## DISCOVER SOONER & DEBBIE Z ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCE SATURDAY SONGWRITING SESSIONS WITH DOUG JOHNSON, DON HENRY, MARTI DODSON, JACOB HACKWORTH, LAUREN HUNGATE AND JASON SAENZ

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (FEB 9, 2023) -- Discover Sooner, the company accelerating the attention of publishers to unsigned songwriters and artists, and publishing and management company Debbie Z Entertainment announce the *Saturday Songwriting Sessions* with Doug Johnson, Don Henry, Marti Dodson, Jacob Hackworth, Lauren Hungate and Jason Saenz.

This in-person songwriting event is designed to help songwriters and artists connect and co-write with signed songwriters. Over two days, attendees will connect with 6 songwriters signed to major publishers and have 2 co-writing sessions. The program will be held just outside of Nashville in Mt. Juliet on April 28, 29, 2023. Songwriter applications are due Mar 12, 2023 (early bird) and April 2 (final) deadlines. Spots are limited and early applicants receive preference. More details at discoversooner.com/sss

The Saturday Songwriting Sessions will foster new relationships. Among the stellar line-up of signed songwriters are **Doug Johnson**, **Black River** (Lee Brice's "Love Like Crazy", Randy Travis's "3 Wooden Crosses"), Grammy winning **Don Henry** (Kathy Matea's "Where've You Been" Miranda Lamberts' "All Kinds Of Kinds"), Saving Jane's **Marti Dodson**, **Kobalt** ("Girl Next Door", "Super Girl"), **Jacob Hackworth**, **Goat Island/Boom!** (Bailey Zimmerman's #1 Billboard "Rock And A Hardplace"), **Lauren Hungate**, **Topher Brown/Concord** (Ashland Craft's "When a Cowboy's Heart Breaks") and **Jason Saenz**, **Sheltered Music** (Little Big Town's "Mr. Sun", "Tornado", "Pain Killer" and Gavin DeGraw's "She Sets The City On Fire".)

"We are delighted to be working together to help songwriters meet these amazing hit songwriters!" says Nancy Deckant. "The Saturday Songwriting Sessions is for writers who are ready for a publishing deal but just don't have it yet. We want to shorten the time it takes for unsigned writers to make these all important relationships."

Debbie Zavitson says, "One of the first questions a publisher will ask a writer is, 'Who do you co-write with?' Publishers know that great songwriters write with other great writers. The problem is, once a writer is signed to a publishing deal, it's really hard to get in the writing room, even if you wrote the song that helped that writer get the pub deal!"

Both Debbie Zavitson and Nancy Deckant are an integral part of the music industry, helping artists and songwriters find success through their music. Debbie Zavitson is a respected veteran of the music industry. With her own performance experience and having held A&R executive positions, very few come armed with more music industry knowledge. Nancy Deckant's passion for the music industry runs 20 years deep, starting with 10 years in bands, 8 years as a Workshop Coordinator for NSAI (Nashville Songwriters Assoc). Since 2013 Nancy has built a

successful publishing company, Nashville Cool, which led to creating Discover Sooner a professional development company that connects unsigned songwriters with publishers and music professionals.

## **About Debbie Z Entertainment**

**Debbie Z Entertainment (debzthatsme.com)** is a publishing and management company headed by Debbie Zaviston. Discovering artists and writers early in their career is Debbie's passion. Signing Blake Shelton and managing the early years of his career shows her eye for talent. She has worked with Walker Hayes ("Fancy Like", the Applebee's song), Doug Johnson ("Three Wooden Crosses"), Sarah Buxton ("Stupid Boy"), Jon Nite ("Break On Me"). Her innovative "Green To Gold" From Beginner To Winner program helps writers gain the skills necessary to write more competitive songs. Learn more <a href="https://debzthatsme.com/">https://debzthatsme.com/</a>

## **About Sooner:**

**Sooner LLC (DiscoverSooner.com)** connects vetted unsigned songwriters to major publishers and industry professionals and is headed up by CEO/Founder, Nancy Deckant. The Company's mission is to help the next generation of songwriters and artists expand their network of music professionals. Since launching in 2020, the Company has successfully helped over 250 songwriters develop relationships with major publishers with many of them co-writing with signed songwriters and major label artists and even helped CCM artist Ben Fuller round out his management team, which led to a record/publishing deal with Provident Records. Learn more at <a href="https://www.discoversooner.com">https://www.discoversooner.com</a> Facebook, Instagram @discoversooner.