

MUSIC

News

Country music star, **Blake Shelton** took home top honors at the *2012 Country Music Awards*. Blake was honored as Entertainer of the Year for the first time in his career. Blake also won his 3rd consecutive title as Male Vocalist of the Year and accepted the award for Song of the Year with his wife Miranda Lambert.

Eric Church was awarded Album of the Year at the 2012 CMA's for his album *Chief*.

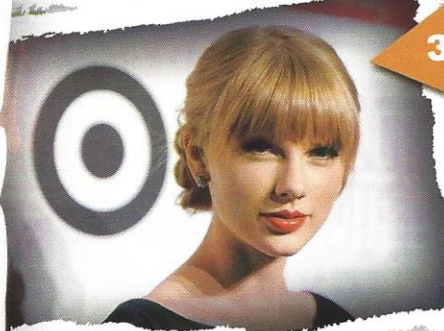
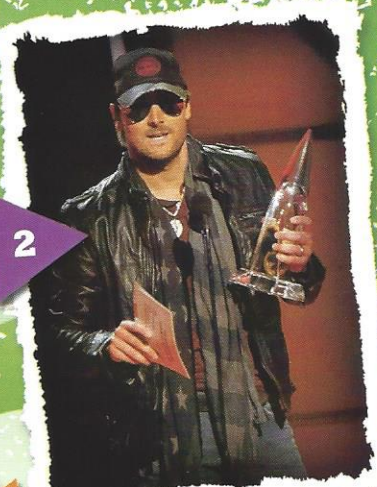
Taylor Swift's fourth album, *Red*, was released in October and sold 1.21 million copies in the first week. The album's lead single "We Are Never Getting Back Together" topped iTunes charts worldwide.

Katy Perry debuted her new song "Wide Awake" at the 2012 Billboard Music Awards. The song was written for her new film *Katy Perry: Part of Me*. Billboard named Perry as its 2012 Woman of the Year.

Lady Gaga released her previously recorded song "No Floods" to show support to Hurricane Sandy victims. She wrote on Facebook "East coast how are you holding up? How are you New York? Staying strong I hope, thinking of you all the time."

The world said goodbye to pop superstar **Whitney Houston**. Houston, the most awarded female act of all time, died in February. Houston sold 170 million albums, singles and videos.

Named as Billboard's 2012 Top New Artist, **One Direction** has taken the world by storm. Releasing their second album in 2012, the group has sold more than 15 million records worldwide.



Artist of the year: **Justin Bieber**
New artist of the year: **Carly Rae Jepsen**

Pop/rock female artist: **Katy Perry**
Pop/rock male artist: **Justin Bieber**
Pop/rock band, duo or group: **Maroon 5**
Pop/rock album: **Justin Bieber, "Believe"**

Alternative rock artist: **Linkin Park**
Adult contemporary artist: **Adele**
Latin artist: **Shakira**
Contemporary inspirational artist: **TobyMac**
Electronic dance music artist: **David Guetta**

Country female artist: **Taylor Swift**
Country male artist: **Luke Bryan**
Country band, duo or group: **Lady Antebellum**
Country album: **Carrie Underwood, "Blown Away"**

Rap/hip-hop artist: **Nicki Minaj**
Rap/hip-hop album: **Nicki Minaj, "Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded"**

Soul/R&B female artist: **Beyonce**
Soul/R&B male artist: **Usher**
Soul/R&B album: **Rihanna, "Talk That Talk"**

40TH ANNUAL

American Music Awards