THE DAKOTA BEAT

NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ JUST ANNOUNCED! ★

HALL OF FAME LIVE PRESENTS

NORTH DAKOTA Original

WRITER'S ROUND SERIES

The North Dakota Music Hall of Fame is proud to present **North Dakota Original**, our brand-new Writer's Round Series, celebrating the songwriters who call North Dakota home!

A writer's round is a night unlike any other concert. The artists share the stage, take turns playing their original songs, and tell you the stories behind them: where they were, what inspired them, and how each song came to life.

For our first round, we're bringing together three incredible North Dakota songwriters:



Zach Thomas



Jerilyn Wiseman
of Mendenhall Crossing



Chris Basden

Friday, November 20

Where: Swing Barrel Brewing Co., Moorhead, MN

Time: Doors at 7 PM | Music 7:30 to 9:30 PM

Tickets: $10 at the door

Grab a local brew, settle in, and hear North Dakota music straight from the people who wrote it. Tap "Going" on our Facebook event and tag who you're bringing!

Thank you to Swing Barrel Brewing Co. and 9 Volt for helping make this night happen.

THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

Happy National Jukebox Day!

Wednesday, November 25, 2026 | The Day Before Thanksgiving



Take a good look at our logo. That glowing jukebox is more than a pretty picture. It is the heart of who we are, and a reminder that music brings people together, one song at a time.

So when National Jukebox Day lands on the day before Thanksgiving, it feels like it was made for us. It is the perfect moment to celebrate the music we love and the people who make it possible.

A Little Jukebox History

- The first coin-operated music machine appeared in San Francisco in 1889. It was built on an Edison phonograph and played just a handful of songs.
- The name is thought to come from "juke houses" or "jook joints," the places where people gathered in the early 1900s to eat, drink, and listen to music.
- The 1930s were the golden era, when makers like Wurlitzer, Seeburg, and Rock-Ola filled diners and dance halls with glowing, chrome-trimmed machines.

WHAT WE DO

The North Dakota Music Hall of Fame honors the musicians who have enriched our state's musical heritage. Our goal is to preserve the past and inspire the future, and we recognize artists from every genre, from world-famous to homegrown.

But we don't stop at the induction ceremony. We spotlight today's North Dakota artists, cheer on music educators, and are working on an art installation in Mandan to honor our inductees.

THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ WE ARE SO THANKFUL ★

Thanksgiving is the perfect time to say it out loud.



Our Inductees, Families & Friends

We are so thankful for such great inductees. Getting to meet our Class of 2026 in person, along with their families and friends, many of whom traveled from all over the country, was a gift. You made the day unforgettable! See photos and videos from the event, and more, at ndmusichall.com and on our Facebook page.

Our Board Members

We are thankful for every member of our board, who give their time, ideas, and hard work to keep the Hall of Fame going. Thank you to:

Marlo Anderson, President
Tracey Anderson, Treasurer
Brianna Helbling
Brock Holbert
Dave Blair
Mark Wagner, Vice President
Kayla Lawson, Secretary
Brenda Beran
Correy Pierce
Sheila Moffatt

Our Charter Members

We are so thankful for our Charter Members. Your support helps make everything we do possible, from celebrating our inductees to spotlighting local artists, and it means the world to us. Thank you for believing in this Hall of Fame. You can see every one of our Charter Members on our website at ndmusichall.com.

TUNING UP TRIVIA

Lynn Anderson of Grand Forks topped the country chart in 1970 with "Rose Garden." How many weeks did it spend at #1?

a. 2 weeks **b. 5 weeks** **c. 9 weeks**

Answer to last month's trivia: **A. 11 years old** (Shadoe Stevens began in Jamestown, ND)

THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ HOW YOU CAN HELP ★

Want to keep the music playing? Here are a few ways to help.

Become a Charter Member

For a one-time $200 contribution, you'll receive a numbered certificate with your own charter member number, plus recognition in our publications and on our website. Businesses also get a clickable link to their website, and every member gets priority invitations to our events. Only 500 Charter Memberships are available!



Help Us Grow Our Display at Dykshoorn Park

Our display at Dykshoorn Park is growing from 4 panels to 13, and we're looking for sponsors to help with matching funds for the expansion. Local North Dakota artist Mel Gordon has been working on the art, and the art is done. The company to build the display is ready, so we can start as soon as funding comes through. To donate, visit ndmusichall.com. If you would like to sponsor an entire inductee panel, or know someone who might, email us at kayla@ndmusichall.com.

Make a Donation

Giving Tuesday is Dec. 1! See page 5.

Attend Events

Join us at our induction celebrations and events.

Share Us Online

Follow us on Facebook, and like and share our posts.

Stay in the Loop

Sign up for this newsletter on our website.

Nominate Someone

Know someone who deserves a spotlight? There are three ways to nominate:

Hall of Fame: Nominate a North Dakota musician or music maker to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Nominations for the Class of 2027 open January 2 and close March 31, 2027.

North Dakota Spotlight: Nominate a band or musician to be featured in our North Dakota Spotlight, where we celebrate the artists carrying our state's music forward.

Music Educator Spotlight: Nominate a band director, choir director, or private music instructor who is shaping the next generation of North Dakota musicians.

Find all of the nomination forms at ndmusichall.com.

Thank you for being part of our family. Happy Thanksgiving!

THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ YEAR-END GIVING ★

Your support keeps North Dakota music alive. Here is how to give this season.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GIVING TUESDAY

DECEMBER 1

Giving Tuesday is the perfect time to support the North Dakota Music Hall of Fame. Donations to the Hall of Fame run through the North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF).

Give Online

Donate right from our website at ndmusichall.com. Every gift helps us honor inductees, spotlight artists, and keep our display at Dykshoorn Park growing.

Give by Check

Make your check payable to the **North Dakota Music Hall of Fame** and mail it to:

North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF)
711 Riverwood Drive, Suite 2
Bismarck, North Dakota 58504

Thank You to Our Recent Donors

We are so grateful to the donors who made gifts to the Hall of Fame through the North Dakota Community Foundation in October:

Farmers Union Service Association

Moose Lodge Mandan No. 425

Thank you for believing in North Dakota music!

THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ VENUE OF THE MONTH ★

SWING BARREL BREWING CO. • MOORHEAD, MN

SWING BARREL BREWING CO. MOORHEAD,MN

This month, our Venue of the Month is **Swing Barrel Brewing Co.** in Moorhead, Minnesota, the home of our very first North Dakota Original Writer's Round on **Friday, November 20**.

Swing Barrel is an independently owned craft brewery in downtown Moorhead and an entertainment hub for Moorhead and the surrounding area, collaborating with local businesses, musicians, comics, and more. Owner Sean says, “We support live music because we view music as the lifeblood to our community.”



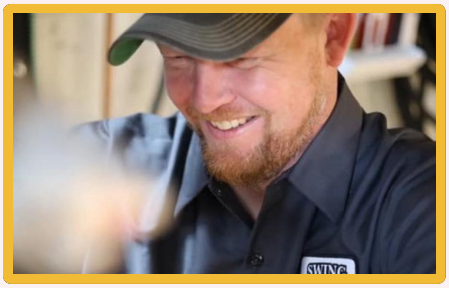
Meet the Swing Barrel Crew

Friendly faces who make it a great place to hear live music.













THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ★

DAVE BLAIR • BOARD MEMBER, ND MUSIC HALL OF FAME



This month, we're spotlighting board member Dave Blair. Dave is a business development and networking professional, and he is the president of Network Solutions and Services LLC.

Through his company, Dave provides consulting and networking services, mainly for startups, and he helps businesses connect with one another so they can reach their goals. He is a natural connector, and that same spirit shows up in everything he does for the Hall of Fame.

Dave is committed to growing our community, and he draws on his experience in strategic partnerships to help advance our mission. When he's not working, you can find him spending time with his family.

We're so grateful to have him on our team. Thank you for all you do, Dave!

Make Some Noise: National Days to Celebrate

Three music-minded days coming up in November. Tag us and share how you celebrate!

NOV 13

National Hug a Musician Day

Thank a musician in your life today. Tag a musician you appreciate!

NOV 15

National Drummer Day

Keep the beat going! Give a shout-out to your favorite drummer.

NOV 25

National Jukebox Day

The big day for our logo! Play a song on a jukebox and tell us what you picked.

★ **START THINKING!**

Nominations for the Class of 2027 open in early January. Start thinking about who deserves the honor! More details are coming in the December newsletter.

THE DAKOTA BEAT

NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ ND SPOTLIGHT ★

OCTOBER IN REVIEW

October was a big month for the North Dakota Spotlight, and it marked the launch of our brand-new magazine-style look! Each week's artist got their own "issue," complete with a cover story, Wild Card Wednesday, Friday Night Trivia, Sunday Funday, and The Final Note.



OCT 2 – 8

Ted & Kari

Western North Dakota's favorite rockin' acoustic duo brings high energy and raw live music to every stage. Ted has been part of the ND music scene for 30 years, playing in bands like Switch, Shark Week, and Slo Clap and bringing national rock acts to Williston. Kari, born and raised in Tioga, spent years recording as a solo artist in Nashville. The two met in 2016, fronted the rock band Truvail, married in 2020, and now perform music full-time together.

facebook.com/tednkari



OCT 9 – 15

The Gefroh Brothers

Bismarck natives Jimmy and Stephen Gefroh have been singing together since they were toddlers. Their mom was a beloved local music teacher for over 35 years! The brothers launched their duo in 2010 at The Walrus in Bismarck, and they've since written more than 100 original songs, released three albums, and built a following across North Dakota and the Midwest with their signature brotherly harmonies.

facebook.com/GefrohBrothers



OCT 15 – 20

Project : Constellation

Husband-and-wife duo Christina and Santiago Silva bring a little bit of everything to the stage, from pop and country to folk, punk, and classic rock. With musical roots that include orchestras and the Stockholm music conservatory in Sweden, they now play libraries, cultural events, pubs, and breweries across North Dakota. Christina also wrote and illustrated her own fantasy trilogy! Their motto: "Just keep touring until we croak."

facebook.com/projectconstellation

THE DAKOTA BEAT

NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION



OCT 21 – 27

Darren Rust

Fargo-born Darren Rust has been singing professionally for more than 35 years and is one of the four voices of The Blenders, who were inducted into the North Dakota Music Hall of Fame last year. Today he's a producer and engineer in Minnesota, and he just released a new solo song, “For Crying Out Loud.” His motto says it all: “Git'er done!”

skylandstudio.com



OCT 27 – NOV 2

Booz • N • Tuna

This Bismarck-Mandan rock band has played everywhere from Lakeside Bar in Dawson to the Bismarck Event Center and the Alerus Center, and they even opened for Foghat at Happy Harry's RibFest. They're celebrating 10 years together in 2027. Catch them at the Original Bar the weekend of Nov 27–28 and at Drink in Mandan Dec 18–19!

boozntunanation.com

Thank you to all of our October artists, and to everyone who tuned in to their interviews on K-Hits 106.9 Fridays at 7 PM. Follow the North Dakota Music Hall of Fame on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok to catch each new issue of ND Spotlight!



THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ HAPPY THANKSGIVING ★

FROM YOUR NORTH DAKOTA MUSIC HALL OF FAME BOARD



Left to right: Brianna Helbling, Mark Wagner (Vice President), Dave Blair, Marlo Anderson (President), Correy Pierce, Brock Holbert, Tracey Anderson (Treasurer), and Kayla Lawson (Secretary). *Not pictured: Brenda Beran and Sheila Moffatt.*

This Thanksgiving, we are thankful for the music, the musicians, and all of you who make this Hall of Fame feel like family.

Thank you for cheering on our inductees, sharing our posts, showing up to our events, and keeping North Dakota music alive. We could not do it without you.

From our table to yours, we wish you a warm, happy, and music-filled Thanksgiving, with good food, good company, and a favorite song playing in the background.

Happy Thanksgiving from all of us!

THE DAKOTA BEAT
NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026 EDITION

★ JUKEBOX SELECTOR ★

MATCH THE DECADE • HALL OF FAME EDITION

Drop a coin in the jukebox! Each pick below comes from a North Dakota Music Hall of Fame inductee. Can you match it to the decade it happened? Write the letter on the line, then check your answers in next month's issue.

Your Selections

1. Bobby Vee records *The Adobe Sessions*, his final album, in Tucson, Arizona. _____
2. Lynn Anderson's "(I Never Promised You a) Rose Garden" climbs to No. 1 on the country chart. _____
3. Alf Clausen composes the music for the TV show *Moonlighting*. _____
4. Peggy Lee contributes songs to Walt Disney's *Lady and the Tramp*. _____
5. Greg Nelson's oratorio *Saviour* premieres and goes on tour. _____
6. Lynn Anderson scores her first hit with "Ride, Ride, Ride." _____
7. Alf Clausen releases the album *Swing Can Really Hang You Up The Most*. _____

The Decades

- **A** 1950s
- **B** 1960s
- **C** 1970s
- **D** 1980s
- **E** 1990s
- **F** 2000s
- **G** 2010s

Think you've got them all? Share your score on our Facebook page and tell us your favorite inductee song!