



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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It's time! Island Hopper Songwriter Fest kicks off Friday on Captiva Island

10 days of music includes downtown Fort Myers and Fort Myers Beach, Sept. 16-25

LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA – The eighth Island Hopper Songwriter Fest kicks off this weekend in the tropical setting of Captiva Island, Sept. 16-18, then moves to historic downtown Fort Myers, Sept. 19-22, and wraps up on Fort Myers Beach, Sept. 23-25.

Stay up to date on festival news with the [Island Hopper app](#) for iOS and Android to be entered for a chance to win a two-night stay at Pink Shell Beach Resort & Marina on Fort Myers Beach during the final weekend of Island Hopper, tickets to the [Gary LeVox](#) poolside concert at Pink Shell on Sept. 25., and a \$200 gift card.

Most shows are free, with the exception of a few ticketed experiences, such as headliner shows. Fans can select their favorites from 82 singer-songwriters who will perform more than 100 shows.

Headliner: [Gary LeVox](#), frontman for Rascal Flatts, performs at 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, poolside at the Pink Shell Beach Resort & Marina. Tickets for the LeVox concert are available on the Island Hopper app or at island-hopperfest.visitfortmyers.com/artist/gary-levox.

In addition to LeVox, some of the BMI singer-songwriters performing this year include:

- [Kristian Bush](#), two-time Grammy award winner and half of the Sugarland duo, solo hit with “Trailer Hitch”
- [Alana Springsteen](#), named a 2021 County Artist to Watch by Pandora; EP “History of Breaking UP (Part One and Two)”
- [Aaron Barker](#), who has written songs for George Strait (“Easy Come, Easy Go”), Clay Walker and Willie Nelson

- [Autumn Nicholas](#), reminiscent of singer/songwriter Julia Michaels with the swagger of Kasey Musgraves and the soul of Etta James (EP “Shades of Beige”)
- [Dave Pahanish](#), who co-wrote the No. 1 Billboard Country music singles “Do You Believe Me Now” by Jimmy Wayne, “American Ride” by Toby Keith and "Without You" by Keith Urban
- [Chasing Denver](#), a husband-wife duo from south Florida with the fan favorite, “Spinnin’ ”

Big winner: Island Hopper recently won three first-place SUNsational Awards at the recent Florida Festivals & Events Association convention in Orlando for mobile app, virtual event (Songs from the Sand) and installations (bus wrap).

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Island Hopper is produced by the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau (VCB), iHeartMedia, and BMI, the largest music rights organization in the U.S.

Visit IslandHopperFest.com Follow the festival hashtag #islandhopperfest as well as the event’s Twitter, Instagram and Facebook feeds.

Note to media: If you would like to interview songwriters, Island Hopper staff, take live shots or plan to attend, please contact Ray Sarracino, VCB communications director, at rsarracino@lcegov.com or 239-898-2897.