



Austin City Limits 9th Annual Hall of Fame Honors Premieres March 2; Special Broadcast Salutes Honoree Trisha Yearwood with Induction by Don Henley & All-Star Performances featuring Henley, Brothers Osborne, Brandy Clark, Ronnie Dunn & Jo Dee Messina

Watch Live on PBS or the PBS App; Stream Anytime Beginning March 3 on PBS.org

Austin, TX—March 1, 2024—Iconic television series [Austin City Limits](#) (ACL) closes out Season 49 on **Saturday, March 2** with a special installment: ***Austin City Limits 9th Annual Hall of Fame Honors Trisha Yearwood***, celebrating the country superstar and newest inductee **Trisha Yearwood** with a song-filled salute featuring an all-star slate of guest performers (in order of appearance): **Don Henley, Brothers Osborne, Brandy Clark, Ronnie Dunn** and **Jo Dee Messina**. The captivating hour features a memorable induction by Eagles co-founder **Don Henley** along with vintage highlights from Yearwood's multiple appearances on the ACL stage. The broadcast premieres **Saturday, March 2 at 8pm ET/7pm CT** on PBS ([check local listings](#)). The special will be available to music fans everywhere to stream online beginning **Sunday, March 3 at 10am ET** at pbs.org/austincitylimits. The show's official hashtag is [#actv](#). A monument to music, ACL has showcased iconic performances from legends and innovators in every genre of popular song for a remarkable five decades. October 17, 2024 will mark [50 years](#) since *Austin City Limits* began with Willie Nelson taping the pilot; the trailblazing series then premiered on PBS in 1975. The revered music institution continues its extraordinary run as the longest-running music television show in history, providing viewers a front-row seat to the best in live performance. Produced by [Austin PBS](#), and recorded live at ACL's studio home ACL Live in Austin, Texas, the show remains a required stopping point for the finest acts to deliver stellar performances from the venerable ACL stage. This Peabody Award-winning program has earned its place in history and will salute its golden anniversary and incredible legacy with a yearlong celebration featuring archival gems, fan activations, all-star tapings, a PBS special, live concerts and much more.

The [Austin City Limits Hall of Fame](#) was established to recognize legendary musicians who have been instrumental in making the music series an institution. Since the inaugural ACL Hall of Fame in 2014 honoring **Willie Nelson** and **Stevie Ray Vaughan**, the music-filled salutes

have become fan-favorites. *Austin City Limits* takes viewers inside the celebration with a pair of deep-dive presentations from this year's Inductions, recorded live in Austin, Texas on October 26, 2023. The special installments, *Austin City Limits 9th Annual Hall of Fame Honors*, salute newly-minted inductees **John Prine** and **Trisha Yearwood** with individual hours that showcase each artist's Hall of Fame tribute, featuring musical tributes, along with extended highlights including induction speeches and vintage clips from the honorees' multiple appearances on *Austin City Limits*.

In this special installment, ACL Hall of Fame honoree Trisha Yearwood gets her flowers in an entertaining, memorable salute. A trailblazing artist with a celebrated powerhouse voice and a beloved catalog of hits, the multiple GRAMMY, CMA and ACM Award-winner debuted on *Austin City Limits* in Season 17 in 1992 on the heels of her breakout self-titled 1991 debut LP. She made two additional headlining appearances in 1996 and 2000, and returned in Season 41 in 2015 as a guest of Don Henley. The hour opens with highlights from Yearwood's early ACL performances, including her 1992 debut; sprinkled throughout the special are vintage and current interview clips with Yearwood, in addition to a bonus interview with her husband, country superstar Garth Brooks.

Don Henley salutes his longtime friend with a heartfelt induction, saying "I was a fan of Trisha Yearwood the minute I heard her voice coming out of the radio." After teaming up as collaborators in 1992, the pair hit it off, recounts Henley: "She was small-town Georgia, and I was small-town Texas, and so we had an ingrained mutual understanding and respect." Henley praises Yearwood's stellar three-decade-plus run and "exceptional gift as a singer," noting that the "hallmark of her career has been her unwavering conviction that a well-written song—no matter the style—is the foundation on which a singer stands."

Accepting the honor, Yearwood is emotional as she shares she grew up watching *Austin City Limits* and recalls her reaction when she was first asked to appear on the show: "It's an iconic moment and to actually realize you're gonna be on *that* stage standing in front of *that* skyline—nerves—and what an honor...the thing about *Austin City Limits* is that you know the music here on this stage is made by real musicians, real artists—it's all about the music here, and that's why I'm so honored to be a part of this. And I want to say that whatever you're doing here in Austin, you can't ever stop, this is so important for music moving forward!"

Grammy-winning and reigning CMA and ACM Awards Duo of the Year **Brothers Osborne** make their first-ever appearance on the ACL stage to open the musical salute. "You always hear that you don't want to meet your heroes, and Trisha is absolutely the exception to that," says T.J. Osborne, joining brother John for a blazing rendition of "Wrong Side of Memphis," the opening salvo of Yearwood's 1992 *Hearts In Armor*. Newly-minted 2024 Grammy-winning singer-songwriter **Brandy Clark** takes the stage, hailing Trisha "the Mount Rushmore of singers," before rendering a stunning rendition of the title track from Yearwood's 1993 *The Song Remembers When*, which Yearwood hand-picked for Clark to perform. At the song's close Yearwood appears onstage to thank Clark, telling the audience, "In my dreams I heard Brandy singing that song." Trisha is joined by country great **Ronnie Dunn**, whom she calls "the best singer in the world," and the pair take the audience to church with a gorgeous duet on her "I'll

Carry You Home,” from 2019’s *Every Girl*, a beautiful showcase for both singers as they powerfully trade verses on the soaring gospel-tinged anthem. Country star **Jo Dee Messina** steps up to the mic, grinning, “*Austin City Limits* is the stage where all the cool people play and she is the coolest,” then brings the crowd to its feet with an irresistible rendition of the song that started it all, Trisha’s signature “She’s In Love With the Boy,” the lead single from Yearwood’s 1991 debut album, which rocketed to #1 and established her as the first female country artist to have a debut single reach the top of the country charts. In a poignant close, **Don Henley** returns and joins Yearwood to reprise their fan-favorite, early ‘90s chart-topping collaboration, “Walkaway Joe,” for a luminous end.

The musical performers are accompanied by the **ACL All-Stars** house band, led by original ACL Hall of Fame inductee, renowned steel guitarist and musical director **Lloyd Maines**, and featuring guitarist **David Grissom**, keyboardist **Chris Gage**, bassist **Bill Whitbeck** and drummer **Tom Van Schaik**.

“Back in the early ‘90s, Trisha Yearwood was one of the first of the new wave of female Country superstars who took the ACL stage,” said ACL executive producer Terry Lickona. “It helped to open the door to the next generation of women in Country music, and her powerful voice and presence continue to inspire today.”

A [companion HOF installment](#) premiered in January 2024 toasting the late singer-songwriter **John Prine**. Actor **Ethan Hawke** inducted the beloved icon posthumously as music greats **Tyler Childers**, **Valerie June**, **Tommy Prine**, **Nathaniel Rateliff**, **Allison Russell** and **Kurt Vile** saluted the celebrated artist in a moving hour featuring exclusive ACL intimate tributes alongside highlights from Prine’s eight appearances on the ACL stage.

Austin City Limits 9th Annual Hall of Fame Honors Trisha Yearwood (in order of appearance):

Archive (1992): “Like We’ve Never Had a Broken Heart”

Archive (1996): “XXX’s and OOO’s”

Archive (1996): “Walkaway Joe”

Brothers Osborne “Wrong Side of Memphis”

Brandy Clark “The Song Remembers When”

Ronnie Dunn & Trisha Yearwood “I’ll Carry You Home”

Jo Dee Messina “She’s In Love With the Boy”

Don Henley & Trisha Yearwood “Walkaway Joe”

For images and episode information, visit Austin City Limits press room at <http://acltv.com/press-room/>.

ACL’s Season 49 premiered in October 2023 with a diverse slate featuring ACL debuts from breakout artists including folk-pop singer-songwriter **Noah Kahan**, indie-pop trio **MUNA**, rap star **Lil Yachty** and rising singer-songwriters **Brittney Spencer** and **Sudan Archives**. Highlights included newly-minted 2024 Grammy-winners, **Jason Isbell** and his band **The 400 Unit** in their third appearance, and bluegrass star **Molly Tuttle** and her band **Golden**

Highway making their ACL debut. Returning favorites included rock superstars **Foo Fighters** in an epic hour, ACL Hall of Fame icon **Bonnie Raitt** for the first time in a decade, country standout **Margo Price**, indie favorite **Jenny Lewis**, and the long-awaited comeback, after nearly four decades, of country icon **Tanya Tucker**. The slate featured deep-dive hours spotlighting first-ever appearances by alternative rock superstar **Alanis Morissette**, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame legends **Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo** and Latin music powerhouse **Jorge Drexler** in an all-Spanish language hour. Season 49 featured an unprecedented season premiere with guitar duo **Rodrigo y Gabriela** joined by the **Austin Symphony Orchestra**. The first tapings of ACL's milestone **Season 50** were recently announced and include returning favorites, Austin hometown hero **Gary Clark Jr.**, celebrated singer **Brittany Howard**, Colombian superstar **Juanes** and Austin's own **Black Pumas**.

Watch new episodes live, [stream online](#), or [download the PBS App](#). Viewers can visit [acltv.com](#) for news regarding upcoming **Season 50** tapings, live streams and episode schedules or by following ACL on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [IG](#) and [TikTok](#). Fans can also browse the [ACL YouTube channel](#) for exclusive songs, behind-the-scenes videos and full-length artist interviews.

Established in 2014, the [Austin City Limits Hall of Fame](#) celebrates the legacy of legendary artists and key individuals who have played a vital part in the pioneering music series remarkable half-century as a music institution. The Hall of Fame has inducted over twenty-five artists at eight previous ceremonies including **Willie Nelson, Stevie Ray Vaughan & Double Trouble, Lloyd Maines, Asleep at the Wheel, Loretta Lynn, Guy Clark, Flaco Jiménez, Townes Van Zandt, Kris Kristofferson, Bonnie Raitt, B.B. King, Roy Orbison, Rosanne Cash, The Neville Brothers, Ray Charles, Marcia Ball, Los Lobos, Lyle Lovett, Buddy Guy, Shawn Colvin, Lucinda Williams, Wilco** and **Alejandro Escovedo**. The eighth annual HOF welcomed **Sheryl Crow** and **Joe Ely** to its ranks.

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