



## The 2020 Saskatchewan Music Awards Nominees

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[SaskMusic](#) today announced the nominees of the 2020 Saskatchewan Music Awards, via a streamed event. The awards are intended to honour excellence and celebrate the achievements of our Saskatchewan music industry members over the past year. The 2020 awards event will take place in a streaming format on **January 24/2021** via SaskMusic's social media pages. Performers for the virtual event will be announced at a later date. Today's announcement also included the long list for The Best Saskatchewan Albums of 2020. Now in its sixth year, this annual year-end list was created to draw attention to fantastic Saskatchewan music released in a broad range of styles, and now goes forward for the public to determine the winner of Album of the Year.

SaskMusic Executive Director **Mike Dawson** explained, "The music industry's been one of the sectors hardest hit by the pandemic. It's had an unprecedented impact not only on our musicians, but also our venues, festivals, sound techs, and stage and touring crews, just to name a few. I think it's because of this - perhaps in spite of this - that it feels like it's so important to celebrate the work and successes of our artists and industry here in Saskatchewan. I'm constantly inspired, not only by the incredible music that comes out of Saskatchewan, but also by the support and encouragement the musicians offer each other. Although we can't get together in person as we have in the past, we hope that you will join us in celebrating these nominations, and tuning in to the awards in January."

The awards are being held in conjunction with the **Very Prairie Music Summit**, an educational and network-building event for the Saskatchewan music industry, which will also be held online. Please follow SaskMusic's social media accounts, and [www.saskmusicawards.com](http://www.saskmusicawards.com), for updates.

SaskMusic would like to thank [Creative Saskatchewan](#) and [FACTOR \(The Foundation Assisting Canadian Talent on Recordings\)](#) for their support.

**SASK****MUSIC**

## The 2020 Saskatchewan Music Award Nominees

### Alternative Artist of the Year

Ava Wild  
Close Talker  
Natural Sympathies  
The Garrys  
W3APONS

### Electronic Artist of the Year

Natural Sympathies  
Origin of Spin  
Parab Poet  
Patient Hands  
Patrick Moon Bird  
RUMPUS

### Hip Hop Artist of the Year

Alex Bent + the Emptiness  
Dayda Banks  
Factor Chandelier  
InfoRed  
Origin of Spin

### Metal/Loud Artist of the Year

Black Thunder  
Dream Creeps  
Midnight Gallows  
Mike Froh  
The Basement Paintings  
The Moon Runners

### Roots/Folk Artist of the Year

Ellen Froese  
Gunner & Smith  
Jeffery Straker  
JJ Voss  
The North Sound

### Music Video of the Year

Andrew Parry for "Scaredy Cat," Marissa Burwell  
Dylan Hryciuk - Versa Films for "Blessed Be," Spiritbox  
Dylan Hryciuk - Versa Films for "Summer Haze," velours  
Mitch Goetz for "Getta Say," Laska  
Sean Xiao He for "Nevertheless," Zayd  
Thoen Brothers for "Drum Machine," RUMPUS

### Industry Achievement

Broadway Theatre  
Eliza Doyle  
Trifecta Sound Co  
91.3FM CJTR  
Saskatchewan Jazz Festival

### Country Artist of the Year

Hunter Brothers  
Jordyn Pollard  
Justin LaBrash  
Samara Yung  
Shantaia  
Tenille Arts

### Experimental / Contemporary Artist of the Year

ADEOLUWA  
émi  
Jesse Brown  
Patient Hands  
The Garrys  
Torla Summerfield

### Indigenous Artist of the Year

InfoRed  
Patrick Moon Bird  
The North Sound  
Too Soon Monsoon  
Yvonne St.Germaine

### Rock/Pop Artist of the Year

Davy Sage  
Shirley & The Pyramids  
Too Soon Monsoon  
velours  
W3APONS

### Producer of the Year

Barrett Ross  
Bart McKay  
Chris Dimas  
Factor Chandelier  
Ryan Andersen

### Single of the Year

"Country Girls," Jess Moskaluke  
"Halfway Home," Jess Moskaluke  
"Hard Dirt," Hunter Brothers  
"Notes from Tom," Jesse Brown and Tom Merrill  
"Somebody Like That," Tenille Arts

### Venue of the Year

Broadway Theatre  
Coors Event Centre  
TCU Place Sid Buckwold Theatre  
The Exchange  
The Happy Nun

### Notes:

- **Single of the Year** is a data-driven category which can include any genre. All other nominees were determined by juries comprised of music industry members.
- **Venue of the Year** is a juried category which takes into consideration both the music programming of the venue over the past year, in addition to initiatives that the venue may have accomplished during the pandemic.
- **The Breaking Borders Award**, typically presented by the Derek Bachman Foundation, is on hiatus for this year.

## The Best Saskatchewan Albums of the Year: Long List

From 130+ full-length albums released in the eligibility period, SaskMusic juries assembled our Long List of 42. Now we turn to the public to determine the Top Ten of 2020, and ultimately the Album of the Year. We encourage music lovers to discover new albums and then vote for their favourites before the midnight December 13/20 deadline. Only one vote per IP address will be counted for the duration of the voting period.

The Top 10 albums will be announced via social media the week of December 16, with the top spot being awarded the Saskatchewan Music Award for Album of the Year.

More information and voting link available on the [Sask Music Awards website](#).

### The 2020 BSA Long List

3 Moonjask, Lunar Elixir	Jon Carteri, Road Trip to Mars
Aaron Karpinka, Tender Heart	Kay the Aquanaut & Maki, The Nautical Blue
ADEOLUWA, After Bells and Whistles	Keiran Semple, Chester
Arcana Kings, Lions As Ravens	Legends, Legends
The Basement Paintings, Antipodes	LTP, Singularity
Bex, You'll Be Here Someday	Marshall Burns, Dogs and Booze
Black Thunder, La Fine Creatura	Midnight Gallows, Attack Warning Red
Dex Riley, Body	Natural Sympathies, Porous
Doubt It, Dang It	The North Sound, As The Stars Explode
Dumb Angel, Dumb Angel	Origin of Spin, Abstract Perception
Dylan Jules Cooper, Summer	Patient Hands, Stasis
Ellen Froese & Campbell Woods, Farm Boy Sings The Blues	Patrick Moon Bird, USEFUL.
Fabric YXE & Dayda Banks, Leaving Neverland	Pimpton, TUNNELZ
Factor Chandelier, First Storm	The Radiation Flowers, Stuck in a Maze
The Garrys, Haxan: Witchcraft Through the Ages (Original Score)	Saintvicious, Saintvicious
Hoodoo, The LizardMang EP	Shirley & The Pyramids, A New American Classic
Jay & Jo, Victory	Skizza, Things I Found
Jesse Brown, Where To?	The Steadies, Tiro de Leone
JJ Voss, Come Along With Me	Tenille Arts, Love, Heartbreak, & Everything in Between
jj white, Rewind	Theo Maczek, Harvest The Sunrise
	Toria Summerfield, From Her Rib
	Yvonne St. Germaine, Sorrow Road

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### More information:

[Nominee list with hometowns \(PDF\)](#)

SMA logo ([PDF](#), [PNG](#))

[BSA badge \(JPG\)](#)

[Nominee announcement \(SaskMusic YouTube\)](#)

For more information on the Saskatchewan Music Awards please contact SaskMusic, Mike Dawson, Executive Director ([mike@saskmusic.org](mailto:mike@saskmusic.org)) or Lorena Kelly, Communications Manager ([lorenakelly@saskmusic.org](mailto:lorenakelly@saskmusic.org)); telephone 1-306-347-0676.

SaskMusic is a non-profit, member-based association that represents, promotes and develops the artists and commercial music industry of Saskatchewan, Canada both domestically and internationally. We offer one-on-one guidance, workshops, marketing and export assistance, career development opportunities, peer sessions, artist and business listings, and more. From songwriters and freelance musicians to studios, we work with artists and industry members from across our province, in an extensive range of genres and skill levels. SaskMusic is a source of information and resources for both the public, and the music industry.