

ICON

ENTERTAINMENT & HOSPITALITY



About Bill Miller

Bill Miller's passion for music and history combined with his longtime friendship with the legendary Johnny Cash set the foundation for his ascension to one of Nashville's most successful and visionary entrepreneurs.

Now the owner of six buildings that total more than 100,000 square feet of commercial real estate, it is the California native's potent combination of intuition and acumen that fuel such thriving Nashville ventures as the Johnny Cash Museum, the Patsy Cline Museum, Nudie's Honky Tonk, Johnny Cash's Bar & BBQ, House of Cards (a unique upscale eatery featuring live magic), Music City Threads merchandise line and Sinatra Bar & Lounge, which shares a home with Miller's popular nightspot Skull's Rainbow Room and the newly opened Southern Turf Lofts in the historic Southern Turf building.

"If I looked back and somebody had told me, you're going to own numerous bars, restaurants and museums in downtown Nashville, I literally would have laughed because it's nothing that we've had any training to do. It's simply been shooting from the hip and creating compelling concepts," says Miller, who currently calls Music City home.

Indeed, Miller has come a long way from his rural California roots, where he founded a real estate company and served three terms as mayor of his hometown before launching the Odyssey Group. One of the largest dealers of historical documents and memorabilia in the country, the Odyssey Group sold everything from handwritten letters by George Washington to George Harrison's Telecaster, and helped establish Miller as the noted and highly-respected authority on such documents and celebrity memorabilia that he is today.

Miller's business endeavors have traversed through a variety of clientele – including Dolly Parton, the White House, Graceland, the Country Music Hall of Fame (he appraised and authenticated every single item in the Hall of Fame collection), Marty Stuart, President Gerald Ford, the Estates of Minnie Pearl and Hank Snow to name just a few – while he drew on his preservation and musical history passions to author the critically-acclaimed *Cash: An American Man*, which Larry King hailed as "the best celebrity biography coffee table book ever done."

Ultimately, it was his friendship with Cash that led him to Nashville, where Miller most recently opened the Southern Turf Club, a members-only club on the fourth level of the legendary Southern Turf building, and Schulman's Neighborhood Bar, his first venture into the East Nashville neighborhood in the historic Southern Grist building.

"I'm so grateful and feel so blessed because I don't think I could have a better life than I do and it has to do with family and being able to expose people to experiences that are really fun and compelling," Miller says. "I believe in destiny. I believe in God. I believe in God's plan and unbeknownst to me, I think God's plan was to have us do this."