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County songwriter for popular recording artists will lead songwriters workshop at USI tonight

Individuals seriously interested in song writing can learn more about the craft at tonight's Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) workshop featuring songwriter Kerry Kurt Phillips. The workshop will begin at 7 p.m. in Carter Hall A and B at University of Southern Indiana's University Center.

Kerry Kurt Phillips, who received the Song of the Year Award for Billy Ray Cyrus' "It's All The Same To Me," also has written Joe Diffie's "Is It Cold in Here," "Prop Me Up Beside the Jukebox," and "Pickup Man," and Tim McGraw's "Down on the Farm" and "Maybe We Should Just Sleep On It."

Other artists recording Phillips' material include John Michael Montgomery, Kenny Chesney, Aaron Tipin, Tanya Tucker, Trace Adkins, and others.

Through the NSAI workshops, professional songwriters are matched with chapters where they either live, moved from, have relatives, vacation, or travel. Phillips is originally from Henderson, Kentucky and moved to Vincennes, Indiana, before leaving for Nashville in the mid-1980s.

Paul Kuban, USI assistant professor of engineering technology and regional workshop coordinator for NSAI, is sponsoring tonight's workshop. Kuban said, "The workshop will provide guidance on the songwriting process and the business of songwriting."

Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI) is a not-for-profit trade association devoted to the service of songwriters. Established in 1967, NSAI now numbers more than 4,500 members worldwide.

Tonight's workshop is open to the public. For more information, call Kuban at 465-1090.