

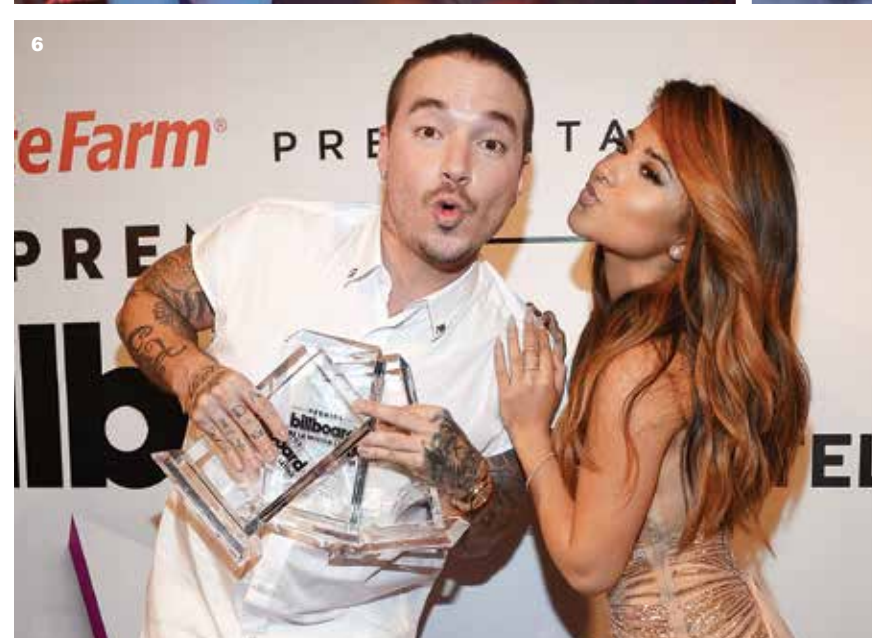
Billboard Latin Music Awards

MIAMI, APRIL 30

SURE, THERE WAS STAR POWER AND ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME collaborations, but the 26th annual Billboard Latin Music Awards also made history. The show, which aired on Telemundo, was the most-watched edition ever, with a cumulative audience of more than 6.4 million, according to Nielsen. **Romeo Santos** and **Enrique Iglesias** — both riding high off major albums in 2014 — swept the night with 10 and nine awards, respectively. But the festivities, under the direction of veteran producer **Tony Mojena**, also proved to be a statement on Pan-Latin unity. “I think people get it now,” reggaeton artist **Wisin** told *Billboard*. “It’s time to break barriers and behave like one big family.” Highlights included **Marc Anthony** and Cuban duo **Gente de Zona**’s debut of new party anthem “La Gozadera,” and **Afrojack**, **Luis Fonsi** and **Ne-Yo**’s Latin-pop-meets-EDM “Ten Feet Tall.” And then there was **Jennifer Lopez**. The star gave the night’s most emotional performance, a nearly eight-minute-long tribute to the late **Selena**, backed by a band that included members of Selena’s family group, **Los Dinos** (siblings **A.B. Quintanilla** and **Suzette Quintanilla**, and Selena’s former husband **Chris Perez**). “The electricity was there. Even though she was singing Selena’s songs, she made them her own,” A.B. told *Billboard*. “From her heart — this is something that she really wanted to do.” —ANGIE ROMERO



1 “Hands up for Selena and Los Dinos! Sing with me!” shouted Lopez during her tribute at Bank United Center. 2 Anthony with wife Shannon De Lima on the red carpet. 3 Ne-Yo (left) and Fonsi onstage. 4 Pedro Fernandez co-hosted the evening. 5 Natalia Jimenez wowed in an off-the-shoulder gown and flower crown. 6 J Balvin and Becky G backstage. 7 From left: Carlos Vives during his performance of “Nota de Amor” with Daddy Yankee and Wisin.



Billboard Latin Music Conference

MIAMI, APRIL 27-30

Equal parts high-wattage stars and serious business, the four-day confab brought together executives and artists to discuss the Latin music industry’s rapidly changing landscape



1 Billboard’s Latin Music Conference, sponsored by NBCUniversal Hispanic Group, Pepsi and Coors Light, featured “The Divas Panel” on April 28 at the Ritz-Carlton South Beach. From left: Kany Garcia, Hanna Nicole Perez Mosa, Ashley Grace Perez Mosa, Ana Maria Canseco, Ivy Queen, Rosana Arbelo and Sofia Reyes. 2 Santos at his Q&A on April 29. 3 Sony Music Entertainment’s Mary Nuñez received the Marketing Award for best integrated campaign. 4 Rebeca Leon, vp Latin talent for AEG Live/GoldenVoice, with Jesus Salas, executive vp programming for Spanish Broadcasting Systems, during the panel “Hola, Can You Hear Me?” 5 From left: Sony Music’s Ruben Leyva, iHeartMedia’s Tim Castelli, Verizon’s Javier Farfan, NBC Universo’s Luisa Varona, Alma’s Luis Miguel Messianu, Lopez Negrete Communications’ Alex Lopez Negrete and Republica’s Jorge Plasencia at the “Blurred Lines” panel.

