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## ASHLEY LEWIS & LEGACY

Performing since she was six years old, Ashley first began singing and playing the guitar and then quickly continued mastering more instruments as well as song writing at a very young age. Now, receiving worldwide recognition for her music, Ashley Lewis and her band, Legacy, enthrall audiences with their fiery instrumentation and impassioned, sparkling vocals. Also known for her captivating mandolin performances, Ashley has developed that unique and distinctive Ashley Lewis signature sound by blending her distinctive mandolin style and a powerful rhythmic technique.

On the release of her third album, *Captivated*, Ashley topped the charts at #1 with her original song, "Rivers Rising," and also, broke the all-time bluegrass record by charting ten songs on the *Bluegrass Radio National Singles Chart Top 20 Song List*. Ashley co-produced *Captivated* with Jimmy Mattingly, renown fiddler of Garth Brooks, Dolly Parton, and Reba. Jimmy speaks highly of the project and of Ashley's expertise, "This album is a great example of an unbelievable talent which is portrayed on this project through Ashley's profound songwriting, musicianship, and passionate vocal style."

A seven-time award recipient of the Illinois Arts Council for mandolin, Ashley has also been recognized by the Illinois Arts Council as an accomplished and accredited *Illinois ArtsTour Musician* who is preserving the heritage and art of Bluegrass music. Ashley graduated from Waubensee College with a Music Performance degree and Presidential Honors. In 2007, she was honored with the prestigious "Fab 40" award from the college for her *Musical Contribution to Society as a Musical Artist*. Recently, Waubensee College presented Ashley with the 2018, Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Ashley's band, Legacy consists of some of the finest talent known. This impressive band lineup includes eight-time *Illinois State Banjo Champion*, Doug Knecht of Roanoke. Doug's skill combines his inspired melodic touch with a traditional banjo influence. Guitarist, Jon Mollenhauer, can best be described as incredibly creative and punctuated on his leads. Powerhouse bassist, Teresa Fry is known as the little firecracker. She is a driving force on the bass and vocals.

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During tours throughout the states and Canada, they have appeared on the Emmy Award winning program, *Arts Across Illinois* on WTTW Centerstage, and have been featured on the popular television program, *Song of the Mountains*, which airs coast to coast, and Ashley has often performed at the legendary, Bluebird Café in Nashville. They have been described as, “Giving an unforgettable performance with an honest and genuine quality that leaves audiences spellbound.”

Two amazing artists describe Ashley’s music: Tony Rice states, “It must be a crime for a woman so young and beautiful to play and sing that good.” Dale Ann Bradley remarks, “I sat there with a smile on my face the whole time. You are a natural! You have the beauty in your heart and it comes through in your music.”