

First Edition - 2016

# Recording Studios on Nashville's Music Row

*Directory for group tours and special events*



**Visitor Edition  
Nashville, Tennessee**

*This publication was produced by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as part of its work with Music Row as a National Treasure. For more information, visit [savingplaces.org/treasures/nashvilles-music-row](https://savingplaces.org/treasures/nashvilles-music-row). Special thanks to Keith Wright, Director of Sales and Product Development, Sweet Magnolia Tours, for his assistance in developing this directory.*

Dear Nashville Visitor,

Welcome to the First Edition of *Recording Studios on Nashville's Music Row: Directory for Group Tours and Special Events!*

This directory is a guide to taking groups inside a Music Row recording studio to see where the magic happens that has made Nashville known world-wide as Music City.

The recording studios in this directory all offer guided tours which will include stories of the legendary artists who have recorded there – past and present.

Many recording studios also offer additional opportunities. Options may include making a recording to take home, learning how a song is written and recorded with demonstrations of recording equipment, and even enjoying a jam session with some of Nashville's top musicians. Special events can include seated dinners or receptions.

Please enjoy reviewing this directory for information on all of the options.

**If you would like to book a group or plan an event, please call one of the local tour/event operators listed in this directory.**

We look forward to welcoming you to Music Row's recording studios!

Sincerely,

Eddie Robba  
President and CEO, Catch This Music  
President, Music Row Neighborhood Association

**If you would like to book a group or plan an event, please call one of these local tour/event operators.**

## **Nashville Tour and Event Sales Contacts**

### **Sweet Magnolia Tours**

Keith Wright, Director of Sales and Product Development

615-242-5373 (office)

615-906-9228 (cell)

[keith@sweetmagnoliatours.com](mailto:keith@sweetmagnoliatours.com)

[www.sweetmagnoliatours.com](http://www.sweetmagnoliatours.com)

### **All in One Destinations**

Dave Kinney

615-871-7232

[davidk@southernvacations.com](mailto:davidk@southernvacations.com)

[www.southernvacations.com](http://www.southernvacations.com)

### **Art Henry Tours**

James Murphy, Manager

1-800-223-4581

[james@arhenry.com](mailto:james@arhenry.com)

<http://arhenry.com/>

### **Flair Tours**

Carl Staciunis, Owner and Tour Agent

615-361-3737

[flairusa@yahoo.com](mailto:flairusa@yahoo.com)

[www.flairtoursnashville.com](http://www.flairtoursnashville.com)

### **Grand Avenue Worldwide**

Deb Kosmicki, Director of Sales & Customer Relations

615-953-4313 (office)

720-232-0514 (cell)

[dkosmicki@grandavenueworldwide.com](mailto:dkosmicki@grandavenueworldwide.com)

[www.grandavenueworldwide.com](http://www.grandavenueworldwide.com)

### **Let's Go Travelin'**

Judy Johnson, President

866-992-8784 (ext. 700)

512-906-9312 (direct)

[judy@letsgotravelin.com](mailto:judy@letsgotravelin.com)

[www.letsgotravelin.com](http://www.letsgotravelin.com)

**Destination Nashville**

Gretchen Hanshew, Senior Creative Development Manager

615-458-9183 (office)

615-354-4270 (cell)

[ghanshew@destinationnashville.com](mailto:ghanshew@destinationnashville.com)

[www.destinationnashville.com](http://www.destinationnashville.com)

**Gray Line**

Kelly, Field, Director of Marketing

General Manager, Retail & Sightseeing

615-921-4427 (office)

615-574-3626 (cell)

[kfield@graylinetn.com](mailto:kfield@graylinetn.com)

[www.graylinetn.com](http://www.graylinetn.com)

**NashTrash Tours**

Beth Thorneycroft, Manager

615-226-7300

[beth@nashtrash.com](mailto:beth@nashtrash.com)

## Ocean Way Nashville Recording Studios

1200 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. South

[www.oceanwaynashville.com](http://www.oceanwaynashville.com)



### Contact

Pat McMakin, Director of Operations

615-320-3900

[pmcmakin@oceanwaynashville.com](mailto:pmcmakin@oceanwaynashville.com)

### About Ocean Way

Ocean Way Nashville is located in a beautiful former church which opened in 1911 as The Church of the Advent Episcopal. Architect Robert Sharp designed the church as well as Lindsley Avenue Church of Christ at 3 Lindsley Ave., Hume Fogg High School on Broadway in downtown and a Carnegie library at 12th and Haynes Street. The church continued to grow, and in 1972 the congregation moved to the suburbs. The building holds its own storied history before becoming a recording studio in 1995.

### Tennessee Williams Residence

In 1914, Reverend W.E. Dakin became the rector. He was the grandfather of legendary playwright Tennessee Williams who, it is said, lived in the rectory for a year with his grandparents when he was a child. In 1957, Williams responded to a newspaper reporter's question about his time in Nashville: "The South had a way of life that I am just old enough to remember - a culture that had grace, elegance...an inbred culture....not a society based on money, as in the North. I write that out of regret." He added "as the rector's grandson, I observed the genteel South."

### Dark Times

In 1993, the building was purchased by evangelist Tony Alamo and became the home of The Alamo Foundation's Nashville headquarters and a production center for his TV shows. Here the story took a different turn. The *Los Angeles Times* reported: "The Alamos built a multimillion-dollar empire with a television show, events and merchandise cheaply manufactured by their adherents." Alamo gave homeless people food and living quarters in the church in exchange for their free labor making gaudy western wear that he sold in his downtown store (The Alamo).

### Back into the Light - The Beginning of Ocean Way Nashville

In 1995, the building was purchased by Allen Sides, a successful recording engineer and owner of Ocean Way in Los Angeles, and Gary Belz, proprietor of House of Blues Studios with locations in Nashville and Encino, California. The timing was right as the music industry was roaring during the '90s and top

country artists such as Brooks and Dunn, Garth Brooks, Alan Jackson, Randy Travis, Reba McEntire and others were selling millions of CDs. The owner's vision was to create a 5-star experience which did not exist in the Nashville studio market at the time. Ocean Way Nashville immediately attracted A list artists including The Spice Girls, Megadeath, Bob Seger, many top country artists, film scores (*Hot Action Cop* is one example) and countless others.

### **Belmont University Buys Ocean Way Nashville**

By 2001, Belmont University purchased Ocean Way Nashville with an \$11 million donation from record industry mogul Mike Curb in support of the school's audio engineering technology program (part of the Curb College of Entertainment and Music Business). Belmont University retained the Ocean Way name due to its significance in the recording industry. Today, the studio serves as a commercial studio and an academic facility that hosts classes each week.

### **2008 to Today**

In 2008, as the music industry came to grips with digital distribution, piracy and a recession, Ocean Way Nashville pursued other types of recording that were not dependent on the record industry. With its well-designed large studio, Ocean Way Nashville quickly became a primary destination for orchestral recording. The studio's biggest clients include major video game companies such as Sony PlayStation, Electronic Arts, Activision, and many others. In 2015, the studio scored 3-4 of the top 10 games in the world (depending on who you ask), including Call of Duty Black Ops 3, FIFA 2016, Madden NFL 2016, Star Wars, and Ori and The Blind Forrest (Best Independent Game).

Today, Ocean Way Nashville is experiencing tremendous growth, recording artists such as Blake Shelton, Luke Bryan, and many other country music stars while continuing to grow its market share in scoring.

### **Planning a Tour Group Visit**

Ocean Way Nashville offers two unique experiences for groups:

#### **1. Studio Tour (Capacity: 50-55)**

Your group will enter through the church doors and gather in the main studio (formerly the sanctuary). Tours begin with stories of the colorful history of this building during its years as a church and its present-day use as a busy recording studio. To accommodate as many as 55 on the tour, the group will be divided for the remainder of the tour. Each small group will enjoy the opportunity to watch a singer record a song both from the control room in the studio. The recording session wraps up as your group watches the demo being mixed. The tour includes a stop in the gift shop for those who would like to purchase souvenirs.

#### **2. Recorded LIVE at Ocean Way Nashville (Capacity: 50)**

A tour of Ocean Way Nashville will be highlighted by the opportunity for your group to watch a live recording session with some of Nashville's top session musicians. The occasion is made even more special as the musicians record songs written by local songwriters. The experience includes a 30-minute tour of Ocean Way Nashville to enjoy hearing stories of the building's past and present, and a 90-minute recording session.

**Availability**

Ocean Way Nashville is available seven days a week with advance booking.

**Special Opportunity**

Ocean Way Nashville is available to host private events for your group. Please contact Pat McMakin for more information.

**Costs**

*Prices are approximate and may vary depending on the needs of each group.*

1. Studio Tour - \$2,200 per two hours on *weekdays*; \$1,500 per two hours on *weekends* with a limit of 50-55.
2. Recorded LIVE at Ocean Way Nashville - \$4,000 per two hours with a limit of 50.





**Omnisound Studios**  
**1806 Division Street**  
[www.omnisoundstudios.com](http://www.omnisoundstudios.com)



#### **Contact**

Chris Holloway, General Manager  
615-321-5526, office  
615-482-1511, cell  
[chris@omnisoundstudios.com](mailto:chris@omnisoundstudios.com)

#### **About Omnisound Studios**

In 1955, the American Federation of Musicians, Local 257 constructed this building for its offices and a musician practice room. In 1976 the AFM moved to their current location at 11 Music Circle North. In 1978, Marty Robbins purchased this building and converted the space into a recording studio, opening in 1979. Originally named The Marty Robbins Studio, it was renamed Omnisound Studios in 1981. After Marty Robbins death in 1982, his estate sold Omnisound Studios to a local group of musicians and producers in 1985. Omnisound Studios has been one of Nashville's premiere recording facilities for over 37 years, winning many of Nashville's top awards, most recently awarded Top Studio of the Year in 2015. With a rich history of working with the music industry's top artists, producers, engineers and musicians, our goal has always been to give our clients the most friendly and professional service possible, along with the best gear and an environment that sparks creativity and imagination.

#### **Who Has Recorded at Omnisound**

Many successful artists of all music genres have recorded at Omnisound including: The Oak Ridge Boys, Bill Gaither, Larry Gatlin, Faith Hill, Michael W. Smith, Jewel, Miranda Lambert, Lady Antebellum, Beyonce, The Oak Ridge Boyws, Travis Tritt, Steven Curtis Chapman, D.C. Talk, Marty Stuart, Charlotte Church, Little Richard, Restless Heart, Rich Mullins, The Band Perry, Taylor Swift, Blake Shelton, Luke Bryan, Brett Eldridge, Randy Houser, Lionel Richie, and many more.

#### **Planning a Tour Group Visit**

Options for groups include:

1. Guided tour sharing the history of Omnisound and the opportunity to watch a tracking session.
2. Catered luncheon or dinner with karaoke or musician tracking and CDs for each member of the group to take home.
3. Guided tour sharing the history of Omnisound with the option to record a track with CDs for each member of the group to take home.
4. Other options based on request or availability.

#### **Capacity**

Omnisound can accommodate groups of up to 40 for tours, recordings or other activities.

**Availability**

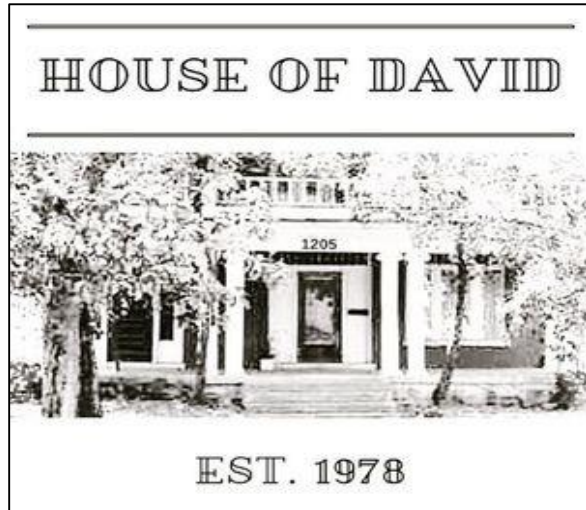
Omnisound is available seven days a week with advance booking.

**Costs**

Pricing is on a three-hour block, half-day rate, or day rate depending on the needs of the group. Please call for more information.



**House of David Studio**  
1205 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
[www.houseofdavidstudios.com](http://www.houseofdavidstudios.com)



#### **Contact**

Mike Davis, Manager  
615-320-7323  
[houseofdavidstudio@gmail.com](mailto:houseofdavidstudio@gmail.com)

#### **About House of David**

The House of David represents the vision and accomplishments of Music Row luminary David Briggs, the songwriter, arranger, piano player and businessman whose client list can summarily be described as just about everybody who was anybody in Nashville during a 50-year span.

Briggs was an original member of the famous Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section. When he came to Nashville in the early 1960s to pursue a career as a songwriter, piano player and artist, Briggs caught the attention of another Music Row legend, Owen Bradley, who signed him to a record deal. As a piano player, he has accompanied Charley Pride, Loretta Lynn and many others. For more than a decade, Briggs backed up Elvis Presley on the keys.

Briggs co-owned the famous Quadraphonic Studio, which became Nashville's top commercial studio for non-country artists in the 1970s. In 1974, he bought this house which was built in 1912-1913 and retrofitted it for the House of David studio.

#### **Who Has Recorded at House of David**

Among the wide variety of artists who have recorded here are Hollywood star Ann Margret and music legends Tom Jones, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, Willie Nelson, Emmylou Harris and B.B. King. The House of David also became a mecca for jingles with Briggs arranging and playing on commercials for Miller beer, McDonald's, Coca-Cola and dozens of other companies. Briggs also led the production

of a posthumously released Elvis Presley album that included tracking work done at House of David. Artists who have recorded in the studio recently include Rival Sons, Amanda Shires and Jason Isbell. One of the most notable songs written here was “16<sup>th</sup> Avenue,” better known as “God Bless the Boys Who Make the Noise on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue,” and recorded by Lacy J. Dalton in 1982.

**Planning a Tour Group Visit**

A guided studio tour will share stories of the history of recording that has happened here over the years.

**Capacity**

House of David can accommodate groups of 20-25.

**Availability**

House of David is available seven days a week with advance booking

**Special Opportunities**

Historic House of David t-shirts will be available for purchase.

**Costs**

Please contact Mike Davis for more information.

**Spirit Music**  
808 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
[www.spiritmusicgroup.com](http://www.spiritmusicgroup.com)

**Contact**

Daniel Hill, President  
615-321-2700 - office  
[danielh@spiritmusicnashville.com](mailto:danielh@spiritmusicnashville.com)

Billy Lynn, Vice President of Creative  
615-321-2700 – office  
[billyl@spiritmusicnashville.com](mailto:billyl@spiritmusicnashville.com)



**About Spirit Music**

Spirit Music Studios has a rich and diverse history of recording on Music Row. The studio began as Audio Media Recorders in 1974 when the two-story facility was built by band leader and producer Pat Patrick, Audio Media’s first creative director. The new studio attracted artists from across the country ranging from Dolly Parton to Little Richard and even Mickey Mouse and the Chipmunks. The studio also became a popular location for recording advertisements, with more than 5,000 commercials and jingles recorded here.

In the 1980s and 1990s, the studio operated as Little Javelina. From 2000-2014, it was Cal IV’s Dollar Digital and in July of 2014 it became Spirit Music Studios.

While equipment has been updated, the studio retains its early 1970s appearance and still uses vintage microphones, preamps and instruments.

**Who Has Recorded Here**

Many artists have recorded, overdubbed or mixed albums or parts of albums at this studio (under its various names and management) over the years. Highlights include: Dolly Parton – “9 to 5 and Odd Jobs” (all songs except “9 to 5”); various sessions and artists for the “Urban Cowboy” movie sound track; Charlie Rich – “Born a Drifter”; The Osmond Brothers – “Today”; Randy Travis – “Always and Forever”; Hank Williams Jr. – “Born to Boogie”; Ricky Skaggs – “Highways and Heartaches,” “Country Boy,” “Waitin’ for the Sun to Shine,” “Favorite Country Songs,” “Don’t Cheat in Our Hometown,” and “Live in London”; Dan Seals and Marie Osmond – “Meet Me in Montana.”

**Planning a Tour Group Visit**

Spirit Music offers a number of tour options which can be customized for your group. Options include:

1. A guided studio tour will share stories of the history of recording that has happened here under all of the studio’s owners over the years, highlighted by samples of songs recorded here.
2. A guided studio tour will be enhanced with demonstrations of how recording equipment works and an explanation of the recording process.
3. As part of a studio tour, your group will have the opportunity to record their own song and will receive a copy to take home.

**Special Opportunity**

- **Watch a Recording Session** – Your group will enjoy the experience of watching an actual recording session and learning about the process that creates new songs.

**Capacity**

Spirit Music can accommodate groups of 15-25 with a maximum of 30.

**Availability**

Spirit Music is available seven days a week with advance booking.

**Costs**

Please contact for more information. Tours are customized and pricing is based upon the selected tour.



**Black River Sound Stage/Ronnie's Place**  
**12 Music Circle South**  
[www.blackriverent.com](http://www.blackriverent.com)

**Contact**

Nick Autry, General Manager  
615-474-6415  
[nautry@BlackRiverEnt.com](mailto:nautry@BlackRiverEnt.com)



**About Black River Sound Stage and Who Has Recorded Here**

Sound Stage Studios opened its doors in 1970. At the time, the building was owned by Mercury Records, and the studio space was called Mercury Custom Recording Studio. In the early years of Mercury Custom Recording, artists such as Kris Kristofferson, Tom T. Hall, Faron Young and Jerry Lee Lewis recorded here with legendary producer Jerry Kennedy. Kennedy played a pivotal role in the studio's early years and kept it booked non-stop for most of the 1970s.

As the decade ended, ownership of the studio changed as well as the producers who had frequented the space. Although he didn't move to Nashville until the early 1980s, legendary producer Jimmy Bowen had been coming to Nashville for years. Bowen revolutionized the recording industry here with the use of digital recording equipment. In 1982, Backstage Studios was built onto the back of the building. Jimmy Bowen moved in to Backstage around 1983 and the rest is history as he produced countless records for artists like Merle Haggard, Reba McEntire, Waylon Jennings, Hank Williams Jr., George Strait and Jimmy Buffett.

As the '80s came to a close, Ron Kerr, who had owned the building along with other investors, decided to buy out his partners and become the sole owner of Sound Stage Studios. Kerr remodeled the studios and constructed smaller mixing rooms which were more affordable and could keep up with the increased speed of production. The studios flourished throughout the 1990s with clients such as Patty Loveless, Shania Twain, George Strait, Trisha Yearwood, Wynonna and Peter Frampton.

Nashville's music industry was not immune to the economic hardships of the new millennium, however, Sound Stage Studios adapted to the changes. In 2010, Terry and Kim Pegula purchased the studio to expand resources for their record label, Black River Entertainment, located next door to Sound Stage Studios. They invested in this historic property by remodeling the studios and offices. Today, artists such as Miranda Lambert, George Strait, Buddy Guy, Carrie Underwood and Kelsea Ballerini have recorded in these state-of-the-art facilities.

**About Ronnie's Place Studio and Who Has Recorded Here**

Ronnie's Place Studio has been a mainstay in Nashville's recording community for over 50 years. The original facility was built in 1968 and was one of Nashville's first purpose-built studios. Roy Orbison purchased the recording space in 1972 and named it US Recorders. The studio was then reconfigured to be a 24-track studio. Six years later, Ronnie Milsap bought the studio and changed its name to Groundstar Laboratories. After selling the studio in 1995, ownership changed hands many times. Even though the name of the studio changed, clients still referred to it as Ronnie's Place. Artists such as Loretta Lynn, Johnny Cash, Tammy Wynette, and Emmylou Harris have all recorded here.

The current owners of this wonderful historic facility, Black River Entertainment, received approval from Ronnie Milsap to officially name the recording space Ronnie's Place. The current owners have gone to great lengths to preserve the unique atmosphere and vibe that has attracted producers, artists, musicians and engineers to this facility for decades.

### **Planning a Tour Group Visit**

Groups will take a behind-the-scenes tour and will be entertained with the stories of who has recorded here in years past as well as present-day artists who choose this location to record their hits. Tours will include demonstrations of how the studio operates.

### **Special Opportunities**

1. **Red Carpet Entrance** - Your group will feel like celebrities when they enter on the red carpet walkway – complete with photo ops, just like a star!
2. **Commemorative Merchandise** – Groups will be able to purchase CD music samplers of songs recorded here as well as other Sound Stage/Ronnie's Place souvenirs.

### **Capacity**

Black River Sound Stage/Ronnie's Place can accommodate groups of up to 40.

### **Availability**

The studio is available seven days a week with a minimum of two weeks' advance booking.

### **Costs**

Please contact Nick Autry for more information.



**Catch This Music Studio and Publishing**  
**1008 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.**  
<http://catchthismusic.com>



**Contact**

Kathryn Graham  
615-340-9000

[kathryn@catchthismusic.com](mailto:kathryn@catchthismusic.com)

**About Catch this Music**

This state-of-the-art studio was built in 1993 with a large addition in 2011. The site's history dates to a circa 1920 house that was home to Bayou Recording Studio (burned in 1987). Catch This Music is a multi-faceted Grammy-award winning entertainment company, consisting of recording facilities (CTM Studios), a full-service music publishing company (CTM Writer's INK) and a boutique record label (CTM Records).

**About the Owner**

Owner Eddie Robba grew up immersed in the Texas music scene, singing at various venues and charity events in and around Houston. Following his dream, he moved to Nashville in 2001. He worked as a song pluggger and spent eight years around hit Nashville songwriters, pitching their songs to both major labels and indie artists. The song-plugging office was located in Bayou Recording Studio which Eddie eventually purchased and transformed into Catch This Music.

**Who Has Recorded at Bayou and Catch this Music**

Both Bayou Recording and Catch This Music have welcomed top-selling artists to record including George Jones, Tanya Tucker, Lee Ann Womack, Gavin DeGraw, John Anderson, T. Graham Brown, Tammy Wynette, Lynn Anderson, Tracey Lawrence, Bryan White, The Martins, Michael English, David Phelps, Richie Ramone, Ben Speer, Tiffany, Trace Adkins, Faith Hill and many others.

**Planning a Tour Group Visit**

Catch This Music offers a behind-the-scenes look at how music is made with options including:

1. A guided tour will share stories of artists who have recorded here and demonstrations of how recording equipment works.
2. A guided tour will include the group recording a song to take home.
3. Tours can also be planned to include food and drink such as a wine and cheese reception.

**Special Opportunities**

- **Commemorative Merchandise** - Visitors can purchase CDs from songwriters who write for Catch This Music's publishing company. Souvenirs such as Catch This Music coffee mugs and koozies can also be purchased.

**Capacity**

Catch This Music accommodate groups of 20 to 25.

**Availability**

The studio is available seven days a week with advance booking.

**Costs**

Please contact for more information. All tours are customized and can be adapted to the tour operators' budget.

**Jay's Place Recording Studio**  
**1508 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.**



**Contact**

Jay Vernali, Owner and Manager

615-479-7986

[jaysplacerecording@comcast.net](mailto:jaysplacerecording@comcast.net)

**About Jay's Place**

Producer/pianist Jay Vernali invites your group to take an in depth tour of his personal studio. Jay offers a variety of tours and experiences that showcase Nashville's best musicians.

**About Jay**

Jay has produced, recorded and played with artists including Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood, Chet Atkins, Gretchen Wilson, The Memphis Horns, Dobie Gray, Shel Silverstein, Bobby Bare, Big Kenny, B.J. Thomas, Lorrie Morgan, Keith Whitley, Billy Edd Wheeler, Paul Craft, Bill Medley, Dana McVicker, T. Graham Brown, Deana Carter, Jo Dee Messina, Joe Diffie, Aaron Tippin and Sheb Wooley.

**Planning a Tour Group Visit**

Jay's Place offers a variety of unique experiences for groups:

**1. The Art of Recording (Capacity: Maximum of 20):**

Producer/pianist Jay Vernali hosts an in depth tour of his personal studio. Jay has recorded, produced and played with such notables as Chet Atkins, Garth and Trisha, The Jordanaires, The Memphis Horns and many more. A short history of recording in Nashville is included in this two-hour hands on tour. Jay and the "J" team will record a song (it could be yours) from inception to a radio-ready finished product. Along the way visitors will learn about the techniques that have made Nashville a recording Mecca for over 80 years.

**2. Super Songwriter Sessions (Capacity: Maximum of 20)**

Groups will go one on one with some of Nashville's best tunesmiths. This two-hour show/tour also includes a tour through Jay's Place studio peppered with fun and historical facts.

### **3. Studio Party (Capacity: Maximum of 20)**

Nashville's A Team studio pickers come together under one roof to have a jam session of a lifetime – and your group is invited! The A Team will put on a show that encourages audience participation.

### **4. Play It Again Sam (Capacity: Maximum of 20)**

Your group is invited to the only piano lounge on Music Row. Host your “Happening” in one of Nashville's most eclectic settings – a working recording studio. In addition to piano music guests will enjoy a tour of the studio and lots of Nashville trivia.

### **5. All That Jazz – Featuring the Whole Tones (Capacity: Maximum of 20)**

The Whole Tones, Nashville's premier jazz group, will provide the perfect ambience for your next soiree. Paired with the backdrop of Jay's Place and Music Row it makes any affair unique and memorable.

## **Special Opportunities**

### **1. It's My Party (Capacity: Maximum of 20)**

Jay's Place is the perfect event space for your group's next intimate party. (2-hour minimum @ \$125 per hour - \$250).

### **2. Hang With The Cats (Capacity: Maximum of 60 – at Notable Blends event space)**

Watch and hang out with the players who have created some of the most memorable “licks” and “hooks” on record. The Cats include:

- Brent Mason – multi-award winning guitarist
- Jonathan Yudkin – maestro violinist/fiddler
- Sam Hunter – multi-instrumentalist and vocalist
- Wayne Killius – percussion guru – keeper of the beat
- Jay Vernali - pianist /producer

(Coffee and soft drinks included – up to 3 hours - \$2,500)

## **Availability**

The studio is available seven days a week with advance booking.

## **Costs**

1. The Art of Recording - \$600 (maximum 20)
2. Super Songwriters Sessions - \$600 (maximum 20)
3. Studio Party - \$1,000 (maximum 20)
4. Play It Again Sam - \$500 (maximum 20)
5. All That Jazz - \$800 (maximum 20)
6. It's My Party - \$250 (maximum 20; 2-hour minimum @ \$125 per hour)
7. Hang with the Cats - \$2,500 (maximum 60; up to 3 hours, coffee/soft drinks included)

## Columbia/Quonset Hut 34 Music Square E.

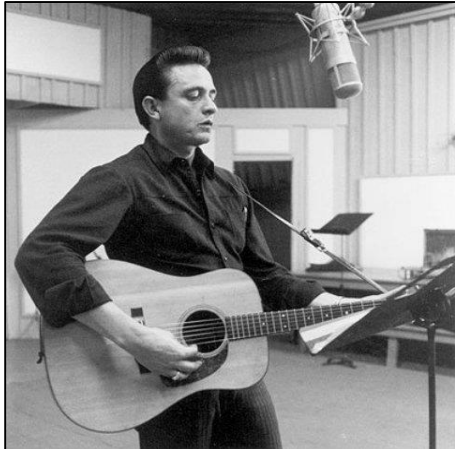
### Contact

Mike Porter  
Facilities Manager  
Mike Curb College of Entertainment &  
Music Business  
Belmont University  
[Mike.porter@belmont.edu](mailto:Mike.porter@belmont.edu)  
Office - 615-460-6555  
Cell - 615-480-6965



### About Columbia/Quonset Hut

The Quonset Hut is the legendary studio built by producer Owen Bradley, where some of the greatest songs in music history were recorded. It has the distinction of being the first recording studio in what would later become Music Row. Owen Bradley, along with his brother Harold, bought the property at 804 16th Avenue South in 1954 which had previously served as a rooming house. Over the next year it became the most successful recording studio in Nashville. Originally opened as Music City Recordings the name was changed to Bradleys' Film & Recording Studio by 1957/58 after they moved the recording facility from the basement into the Quonset Hut attached to the back of the house. Owen Bradley is credited as a pioneer in creating the "Nashville Sound." In 1962, the Bradleys sold the studio to Columbia Records although they continued to record there until 1965. In 1965 Columbia demolished the old rooming house and built a new studio known as Studio A. The Quonset Hut became Studio B. In 1982, shortly after John Anderson recorded his crossover hit, "Swingin'," the facility was closed and gutted for office space. In 2007 music mogul Mike Curb (Curb Records) purchased the property and restored the historic structure. In 2009, the studio reopened to serve as a teaching facility for Belmont University students.



### Who Has Recorded at Columbia Studio A/Quonset Hut

Artists of every musical genre have created some of the biggest records in music history at this location. A sampling of artists who recorded at Columbia Studio A includes: Bob Dylan - "Nashville Skyline," "Blonde on Blonde" and "John Wesley Harding"; Elvis Costello - "Almost Blue"; Lynn Anderson - "Rose Garden" and Ray Price - "For the Good Times." Many Columbia country artists recorded at Columbia A including George Jones, Lynn Anderson, Ray Price, Lacy J Dalton, Dave Loggins, John Hiatt, Johnny Paycheck, Merle Haggard and Johnny Cash.

Among the artists who recorded at the Quonset Hut were Roy Acuff - "I Like Mountain Music"; John Anderson- "Swingin'," "Wild and Blue," "Goin' Down Hill" and "Long Black Veil"; Johnny Cash- "Ring Of Fire," "Don't Take Your Guns to Town," "Folsom Prison Blues," "Daddy Sang Bass," "A Boy Named Sue," "Jackson" (w/ June Carter Cash), "Sunday Morning Coming Down"; Patsy Cline - "Crazy", "I Fall To Pieces," "Sweet Dreams," "Leavin' On Your Mind", "Walkin After Midnight" and Merle Haggard - "I

Wonder If They Ever Think of Me," "The Emptiest Arms in the World," "Everybody's Had the Blues," "If We Make It Through December."

### **Planning a Tour Group Visit**

A guided studio tour will share stories of the history of recording here highlighted by samples of songs recorded in these studios.

### **Capacity for tours**

Columbia Studio A/Quonset Hut can accommodate groups of up to 70 for a tour of the studios.

### **Special Opportunities (and capacity)**

1. **Seated dinners** - The studios are available for seated dinners:
  - Columbia Studio A – maximum of 40
  - Quonset Hut – maximum of 25
2. **History presentations** - In depth presentations on the history of Columbia Studio A and the Quonset Hut:
  - Columbia Studio A – maximum of 70 seated
  - Quonset Hut – maximum of 50 seated
3. **Meet the producer** – With advance arrangement, groups can meet Lou Bradley, producer at the Quonset Hut from 1969 to 1982, and hear stories of the many artists he worked with during those years.

### **Availability**

Tours and special opportunities are available on Saturday or Sunday with advance booking.

### **Costs**

Please contact for more information. Tours are customized and pricing is based upon the selected activity.

**The Tracking Room**  
**2 Music Circle E.**  
[www.thetrackingroomstudio.com](http://www.thetrackingroomstudio.com)

**Contact**

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**About The Tracking Room**

The Tracking Room is the largest studio in Nashville. Built in the mid-1990s by famed studio architect Tom Hidley, the 6,500-square-foot space was designed for impeccable sound quality. There are five isolation booths, including a reverb chamber called the “Stone Room” that is frequently used for percussion. Each room features unique characteristics including doors designed by NASA to eliminate sound leakage. The main studio spans 70 feet of open floor space. Room-within-a-room construction is used throughout with floating concrete floors. The result is a remarkably quiet recording environment with numerous permutations for achieving unique sonic signatures.

**Who Has Recorded Here**

Artists from every musical genre have recorded at The Tracking Room including Barbara Streisand, The Beach Boys, Bon Jovi, Chet Atkins, Conway Twitty, Dixie Chicks, Dolly Parton, George Strait, Keith Urban, Kenny Chesney, Loretta Lynn, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Martina McBride, NSYNC, Rascal Flatts, Shania Twain, Taylor Swift, Trace Adkins, U2 and Willie Nelson.

**Planning a Tour Group Visit**

Tours are customizable to the tour group’s needs. Options can include:

1. A guided tour will share stories of artists who have recorded here and demonstrations of how recording equipment works.
2. A guided tour will include the group recording a song to take home.

**Special Opportunities**

Souvenir merchandise may be available for purchase.

**Capacity**

The Tracking Room can accommodate up to 100 people for an event or tour.

**Availability**

Every day except for major holidays with advance booking.

**Costs**

Please contact for more information. Pricing is based on individual tour/event requirements.





**Sound Emporium Studios**  
**3100 Belmont Blvd.**  
[www.soundemporiumstudios.com](http://www.soundemporiumstudios.com)

**Contact**

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**About Sound Emporium – Who Has Recorded Here**

Sound Emporium’s roots began in 1964 when producer “Cowboy” Jack Clement came to Nashville. After having huge success at Sun Records in Memphis producing artists like Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash and Charlie Rich, Clement continued his production and publishing work in Nashville through his company Jack Music. In 1969, Clement built Jack Clement Recording Studios (JCRS). The studio, later named Sound Emporium Studios, would be the first of its kind in Nashville. In 1970, upon completion of Studio A, he converted the house next door to become Studio B.

After a decade of success, the studio was sold in 1979 and the name was changed to Sound Emporium Studios. Throughout the 1980s Sound Emporium Studios experienced incredible success. Within the walls of Studio B, owner Larry Butler produced acts like Kenny Rogers, Dottie West, Johnny Cash, Don McClean, John Denver and B.J. Thomas. The studio was also graced with artists like REM and Alan Jackson among others.

Producer Garth Fundis became known for his work with Don Williams, Keith Whitley, Trisha Yearwood and New Grass Revival, and in 1992 Fundis purchased Sound Emporium Studios. Renovations included joining the “A” and “B” buildings.

The next two decades saw continued success with artists like Trisha Yearwood, Yo-Yo Ma, Delbert McClinton, Robert Plant, Alison Krauss, Sugarland, Don Williams, Taylor Swift, Patty Griffin, Elvis Costello, Willie Nelson, Kenny Chesney, Jamey Johnson, and Don Henley. Film soundtracks such as “O Brother, Where Art Thou,” “Cold Mountain” and “Walk the Line” were recorded in Studio A under the guidance of Grammy winning producer T-Bone Burnett.

In 2011, George Shinn became the studio’s owner. In 2016, the critically acclaimed band, Alabama Shakes, won four Grammy awards for “Sound & Color” recorded in 2014 in the A room. Jason Isbell’s “Something More Than Free” produced by Dave Cobb, also won two Grammy awards in 2016.

Hits continue to come from this legendary studio from artists including Cyndi Lauper, Chris Isaak, Sturgill Simpson, Merle Haggard and Willie Nelson, Sam Bush, Cole Swindell, Nefesh Mountain, Jimmy Buffett, Mary-Chapin Carpenter, Drive-By Truckers, St. Paul and The Broken Bones, Lindi Ortega, Colony House, Lake Street Dive, Pharrell Williams, and many others. Additionally, the TV show “Nashville” makes Sound Emporium home base for recording the music for this highly acclaimed show.

### **Planning a Group Tour Visit**

Groups will take a behind-the-scenes tour and will be entertained with the stories of who has recorded here in years past as well as present-day artists who choose this location to record their hits.

### **Special Opportunities**

- **A Room Dinners** - Sit down dinners can be held in Sound Emporium’s Studio A room. (Maximum 70-80).
- **Commemorative merchandise** - Visitors can purchase Sound Emporium t-shirts, coffee mugs, hats and other souvenirs.

### **Capacity**

Sound Emporium can accommodate groups of up to 20 for a guided tour.

### **Availability**

Sound Emporium is available seven days a week with advance booking based on scheduling.

### **Costs**

Please contact for more information.





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