

2022

TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH PRESENTS

SONGWRITER SHOWCASE

The Nashville Connection



Bandstand
7:30 PM

May 20 – 22, 2022

Jimmy Charles

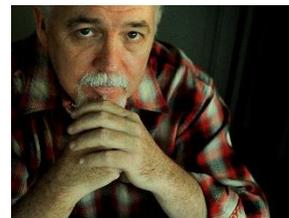
May 20

Jimmy Charles' immediately-identifiable soulful voice, rugged good looks, magnetic personality, and empowered performance style has made him a national name. He has toured the country with compelling original material, opening for Lady A, Montgomery Gentry, Kip Moore, Kacey Musgraves, Travis Tritt, Josh Turner, Merle Haggard, Joe Nichols, and more. The Ocean City, Maryland native headed to Nashville to pursue his music after graduating from Towson University. He tried out for Nashville Star along with 40,000 other people and made it to the Top 50. Jimmy would go on to earn a unanimous vote ticket to "Hollywood" as a Season 9 American Idol contestant – and prove once again that he has the talent to make it as an entertainer with the power to impact countless lives. While the singer/songwriter found early success in 2014 with his first single, "Whatever It Takes," picked up nationwide by iHeart radio, it's the power of "Superman" that solidified his place in the spotlight. Written for ZERO the End of Prostate Cancer to promote awareness with bandmate Goose Gossett and cancer survivor/mentor Phil Shulka, the song's companion video premiered on CMT, trending in the #1 spot for over a week, with over 5,000 shares its first day on the site. The



clip also aired on GAC, ZUUS (now known as The Country Network) and Heartland, instantly putting Jimmy front and center before hundreds of thousands of fans. Jimmy's next release, "Bout Summertime" showcased his more adventurous and carefree side and landed him on the MusicRow Chart. Jimmy made the music video in the US Virgin Islands while headlining a 5000+ Chili cookoff festival on Brewers Bay beach and touring the Island with his full band. The video still plays in the Honky Tonks of Nashville and various bars that show music videos across the world including Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville 3 years later. Jimmy's latest music video release for "Hard way to Go" premiered with CMT and climbed to #1 on The Country Network! The video was paired with an outreach program with National partners American Addiction Centers, Vertava Health, and other addiction awareness non-profits to help reach those battling addiction. To date the effort has helped over 60 people commit to the road to recovery and get the treatment they need. A national spokesman for ZERO the End of Prostate Cancer since 2014, Jimmy was named Outstanding Young Tennessean (2017) for his work against the disease and his many other philanthropic gestures. He then went on to win the National, Ten Outstanding Young Americans (TOYA) honor in 2019. An accolade given to former Presidents, Scientists, Military Heroes, and Elvis himself. Jimmy's successes continue today, recently winning Nashville Industry Music Awards "Male Country Artist of the Year" and "Song of the Year" for "Never Had a Bad Day". With exciting plans ahead, Jimmy Charles is an artist to watch for more big performances and accomplishments.

www.jimmycharlesmusic.com



Craig Bickhardt

May 21

Native Pennsylvanian Craig Bickhardt rose to prominence as a songwriter in Nashville during the 1980s and 90s racking up an enviable string of cuts by Ray Charles, Johnny Cash, B. B. King, Poco, Alison Krauss, Martina McBride, Randy Meisner (Eagles), Kathy Mattea, The Judds and Nicolette Larsen to name only a few. His big break as a recording artist came in 1983 when he wrote and sang the closing theme for the Academy Award winning film TENDER MERCIES starring Robert Duvall and Tess Harper. Bickhardt teamed up with fellow songwriters Thom Schuyler and Fred Knobloch to release a critically lauded CD that spawned three hit singles including Bickhardt's "Givers and Takers" and the Bickhardt-Schuyler classic "This Old House". Since then, he has released a dozen CDs as a solo artist and as half of the duo Idlewheel with Poco bassist Jack Sundrud. A masterful performer himself, Bickhardt has shared stages with Bruce Springsteen, Judy Collins, Harry Chapin, Stephen Stills, Little Feat, Janis Ian and many others. He has appeared on the PBS Television series Austin City Limits (as a member of S.K.B.) and has played over 2000 concerts including the Philadelphia Folk Festival, the New Bedford Folk Festival, and the Kerrville Folk Festival. In 1986 Craig was drafted into the very first "Writers in the Round". According to Amy Kurland, founder and owner of Nashville's Bluebird Cafe, "Craig Bickhardt replaced Paul Overstreet in our first and most famous In The Round Foursome. His songs are a mix of musical innovation and lyrical inspiration."

www.craigbickhardt.com

See how Nashville has influenced the careers of these local artists.

Sarah Williams

May 21



Sarah Williams grew up on a farm in southern Virginia and has spent summers visiting Bethany Beach since her early high-school years. In 2001, Sarah moved to Nashville to study piano, perform, record, teach, and write songs with and for some of Nashville's finest. Sarah's original songs give musical tribute to her tidewater, country, southern-rock roots while she reveals her true practice and passion for popular piano stylings. Sarah has two full-length albums available, *Ruby* (2009) and *Come Back Around* (2014), that feature her as an artist and show her versatile writing. Another EP under the duo project *Sarah and Lindsay, Let's Call It Love* (2012), is also available, featuring songs from the "12in12" project. www.sarahwilliamsmusic.com

The Hobbs Sisters

May 21



Rising country artists, The Hobbs Sisters, are a twin sister duo known for their powerful harmonies and distinct sound. Originally from Pittsburgh and now based in Nashville, they balance a full touring schedule that includes opening for artists such as Lady A and Russell Dickerson while consistently writing with talented up-and-coming songwriters in Nashville. Their debut album, *Turn It Up*, was featured in outlets such as *The Boot* and *American Songwriter* and is a perfect example of the energy and powerful vocals that The Hobbs Sisters bring to the stage. <https://www.thehobbssisters.com>

Josh Christina

May 22



Josh Christina is a Maryland resident whose style offers a mix between Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley, and Elton John. Josh writes his own music, refurbishes the classics, and plays a mean piano. Josh is a rock 'n roll revivalist whose music provides a bridge across generational lines by going backward to move into the future. In 2015, his talents caught the attention of Nashville-based producer Kent Wells (Dolly Parton), who immediately got to work with him on his sophomore effort. His two Nashville recorded albums, *"Good Old Love"* and *"I'm 21"*, were both produced by Wells. His single, *"Kayla Ann"*, charted on the Music Row chart in Nashville and #1 on a couple of independent charts. The infectious sound of Josh Christina hit the international airwaves when he performed live on Ireland's *Late, Late Show* in September of 2016. Not only did it place Josh Christina Music upon the world stage, but also introduced this amazing style and sound to a new generation of music fans, followers, and believers. His album, *"Instincts"* was recorded at the historic Sam Phillips Recording Studio in Memphis. The album was co-produced by two-time Grammy award winner Jon Carroll (Starland Vocal band). His most recent single, *"Weekend Night in America"* landed on the college charts.

www.joshchristinamusic.com

