

# Donna Fargo

*Donna Fargo was the first female in country music to have back-to-back million-selling records.*

*Donna's album THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WHOLE U.S.A. stayed on the national charts for 53 consecutive weeks.*

- **RECORDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (RIAA):**
  - Pop Single Gold Record – “The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.”
  - Pop Single Gold Record – “Funny Face”
  - Gold Album – THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WHOLE U.S.A.
  - Platinum Album – THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WHOLE U.S.A.
- **NATIONAL ACADEMY OF RECORDING ARTS AND SCIENCES (NARAS):**
  - “Grammy Award: Best Country Vocal Performance, Female 1972”

*In 1987, NARAS recognized Donna as one of the distinguished artists to receive her own star, now positioned in the STAR WALK at the Opry Plaza in Music City, USA.*

- **ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC (ACM):**
  - “Top New Female Vocalist 1969”
  - “Top Female Vocalist 1972”
  - “Album of the Year – THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WHOLE U.S.A. 1972”
  - “Single of the Year – ‘The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.’ 1972”
  - “Song of the Year – ‘The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.’ (composer award)”
  - “Song of the Year – ‘The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.’ (artist award)”
  - “Song of the Year – ‘The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.’ (publisher award)”
- **COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION (CMA):**
  - “SINGLE OF THE YEAR – ‘The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.’ 1972”
- **CMA TRIPLE PLAY AWARD:**
  - Recognizing songwriters for the unique accomplishments of having 3 #1 songs in a 12-month period (1972 – 73)
- **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RECORD MERCHANTISERS (NARM):**
  - “Best Selling Female Country Artist 1972”
  - “Best Selling Female Country Artist 1973”
- **MUSIC OPERATORS OF AMERICA (Jukebox award):**
  - “Record of the Year – ‘Funny Face’ 1973”
- **BROADCAST MUSIC INCORPORATED (BMI):**
  - “Robert J. Burton Award: Most Performed Song of the Year 1972 – 73”
- **BMI CITATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS (Writing Awards):**
  - “The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.” (country) / “The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A.” (pop) / “Funny Face” (pop) / “Funny Face” (country) / “Superman” (country) / “Superman” (pop) / “Superman” (2nd award) (country) / “Little Girl Gone” (country) / “You Were Always There” (country) / “I’ll Try A Little Bit Harder” (country) / “U. S. of A.” (country) / “It Do Feel Good” (country) / “Hello, Little Bluebird” (country) / “That Was Yesterday” (country) / “Somebody Special” (country)

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- **BMI CITATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS (Publishing Awards):**

"The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A." (country) / "The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A." (pop) / "Funny Face" (pop) / "Funny Face" (country) / "Superman" (country) / "Superman" (pop) / "Superman" (2nd award) (country) / "Little Girl Gone" (country) / "You Were Always There" (country) / "I'll Try A Little Bit Harder" (country) / "U. S. of A." (country) / "It Do Feel Good" (country) / "Hello Little Bluebird" (country) / "That Was Yesterday" (country) / "Somebody Special" (country)

***The BMI 1973 Country Music Achievement Awards named Donna's songs "Funny Face" and "The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A." the most performed country songs from April 1, 1972, to March 31, 1973.***

- **BMI MILLION-AIR AWARDS:**

As writer and publisher of the songs, "The Happiest Girl in the Whole U.S.A" and "Funny Face," Donna Fargo is the recipient of four Million-Air awards, a distinction given by BMI to writers and publishers of songs that achieve over 1,000,000 performances, having played at least 50,000 hours.

***Donna's song "The Happiest Girl In The Whole USA" also earned her a Special Citation of Achievement from BMI for over 2,000,000 broadcast performances.***

- **ASCAP CHART BUSTER AWARDS (Presented to artist):**

"You Can't Be a Beacon" (May, 1974)  
"Mockingbird Hill" (October, 1977)

- **BILLBOARD COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS:**

"Best New Female Artist 1972"  
"Best Female Artist 1973"  
"Best Female Singles Artist 1974"  
"Best Female Singles Artist 1977"  
"No. 1 Recitation – 'That Was Yesterday' 1977"

***In BILLBOARD magazine's year-end naming of the nation's TOP ALBUM FEMALE ARTISTS – as determined by the weekly chart position of albums and by the length of time records were on the charts – there was but one country artist among the list of 15 – DONNA FARGO.***

- **CASH BOX COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS:**

"Up and Coming Female Vocalist 1972"  
"Top Female Vocalist Singles Artist 1974" (shared with Tanya Tucker)  
"Top Recitation Singles Artist 1977"

- **CASH BOX BEST POP ARTISTS OF '72 on SINGLES:**

"Top New Female Vocalist" (tied with Roberta Flack)  
"Cash Box Top Pop Vocalist 1973" (tied first place with Carly Simon)

- **RECORD WORLD COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS:**

Record World 1972 Country Singles Award: "Most Promising Female Country Vocalist"  
Record World 1973 Country Albums Awards: "Top Female Country Vocalist"  
Record World 1973 Country Singles Awards: "Top Female Country Vocalist"

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- **RECORD WORLD POP MUSIC CATEGORY:**

Record World 1972 Pop Single Award: "Top New Female Vocalist Pop" (tied with Roberta Flack)

- **MUSIC CITY NEWS**

"Most Promising Female Artist 1972"

- **COUNTRY UNIVERSE**

Recognized Donna Fargo in its "100 Greatest Women in Country Music" list in 2018

- **KLAC CALIFORNIA COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS**

In a popularity poll taken in California, Donna won thousands of listeners' votes, a number which named her 1972's BEST FEMALE COUNTRY SINGER IN KLAC CALIFORNIA COUNTRY.

This same poll named Donna's song "Funny Face" as the BEST COUNTRY RECORD OF 1972 in KLAC CALIFORNIA COUNTRY.

And in 1973, THE BEST FEMALE COUNTRY SINGER in KLAC CALIFORNIA COUNTRY was Donna Fargo.

- **AUSTRALIAN AWARDS (ARIA):**

"Gold Record Award 'The Happiest Girl In The Whole U.S.A.' 1973"

"Gold Record Award 'Funny Face' 1973"

"Australian Gold Award 'The Happiest Girl In The Whole U.S.A.' 1975"

"Australian Gold Award 'Funny Face' 1975"

- **CANADIAN AWARDS:**

"Canadian Million Seller Single - 'Funny Face' 1973"

"Canadian Million Seller Gold Album - THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WHOLE U.S.A. 1974"

*In 1975, Donna earned her place in the WALKWAY OF STARS at the Country Music Hall of Fame.*

*In September of 1978, Donna became one of the very few female artists to star in her own syndicated TV variety show called THE DONNA FARGO SHOW.*

- **Women in Film & Television**

Alice Awards - Icon Award 2026

*Besides the hit records of songs she wrote that topped the national charts, Donna also had hit records on the following songs that honored other songwriters:*

"You Can't Be a Beacon" (Marty Cooper)

"Don't Be Angry" (W. Jackson)

"Mockingbird Hill" (Vaughn Horton)

"Shame On Me" (L. Williams, B. Enis)

"Do I Love You" (Paul Anka, Maxine Piat, Michel Pelay, Yves Dessca, Alain LeGovic)

"Another Goodbye" (Cynthia Weil, Scott English)

- **NORTH AMERICA COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION'S INTERNATIONAL HALL OF FAME**

First Inductee/January 1998

- **CAROLINAS ROCK AND ROLL HALL OF FAME**

Inducted by the Rock and Roll Club in July of 2009.

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- **NORTH CAROLINA MUSIC HALL OF FAME**

Inducted in 2010. This recognized her lifelong achievements as one of North Carolina's most successful singer-songwriters and performers.

- **LEGENDS OF COUNTRY MUSIC MUSEUM**

Featured exhibit opened in 2025 highlighting her legendary career and continuing influence in country music.

- **DOWNTOWN MT. AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA**

On July 4, 2023, a Donna Fargo mural was unveiled in Mt. Airy, NC

***Donna's inspirational thoughts are now also available through Blue Mountain Arts. In addition to the over 2000 greeting cards she's written for this company since the mid-90s, she has authored the following inspirational books: TRUST IN YOURSELF; TO THE LOVE OF MY LIFE; I PRAYED FOR YOU TODAY; TEN GOLDEN RULES FOR LIVING IN THIS CRAZY, MIXED-UP WORLD; I THANKED GOD FOR YOU TODAY; MY PRAYER FOR YOU; MY PRAYER FOR YOU, MY FRIEND; EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE WITH GOD***

***In July of 2009, the Western Film Preservation Society presented Donna with their 16th annual prestigious Ernest Tubb Award for her contributions upholding the traditions set forth by Ernest Tubb in the fields of music, motion pictures, and television.***

***In 2009, Donna's hit song "Funny Face" received the honor of being one of the namesake flowers at the Nashville Music Garden.***

***On October 29, 2009, Donna received the honor of having a highway named after her. The Donna Fargo Highway is a road connecting NC to VA on Highway 103.***

***On July 4, 2023 the Donna Fargo Mural was unveiled in her hometown of Mt. Airy, North Carolina.***

***The 45 rpm single was introduced in early 1949. From 1949 – 1989 is referred to as the "Vinyl Era" because after that the vinyl was fading away. So for that 40 year era and the ONLY solo vocalist (male or female and in ALL genres) whose first 4 charted hits were all #1! They are "The Happiest Girl In The Whole U.S.A.," "Funny Face," "Superman," and "You Were Always There." – all consecutive #1s and the next one, "Little Girl Gone" reached #2. There was one group who equaled that in 1969 and that was the Jackson 5.***