



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CHARLIE DANIELS, KELSEA BALLERINI AND FRANKIE BALLARD  
ADDED TO THE T.J. MARTELL FOUNDATION'S  
9TH ANNUAL NASHVILLE HONORS GALA**

**CHARLES ESTEN WILL RETURN AS HOST**

**Event to be held at Nashville's Omni Hotel on Monday, February 27 with proceeds  
benefiting leukemia, cancer and AIDS research**



**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (January 26, 2017)** – The T.J. Martell Foundation is proud to announce that **Charlie Daniels, Kelsea Ballerini** and **Frankie Ballard** will join previously announced performers **George Strait** and **Brad Paisley** at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Nashville Honors Gala. “Nashville” star **Charles Esten** will return as host. More talent announcements are forthcoming. The event will take place at the Omni Hotel on Monday, February 27, 2017.

**This year's honorees are as follows:**

**Janet Miller** - Spirit of Nashville Award

**Dr. Joseph Smith** - Medical Research Advancement Award

**Scott Hamilton** – Lifetime Humanitarian Award

**Rod Essig** - Frances Preston Outstanding Music Industry Achievement Award

**Louis Messina** - Tony Martell Lifetime Entertainment Achievement Award

The Nashville Honors Gala is one of the T.J. Martell Foundation’s premier events that pays tribute to outstanding community leaders. Each honoree is celebrated with a musical performance and a heartwarming presentation. The event has raised more than \$4 million for leukemia, cancer and AIDS research since its inception in 2009. The 9th Annual T.J. Martell Foundation’s “Nashville Honors Gala” is co-chaired by Ali Harnell and Danielle Bouharoun.

To purchase tickets, click [here](#). Tables and journal ads congratulating the honorees are available by contacting (615) 256-2002 or emailing [t Moffat@tjmartell.org](mailto:t Moffat@tjmartell.org). Visit [www.tjmartell.org](http://www.tjmartell.org) for more information.

**About the T.J. Martell Foundation:**

The T.J. Martell Foundation is a national organization founded by the music industry, whose mission is to fund innovative leukemia, cancer and AIDS research at flagship hospitals in the United States including the Frances Williams Preston Laboratories at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center. To learn more about the T.J. Martell Foundation please visit [www.tjmartell.org](http://www.tjmartell.org).

-30-

**If you would like to cover this event, apply for media credentials no later than February 13:** <https://goo.gl/forms/hdGqQVld1OswcCD12>

Download artist images [HERE](#)

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Jules Wortman

Wortman Works Media & Marketing

615.260.9985

[jwortman@wortmanworks.com](mailto:jwortman@wortmanworks.com)

Elyse Wiser

Wortman Works Media & Marketing

615.627.7752

[ewiser@wortmanworks.com](mailto:ewiser@wortmanworks.com)