

Mikki Daniel Biography

www.mikkidaniel.com

214-532-8010

mikki@mikkidaniel.com

Mikki Daniel, at 20, has lived all her life on a small ranch in Texas and is a true cowgirl from the tips of her bull-hide cowboy boots to the top of her worn out, white felt cowboy hat. Her young resume includes singing, playing multiple instruments, songwriting, writing historical fiction novels and horse training. Her favorite activities are playing and singing Western music, riding her horses Trigger and Sissy, training horses, writing, and hunting.



At the young age of five, Mikki's musical training began with piano lessons. About the same time, she began watching the great silver screen cowboys (including Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, Tex Ritter and Rex Allen, among others), and 'twasn't too long before she discovered her true calling of playing guitar, yodeling, and singing Western music like her cowboy heroes had done once-upon-a-time.

Janet McBride, "The Yodeling Queen", who Mikki met in 2007, swept her happily into the fascinating world of American cowboy-style yodeling and invited her to the Cowtown Opry in Fort Worth, Texas. The Cowtown Opry is dedicated to "preserving, promoting and performing" cowboy, western heritage, and western swing music (the official music of Texas!). Mikki joined the CTO Buckaroo Club and began learning the fine art of performance. CTO's Devon Dawson helped shape Mikki's rhythm guitar and has praised Mikki as "...a true Texas cowgirl with a sweet lilting prairie soprano voice." Now, Mikki mentors youngsters in the way of the cowboy, teaching songs, guitar, bass and, occasionally, yodeling.



Mikki began delighting audiences across the DFW metroplex and then the state of Texas. She joined the Western Music Association at the tender age of twelve and attended her first Western Music Association festival. It was there various festivals heard and hired Mikki outside of her native state for her unique and personalized singing, yodeling and songwriting. She now performs for tv shows, festivals, cowboy (or other) gatherings, oprys, trail rides, chuck-wagon dinners, state fairs, churches, retirement centers, schools, weddings, corporate events and private parties across the nation. Schools often feature this young artist in her "working cowgirl" attire for Texas history classes. She is often asked to be interviewed on radio and tv and is asked to organize and emcee programs. She is a professional member of the Western Music Association, the Academy of Western Artists, the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest and the Pro Cowboy Country Artist Association.

The recipient of many musical scholarships, Mikki has had the privilege of studying under some incredible artists: Dave Alexander, Dick Gimble, Mark Gheen, Bobby Flores, Joey McKenzie and Rich O'Brian, to name a few. She has had the honor of being a guest artist on many notable stages, including RFD TV's Penny Gilley Show, Time Jumpers in Nashville, TN with Ranger Doug and Vince Gill, Silver Dollar City in Branson, MO, Michael Martin Murphey, Dave Alexander and His Goodtime Band, Jody Nix, Jason Roberts, Billy Mata, Bobby Flores and more. She has the honor of being selected to be filmed for a commercial for the 2016 season of RIDE TV as well as being featured on their new series "Unbridled Song" and "RIDE on the Road" for 2017.



In 2013, Mikki had the honor of working with Marvin O'Dell and The Red Hot Rhythm Rustlers to cut her first CD. Nine out of the twelve selections are songs Mikki wrote. With amazing guitar work from Tom Boyer and Audry McLaughlin, bass work by Bryan Kuban, harmony by the legendary Journey West, engineering by Kubemusic Studios and Marvin O'Dell as producer, it was an incredible experience and a CD you will want to hear. Released in November 2013, "Gotta Be a Cowgirl" was charted to be the second most played CD in Western Music by DJs in 2014 and won the prestigious New Horizons

Wrangler Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, OK. Mikki holds the honor of being the youngest person to ever win a Wrangler Award.

In 2014, Mikki recorded her second CD, "Cowgirl Swing". This time she wanted to focus more on the swing side of her music and she was privileged to work with legendary Dave Alexander as producer. The CD has many notable musicians participating, including Dave playing trumpet and singing a duet with Mikki and Tommy Nash on guitar. Nine of the 14 tunes are originals, one of which was co-written with Dave. This CD made its debut at the November 2014 Western Music Association Convention in Albuquerque, NM and shot right to the #1 spot on the Western Music and Western Swing charts and #1 on the Western Song chart with "She Could Ride," as reported in the 2015 1st quarter Western Way Magazine. "Cowgirl Swing" was charted to be the #1 most played CD in Western Music by DJ's in 2015 and won Swing Album of the Year by both the Western Music Association and the Rural Roots Commission in 2015.

Mikki found she also enjoys performing with other artists and decided to form a band of her own. In late 2013, she began by adding a fiddling partner to create a duo and shortly thereafter increased to a trio with the addition of a bass player, and now also performs with a full band. The joy for their music and each other shows in the energy and passion that develops in their performances. The band size adapts (duo, trio, 4 or 5 piece) according to the needs of the venue and their performance opportunities are spreading like wildfire! Hmmm...sounds like a great name for her band, "Mikki Daniel and Texas Wildfire!"

Also, in 2014, with the support, sponsorship and encouragement of noted author/publisher Joyce Spizer Foy, Mikki became a published author with her first historical fiction novel. A lover of history and writing, Mikki has penned the fascinating story Girls and Gunsmoke out of her research and study, using her talent for weaving a tale out of truth. She is currently working on the sequel.



Mikki is an all-around cowgirl with a heart dedicated to sharing this precious music that is fading away. Whether she performs an energetic, fun and toe-tapping tune, or soft and haunting rendition of the most familiar old song, you can't help but love the personality, charm, and engaging smile of this young

entertainer. Michael Martin Murphey introduces her as "the future of Western music." Known for her strong rhythm guitar, and velvety yet crystal clear voice, she sings a wide range of "Silver-Screen" cowboy, western swing, big band, and her own original songs, as well as old time gospel songs/hymns. Need the National Anthem sung? She's your girl.

In addition to her musical world, Mikki has one other passion that has seeped into her song writing, her everyday life, her conversation, and most definitely into her heart: her horses, Trigger, Sissy and Whinny. She has been blessed with the opportunity to apprentice under horse trainer Chad Brinlee, of Bombproof Horsemanship. Someday Mikki hopes to train horses for a living, own a big ol' ranch "90 miles from ANY town", and have a nice-sized family. God willing, she will.

"There are some unbelievable folks out there that are keeping this music alive; the main one is Mikki Daniel. She's an extremely talented young lady with a lot of pizzazz and a tremendous amount of confidence in what she is doing." ~ Red Steagall

"Mikki Daniel has the ability to interpret her own tunes as well as those of others, her incredible songwriting is really authentic. She represents a great hope of the future of western music. At 17, I'd say that's a pretty exciting statement!" ~ Michael Martin Murphey

"Who do I predict will take Western Music to a new level, using elements of swing, jazz, classics and pop? Mikki Daniel, that's who. This young lady is far more than talented. Some are born with it. It takes so much more than that to be a solid force in the world of entertainment and Mikki has been honing, crafting and solidifying her considerable skills as a singer, player, songwriter, and performer, finding a unique and recognizable style and voice that is all her own, as she goes. Mikki Daniel has got the whole package. She has

become a solid presence among the handful of legitimately wonderful performers that populate the top tier of Western Music. See her for yourself, you'll agree!" ~ Juni Fisher, WMA Entertainer of the Year, Female Performer of the Year, Song of the Year

"Mikki is so darn talented, it should be illegal!" ~ Dave Stamey, WMA Hall of Fame Inductee, Entertainer of the Year, Male Performer of the Year, Song of the Year

"Mikki is the BEST of the new crop of young Western entertainers! Her infectious smile and top-notch delivery will have you shouting, 'ENCORE!'" ~ Barry Ward, WMA Male Performer of the Year

"Mikki Daniel can sing the socks off a Mockingbird! On the day God was passing out talent, Mikki got it all. Some people are given the gift, and they never really know how great they are and Mikki is one of those. I guess you can tell I am a fan, I believe Mikki will be as big as her dreams will take her!" ~ David Bradley, Flying W Wranglers

"Mikki Daniel is the whole package, she is really fabulous!" ~ Jack Hanna, Sons of the San Joaquin, WMA Traditional Group of the Year

"I think we're looking at the next Cindy Walker here. The maturity in Mikki's songwriting is incredible for someone her age and is almost unexplainable. Her ability to interpret her own tunes, as well as those of others, marks her as a performer with an outstanding future. Mikki represents great hope for the future of western music" ~ Marvin O'Dell, Around the Campfire, Defenders of Freedom Radio

MIKKI DANIEL AWARDS:

2016 WMA Female Performer of the Year Award

2016 Rising Star of the Year Award by the Cowtown Society of Western Music

Western Heritage Wrangler Award-New Horizons "Gotta Be A Cowgirl"

Hayloft Gang National Singing Contest

*GRAND PRIZE WINNER Martin Guitar DV28

Western Music Association:

*Female Performer of the Year Award

*Cowboy Swing Album of the Year Award "Cowgirl Swing"

*Crescendo Award

*Song of the Year finalist "She Could Ride"

*Marilyn Tuttle "Best of the Best" Harmony Award

*Janet McBride "Best of the Best" Yodeler Award

*Youth Harmony Award

*Female Yodeler Champion Award

*Youth Yodeler Champion Award

Ameripolitan Awards:

*Western Swing Female Finalist

Rural Roots Commission

*Western Swing Album of the Year "Cowgirl Swing"

Academy of Western Artists:

*Yodeler of the Year Award

*Western Female Finalist

*Western Album Finalist "Gotta Be a Cowgirl"

*Western Swing Female Finalist

*Western Swing Album Finalist "Cowgirl Swing"

*Western Song Finalist

*Young Artist Finalist

Western Writers of America

*2015 Spur Award Finalist for Best Western Song for "Cold Blue Eyes"

Will Rogers Medallion Award

*2015 Bronze Medallion-Inspirational Fiction for Girls and Gunsmoke

North Texas Book Festival

*2nd Place-Young Adult Fiction for Girls and Gunsmoke

Ruby Almond Songwriting Contest

*2nd Place Winner for "Texas Kerosene"

MIKKI DANIEL

SAMPLE PERFORMANCE VENUES

RIDE TV "Unbridled Song" features Mikki Daniel

RIDE TV "RIDE on the Road"

RIDE TV Commercial

RFD TV Penny Gilley Show (aired April 9, 2015)

RFD TV Horse Country USA Tours

AQHA Convention, Las Vegas, NV, President's Reception (2016)

Time Jumpers, Nashville, TN (Sept. 9, 2013)

Blue Bird Café, Nashville, TN (Sept. 9, 2013)

Silver Dollar City, Branson, MO (Featured Performer 10/13)

Professional Racing Industry Convention(Opening, Indianapolis, Indiana Breakfast, Happy Hour Reception 2015)

NFR, Cowboy Marketplace, Mandalay Bay Convention Center, Las Vegas (12/15)

State Fair of Texas (Featured Performer 10/12, 10/13)

Campfire Tales, Fort Worth Stockshow (Featured Performer 1/11,1/12,1/13,1/14,1/15)

Criderfest, Kerrville, Texas (open for Dale Watson (5/16)

Piney Woods Art Festival, Crockett, Texas (open for Amber Digby 5/15)

Prairie Haynes Equestrian Center, Texas (open for Dave Stamey 6/16)

Descanso Town Hall, California

Camp Street Café,,Crockett, Texas

Mavericks, California

Mountain Rails Live, Colorado

Back Stage Coffee Gallery, California

Luckenbach Dance Hall, Texas

Red Steagall Cowboy Gathering, Fort Worth, Texas (Featured Performer 10/14, 10/15)

Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival, Santa Clarita, California (Headliner Performer 4/15, 4/16)

Heber Valley Cowboy Gathering, Heber, Utah (Headliner opening for Michael Martin Murphy and BYU Symphony 11/14)

Durango Cowboy Gathering, Durango, Colorado (Featured Performer 10/12,10/13,10/14, Headliner, Emcee and Youth Stage Organizer 10/15)

Bob Wills Day, Turkey, Tx (Featured Performer in Museum and House Band for Fiddle Contest 2016)

Bob Wills Fiddle Festival, Greenville, Tx (Sponsor Party 11/15)

Monterrey Cowboy Festival , Monterey, California (Main Stage Performer 12/13, 11/14)

Best Little Cowboy Gathering , LaGrange, Texas (3/14, Headliner Performer and featured vocalist 3/15)

Lubbock National Cowboy Symposium , Lubbock, Texas (Featured Performer 10/12)

Lincoln County Cowboy Symposium, Ruidoso, New Mexico (Featured Performer 10/15, 10/16)

Colorado Cowboy Gathering, Golden, Colorado (Featured Performer 1/14, 1/15)

Cochise Cowboy Gathering, Sierra Vista, Arizona (Featured Performer 2/14, Headliner 2/17)

Blanco Western Showcase , Blanco, Texas (Main Stage Performer 11/13,11/14, 11/15)

Swing on the Square San Marcos, TX (Featured Performer 5/14, 5/15, Main Stage Performer 4/16)

Alpine's Texas Cowboy Poetry Gathering, Alpine, Texas (Featured Performer 2/15, 2/16, 2/17)

Spirit of the Cowboy, McKinney, Texas (Main Stage Performer 9/12,9/13)

Texas Friendship Wagon Trail Rides , Texas (Mainstage Performer 5/13, 4/14)

Texas Star Trail Ride, Luckenbach, Tx

Western Music Association Friday Night Opry (Featured Performer 11/13, 11/14)

Western Music Association Showcase Performer (Showcase 11/14, 11,15)

Mountain Rails Live Concert (open for Flying W Wranglers 8/15)

Texas Family Musicals 2014

Spirit of the Horse 2013

BOOKING: Sonya 214-532-8010

mikki@mikkidaniel.com

facebook, linkedin, instagram, reverbnation