

## Clive Davis – Music Producer

Entertainer Barry Manilow--an Arista mainstay--told Newsday that the energetic Davis "has the mind of an executive and the ears of a teenager. I don't know if the other artists at Arista appreciate him, but I do."

### Brief Bio

**1934** – April 4, Born Clive Jay Davis in Brooklyn, NY  
**1953** – Awarded a scholarship to Harvard Law School  
**1960** – Joined legal department of Columbia Records  
**1967** – Named President of Columbia Records  
Attended the Monterey International Pop Festival  
**1973** – Left Columbia Records  
Published his best-selling memoir *Clive: Inside the Record Business*  
**1974** – Founded Arista Records with Columbia Pictures  
**1989** – Formed LaFace Records with L.A. Reid and Babyface  
**1994** – In a joint venture, Davis and Sean “Puffy” Combs created Bad Boy Records  
**2000** – Davis inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame  
Formed J Records  
**2013** – Published *The Soundtrack of My Life*

Billy Joel  
*Bruce Springsteen*  
Aerosmith  
Earth, Wind and Fire  
Sly and the Family Stone  
Donovan  
Barry Manilow  
Patti Smith  
*Whitney Houston*  
Kenny G  
*Alicia Keys*  
TLC  
Toni Braxton  
Pink  
Notorious B.I.G.  
Maroon Five  
Neil Diamond\*  
Pink Floyd\*  
Miles Davis\*  
Lou Reed\*  
*Aretha Franklin\**  
Rod Stewart\*

### A Selection of Artists Davis Signed or Mentored

*Janis Joplin*  
Blood, Sweat & Tears  
Chicago  
Santana

Italics indicate artists on the PMC session playlist

\*Established acts when signed; Clive Davis is credited with helping revive multiple careers

### Links

**Gale in Context: Biography** (access through the Anoka County Library website with card)

[https://link.gale.com/apps/portals/AAA000193257/BIC?u=anoka\\_main\\_r&sid=bookmark-BIC&xid=cc4c90de](https://link.gale.com/apps/portals/AAA000193257/BIC?u=anoka_main_r&sid=bookmark-BIC&xid=cc4c90de)

### Clivedavis.com

<https://clivedavis.com/bio#:~:text=Under%20Davis'%20leadership%2C%20Arista%20launched,Sarah%20McLachlan%2C%20Monica%20and%20Dido.>

### Britannica.com

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Clive-Davis>