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Sarah Davidson stars in "Private Lives of Nashville Wives." JAE S. LEE / THE TENNESSEAN

'Nashville Wives' star branches out with EP

When singer-songwriter and reality TV star **Sarah Davidson** sat down to plot out her debut EP, she had a clear goal in mind.

"I wanted to tell a story of who I am, where I come from, what I'm going through in my life," she says. "As an artist, I've always felt like it's important to be 100 percent authentic, because I feel like I owe that to people that are going to listen to my music."

Davidson's fans have gotten to know her well in recent months, as she's part of the cast of TNT's "Private Lives of Nashville Wives," which airs at 10 p.m. Mondays on the network. Over the past couple of weeks, they've seen her navigate a very tough patch of that private life: her divorce from hit Nashville songwriter **Dallas Davidson**.

Sarah Davidson says her five-song, self-titled EP is "almost a piece of closure" for her, inspired by all that's happened in her life over the past four years. There's "No Sad Songs," about listening to upbeat tunes "to forget

about you," sidled next to "Get Out," which was co-written by her ex-husband.

There also are tracks like the chipper "Ride Around," which Sarah Davidson likens to a favorite of her youth, the Dixie Chicks: "a feel-good, make you roll your windows down kind of (song)."

The EP might let "Private Lives" viewers see more sides of Davidson, but she says what they've seen on the show is "pretty authentic," and she's happy to tie her TV and musical careers together.

"My life and who I am is a huge part of my artistry and the music that I want to perform and take on the road to fans. So if (the TV show) is an opportunity for people to get to know me better, then I'm excited about that. That's all I've ever really wanted."

— Dave Paulson
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To read more about "Private Lives of Nashville Wives," visit Tennessean.com/Music.

June's Pride Festival lineup set



Mary Lambert MIKE RUIZ

Mary Lambert, Lisa Loeb and **NONONO** are among the performers set to take the stage at the 2014 Nashville Pride Festival on June 13-14 at Public Square Park.

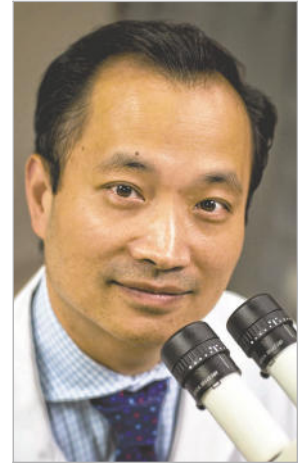
This year's festivities are expanding to include two nights of entertainment, boasting its largest lineup yet. The names are big, too: Lambert is best known for singing on rapper **Macklemore's** marriage equality anthem, "Same Love," which soundtrack the mass wedding of 34 couples on this year's Grammy Awards.

Loeb's signature tune is the 1994 hit ballad "Stay," and Swedish pop group **NONONO** has made waves in the U.S. with its dance hit "Pumpin Blood."

Other performers include **Betty Who; J.D. Samson; Nashville artists Ponychase, Steff Mahan and The Harmaleighs;** and DJs **QDP, DJ Ron, Lady B** and **DJ Remedy**.

Weekend passes are \$25 and go on sale Friday at www.nashpridefest.squarespace.com. Admission on June 14 is \$5 at the gate. Performance times will be announced at a later date.

— Dave Paulson, dnpaulson@tennessean.com



Dr. Ming Wang

Ming Wang is inspiration in 'God's Not Dead' film

Two years ago, **Rice Broocks** chronicled in a book the stories of six individuals, their atheist beginnings and their search to find God.

One of those individuals is **Dr. Ming Wang**.

Wang, a cataract and LASIK surgeon in Nashville, moved from atheism to Christianity while he was a student at Harvard Medical School.

Wang's story, which was captured by Broocks in his book "God's Not Dead," served as the inspiration for the character Martin Yip in the movie of the same name, which was released March 21 and has made a splash at the box office with \$22 million in earnings.

Influenced by a professor who, Wang said, showed him evidence of the existence of God, Wang became a Christian.

"I began to study human anatomy, including the eye, and found that the structure ... is so complex that I began to doubt if it could all (have) evolved from random," said Wang, who became director of the Vanderbilt Laser Vision Center in 1997 and founded his own laser vision center, Wang Vision Institute, in 2002.

"... So, science, or at least science alone, cannot provide the answer as to how such a complex structure as the human eye has formed."

Broocks first told Wang's story in Chapter 10 of his book: "I met with the filmmakers, and we discussed the idea for the movie — it was then that I told them Ming's story," Broocks said.

The movie, Wang said, will help in his continued effort to tell his story: "I have come to realize that faith and science serve two different purposes, they are the two sides of a coin: Science is about what things are, and faith is about why things are."

— Jessica Bliss
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TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Singer **Wayne Newton** is 72.
Singer **Tony Orlando** is 70.
Actor **Alec Baldwin** is 56.
Actor **David Hyde Pierce** is 55.
Comedian-actor **Eddie Murphy** is 53.
Actress **Cobie Smulders** is 32.
Actress **Amanda Bynes** is 28.

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, April 3, the 93rd day of 2014. There are 272 days left in the year.
On this date in:
1948: President Harry S. Truman signs the Marshall Plan, designed to help European allies rebuild after World War II and resist communism.
1974: Deadly tornadoes begin hitting wide parts of the South and Midwest before jumping into Canada; within a 24-hour period, more than 300 fatalities result from what becomes known as the Super Outbreak.

SETTING IT STRAIGHT

The Tennessean values accuracy. To report factual errors, please email corrections@tennessean.com, call 615-259-8294 or write to Corrections, The Tennessean, 1100 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37203.

inside & online



HOT BITES
Cupcake fix
The Cupcake Collection is filling in the hole Becker's Bakery left in Donelson with a new Lebanon Pike location featuring sweet, baked goodies and new savory options. **8A**



ON THE WEB
Demi Lovato
Former Disney Channel star turned pop hitmaker Demi Lovato performed at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena on Saturday. Go to Tennessean.com for a photo gallery from the show.

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