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# Gardner-Webb Alumnus Carl Cartee Nominated for Two Dove Awards for Christian Songwriting

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Office of University Communications

February 23, 2012

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.— Christian singer/songwriter and Gardner-Webb alumnus Carl Cartee has been nominated for two 2012 Dove Awards in the same category, Inspirational Recorded Song of the Year. The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dove Awards, sponsored by the Gospel Music Association (GMA), will take place on April 19 at the Fox Theater in Atlanta, Ga.

The nominated songs are “All Things New,” co-written by Cartee, Jeromy Deibler, Ronnie Freeman and Jason Ingram, on the album, “On Our Way Home,” by Nicol Sponberg; and “Hope of the Broken World,” co-written by Cartee and Jennie Riddle, on Selah’s “Hope of the Broken World” album.

Cartee, a Cleveland Co. native, is best known locally for the annual Christmas concert he gave, along with Gardner-Webb University and The Shelby Star, to benefit the Salvation Army Food Closet. In its 12 years, the annual Cartee Christmas Concert raised more than 15,000 pounds of food and more than 2,000 toys—not to mention the proceeds from the evenings’ CD sales that Cartee always donated.

“As a songwriter, you really appreciate it when professionals who have a valuable opinion say to you that they admire your work,” said Cartee of the nominations, which are determined by industry peers. “It’s quite an honor to be nominated.” With two nominees in one category, Cartee’s odds of winning seem good. “But as a friend told me yesterday,” Cartee joked, “if I lose, I’m a double loser, so we’ll see what happens. You never know.”

The day of the nomination announcement was doubly special for Cartee, since it was also the third anniversary of his grandfather’s death. “He was a huge fan of gospel music, and a constant supporter of mine, so it was cool to be able to call and celebrate with my grandmother. She was very proud.”

So, too, are hundreds of friends in Cleveland County, who were touched not only by Cartee’s early music but by his outstanding generosity in the community. “It wasn’t a matter of if Carl would win; it was when,” said Noel Manning, a longtime friend and the coordinator of Cartee’s 12 Christmas concerts at Gardner-Webb. “It’s a proud day for anyone who knows and loves Carl and his family.”

Cartee is still a frequent worship leader at summer camps and winter conferences for Crossroads Worldwide Ministries, based in Boiling Springs and operated by Cartee's close friend and fellow Gardner-Webb alumnus Clayton King.

Based in Nashville, Tenn., Cartee is a staff writer for Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing and an artist-in-residence at Fellowship Bible Church in Brentwood, Tenn. He is the founding owner of Mighty Oak Records, and together with his wife Heather, the creator of the annual Inspire Worship Conference.

The Cartees have been married 12 years and have four sons.

The Dove Awards are the premier industry awards for Christian music, as meaningful as the Grammys for the mainstream music world. More information is available at [www.doveawards.com](http://www.doveawards.com).

More information about Cartee's ministry is available at [carlcartee.com](http://carlcartee.com) or [inspireworshipconference.com](http://inspireworshipconference.com).