecology.com)

**Jenna Drey** is a multi-Billboard Charting Songwriter and recording artist. She studied music at New England Conservatory and moved on in 2004 winning songwriting contests that led her to TAXI. As a TAXI member, she was offered a recording contract in which Nile Rodgers produced her first single. This song became the adopted battle song for the 2004 World Series Championship for the Boston Red Sox "Just Like That." She eventually signed to Robbins Entertainment, a top POP Dance label in the U.S., and released hits like "Killin' Me," "Why Should I Believe You", "By the Way" which topped the Hot Dance Radio play Billboard Dance charts for 16 weeks, and All out of Love. Her songs have been featured in major films and TV shows. Over the past decade, Jenna has continued a series of releases in the Dance/Pop genre performing as headliner at the largest Pride events in the U.S., including D.C, Seattle, Chicago, Houston, FLL, Phoenix, Minneapolis and more.

**Joe Brandt** is a Music Supervisor providing Music Clearance, Licensing and Supervision for television and film. He has curated and meta tagged thousands of tracks for several music production libraries. Joe holds degrees in Computer Programming, Audio Engineering and Communications and is a member of the Guild of Music Supervisors. He is also an esteemed member of TAXI's A&R Team!

**Jon Asher** is an artist, songwriter and vocal producer who has written a string of hit songs for established and emerging artists around the world. Asher's most recent release, *Mood Ring* is featured on the Japan Deluxe album of *Glory* by Britney Spears in which he both co-wrote and vocal produced, with musical production by DJ Mustard & Twice as Nice. Asher recently co-wrote *Fool's Gold* with Aaron Carter and is the Executive Producer of Carter's new Album, *LØVĒ*, which was recently signed to Sony. In (2015), Asher co-wrote the title track for K-POP star, Taeyeon (of Girls Generation), which debuted at #1 in 13 countries and has sold over 1.5 million copies. In 2013, Jon Asher co-wrote the *American Girl*, the debut single from Bonnie McKee, which was Asher's first song to break American Top 40 radio (#24). In May of 2011, Jon Asher penned two Australian Top 10 singles, *Loud* and *Light it Up* for Stan Walker. Currently, Jon is developing new artists Aaron Carter (Kid Carter), EDM artist R!OT, Aliana (Lohan) and newcomer SYD. Beyond artist development, Asher is writing with artists like The Chainsmokers, DJ Mustard and Aaron Carter.

## Jonathan Cain - TBA

**Jonathan Weiss** is a Los Angeles-based music supervisor and music producer for film and television. Currently music supervising the Lifetime Cable Series, *American Beauty Star*, starring Victoria's Secret supermodel Adriana Lima. Jonathan has been the Music Supervisor for over 130 episodes of the MTV series *The Real World: Road Rules Challenge*, as well as two seasons of E! Entertainment series *I Am Cait*, over 60 episodes of *Keeping Up With The Kardashians* on the E!, *Motor City Masters* on Tru TV, and *Love Games*, for the Oxygen Channel. Other Music Supervision credits include; The Weinstein Company feature film documentary and PBS's American Masters *Salinger*, *Interscope Presents The Next Episode* for Showtime Entertainment, *The Education of Max Bickford* for CBS, *U.C. Undercover* for NBC, *Celebrity Undercover* for MTV, and the Warner Bros. Pictures theatrical release, *The Big Tease*. Jonathan is a three-time nominee for a Guild of Music Supervisor Award and is an active member of this guild. He's been a frequently invited panelist at the SXSW, the ASCAP EXPO, MUSE EXPO, Hollywood Reporter/Billboard Film & TV Conference and of course, the TAXI Road Rally. He has also worked in A&R for Capitol Records and Universal Music Publishing, as well as TAXI, the Independent A&R Company.

**Joy Basu** is the Creative Director and Co-Owner of the production music library LAB HITS. As a producer/composer he has over 3,000 placements on TV, film and other media around the globe. Prior to getting heavily into music licensing Joy toured throughout the US and Asia as a session guitarist and a solo artist. His credits include Jessica Simpson, J-Lo, Nick Lachey, CoCo Lee, Kotoko, Angie Stone etc. As a solo artist Joy created a show of DJ sets with Live Guitars with which he performed at high end dance clubs, Playboy Mansion, raves, private parties, festivals and even in Vietnam for a crowd of 300,000 + people.



# Road Rally 2019 - Panelist/Mentor/Teacher Bios, continued

**Julia Brotman, Esq.** is an intellectual property attorney at Settle Meyer Law. Her transactional and litigation practice includes business formation, copyright and trademark protection, licensing, and enforcement, and drafting and negotiating various entertainment and media contracts, particularly those between music creators and record labels, managers, publishers, and licensing agencies. Past work experience includes Warner/Chappell, CBS, Marmoset, NBC Universal, and Sony/RED. As an organizer of the annual Hawai'i Songwriting Festival music conference, Julia's passion is helping entrepreneurs and music creators find the tools and resources they need to develop a sustainable career doing what they love. She graduated from Whittier Law School *summa cum laude* and is licensed to practice law in Hawai'i and California.

## **Kaelie Highfield - TBA**

**Karl Louis** is currently teaching Personal Management, Media Relations, Internet Marketing, Social Networking, Fan Management, and Music Distribution courses at Musicians Institute's Music Business Program. He is also a TAXI A&R inner circle team member. Where at the TAXI Road Rally, has lead a Personal Mgmt. Panel, Film/TV Synch Opportunites Panel, Successful Song Pitching Panel and MC'ing/Hosting the Main Ballroom Open Mic series... Since '96 he has operated his own Management, Production and Development Consulting Business (Moral Compass Mgmt). Offering client services that range from song writing consultation, live performance coaching, recording/mixing/mastering consultation, label shopping, merchandising, synch and publishing opportunities, etc. Clients range from solo artists, bands, production companies, labels, managers, etc. Over the years, he has shopped label, publishing and/or management deals for artists including: Matchbox Twenty (Atlantic), Collective Soul (Atlantic), Weezer (DGC/Geffen), E-40 (Jive/Zomba), Creed (Wind Up), Jane Jensen (Interscope), Sixpence None the Richer (Squint/Elektra/Warner), Hoobastank (IslandDefJam), the Ataris (Kung Fu/Columbia), Bubba Sparxxx (Interscope), Sevendust (TVT), Jack off Jill (Risk), The Autumns (Risk), Alien Fashion Show (Hollywood), 8Stops7 (Reprise/Warner), Radford (RCA), Primer 55 (IslandDefJam), U.S. Crush (Immortal/Virgin), Big Bugsi (LA Confidential/Interscope), Test Your Reflex (RCA), and Fair to Midland (E1/Koch), etc.

**Kyle Kniceley** is a full-time composer/producer/remixer/sound designer for TV and Trailers. After years of playing guitar and writing for his touring metal band, Kyle discovered TAXI in 2011 and quickly went from no deals to writing for several TV production music libraries. After several years of relentlessly improving his craft, Kyle was asked to remix an epic trailer theme which led to many successes as a trailer composer and now sound designer. Kyle's music has been used in over 200 TV shows and been heard on NetFlix, FOX, CBS, NBC, MTV, VICE, NatGeo, Oxygen, E!, Bravo!, Discovery and many more. Also, one of his more recent trailer credits includes sound design in Jordan Peele's "US" trailer, winner of a Golden Trailer Award.

**Liz Redwing** currently manages producers, and provides music business consulting for artists. She got her creative start at MCA, Interscope Music, and Interscope Records former publishing company. Liz also scouted for Atlantic Records and has held positions with management companies, business management firms and law firms, as well as having worked in video production.

**Mark Zubek** is an award-winning songwriter and producer who has co-written and collaborated with industry heavyweights including Grammy winners Betty Carter & Wynton Marsalis, and multi-platinum songwriters Rob Wells (Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande, Adam Lambert) and Greig Nori (Hedley, Sum41). Zubek has landed over 80 song licenses for TV and film, and over \$500,000 in grant funding for himself and the artists he produces and co-writes with. His songs have been heard on all the major TV networks and have won the Grand Prize multiple times in all the high-profile song writing contests. (JLSC, Billboard, ISC, UO, USA) [www.zedrecords.com](http://www.zedrecords.com)

**Martin Tichy** is a violin player, composer and producer, born and raised in Vienna, Austria. He played acoustic and electric violin in Austrian and Italian rock and country bands for over 20 years, earning a "Musician of the Year 1997" award courtesy of the Austrian Country Music Federation. Martin was a featured soloist on movies such as The Three Musketeers and recently shared the stage with Danny Elfman and the Radio Symphonic Orchestra Vienna at Wiener Konzerthaus. Having studied business and economics, he has always combined his music and marketing skills – as a product manager for Warner Music and EMI, as the founder of his own agency Sound Communication, and as Marketing Manager of Vienna Symphonic Library, a position he has held for 19 years.



# Road Rally 2019 - Panelist/Mentor/Teacher Bios, continued

**Mason Cooper** is the President of Songrunner Entertainment, which integrates his musical background and legal/business affairs expertise into his varied film and music services. Beginning his music career in publishing, Cooper has represented the catalogues and talents of Bernie Taupin, John Lennon, Eddie Rabbitt, Jim Croce, George Michael, Rick Wakeman, and Smokey Robinson. His songwriting and production experience includes creating theme music for television shows on CBS, FOX and NBC, and writing with and producing the likes of Dennis Quaid, Jason Alexander, Dylan McDonald, Weezer's Brian Bell, Katie Holmes, Cheyenne Jackson, Devon Werkheiser and Alex Aiono. Just a few Music Supervision highlights of Cooper's 70+ Films and 250+ TV episodes include the Raging Bull prequel/sequel film "*The Bronx Bull*," the Dennis Quaid thriller "*Beneath The Darkness*," the hit TV dramas "*Rogue*" and "*Full Circle*," the Steve Jobs biopic "*Jobs*" starring Ashton Kutcher, the current film release "*9/11*" starring Charlie Sheen and Whoopie Goldberg, and the Syrian war docuseries "*The Volunteers*" airing in November. Along with working on his many feature film projects, Cooper oversees music clearances for LA's Geffen Playhouse, and serves as the Music Supervisor and Coordinator for original programming on DirecTV/AT&T's Audience Network, where he is currently working on over 50 music concerts with acts such as Taylor Swift, Prophets Of Rage, Neon Trees, Lady Antebellum, and Fall Out Boy, as well as serving as the Music Producer and Music Supervisor on Jason Alexander's new music-based sitcom "*Hit The Road*," the 3<sup>rd</sup> season of the comedy "*You Me Her*," and the Peter Farrelly created "*Loudermilk*."

**Matt Vander Boegh** is a full-time composer for film and television, specializing in hip hop, dramedy, tension, elimination, and quirky instrumental cues. He started this journey in 2012 with no knowledge of how to make music on his own, and within five years turned it into his full-time job. His music has been used over ten thousand times, on more than 2,500 episodes of over 300 TV shows. He learned everything he knows about this business from TAXI, and frequently collaborates with other TAXI members.

**Mihai Boloni** has made it his life's work to help others in the audio industry. Mihai gained experience as an audio engineering Full Sail Instructor in early 2000's and joined ProMedia in 2002. Since then, he has become one of Avid's Top Leading and most experienced and in-demand Pro Tools Instructors Worldwide, with clients who come to him from all over the world. Corporate clients include MTV, PBS, NBC, Telemundo, The Voice's Chief Engineer Mike Bernard, Atlanta Public School System, countless professors from leading Universities, CNN, Turner Broadcasting, and the top producers, artists, and engineers in leading studios and record labels. For over 20 years, Mihai has continued to work as an Audio Engineer, Record Producer, Songwriter (ASCAP), Dog Lover, Record Label Owner, and Expert Level Certified Pro Tools Instructor.

**Michael Lloyd** was Vice President of A&R for MGM Records by the age of 20, and for more than 45 years has been producing hit records and soundtracks, earning more than 105 Gold and Platinum awards, and selling over 150 million records. Some of the artists he's worked with include, Barry Manilow, Mike Love and the Beach Boys, Lou Rawls, Sylvie Vartan, Shaun Cassidy, Steve Holy, Belinda Carlisle, The Monkees, The Bellamy Brothers, The Osmonds, Stryper, Sammy Davis, Jr., Bill Medley, The Righteous Brothers, Debby Boone, Kimberley Locke, Leif Garrett, Air Supply, and Frank Sinatra, just to name a few. He was the Music Supervisor for the film Dirty Dancing, wrote the Latin dance music for Patrick and Jennifer to dance to - and produced the Dirty Dancing soundtrack album. Currently, there are several "Dirty Dancing - the Musical" companies that are touring all over the world. He's done the scoring, music supervision, songwriting, song placement, and/or music producing for nearly 200 motion pictures, TV movies, TV specials and television series. His chart records span six decades, from the '60s to the present. Michael is also a recipient of TAXI's Lifetime Achievement Award!

**Nancy Moran** is an experienced recording artist, touring singer/songwriter, and Artist Development Coach. The co-founder of Azalea Music Group in Nashville, she teaches artists, writers, composers and aspiring music moguls how to design, develop and pursue their own authentic (and profitable) music careers. She specializes in working with the not-quite-mainstream and "second-timers" coming back to music after a long hiatus. As an independent artist she released four solo CDs. She also released two CDs and toured nationally as a member of the musical comedy troupe, *The Four Bitchin' Babes*. After playing everything from bars to performing arts centers for over two decades, she created *UltimateBookingAndTouring.com* where she teaches online to touring musicians worldwide.

# Road Rally 2019 - Panelist/Mentor/Teacher Bios, continued

**Pam Sheyne** is a multi-platinum selling songwriter, producer, singer and mentor. With 50+ million record sales, 100+ platinum sales, she is also a prestigious Ivor Novello Award winner. Best known for co-writing the global breakthrough #1 single *Genie In A Bottle* for Christina Aguilera, other artists who have recorded Pam's songs include: Camila Cabello, Demi Lovato, Seal, Corrine Bailey Rae, The Saturdays, Cece Winans, Jessica Simpson and The Backstreet Boys. Pam is also a songwriting mentor, her venture **SongWriterCamps** with long-time collaborator, Richard Harris was launched in 2018 as a camp focusing on the craft of song writing for aspiring artists and songwriters. Pam is a founding member of SONA (Songwriters of North America) an advocacy group that fights for songwriter rights. SONA was instrumental in advocating and supporting the Music Modernization Act, which passed late 2018.

**Paul Marshall** has songs that have been cut by Patty Loveless, Juice Newton, Highway 101, Jill Sobule and others. As a bass player/guitar player, he has worked with Strawberry Alarm Clock, Highway 101, and Country legends, Hank Thompson and Johnny Tillotson. His songs have appeared in numerous movies and television shows. He is currently a member of the band *I See Hawks In L.A.*, and a bass-playing mainstay of the L.A. music scene.

**Pedro Costa** is the founder and CEO at InStyle Music, a production music library and licensing company. As a composer, singer-songwriter, and producer, Pedro got his start in the music business as a TAXI member in 2011. Since then, his music has been used in hundreds of productions worldwide. Credits include: 13 Reasons Why (Netflix), Superbowl LIII (NFL Network), a BMW Commercial, America's Got Talent (NBC), American Pickers (History), Jerry Seinfeld's Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee (Netflix), The Voice (Germany), The Fosters (Freeform), 2016 Rio Olympics (NBC), Shameless (Showtime), The Young And The Restless (CBS), and many others. In 2014, Pedro founded InStyle Music. Providing both production music, and licensing independent artists' songs to clients in both Canada and the US. InStyle's outstanding artist and composer roster is 300+ strong, including many Emmy Award and Grammy Award winners. Many of whom are Taxi members. Some of InStyle's recent work include: Younger (TVLand), Keeping up with the Kardashians (E!), The Challenge (MTV), Vanderpump Rules (Bravo), Ex on the Beach (MTV), Deadly Cults (Oxygen), Ghosted: Love Gone Missing (MTV), VICE (HBO), Born This Way (A&E), This is Family (Amazon Prime), MTV's The Real World (Facebook Watch), and The Dude Perfect Show (Nickelodeon). InStyle Music recently launched its new label, Primetime Tracks. Primetime is an exclusive production music label that will be distributed by partner sub-publishers worldwide.

**Peter Neff** is a composer whose credits include the film *Mostly Ghostly* (Universal Studios); video game *Spyro: Enter the Dragonfly*; promos for over 100 television shows, including *CSI*, *Survivor*, *Big Brother*, and *60 Minutes*; commercials for Miller Lite, BMW, and Pfizer; over 30 music library albums; and music placed in over 1800 episodes of television, including *Jane the Virgin*, *Parks and Recreation*, *30 Rock*, *The Sopranos*, *Saturday Night Live*, *America's Got Talent*, *Dirty Sexy Money*, *Hannah Montana*, and *The Amazing Race*. Peter was a nominee for the 2015, 2016, and 2017 Mark Awards, which honors excellence in production music. He is also a guest professor at UCLA, teaching classes in film/television scoring and music business.

**Prescott Niles** is best known for being a founding member and bass player for the band The Knack, and the #1 worldwide smash hit, *My Sharona*. He has also recorded with George Harrison, Steve Jones and Josie Cotton, who he performed with in both the movie and soundtrack for *Valley Girl*. Has recently joined the band Missing Persons with Dale Bozzio, and also performs with The Classic Rock All-Stars. He is the author of [4 Strings & The Truth](#), which is scheduled to be released early next year. Has been a screener at TAXI since 2001.

**R.C Cates - TBA**

**Randon Purcell** is a product of Taxi in many ways. With his roots in classical and electronic music, he shifted focus to TV production and trailer music over the past several years since joining Taxi. He now composes for several major publishers around the world contributing to top trailer and production music albums constantly. His music appears regularly in many top television shows on major networks (ABC, CBS, NBS, MTV, HBO, etc) and has been featured in top tier TV and Game campaigns, including Call of Duty Modern Warfare, NCIS, Gotham, Vice and More.

# Road Rally 2019 - Panelist/Mentor/Teacher Bios, continued

**Richard Harris** is a #1 Billboard songwriter, producer, artist and mentor. Transplanted from the UK over a decade ago to LA, Richard quickly signed a staff writer publishing deal with Peer Music landing multiple major label song cuts all around the world. With several #1's, top ten singles and platinum records he continues to have hits including a two #1 Billboard dance single. Richard has landed hundreds of TV, Film and Ad song placements through Peer and the major music libraries he has composed for. Hit shows including "Empire", "Nashville", "Vanderpump Rules", "Pretty Little Liars: The Perfectionists", "Cold Case", "One Tree Hill", movies "This Means War" and "Single Moms Club", commercials for eBay and Vivo and trailers for The NFL and Fox TV are among a few of the highlights. Richard is also a songwriting mentor and recently launched a new company **SongWriterCamps** with long-time collaborator, Pam Sheyne.

**Rob Chiarelli** is a multiple GRAMMY® award winning mix engineer, producer and published author. His work appears on numerous Gold & Platinum albums and motion picture soundtracks, including nine GRAMMY® winners. This year he has enjoyed six #1 records and four #1 albums. His clients include Will Smith, P!nk, Pitbull, Kirk Franklin, Tori Kelly, Stevie Wonder and Christina Aguilera to name a few.

**Robert A. Case**, President of New Pants Publishing, Inc. (ASCAP), Old Pants Publishing, Inc. (BMI), and New Pants Music, Inc. (SESAC) is a graduate of the Colorado Institute of Art (Denver), with an Associate's Degree in Business (emphasis in Music and Video). He completed studies at Community College of Denver in Business Administration and Marketing. Mr. Case and companies are proud members of ASCAP, BMI, SESAC, The Recording Academy, NATPE and The Association of Independent Music Publishers. Mr. Case and his companies have experience with promoting their music catalogs with organizations including the National Basketball Association, Major League Soccer, Minor League Baseball and GNC Body Building Competitions. His companies' catalogs have also had successful placements with Lions Gate Pictures, CW Network, A&E, Fox Sports, CBS/VH1/Universal HD (Love Monkey), NBC's Friday Night Lights, ABC/Soap Network (One Life to Live), the Outdoor Channel, The Discovery Channel and Comedy Central (South Park). He recently consulted on a Music Soundtrack and Documentary Film, *Forgotten Songs: the Current & History of Las Vegas Live Musicians in the Music Business*. PBS has picked up the film and has been broadcasting it in their programing regularly.

**Robin Frederick** is the author of top-selling songwriting books, including Shortcuts to Hit Songwriting and Shortcuts to Songwriting for Film & TV. She has reached millions of aspiring songwriters through her highly-rated websites and online courses. Her songwriting video series on YouTube has been seen by more than a million viewers. Robin has written and produced hundreds of songs for television, record albums, and theater. She is executive producer of over 60 albums and a former Director of A&R for Rhino Records.

**Ron Harris** is a former A&R Executive for Epic and Sony Records, and a Record Producer whose credits include artists like, *Christina Aguilera, Hoku, Christopher Williams, Adina Howard, Orianthi and Allison Irehata*.

**Ronan Chris Murphy** Producer/mixer/mastering - has hundreds of credits ranging from Prog-Rock legends, King Crimson to Youtube sensation Tay Zonday and everything in between including Tony Levin, Steve Morse, Terry Bozzio, Alexia, Martin Sexton, Ulver, Jamie Walters, Steve Stevens and Nels Cline. His productions have charted as far away as Iceland, Greece and Malaysia. He also works on music for non-album projects including the hit Norwegian film, *Uno* and video games *Assassin's Creed Brotherhood* and *Mafia III*. He recently produced the new album for metal icons GWAR and mastered the soundtrack album for the hit film *Get Out*. He also lectures, teaches and consults about recording internationally with his business Recording Boot Camp.

**Ryan Gaughan** was inspired to become a self-sustaining, touring artist when he was in the audience at a TAXI Road Rally in 2008. In 2015 he toured 300 + shows, four in the United States, two in Europe, and two in Iceland. Other bands and artists began reaching out to him for advice, so he's started a "Road Coaching" business to help bands that are stuck in the rut of over-saturated markets and empty venues. He helps them learn the language, work, and communication of booking tours. Ryan is also the leader of the Rock-Reggae band, Among Criminals, out of Philadelphia. While recording their last release with producers Chuck Treece (Bad Brains, Pearl Jam) and Jim Salamone (Rolling Stones, Temptations) he started laying down some songs for a solo project.

# Road Rally 2019 - Panelist/Mentor/Teacher Bios, continued

**Shannon Quisenbery** is the Director of Creative Licensing and Artist Relations; THINK Music Inc. Shannon was introduced to the music industry through a collegiate program at The University of Texas at Austin, assisting the producers for the acclaimed live television program Austin City Limits in 2004. After two seasons working on episodes with some of the biggest artists on the planet (Wilco, Etta James, Pixies, Elvis Costello, The Shins, The Flaming Lips, to name a few), she decided that behind the scenes in the music industry is where she belonged. She soon found herself at Brick Wall Management in New York City, supporting their busy management team. For 6 years, she worked with their large roster of artists and producers that included Citizen Cope, Marc Broussard, The Clarks, and Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Ari Hest. After moving to LA and working on Ingrid Michelson's management team, Shannon was quickly drawn to the licensing side of the industry and started working with Platform Music Group in 2015. Now at THINK, Shannon has been an integral part of helping artists land placements, from hit TV shows (The Leftovers, Shameless, Claws, Queen Sugar, Suits, Lucifer) to nationwide Advertisements (Fitbit, Toyota, Comcast) and everything in between.

**Sherry Orson** is a successful, established Music Publisher and Licensor, having secured music on television shows on every major network, and with major label recording artists, advertising brands, in motion pictures and more. Ms. Orson began her career in the music industry as a Creative Manager during the Richard Branson years with Virgin Music Publishing in Los Angeles. From there, she moved to Universal Music Group as Director of Creative Services for almost a decade, expanding her extensive experience in the fields of music publishing and licensing. While at Universal, she placed songs with major record labels on Platinum artists such as Christina Aguilera, Toni Braxton, Selena, Babyface, Jessica Simpson, Bette Midler, Chaka Khan and many others. In 2007, she joined musician and actor, Steven Van Zandt representing his music publishing company and rock record label, where she was responsible for placement of his roster of artists with major advertising brands: KFC, McDonalds and Fox Sports. Ms. Orson currently represents emerging artists and music catalogs for licensing in all areas of media through her own licensing and music catalog representation company, Star Vibe Group. Through Star Vibe Group, she recently placed and licensed songs from the roster to Amazon, CBS, HBO, Showtime, MTV, NBC, Fox, E! and many more.

## Sherry-Lynn Lee - TBA

**Stephen Baird** is a composer and producer whose music has been heard in a wide array of media formats including advertising campaigns, globally syndicated television shows, music videos, short films, commercials, and video games. He works tirelessly to craft music that is tailored to a specific project, blending all the right sounds and rhythms that truly complement and enhance the finished product. Steve credits TAXI with showing him the path, giving him the tools and education he needed, and the relationships that have enabled him to earn a consistent six-figure income with his music. Baird's music has been heard on *thousands* of MTV episodes, as well as countless placements in hit TV shows on ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, Bravo, HGTV, TLC and many, *many* more!

**Steve Barden** is a production music composer for film and television. His music can be heard on television somewhere in the world on a daily basis. His music has aired on ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX, CW, ABC Family, A&E, American Heroes Channel, Animal Planet, Biography Channel, Bravo, The Cooking Channel, Discovery Channel, E!, Food Network, Game Show Network, HGTV, Investigation Discovery, Lifetime, MTV, National Geographic Channel, Oprah Winfrey Network, Outdoor Channel, Oxygen, PBS, Science Channel, Style Channel, SyFy Channel, TLC, Travel Channel, truTV, Univision, and VH1. Steve is multi-instrumentalist playing guitar, piano, violin (sort of), and other stringed instruments. He has studied guitar at the Guitar Institute of Technology in Hollywood (currently Musician's Institute) and studied film scoring at UCLA. He scored several animated television series for Saban Entertainment as well as the award winning animated short, The Baseball Card Shop, originally produced by Nickelodeon. He has also written jingles and theme songs for Los Angeles radio personalities, Mark & Brian, and also Kevin & Bean. Last year, Steve joined composer Kevin Kiner writing cues for Season 4 of "Jane the Virgin", airing on the CW network. One of Steve's cues became Jane's love theme. Steve is also the author of the book, "Writing Production Music for TV – The Road to Success", available from Hal Leonard.

**Steve Celi** entire life has been about music. He's always been driven by the satisfaction that comes from matching the right song or cue with a great piece of visual art. With over 20 years of experience in music supervision, Steve has spent the majority of his career working for the FOX Network on-air promotion team overseeing all music selection, original music production, music licensing, clearances, and budgeting for the entire FOX primetime lineup. Celi now develops sync solutions with marketing communications for brand integration and social platform targeting as well as liase with industry leaders, influencers and rights holders. Steve is the proud father of three musically gifted children and fronts an Eagles tribute band known as Dark Desert Highway.

# Road Rally 2019 - Panelist/Mentor/Teacher Bios, continued

**Steven Memel** works with clients who have received Grammy's, Emmy's, Tony's and who have been nominated for Academy Awards. They've sold millions of albums worldwide and have appeared on national television, film and a bunch of other stuff. When it comes to your vocal technique and the quality of your performance, Steven is among the top in the world. But he also is an expert at "getting your head right" so you can get the absolute most out of YOU!

**Suzan Koc** is a true international publisher. She started her career at Warner/Chappell in Paris, France, where she signed the Swedish pop band Ace of Base. In 1996 Suzan was hired by the prestigious English boutique company Hit & Run Music, where she was instrumental in developing the career of songwriter Shelly Peiken (What a Girl Wants, Christina Aguilera; Almost Doesn't Count, Brandy; Who You Are, Jessie J.) and Pam Sheyne (Genie In A Bottle). More recently, Suzan introduced Wally Gagel and Xandy Barry who are now the production team WAX Ltd (Family of the Year, Zella Day, Muse, Redlight King...), placed songs by songwriter Busbee (Pink's Try), set up fruitful co-writes for David Gamson (Kelly Clarkson's Stronger) and Jean Baptiste (Benny Bennassi feat. John Legend Dance the Night Away). In 2008, Suzan started Songwriters Rendezvous workshops where she helps songwriters find their own voice and write songs in a comprehensive fashion. She explains, "This is not a one-size-fits-all situation. The point is to stand out, not blend in." Suzan teaches Music Publishing at the prestigious Musician's Institute in Hollywood, where she developed the 2nd quarter curricular, which focuses on international publishing. Her understanding of the craft and the business makes her a unique mentor. She is determined to keep her ears fresh and stay in tune with the changes. Her approach to music is of a true art lover.

**Sydney Alston, Account Executive, Disc Makers** has 20 years of experience in all facets of the music business, making him an in-demand music resource for artists in L.A. and around the world. He started out as a professional bass and trumpet player. After a couple of major label signings he opened NuPop Entertainment, an artist management company. In 2001 he became a product specialist at Disc Makers the industry leader in CD and DVD manufacturing and an essential partner to independent artists for over 60 year. Sydney quickly rose through the ranks to become the face of Disc Makers in Los Angeles. As a manager Sydney has developed many young artists, set up major label and publishing showcases, produced songs, albums, pitched for TV and film, and raised money to help artists grow. Several of the artists Sydney represents have gone on to write hit songs, win Grammys, Eurovision awards, and appear on TV. Sydney specializes in artist development and building a fan base, he has helped many young artists achieve the goal of becoming full-time professionals in the entertainment business.

**Terry Wollman** has worked with a wide variety of international artists including Billy Preston, Little Richard, Wilson Phillips, Al Jarreau, Joan Baez, Joe Walsh, Keb' Mo', Eartha Kitt, and many others. Originally from Miami, Terry launched his career in Los Angeles after earning a degree in Arranging from Berklee College of Music and quickly became an in-demand music director/guitarist/producer/composer/arranger for film and television, recording studio and on stage. For the HBO documentary "If You're Not In The Obit, Eat Breakfast" he produced songs featuring Tony Bennett, Dick Van Dyke, and Alan Bergman with Dave Grusin. Additionally he co-produced Melissa Manchester's 20th album "You Gotta Love The Life", working with guest artists Stevie Wonder, Joe Sample, Dionne Warwick, and Al Jarreau. As a Billboard Top 10 recording artist, the single "Mandela" from his fifth release, "Buddha's Ear" (cowritten with Keb' Mo') hit #1 on Smooth Jazz Top 20 and #4 on the Billboard charts, ultimately spending five months on Billboard's Top 20. He recently released his seventh CD, a 25-year career retrospective entitled "Silver Collection." The album's first single "Welcome To Paradise" featured Terry with Dave Koz, and like all subsequent singles on the album debuted at #1 Most Added. Terry can be heard every Wednesday on his international radio show "Making It with Terry Wollman" featuring luminaries from the music world and beyond.  
[www.terrywollman.com](http://www.terrywollman.com) [www.entertalkradio.com/making](http://www.entertalkradio.com/making)

**Tony van Veen**, CEO of DIY Media Group, the parent company of Disc Makers, BookBaby, and Merchly, Tony van Veen has spent over 30 years helping independent artists release, distribute, and promote their own music globally. He negotiated the 2008 acquisition of CD Baby, the largest independent digital distributor in the world, and its eventual sale in 2019. The company is also a leader in independent book publishing (BookBaby), and merch (Merchly) services to artists, filmmakers, authors, businesses, and institutions.

**Ty Knox** was Director of A&R/Creative Music for Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds at Edmonds Music Publishing and Director of A&R for David Foster's 143 Records. Has worked with the likes of Toni Braxton, Josh Groban, Nicole Scherzinger (Pussycat Dolls), Mariah Carey, and more. Currently, he manages singer-songwriter Samantha Jade who was signed via Ty's production company Song West, Inc. to a worldwide recording deal with Jive Records.