**Ruth Manning - bio**

Ruth grew up in a musical household and began singing since at the age of 2 with her three older sisters in a family group known as “the Best Girls”. The group took part in many variety shows and festivals in the Annapolis Valley area for many years, including the Triple D Bluegrass and Old time Music Festival when Ruth was age 10 and 11. As a teenager, Ruth continued to sing in this family group and began to perform on a solo basis as well.

Upon graduating from Central Kings Rural High School, Ruth entered into studies at Nova Scotia Teachers College to pursue her teaching degree. During her time there from 1990 to 1994, Ruth performed both on her own and with many others at college functions. During this time period, Ruth also entered several singing contests in the Valley and the Truro area. In 1993, she joined a country band in the Truro area and played for several engagements in Truro and the surrounding area.

Since 1995, Ruth has worked with a number of bands and performers, making her way around Nova Scotia, PEI and New Brunswick including Triple Time, Sidekixx, Route 12, Graham Moorehead, and Ryan Cook. She is pleased to say that she has been involved in country music for over 40 years.

In 2005, Ruth won a singing contest in Dartmouth which took her to Nashville to sing on the stages of Tootsies Bar and The Nashville Palace. She has since completed four solo CD’s which include many of Ruth’s original songs, two of which were recorded in Nashville. The most recent is a Christmas CD which features a mixture of original songs, traditional Christmas songs and country Christmas favourites. Ruth’s original music has received radio play on several stations here in Nova Scotia, Ontario, the US, Australia, Germany, New Zealand and beyond.

Ruth received a nomination for Music Nova Scotia’s Country Recording of the Year in 2016 for her ***Tennessee Calling*** project. From this CD, a video was produced for the song “Unsung Heroes” that achieved over 25, 000 views on Facebook and many on Youtube as well.

This year, Ruth was thrilled to receive a Josie Music Award nomination for her video “Unsung Heroes” and to attend the awards show in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee in Sept. 2018.

Ruth’s TV appearances include being a top 4 finalist on the Atlantic Songwriters’ Challenge on Eastlink TV in 2016 and an appearance on CTV Morning Live in Nov. 2018 to perform the song “Unsung Heroes” in honour of Remembrance Day.

Most recently, on March 1, 2019, Ruth has had two songs reach the semi-finals in the Music City Song Star contest in Nashville, chosen out of thousands of songs entered.