

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. Neither this prospectus supplement nor the accompanying prospectus is an offer to sell these securities and neither is soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT  
(to Prospectus dated August 6, 2021)

2,340,000 Shares



# Warner Music Group Corp.

## Class A Common Stock

The selling stockholders identified in this prospectus supplement are selling an aggregate of 2,340,000 shares of our Class A common stock. We are not selling any shares of our Class A common stock under this prospectus supplement and will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares by the selling stockholders.

Our Class A common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq”) under the symbol “WMG.” On September 20, 2021, the closing price of our Class A common stock as reported on the Nasdaq was \$40.26 per share.

We have two classes of common stock: Class A common stock and Class B common stock. Each share of Class A common stock is entitled to one vote per share. Each share of Class B common stock is entitled to 20 votes per share. Holders of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock vote together as a single class on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, except as otherwise required by applicable law and as specified in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Each outstanding share of Class B common stock will convert automatically into one share of Class A common stock upon any transfer (including in connection with this offering), except for certain exceptions and permitted transfers described in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. Once converted into Class A common stock, the Class B common stock may not be reissued. The Class B common stock, which is held by Access Industries, LLC and certain of its affiliates, including the selling stockholders (collectively, “Access”), will represent approximately 98% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock following this offering. See “Description of Capital Stock” in the accompanying prospectus.

After the completion of this offering, we will continue to be a “controlled company” within the meaning of Nasdaq corporate governance standards.

**Investing in shares of our Class A common stock involves risks. See “[Risk Factors](#)” beginning on page S-3.**

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price		
Underwriting discount <sup>(1)</sup>		
Proceeds, before expenses, to the selling stockholders		

(1) Please see the section entitled “Underwriting” for a description of compensation payable to the underwriter.

The underwriter expects to deliver the shares of our Class A common stock against payment in New York, New York on or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**Morgan Stanley**

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document consists of two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. Generally, when we refer only to the “prospectus,” we are referring to both parts combined. This prospectus supplement may add to, update or change information in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

If information in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus include important information about us, the shares of Class A common stock being offered and other information you should know before investing in the shares of Class A common stock.

This prospectus is an offer to sell only the shares offered hereby, but only under the circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. Neither we, the selling stockholders, nor the underwriter has authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any amendment or supplement to this prospectus, or any free writing prospectus prepared by us or on our behalf. Neither we, the selling stockholders, nor the underwriter takes any responsibility for, or can provide any assurance as to the reliability of, any information other than the information in this prospectus, any amendment or supplement to this prospectus, or any free writing prospectus prepared by us or on our behalf. The information in this prospectus, any amendment or supplement to this prospectus, or any applicable free writing prospectus is accurate only as of its date, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus, any amendment or supplement to this prospectus, or any applicable free writing prospectus, as applicable, or any sale of shares of our Class A common stock. Our business, financial condition, results of operations, and prospects may have changed since that date.

This prospectus supplement is a part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the SEC using a “shelf” registration or continuous offering process. Under this shelf process, the selling stockholders may from time to time sell shares of our common stock covered by the accompanying prospectus. You should read this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock. You may obtain this information without charge by following the instructions under “Where You Can Find More Information” appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

As used in this prospectus supplement, unless the context otherwise requires, “we”, “us”, “our”, “ours”, “WMG” and the “Company” refer to Warner Music Group Corp., not including any of its consolidated subsidiaries.

**For Investors Outside the United States:** The selling stockholders and the underwriter are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, shares of our Class A common stock only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. Neither we, the selling stockholders, nor the underwriter has done anything that would permit this offering or possession or distribution of this prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required, other than in the United States. Persons outside the United States who come into possession of this prospectus must inform themselves about, and observe any restrictions relating to, the offering of the shares of our Class A common stock and the distribution of this prospectus outside the United States. See “Underwriting.”

## PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

*This summary highlights information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. This summary does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in shares of our Class A common stock. Before you decide to invest in shares of our Class A common stock, you should read this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus carefully, including the section entitled “Risk Factors” included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the sections entitled “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and our audited consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and the section entitled “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and our unaudited consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto in our most recent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, each of which is incorporated by reference herein. This summary contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties.*

### **Our Company**

We are one of the world’s leading music entertainment companies. Our renowned family of iconic record labels, including Atlantic Records, Warner Records, Elektra Records and Parlophone Records, is home to many of the world’s most popular and influential recording artists. In addition, Warner Chappell Music, our global music publishing business, boasts an extraordinary catalog that includes timeless standards and contemporary hits, representing works by over 80,000 songwriters and composers, with a global collection of more than one million musical compositions. Our entrepreneurial spirit and passion for music has driven our recording artist and songwriter focused innovation for decades.

### **Our Corporate Information**

Our mailing address and executive offices are located at 1633 Broadway, New York, New York 10019, and our telephone number at that address is (212) 275-2000. Our website address is [www.wmg.com](http://www.wmg.com). The information on, or accessible through, our website is not part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

**The Offering**

Selling stockholders	AI Entertainment Holdings LLC and Altep 2012 L.P.
Class A common stock offered by the selling stockholders	2,340,000 shares.
Class A common stock to be outstanding after this offering	122,414,827 shares.
Class B common stock to be outstanding after this offering	391,970,996 shares.
Total Class A common stock and Class B common stock to be outstanding after this offering	514,385,823 shares.
Use of proceeds	The selling stockholders will receive all of the net proceeds from the sale of shares of Class A common stock in this offering. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of Class A common stock by the selling stockholders. The selling stockholders will bear the underwriting discount and any selling commissions or transfer taxes attributable to, or incurred in connection with, their sale of our Class A common stock, and we will bear the remaining expenses. See “Use of Proceeds.”
Risk factors	See “Risk Factors” for a discussion of risks you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our Class A common stock.
Nasdaq trading symbol	“WMG.”

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding immediately following this offering is based on 120,074,827 shares of Class A common stock and 394,310,996 shares of Class B common stock outstanding as of September 15, 2021, respectively, and excludes 36,318,583 shares of Class A common stock reserved for future issuance under our equity plans (of which 31,104,532 shares are potentially issuable over the 10-year period beginning June 4, 2020, the date of adoption of the Warner Music Group Corp. 2020 Omnibus Incentive Plan (the “Omnibus Incentive Plan”)).

Unless otherwise indicated, all information in this prospectus gives effect to the automatic conversion of shares of Class B common stock held by the selling stockholders into an equivalent number of shares of Class A common stock upon the sale by the selling stockholders of such shares in this offering.

## RISK FACTORS

*Investing in our Class A common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before making an investment decision, you should consider and read carefully all of the risks and uncertainties described below, as well as other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the section entitled “Risk Factors” in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020. The risks described below are not the only ones facing us. The occurrence of any of the following risks or additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently believe to be immaterial could materially and adversely affect our business, financial position, results of operations or cash flows. In any such case, the trading price of our Class A common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment. This prospectus supplement also contains forward-looking statements and estimates that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements as a result of specific factors, including the risks and uncertainties described below.*

***The dual class structure of our common stock and the existing ownership of Class B common stock by Access have the effect of concentrating voting control with Access for the foreseeable future, which will limit or preclude your ability to influence corporate matters and could result in you not having the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are not “controlled companies.”***

Our Class A common stock, which is the stock being offered in this offering, has one vote per share, and our Class B common stock has 20 votes per share. Given the greater number of votes per share attributed to our Class B common stock, Access, who is our only Class B common stockholder, holds approximately 99% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock and will hold approximately 98% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock following the completion of this offering. As a result of our dual class ownership structure, Access is able to exert a significant degree of influence or actual control over our management and affairs and over matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors, mergers or acquisitions, asset sales and other significant corporate transactions. Further, Access owns shares representing approximately 77% of the economic interest of our outstanding common stock and will own shares representing approximately 76% of the economic interest of our outstanding common stock following this offering. This concentrated control will limit your ability to influence corporate matters for the foreseeable future. For example, Access will be able to control elections of directors, amendments of our certificate of incorporation or by-laws, increases to the number of shares available for issuance under our equity incentive plans or adoption of new equity incentive plans and approval of any merger or sale of assets for the foreseeable future. This control may materially adversely affect the market price of our Class A common stock. Additionally, the holders of our Class B common stock may cause us to make strategic decisions or pursue acquisitions that could involve risks to you or may not be aligned with your interests. The holders of our Class B common stock will also be entitled to a separate vote in the event we seek to amend our certificate of incorporation.

Further, as a result of Access holding more than 50% of the voting power of our outstanding common stock, we will continue to qualify as a “controlled company” within the meaning of Nasdaq corporate governance standards following the completion of this offering. As a controlled company, we qualify for, and intend to continue to rely on, certain exemptions from certain Nasdaq corporate governance standards, including the requirement (i) that a majority of the members of our board of directors be independent directors; (ii) that our nominating and corporate governance committee be composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities; (iii) that we have a compensation committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities; and (iv) for an annual performance evaluation of the nominating and corporate governance and compensation committees. Consequently, our stockholders will not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of Nasdaq corporate governance rules and requirements. Our status as a controlled company could make our Class A common stock less attractive to some investors or otherwise harm our stock price.

***Our dual class structure may depress the volume, trading price and liquidity of our Class A common stock.***

Our dual class structure may result in a lower or more volatile market price of our Class A common stock, less liquidity for our Class A common stock than if there were only one class of our common stock or in adverse publicity or other adverse consequences. The difference in the voting rights of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock could harm the value of our Class A common stock to the extent that any investor or potential future purchaser of our Class A common stock ascribes value to the right of holders of our Class B common stock to 20 votes per share of Class B common stock. Further, certain index providers have announced restrictions on including companies with dual or multiple class share structures in certain of their indexes. S&P Dow Jones and FTSE Russell have announced changes to their eligibility criteria for inclusion of shares of public companies on certain indices, including the S&P 500. These changes exclude companies with multiple classes of shares of common stock from being added to these indices. In addition, several stockholder advisory firms have announced their opposition to the use of dual or multiple class structures. As a result, the dual class structure of our common stock may prevent the inclusion of our Class A common stock in these indices and may cause stockholder advisory firms to publish negative commentary about our corporate governance practices or otherwise seek to cause us to change our capital structure. Any such exclusion from indices could result in a less active trading market for our Class A common stock. Any actions or publications by stockholder advisory firms critical of our corporate governance practices or capital structure could also adversely affect the value of our Class A common stock.

***Future sales of shares by existing stockholders could cause our stock price to decline.***

Sales of substantial amounts of our Class A common stock in the public market following this offering, or the perception that these sales could occur, could cause the market price of our Class A common stock to decline. These sales, or the possibility that these sales may occur, also might make it more difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future at a time and at a price that we deem appropriate.

Based on shares outstanding as of September 15, 2021, upon the completion of this offering, we will have 122,414,827 outstanding shares of Class A common stock and 391,970,996 outstanding shares of Class B common stock. All of the outstanding shares of Class A common stock, including the shares sold pursuant to this offering will be immediately tradable without restriction under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), except for any shares held by “affiliates,” as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act, or “Rule 144.”

The remaining shares of Class B common stock are restricted securities within the meaning of Rule 144, but are eligible for resale subject, in certain cases, to applicable volume, manner of sale, holding period and other limitations of Rule 144 or pursuant to an exception from registration under Rule 701 under the Securities Act, or “Rule 701.” Access, the holder of our Class B common stock, has registration rights with respect to such shares.

Additionally, shares of Class A common stock are registered under our registration statements on Form S-8 to be issued under our equity compensation plans, including the Senior Management Free Cash Flow Plan (the “Plan”), and, as a result, all shares of Class A common stock acquired upon settlement of deferred equity units granted under the Plan will also be freely tradable under the Securities Act, unless purchased by our affiliates. In addition, 31,169,099 shares of our Class A common stock were reserved for future issuances under the Omnibus Incentive Plan adopted in connection with our initial public offering over the 10-year period beginning June 4, 2020.

In the future, we may issue additional shares of Class A common stock, Class B common stock or other equity or debt securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of our Class A common stock in connection with a financing, strategic investment, litigation settlement or employee arrangement or otherwise. Any of these issuances could result in substantial dilution to our existing stockholders and could cause the trading price of our Class A common stock to decline.

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***The market price of our Class A common stock may be volatile and the market price and trading volume of our Class A common stock could decline after this offering.***

The market price and trading volume of our Class A common stock may fluctuate significantly. Among the factors that could affect our stock price and trading volume are:

- industry or general market conditions;
- domestic and international economic factors unrelated to our performance;
- changes in our customers' preferences;
- changes in law or regulation;
- lawsuits, enforcement actions and other claims by third parties or governmental authorities;
- adverse publicity related to us or another industry participant;
- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our operating results;
- changes in securities analysts' estimates of our financial performance, downgrade of our stock by securities analysts or any unfavorable or misleading research coverage and reports by industry analysts or a lack of such coverage or reports;
- action by institutional stockholders or other large stockholders (including Access), including future sales of our Class A common stock;
- failure to meet any guidance given by us or any change in any guidance given by us, or changes by us in our guidance practices;
- speculation in the press or investment community;
- investor perception of us and our industry;
- changes in market valuations or earnings of similar companies;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts, acquisitions, dispositions or strategic partnerships;
- war, terrorist acts, epidemic disease and pandemics, including COVID-19;
- any future sales of our Class A common stock or other securities;
- additions or departures of key personnel; and
- misconduct or other improper actions of our employees.

Stock markets have experienced extreme volatility in recent years that has been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the trading price of our Class A common stock. In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, class action litigation has often been instituted against the affected company. Any litigation of this type brought against us could result in substantial costs and a diversion of our management's attention and resources, which could materially and adversely affect our business, consolidated results of operations, liquidity or financial condition.

***Our existing debt securities do, and future offerings of debt or equity securities may, rank senior to our common stock, which may adversely affect the market price of our Class A common stock.***

As of June 30, 2021, our total consolidated indebtedness, net of premiums, discounts and deferred financing costs, was \$3.367 billion, all of which ranks senior to our Class A common stock. Our existing debt is subject to agreements which contain provisions restricting our operating flexibility. If, in the future, we decide to issue



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additional debt or equity securities that rank senior to our Class A common stock, such securities may also be governed by an indenture or other instrument containing covenants restricting our operating flexibility consistent with our existing debt agreements. Additionally, any convertible or exchangeable securities that we issue in the future may have rights, preferences and privileges more favorable than those of our Class A common stock and may result in dilution to owners of our Class A common stock. We and, indirectly, our stockholders, bear the cost of issuing and servicing such securities. Because our decision to issue debt or equity securities in any future offering will depend on market conditions and other factors beyond our control, we cannot predict or estimate the amount, timing or nature of our future offerings. Thus, holders of our Class A common stock will bear the risk of our future offerings reducing the market price of our Class A common stock and diluting the value of their stock holdings in us.

### ***Anti-takeover provisions in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws and Delaware law could discourage, delay or prevent a change of control of our company and may affect the trading price of our Class A common stock.***

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated by-laws include a number of provisions that may discourage, delay or prevent a change in our management or control over us that stockholders may consider favorable. For example, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws collectively:

- authorize two classes of common stock with disparate voting power;
- permit different treatment of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock in a change of control transaction if approved by a majority of the voting power of our outstanding Class A common stock and a majority of the voting power of our outstanding Class B common stock, voting separately;
- authorize the issuance of “blank check” preferred stock that could be issued by our board of directors to thwart a takeover attempt;
- provide that vacancies on our board of directors, including vacancies resulting from an enlargement of our board of directors, may be filled only by a majority vote of directors then in office once Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of the outstanding shares of our common stock;
- prohibit stockholders from calling special meetings of stockholders if Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of the outstanding shares of our common stock;
- prohibit stockholder action by written consent, thereby requiring all actions to be taken at a meeting of the stockholders, if Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of the outstanding shares of our common stock;
- establish advance notice requirements for nominations of candidates for election as directors or to bring other business before an annual meeting of our stockholders;
- require the approval of holders of at least 66 2/3% of the total combined voting power of the outstanding shares of our common stock to amend our amended and restated by-laws and certain provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation if Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of the outstanding shares of our common stock; and
- subject us to Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the “DGCL”), which limits the ability of stockholders holding shares representing more than 15% of the voting power of our outstanding voting stock from engaging in certain business combinations with us, once Access no longer owns at least 5% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock.

These provisions may prevent our stockholders from receiving the benefit from any premium to the market price of our Class A common stock offered by a bidder in a takeover context. Even in the absence of a takeover

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attempt, the existence of these provisions may adversely affect the prevailing market price of our Class A common stock if the provisions are viewed as discouraging takeover attempts in the future.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws may also make it difficult for stockholders to replace or remove our management. Furthermore, the existence of the foregoing provisions, as well as the significant amount of common stock that Access owns and voting power that Access holds, could limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our Class A common stock. These provisions may facilitate management and board entrenchment that may delay, deter, render more difficult or prevent a change in our control, which may not be in the best interests of our stockholders.

### ***Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation includes provisions that may be unfavorable to stockholders.***

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation contains provisions permitted under the action asserting a claim arising under the DGCL relating to the liability of directors. These provisions will eliminate a director's personal liability to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL for monetary damages resulting from a breach of fiduciary duty, except in circumstances involving: (i) any breach of the director's duty of loyalty; (ii) acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law; (iii) Section 174 of the DGCL (unlawful dividends); or (iv) any transaction from which the director derives an improper personal benefit.

The principal effect of the limitation on liability provision is that a stockholder will be unable to prosecute an action for monetary damages against a director unless the stockholder can demonstrate a basis for liability for which indemnification is not available under the DGCL. These provisions, however, should not limit or eliminate our rights or any stockholder's rights to seek non-monetary relief, such as an injunction or rescission, in the event of a breach of a director's fiduciary duty. These provisions will not alter a director's liability under federal securities laws. The inclusion of this provision in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation may discourage or deter stockholders or management from bringing a lawsuit against directors for a breach of their fiduciary duties, even though such an action, if successful, might otherwise have benefited us and our stockholders.

Further, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware will, to the fullest extent permitted by law, be the sole and exclusive forum for (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought on our behalf, (ii) any action asserting a claim of breach of a fiduciary duty owed to us or our stockholders by any of our directors, officers, other employees, agents or stockholders, (iii) any action asserting a claim arising out of or under the DGCL, or as to which the DGCL confers jurisdiction on the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware (including, without limitation, any action asserting a claim arising out of or pursuant to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation or our amended and restated by-laws) or (iv) any action asserting a claim that is governed by the internal affairs doctrine, in each case subject to such Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware having personal jurisdiction over the indispensable parties named as defendants. However, claims subject to exclusive jurisdiction in the federal courts, such as suits brought to enforce a duty or liability created by the Securities Act, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or the rules and regulations thereunder, need not be brought in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware. Stockholders in our company will be deemed to have notice of and have consented to the provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation related to choice of forum. The choice of forum provision in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation may limit our stockholders' ability to obtain a favorable judicial forum for disputes with us or any of our directors, officers, other employees, agents or stockholders, which may discourage lawsuits with respect to such claims. Additionally, a court could determine that the exclusive forum provision is unenforceable, and our stockholders will not be deemed to have waived our compliance with the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder. If a court were to find these provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation inapplicable to, or unenforceable in respect of, one or more of the

specified types of actions or proceedings, we may incur additional costs associated with resolving such matters in other jurisdictions, which could adversely affect our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

***We face risks related to potential changes in U.S. tax laws***

Legal, tax and regulatory changes could occur during the term of the Company that may adversely affect the Company. The U.S. Congress has proposed comprehensive tax reform that could materially affect the tax consequences to the Company. Prospective investors are urged to consult their tax advisors with reference to any current tax reform proposals and their possible implications to the Company.

## SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement (including the information incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus that we may provide to you in connection with the offering of our Class A common stock described in this prospectus supplement) contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. We have based these forward-looking statements largely on our current expectations and projections about future events and financial trends affecting the financial condition of our business. Forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties, many of which may be beyond our control. We caution you that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance or outcomes and that actual performance and outcomes, including, without limitation, our actual results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the market in which we operate, may differ materially from those made in or suggested by the forward-looking statements contained in this section. In addition, even if our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, and the development of the market in which we operate, are consistent with the forward-looking statements contained in this section, those results or developments may not be indicative of results or developments in subsequent periods. New factors emerge from time to time that may cause our business not to develop as we expect, and it is not possible for us to predict all of them. Factors that could cause actual results and outcomes to differ from those reflected in forward-looking statements include, without limitation:

- risks related to the effects of natural or man-made disasters, including pandemics such as COVID-19;
- our ability to identify, sign and retain recording artists and songwriters and the existence or absence of superstar releases;
- our inability to compete successfully in the highly competitive markets in which we operate;
- the ability to further develop a successful business model applicable to a digital environment and to enter into artist services and expanded-rights deals with recording artists in order to broaden our revenue streams in growing segments of the music entertainment business;
- the popular demand for particular recording artists and/or songwriters and music and the timely delivery to us of music by major recording artists and/or songwriters;
- the diversity and quality of our recording artists, songwriters and releases;
- slower growth in streaming adoption and revenue;
- our dependence on a limited number of digital music services for the online distribution and marketing of our music and their ability to significantly influence the pricing structure for online music stores;
- trends, developments or other events in some foreign countries in which we operate;
- risks associated with our non-U.S. operations, including limited legal protections of our intellectual property rights and restrictions on the repatriation of capital;
- unfavorable currency exchange rate fluctuations;
- the impact of heightened and intensive competition in the recorded music and music publishing industries and our inability to execute our business strategy;
- significant fluctuations in our operations, cash flows and the trading price of our common stock from period to period;
- our failure to attract and retain our executive officers and other key personnel;
- a significant portion of our revenues are subject to rate regulation either by government entities or by local third-party collecting societies throughout the world and rates on other income streams may be set by governmental proceedings, which may limit our profitability;

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- risks associated with obtaining, maintaining, protecting and enforcing our intellectual property rights;
- our involvement in intellectual property litigation;
- threats to our business associated with digital piracy, including organized industrial piracy;
- an impairment in the carrying value of goodwill or other intangible and long-lived assets;
- our failure to have full control and ability to direct the operations we conduct through joint ventures;
- the impact of, and risks inherent in, acquisitions or other business combinations;
- risks inherent to our outsourcing certain finance and accounting functions;
- the fact that we have engaged in substantial restructuring activities in the past, and may need to implement further restructurings in the future and our restructuring efforts may not be successful or generate expected cost savings;
- our ability to maintain the security of information relating to our customers, employees and vendors and our music;
- risks related to evolving laws and regulations concerning data privacy which might result in increased regulation and different industry standards;
- legislation limiting the terms by which an individual can be bound under a “personal services” contract;
- a potential loss of catalog if it is determined that recording artists have a right to recapture U.S. rights in their recordings under the U.S. Copyright Act;
- potential employment and withholding liabilities if our recording artists and songwriters are characterized as employees;
- any delays and difficulties in satisfying obligations incident to being a public company;
- the impact of our substantial leverage on our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, on our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry and on our ability to meet our obligations under our indebtedness;
- the ability to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness, and the risk that we may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under our indebtedness, which may not be successful;
- the fact that our debt agreements contain restrictions that limit our flexibility in operating our business;
- the significant amount of cash required to service our indebtedness and the ability to generate cash or refinance indebtedness as it becomes due depends on many factors, some of which are beyond our control;
- our indebtedness levels, and the fact that we may be able to incur substantially more indebtedness, which may increase the risks created by our substantial indebtedness;
- risks of downgrade, suspension or withdrawal of the rating assigned by a rating agency to us could impact our cost of capital;
- the dual class structure of our common stock and Access’s existing ownership of our Class B common stock have the effect of concentrating control over our management and affairs and over matters requiring stockholder approval with Access;
- risks related to potential changes in U.S. tax laws; and
- risks related to other factors discussed under “Risk Factors” in this prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein.

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The words “will,” “should,” “could,” “would,” “plan,” “believe,” “may,” “estimate,” “continue,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “expect,” “predict,” “project,” “potential” and similar expressions, as they relate to our company, our business and our management, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. In light of these risks and uncertainties, the forward-looking events and circumstances discussed or incorporated in this prospectus supplement may not occur and actual results could differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements set forth above and those discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” in this prospectus supplement (including the documents incorporated by reference herein), the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus that we may provide to you in connection with the offering. In addition, there may be other factors of which we are not currently aware that may affect matters discussed in the forward-looking statements and may also cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed. All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. We assume no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changes in assumptions or changes in other factors affecting forward-looking information, except to the extent required by applicable law. If we update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.

You should carefully read this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any free writing prospectus that we may provide to you in connection with the offering and the documents incorporated by reference in their entirety. They contain information that you should consider when making your investment decision.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of our Class A common stock in this offering by the selling stockholders. The selling stockholders will bear the underwriting discount and any selling commissions or transfer taxes attributable to, or incurred in connection with, their sale of our Class A common stock, and we will bear the remaining expenses. For more information about the selling stockholders, see “Selling Stockholders.”

## DIVIDEND POLICY

We intend to pay quarterly cash dividends to holders of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock. We paid the first dividend of \$0.12 per share under this policy in September 2020, and increased the dividend to \$0.15 per share in September 2021. The declaration of each dividend will continue to be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on our financial condition, earnings, liquidity and capital requirements, level of indebtedness, contractual restrictions with respect to payment of dividends, restrictions imposed by Delaware law, general business conditions and any other factors that our board of directors deems relevant in making such a determination. Therefore, there can be no assurance that we will pay any dividends to holders of our common stock, or as to the amount of any such dividends.

WMG is a holding company for all of our operations and is a legal entity separate from its subsidiaries. All of WMG's business operations are conducted through our subsidiaries. Dividends and other distributions from WMG's subsidiaries are the principal sources of funds available to WMG to pay corporate operating expenses, to pay stockholder dividends, to repurchase stock and to meet its other obligations. The agreements to which our subsidiaries are party, including the indentures governing our outstanding senior secured notes and the credit agreements for the senior term loan facility and the revolving credit facility, each contain certain provisions that restrict the payment of dividends, subject to certain exceptions. We believe that these agreements will permit our subsidiaries to distribute funds to us in an amount sufficient to permit us to pay our currently intended dividends.

Delaware law requires that dividends be paid only out of "surplus," which is defined as the fair market value of our net assets, minus our stated capital; or out of the current or the immediately preceding year's earnings.



## SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

The following table and accompanying footnotes set forth information regarding the beneficial ownership of shares of our common stock by the selling stockholders as of September 15, 2021.

The amounts and percentages of shares beneficially owned are reported on the basis of regulations of the SEC governing the determination of beneficial ownership of securities. Under SEC rules, a person is deemed to be a “beneficial owner” of a security if that person has or shares voting power or investment power, which includes the power to dispose of or to direct the disposition of such security. A person is also deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities of which that person has a right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days. Securities that can be so acquired are deemed to be outstanding for purposes of computing such person’s ownership percentage, but not for purposes of computing any other person’s percentage. Under these rules, more than one person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of the same securities, and a person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of securities as to which such person has no economic interest.

Applicable percentage ownership before the offering is based on 120,074,827 shares of Class A common stock and 394,310,996 shares of Class B common stock outstanding as of September 15, 2021. Applicable percentage ownership after the offering is based on 122,414,827 shares of Class A common stock and 391,970,996 shares of Class B common stock outstanding immediately after the completion of this offering.

Except as otherwise indicated in these footnotes, each of the beneficial owners listed has, to our knowledge, sole voting and investment power with respect to the indicated shares of common stock. The address for each listed stockholder is c/o Access Industries, Inc., 40 West 57th Street, 28th Floor, New York, NY 10019.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Class A Common Stock Beneficially Owned Prior to this Offering		Class A Common Stock Beneficially Owned After this Offering		Class A Common Stock to be Sold in this Offering(1)		Class B Common Stock Beneficially Owned Prior to this Offering		Class B Common Stock Beneficially Owned After this Offering		Combined Voting Power Prior to this Offering(2)	Combined Voting Power After this Offering(2)
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	%	%
AI Entertainment Holdings LLC(3)	—	— %	—	— %	2,330,259	1.9%	372,388,528	94.4%	370,058,269	94.4%	93.0%	93.0%
Altep 2012 L.P.(4)	—	— %	—	— %	9,741	*	1,602,188	*	1,592,447	*	*	*

\* Represents less than 1%.

- (1) Each outstanding share of our Class B common stock converts automatically into one share of Class A common stock upon any transfer, except for certain exceptions and permitted transfers described in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. In connection with this offering, shares of Class B common stock held by the selling stockholders will automatically convert into an equivalent number of shares of Class A common stock upon the sale by the selling stockholders of such shares in this offering.
- (2) Percentage of total voting power represents voting power with respect to all shares of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock, as a single class. The holders of our Class B common stock are entitled to 20 votes per share, and holders of our Class A common stock are entitled to one vote per share. For more information about the voting rights of our Class A and Class B common stock, see “Description of Capital Stock—Common Stock” in the accompanying prospectus.
- (3) Shares of Class B common stock held directly by AI Entertainment Holdings LLC (“AIEH”) may be deemed to be beneficially owned by AIPH Holdings LLC (“AIPH”), Access Industries Holdings LLC (“AIH”), Access Industries, LLC (“AI”), Access Industries Management, LLC (“AIM”) and Mr. Len Blavatnik, because AIPH is the parent of AIEH, AIH controls a majority of the outstanding voting interests in AIPH, AI controls a majority of the outstanding voting interests in AIH, AIM controls AI and AIH and

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Mr. Blavatnik is the controlling person of AIM and controls a majority of the outstanding voting interests in AI. Each of AIPH, AIH, AI, AIM and Mr. Blavatnik, and each of their affiliated entities and the officers, partners, members and managers thereof (other than AIEH), disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities.

- (4) Shares of Class B common stock held directly by Altep 2012 LP (“Altep 2012”) may be deemed to be beneficially owned by AI Altep Holdings, Inc. (“AI Altep”) and Mr. Len Blavatnik because AI Altep is the general partner of Altep 2012 and Mr. Blavatnik controls AI Altep. Each of AI Altep and Mr. Blavatnik, and each of their affiliated entities and the officers, partners, members and managers thereof (other than Altep 2012), disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities.

## MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL TAX CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following is a discussion of certain U.S. federal income and estate tax considerations relating to the purchase, ownership and disposition of our Class A common stock by Non-U.S. Holders (as defined below) that purchase such Class A common stock pursuant to this offering and hold such Class A common stock as a capital asset. This discussion is based on the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated or proposed thereunder, and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, all as in effect on the date hereof and all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect, or to different interpretation. This discussion does not address all of the U.S. federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to specific Non-U.S. Holders in light of their particular circumstances or to Non-U.S. Holders subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax law (such as banks, insurance companies, dealers in securities or other Non-U.S. Holders that generally mark their securities to market for U.S. federal income tax purposes, foreign governments, international organizations, tax-exempt entities, certain former citizens or residents of the United States, or Non-U.S. Holders that hold our Class A common stock as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion or other integrated transaction). This discussion does not address any U.S. state or local or non-U.S. tax considerations or any U.S. federal gift or alternative minimum tax considerations.

As used in this discussion, the term “Non-U.S. Holder” means a beneficial owner of our Class A common stock that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is:

- an individual who is neither a citizen nor a resident of the United States;
- a corporation that is not created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia;
- an estate that is not subject to U.S. federal income tax on income from non-U.S. sources which is not effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States; or
- a trust unless (i) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all of its substantial decisions or (ii) it has in effect a valid election under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

If an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes invests in our Class A common stock, the U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to such investment will depend in part upon the status and activities of such entity and the particular partner. Any such entity should consult its own tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to it and its partners relating to the purchase, ownership and disposition of our Class A common stock.

PERSONS CONSIDERING AN INVESTMENT IN OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK SHOULD CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS REGARDING THE U.S. FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL AND NON-U.S. INCOME, ESTATE AND OTHER TAX CONSIDERATIONS RELATING TO THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR CLASS A COMMON STOCK IN LIGHT OF THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

### Distributions on Class A Common Stock

If we make a distribution of cash or other property (other than certain *pro rata* distributions of our Class A common stock or rights to acquire our Class A common stock) with respect to a share of our Class A common stock, the distribution generally will be treated as a dividend to the extent it is paid from our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles). If the amount of such distribution exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits, such excess generally will be treated first as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of the Non-U.S. Holder’s adjusted tax basis in such share of our Class A common stock, and then as capital gain (which will be treated in the manner described below under

“Sale, Exchange or Other Disposition of Class A Common Stock”). Distributions treated as dividends on our Class A common stock that are paid to or for the account of a Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax at a rate of 30%, or at a lower rate if provided by an applicable tax treaty and the Non-U.S. Holder provides the documentation (generally, Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E) required to claim benefits under such tax treaty to the applicable withholding agent. Even if our current or accumulated earnings and profits are less than the amount of the distribution, the applicable withholding agent may treat the entire distribution as a dividend for U.S. federal withholding tax purposes. Each Non-U.S. Holder should consult its own tax advisor regarding U.S. federal withholding tax on distributions, including such Non-U.S. Holder’s eligibility for a lower rate and the availability of a refund of any excess U.S. federal tax withheld.

If, however, a dividend is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States by a Non-U.S. Holder, such dividend generally will not be subject to the 30% U.S. federal withholding tax if such Non-U.S. Holder provides the appropriate documentation (generally, IRS Form W-8ECI) to the applicable withholding agent. Instead, such Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on such dividend in substantially the same manner as a U.S. person (except as provided by an applicable tax treaty). In addition, a Non-U.S. Holder that is treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes may be subject to a branch profits tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower rate if provided by an applicable tax treaty) on its effectively connected income for the taxable year, subject to certain adjustments.

The foregoing discussion is subject to the discussion below under “—FATCA Withholding” and “—Information Reporting and Backup Withholding.”

#### **Sale, Exchange or Other Disposition of Class A Common Stock**

A Non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on any gain recognized on the sale, exchange or other disposition of our Class A common stock unless:

- such gain is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States by such Non-U.S. Holder, in which event such Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on such gain in substantially the same manner as a U.S. person (except as provided by an applicable tax treaty) and, if it is treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, may also be subject to a branch profits tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower rate if provided by an applicable tax treaty);
- such Non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year of such sale, exchange or other disposition and certain other conditions are met, in which event such gain (net of certain U.S. source losses) generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at a rate of 30% (except as provided by an applicable tax treaty); or
- we are or have been a “United States real property holding corporation” for U.S. federal income tax purposes at any time during the shorter of (x) the five-year period ending on the date of such sale, exchange or other disposition and (y) such Non-U.S. Holder’s holding period with respect to such Class A common stock, and certain other conditions are met.

Generally, a corporation is a “United States real property holding corporation” if the fair market value of its United States real property interests equals or exceeds 50% of the sum of the fair market value of its worldwide real property interests and its other assets used or held for use in a trade or business (all as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes). We believe that we presently are not, and we do not presently anticipate that we will become, a United States real property holding corporation. However, because this determination is made from time to time and is dependent upon a number of factors, some of which are beyond our control, including the value of our assets, there can be no assurance that we will not become a United States real property holding corporation. If we were a United States real property holding corporation during the period described in the third

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bullet point immediately above, gain recognized by a Non-U.S. Holder generally would be treated as income effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States by such Non-U.S. Holder, with the consequences described in the first bullet point immediately above (except that the branch profits tax would not apply), unless such Non-U.S. Holder owned (directly or constructively) five percent or less of our Class A common stock throughout such period and our Class A common stock is treated as “regularly traded on an established securities market” at any time during the calendar year of such sale, exchange or other disposition.

The foregoing discussion is subject to the discussion below under “—Information Reporting and Backup Withholding.”

### **FATCA Withholding**

Under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act provisions of the Code and related U.S. Treasury guidance (“FATCA”), a withholding tax of 30% will be imposed in certain circumstances on payments of dividends on our Class A common stock. In the case of payments made to a “foreign financial institution” (such as a bank, a broker, an investment fund or, in certain cases, a holding company), as a beneficial owner or as an intermediary, this tax generally will be imposed, subject to certain exceptions, unless such institution (i) has agreed to (and does) comply with the requirements of an agreement with the United States (an “FFI Agreement”) or (ii) is required by (and does comply with) applicable foreign law enacted in connection with an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and a foreign jurisdiction (an “IGA”) to, among other things, collect and provide to the U.S. tax authorities or other relevant tax authorities certain information regarding U.S. account holders of such institution and, in either case, such institution provides the withholding agent with a certification as to its FATCA status. In the case of payments made to a foreign entity that is not a financial institution (as a beneficial owner), the tax generally will be imposed, subject to certain exceptions, unless such entity provides the withholding agent with a certification as to its FATCA status and, in certain cases, identifies any “substantial” U.S. owner (generally, any specified U.S. person that directly or indirectly owns more than a specified percentage of such entity). If our Class A common stock is held through a foreign financial institution that has agreed to comply with the requirements of an FFI Agreement or is subject to similar requirements under applicable foreign law enacted in connection with an IGA, such foreign financial institution (or, in certain cases, a person paying amounts to such foreign financial institution) generally will be required, subject to certain exceptions, to withhold tax on payments made to (i) a person (including an individual) that fails to provide any required information or documentation or (ii) a foreign financial institution that has not agreed to comply with the requirements of an FFI Agreement and is not subject to similar requirements under applicable foreign law enacted in connection with an IGA. Each Non-U.S. Holder should consult its own tax advisor regarding the application of FATCA to our Class A common stock.

### **Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

Distributions on our Class A common stock paid to a Non-U.S. Holder and the amount of any U.S. federal tax withheld from such distributions generally will be reported annually to the IRS and to such Non-U.S. Holder by the applicable withholding agent.

The information reporting and backup withholding rules that apply to payments of dividends to certain U.S. persons generally will not apply to payments of dividends on our Class A common stock to a Non-U.S. Holder if such Non-U.S. Holder certifies under penalties of perjury that it is not a U.S. person (generally by providing an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E to the applicable withholding agent) or otherwise establishes an exemption.

Proceeds from the sale, exchange or other disposition of our Class A common stock by a Non-U.S. Holder effected outside the United States through a non-U.S. office of a non-U.S. broker generally will not be subject to the information reporting and backup withholding rules that apply to payments to certain U.S. persons, provided that the proceeds are paid to the Non-U.S. Holder outside the United States. However, proceeds from the sale, exchange or other disposition of our Class A common stock by a Non-U.S. Holder effected through a non-U.S.

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office of a non-U.S. broker with certain specified U.S. connections or of a U.S. broker generally will be subject to these information reporting rules (but generally not to these backup withholding rules), even if the proceeds are paid to such Non-U.S. Holder outside the United States, unless such Non-U.S. Holder certifies under penalties of perjury that it is not a U.S. person (generally by providing an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E to the applicable withholding agent) or otherwise establishes an exemption. Proceeds from the sale, exchange or other disposition of our Class A common stock by a Non-U.S. Holder effected through a U.S. office of a broker generally will be subject to these information reporting and backup withholding rules unless such Non-U.S. Holder certifies under penalties of perjury that it is not a U.S. person (generally by providing an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E to the applicable withholding agent) or otherwise establishes an exemption.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules generally will be allowed as a refund or a credit against a Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability if the required information is furnished by such Non-U.S. Holder on a timely basis to the IRS.

### **U.S. Federal Estate Tax**

Shares of our Class A common stock owned or treated as owned by an individual Non-U.S. Holder at the time of such Non-U.S. Holder's death will be included in such Non-U.S. Holder's gross estate for U.S. federal estate tax purposes and may be subject to U.S. federal estate tax unless an applicable estate tax treaty provides otherwise.

## UNDERWRITING

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC is acting as the underwriter for this offering. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in an underwriting agreement among us, the selling stockholders and the underwriter, the selling stockholders have agreed to sell to the underwriter, and the underwriter has agreed to purchase from the selling stockholders, an aggregate of 2,340,000 shares of Class A common stock.

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, the underwriter has agreed to purchase all of the shares sold under the underwriting agreement if any of these shares are purchased.

We and the selling stockholders have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriter may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The underwriter is offering the shares, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by it, subject to approval of legal matters by its counsel, including the validity of the shares, and other conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriter of officer's certificates and legal opinions. The underwriter reserves the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

### Commissions and Discounts

The following table shows the per share and total underwriting discounts and commissions to be paid to the underwriter by the selling stockholders.

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount to be paid by the selling stockholders	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to the selling stockholders	\$	\$

Shares of Class A common stock sold by the underwriter to the public will initially be offered at the offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. Any shares of Class A common stock sold by the underwriter to securities dealers may be sold at a discount of up to \$ per share from the offering price. After the initial offering of the shares of Class A common stock, the representative may change the offering price and the other selling terms. The offering of the shares of Class A common stock by the underwriter is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriter's right to reject any order in whole or in part.

Our Class A common stock is listed on the Nasdaq under the trading symbol "WMG."

In connection with the offering, the underwriter may purchase and sell shares of Class A common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover positions created by short sales. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriter of a greater number of shares than they are required to purchase in the offering, and a short position represents the amount of such sales that have not been covered by subsequent purchases. Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of Class A common stock made by the underwriter in the open market prior to the completion of the offering.

Purchases to cover a short position and stabilizing transactions, as well as other purchases by the underwriter for its own account, may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of our stock, and may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the Class A common stock. As a result, the price of the Class A common stock may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open

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market. The underwriter is not required to engage in these activities and may end any of these activities at any time. These transactions may be effected on Nasdaq, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

The estimated offering expenses payable in connection with the offering, exclusive of the underwriting discount and commissions, are approximately \$                    million.

The Company and the selling stockholders have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The underwriter and its affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include sales and trading, commercial and investment banking, advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, market making, brokerage and other financial and non-financial activities and services. The underwriter and its affiliates have provided, and may in the future provide, a variety of these services to the Company and to persons and entities with relationships with the Company, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses.

In the ordinary course of its various business activities, the underwriter and its affiliates, officers, directors and employees may purchase, sell or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps and other financial instruments for their own account and for the accounts of their customers, and such investment and trading activities may involve or relate to assets, securities and/or instruments of the Company (directly, as collateral securing other obligations or otherwise) and/or persons and entities with relationships with the Company. The underwriter and its affiliates may also communicate independent investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

### **Selling Restrictions**

#### ***European Economic Area***

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (each a “Relevant State”), no shares of our Class A common stock have been offered or will be offered pursuant to this offering to the public in that Relevant State prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to shares of our Class A common stock which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Regulation, except that offers of shares of our Class A common stock may be made to the public in that Relevant State at any time under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Regulation:

- to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Regulation;
- to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Regulation), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representative for any such offer; or
- in any other circumstances falling within Article 1(4) of the Prospectus Regulation;

provided that no such offer of shares of our Class A common stock shall require us or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Regulation or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 23 of the Prospectus Regulation.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an “offer to the public” in relation to any shares of our Class A common stock in any Relevant State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and any shares of our Class A common stock to be offered so as



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to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for any shares of our Class A common stock, and the expression “Prospectus Regulation” means Regulation (EU) 2017/1129.

This European Economic Area selling restriction is in addition to any other selling restrictions set out below.

### ***United Kingdom***

In relation to the United Kingdom, no shares of Class A common stock have been offered or will be offered pursuant to this offering to the public in the United Kingdom prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the shares that either (i) has been approved by the Financial Conduct Authority, or (ii) is to be treated as if it had been approved by the Financial Conduct Authority in accordance with the transitional provision in Regulation 74 of the Prospectus (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, except that offers of shares may be made to the public in the United Kingdom at any time under the following exemptions under the UK Prospectus Regulation:

- to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in Article 2 of the UK Prospectus Regulation;
- to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in Article 2 of the UK Prospectus Regulation), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the underwriter for any such offer; or
- in any other circumstances falling within section 86 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the “FSMA”),

provided that no such offer of shares shall require the issuer or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to section 85 of the FSMA or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 23 of the UK Prospectus Regulation.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an “offer to the public” in relation to any shares in the United Kingdom means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and any shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for any shares, and the expression “UK Prospectus Regulation” means Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

The underwriter has represented and agreed that:

- (a) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the shares of Class A common stock in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the company or the selling stockholders; and
- (b) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the shares of Class A common stock in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

### ***Canada***

The Class A common stock may be sold in Canada only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions, and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the Class A common stock must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

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Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

### ***Hong Kong***

The Class A common stock may not be offered or sold in Hong Kong by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32 of the Laws of Hong Kong) ("Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance") or which do not constitute an invitation to the public within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) ("Securities and Futures Ordinance"), (ii) to "professional investors" as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a "prospectus" as defined in the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the Class A common stock may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares of Class A common stock which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to "professional investors" in Hong Kong as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made thereunder.

### ***Singapore***

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the Class A common stock may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the Class A common stock be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor (as defined under Section 4A of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "SFA")) under Section 274 of the SFA, (ii) to a relevant person (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA) pursuant to Section 275(1) of the SFA, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A) of the SFA, and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA, in each case subject to conditions set forth in the SFA.

Where the shares of Class A common stock are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor, the securities (as defined in Section 239(1) of the SFA) of that corporation shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation has acquired the shares under Section 275 of the SFA except: (1) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA), (2) where such transfer arises from an offer in that corporation's securities pursuant to Section 275(1A) of the SFA, (3) where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer, (4) where the transfer is by operation of law, (5) as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA, or (6) as specified in Regulation 32 of the Securities and Futures (Offers of Investments) (Shares and Debentures) Regulations 2005 of Singapore ("Regulation 32").

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Where the shares of Class A common stock are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an accredited investor, the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that trust has acquired the shares under Section 275 of the SFA except: (1) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA), (2) where such transfer arises from an offer that is made on terms that such rights or interest are acquired at a consideration of not less than S\$200,000 (or its equivalent in a foreign currency) for each transaction (whether such amount is to be paid for in cash or by exchange of securities or other assets), (3) where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer, (4) where the transfer is by operation of law, (5) as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA, or (6) as specified in Regulation 32.

Solely for the purposes of our obligations pursuant to Section 309B of the SFA, we have determined, and hereby notify all relevant persons (as defined in the Securities and Futures (Capital Markets Products) Regulations 2018 ("CMP Regulations")) that the shares of Class common stock are "prescribed capital markets products" (as defined in the CMP Regulations) and Excluded Investment Products (as defined in MAS Notice SFA 04-N12: Notice on the Sale of Investment Products and MAS Notice FAA-N16: Notice on Recommendations on Investment Products).

### ***Japan***

The shares of Class A common stock have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act of Japan (Act No. 25 of 1948, as amended), or the FIEA. The shares of Class A common stock may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to or for the benefit of any resident of Japan (including any person resident in Japan or any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan) or to others for reoffering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to or for the benefit of any resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the FIEA and otherwise in compliance with any relevant laws and regulations of Japan.

### ***Australia***

This prospectus:

- does not constitute a disclosure document or a prospectus under Chapter 6D.2 of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) (the "Corporations Act");
- has not been, and will not be, lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission ("ASIC"), as a disclosure document for the purposes of the Corporations Act and does not purport to include the information required of a disclosure document for the purposes of the Corporations Act; and
- may only be provided in Australia to select investors who are able to demonstrate that they fall within one or more of the categories of investors, available under section 708 of the Corporations Act ("Exempt Investors").

The Class A common stock may not be directly or indirectly offered for subscription or purchased or sold, and no invitations to subscribe for or buy the Class A common stock may be issued, and no draft or definitive offering memorandum, advertisement or other offering material relating to any Class A common stock may be distributed in Australia, except where disclosure to investors is not required under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act or is otherwise in compliance with all applicable Australian laws and regulations. By submitting an application for the Class A common stock, you represent and warrant to us that you are an Exempt Investor.

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As any offer of Class A common stock under this document will be made without disclosure in Australia under Chapter 6D.2 of the Corporations Act, the offer of those securities for resale in Australia within 12 months may, under section 707 of the Corporations Act, require disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D.2 if none of the exemptions in section 708 applies to that resale. By applying for the Class A common stock you undertake to us that you will not, for a period of 12 months from the date of sale of the Class A common stock, offer, transfer, assign or otherwise alienate those Class A common stock to investors in Australia except in circumstances where disclosure to investors is not required under Chapter 6D.2 of the Corporations Act or where a compliant disclosure document is prepared and lodged with ASIC.

### ***Brazil***

The offer and sale of our Class A common stock has not been, and will not be, registered (or exempted from registration) with the Brazilian Securities Commission (Comissão de Valores Mobiliários – CVM) and, therefore, will not be carried out by any means that would constitute a public offering in Brazil under Law No. 6,385, of December 7, 1976, as amended, under CVM Rule No. 400, of December 29, 2003, as amended, or under CVM Rule No. 476, of January 16, 2009, as amended. Any representation to the contrary is untruthful and unlawful. As a consequence, our Class A common stock cannot be offered and sold in Brazil or to any investor resident or domiciled in Brazil. Documents relating to the offering of our Class A common stock, as well as information contained therein, may not be supplied to the public in Brazil, nor used in connection with any public offer for subscription or sale of Class A common stock to the public in Brazil.

### ***China***

This prospectus will not be circulated or distributed in the People’s Republic of China (“PRC”) and the Class A common stock will not be offered or sold, and will not be offered or sold to any person for re-offering or resale directly or indirectly to any residents of the PRC except pursuant to any applicable laws and regulations of the PRC. Neither this prospectus nor any advertisement or other offering material may be distributed or published in the PRC, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

### ***France***

Neither this prospectus nor any other offering material relating to the Class A common stock offered by this prospectus has been and will not be submitted to the clearance procedures of the Autorité des Marchés Financiers or of the competent authority of another member state of the European Economic Area and notified to the Autorité des Marchés Financiers. The Class A common stock has not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, to the public in France. Neither this prospectus nor any other offering material relating to the Class A common stock has been or will be:

- a) released, issued, distributed or caused to be released, issued or distributed to the public in France;
- b) used in connection with any offer for subscription or sale of the notes to the public in France.

Such offers, sales and distributions will be made in France only:

- c) to qualified investors (investisseurs qualifiés) and/or to a restricted circle of investors (cercle restreint d’investisseurs), in each case acting for their own account, or otherwise in circumstances in which no offer to the public occurs, all as defined in and in accordance with Articles L.411-2, D.411-1, D.411-2, D.734-1, D.744-1, D.754-1 and D.764-1 of the French Code monétaire et financier;
- d) to investment services providers authorized to engage in portfolio management on behalf of third parties; or

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- e) in a transaction that, in accordance with Article L.411-2-I-1°-or-2° -or 3° of the French Code monétaire et financier and Article 211-2 of the General Regulations (Règlement Général) of the Autorité des Marchés Financiers, does not constitute a public offer (offre au public).

The Class A common stock may not be distributed directly or indirectly to the public except in accordance with Articles L.411-1, L.411-2, L.412-1 and L.621-8 through L.621-8-3 of the French Code monétaire et financier and applicable regulations thereunder.

### ***Kuwait***

The Class A common stock has not been authorized or licensed for offering, marketing or sale in the State of Kuwait. The distribution of this prospectus and the offering and sale of the Class A common stock in the State of Kuwait is restricted by law unless a license is obtained from the Kuwait Ministry of Commerce and Industry in accordance with Law 31 of 1990. Persons into whose possession this prospectus comes are required by us and the international underwriters to inform themselves about and to observe such restrictions. Investors in the State of Kuwait who approach us or any of the international underwriters to obtain copies of this prospectus are required by us and the international underwriters to keep such prospectus confidential and not to make copies thereof or distribute the same to any other person and are also required to observe the restrictions provided for in all jurisdictions with respect to offering, marketing and the sale of the Class A common stock.

### ***Qatar***

The Class A common stock described in this prospectus have not been, and will not be, offered, sold or delivered, at any time, directly or indirectly in the State of Qatar in a manner that would constitute a public offering. This prospectus has not been, and will not be, registered with or approved by the Qatar Financial Markets Authority or Qatar Central Bank and may not be publicly distributed. This prospectus is intended for the original recipient only and must not be provided to any other person. It is not for general circulation in the State of Qatar and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose.

### ***Saudi Arabia***

This document may not be distributed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia except to such persons as are permitted under the Offers of Securities Regulations as issued by the board of the Saudi Arabian Capital Market Authority (“CMA”) pursuant to resolution number 2-11-2004 dated 4 October 2004 as amended by resolution number 1-28-2008, as amended (the “CMA Regulations”). The CMA does not make any representation as to the accuracy or completeness of this document and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss arising from, or incurred in reliance upon, any part of this document. Prospective purchasers of the securities offered hereby should conduct their own due diligence on the accuracy of the information relating to the securities. If you do not understand the contents of this document, you should consult an authorised financial adviser.

### ***Switzerland***

This prospectus is not intended to constitute an offer or solicitation to purchase or invest in the Class A common stock. The Class A common stock may not be publicly offered, directly or indirectly, in Switzerland within the meaning of the Swiss Financial Services Act (“FinSA”) and will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (“SIX”) or on any other stock exchange or regulated trading venue (exchange or multilateral trading facility) in Switzerland. This document does not constitute a prospectus within the meaning of, and has been prepared without regard to, the disclosure standards for issuance prospectuses under art. 652a or art. 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations or the disclosure standards for listing prospectuses under art. 27 ff. of the SIX Listing Rules or the listing rules of any other stock exchange or regulated trading venue (exchange or multilateral trading facility) in Switzerland. Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the Class A common stock constitutes a prospectus pursuant to the FinSA, and neither this document nor any other

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offering or marketing material relating to the Class A common stock or the offering may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the offering, the Company, or the Class A common stock have been or will be filed with or approved by any Swiss regulatory authority. In particular, this document will not be filed with, and the offer of Class A common stock will not be supervised by, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA (FINMA), and the offer of Class A common stock has not been and will not be authorized under the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes (“CISA”). The investor protection afforded to acquirers of interests in collective investment schemes under the CISA does not extend to acquirers of Class A common stock.

### ***United Arab Emirates***

The Class A common stock has not been, and are not being, publicly offered, sold, promoted or advertised in the United Arab Emirates (including the Dubai International Financial Centre) other than in compliance with the laws of the United Arab Emirates (and the Dubai International Financial Centre) governing the issue, offering and sale of securities. Further, this prospectus does not constitute a public offer of securities in the United Arab Emirates (including the Dubai International Financial Centre) and is not intended to be a public offer. This prospectus has not been approved by or filed with the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates, the Securities and Commodities Authority or the Dubai Financial Services Authority.

## LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of Class A common stock will be passed upon for us by Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, New York, New York. Certain legal matters in connection with this offering will be passed upon for the underwriter by Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, New York.

## EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Warner Music Group Corp. as of September 30, 2020 and 2019 and for each of the years in the three-year period ended September 30, 2020 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing. The audit report refers to the Company's change in its method of accounting for leases as of October 1, 2019 due to the adoption of "ASC Topic 842, Leases", and the Company's change in its method of accounting for revenue recognition as of October 1, 2018, due to the adoption of "ASC Topic 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers".

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the shares of Class A common stock offered by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This prospectus supplement, filed as part of the registration statement, does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement and its exhibits and schedules, portions of which have been omitted as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about us and shares of our Class A common stock, we refer you to the registration statement and to its exhibits and schedules. Statements in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus about the contents of any contract, agreement, or other document are not necessarily complete and in each instance we refer you to the copy or form of such contract, agreement, or document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement. You may inspect these reports and other information without charge at a website maintained by the SEC. The address of this site is <http://www.sec.gov>.

We are subject to the information and periodic reporting requirements of the Exchange Act and, in accordance therewith, file periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Such periodic reports, proxy statements and other information are available at the website of the SEC referred to above. We maintain a website at [www.wmg.com](http://www.wmg.com). You may access our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, proxy statements and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act with the SEC free of charge at our website as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC. The reference to our website address does not constitute incorporation by reference of the information contained on our website.

## INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The rules of the SEC allow us to incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus the information we file with the SEC. This means that we are disclosing important information to you by referring to other documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, except for any information superseded by information contained directly in this prospectus supplement. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and all documents that we subsequently file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the termination of the offering of shares by means of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus will also be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and deemed to be part of

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this prospectus, from their respective filing dates (in each case, other than any portions thereof, which under the Exchange Act, and applicable SEC rules, are not deemed “filed” under the Exchange Act):

- our Annual Report on [Form 10-K](#) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020, filed with the SEC on November 23, 2020 (the “Annual Report”);
- our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended [December 31, 2020](#) (filed with the SEC on February 2, 2021), [March 31, 2021](#) (filed with the SEC on May 4, 2021) and [June 30, 2021](#) (filed with the SEC on August 3, 2021);
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on [October 1, 2020](#), [October 19, 2020](#) (with respect to Item 8.01), [October 19, 2020](#), [October 23, 2020](#), [November 2, 2020](#), [November 13, 2020](#), [January 20, 2021](#), [February 11, 2021](#), [March 1, 2021](#), [March 3, 2021](#), [March 8, 2021](#), [March 18, 2021](#), [April 15, 2021](#), [May 13, 2021](#), [July 13, 2021](#), [August 5, 2021](#), [August 5, 2021](#), [August 13, 2021](#) and [August 16, 2021](#);
- the portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on [Schedule 14A](#) for our 2021 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, filed with the SEC on January 19, 2021, that are incorporated by reference into the Annual Report; and
- the description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on [Form 8-A](#) (File No. 001-32502) filed with the SEC on May 27, 2020.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or in the accompanying prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document that also is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement.

You can obtain any of the filings incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus through us or from the SEC through the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov>. We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a copy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents referred to above which have been or may be incorporated by reference in this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus. You should direct requests for those documents to:

Warner Music Group Corp.  
Attn: Investor Relations  
1633 Broadway  
New York, New York 10019  
Telephone: (212) 275-4850

These documents can also be requested through, and are available in, the Investor Relations section of our website, which is located at <http://investors.wmg.com> or as described under “Where You Can Find More Information” above. The reference to our website address does not constitute incorporation by reference of the information contained on or accessible through our website.



PROSPECTUS



warner | music | group

# Warner Music Group Corp.

**Class A Common Stock**  
**Preferred Stock**  
**Debt Securities**  
**Warrants**  
**Rights**  
**Purchase Contracts**  
**Units**

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From time to time, we may offer the securities described in this prospectus separately or together in any combination, in one or more classes or series, in amounts, at prices and on terms that we will determine at the time of the offering.

We will provide the specific terms of these offerings and securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read carefully this prospectus, the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus before you invest. This prospectus may not be used to offer or sell any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Our Class A common stock ("Class A Common Stock") is listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ") under the symbol "WMG".

**INVESTING IN OUR SECURITIES INVOLVES A HIGH DEGREE OF RISK. RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH AN INVESTMENT IN OUR SECURITIES WILL BE DESCRIBED IN THE APPLICABLE PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT AND/OR CERTAIN OF OUR FILINGS WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, AS DESCRIBED UNDER "[RISK FACTORS](#)" ON PAGE 1.**

We may offer and sell the securities directly, through agents we select from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers we select, or through a combination of these methods. If we use any agents, underwriters or dealers to sell the securities, they will be named and their compensation will be described in a prospectus supplement. The price to the public of those securities and the net proceeds we expect to receive from that sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is August 6, 2021.

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**Important Notice about the Information Presented In This Prospectus**

We are responsible for the information contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us that we have referred to you. Neither we, any selling security holder nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with additional information or information different from that contained in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“the SEC”), and we take no responsibility for any other information that others may give you.

This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to purchase, the securities offered by this prospectus in any jurisdiction to or from any person to whom or from whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation of an offer in such jurisdiction. You should assume that the information in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any sale of a security. Our business, financial condition and results of operations may have changed since that date.

This prospectus incorporates by reference, and any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus may contain and incorporate by reference, market data and industry statistics and forecasts that are based on independent industry publications and other publicly available information. Although we believe these sources are reliable, we do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information and we have not independently verified this information. In addition, the market and industry data and forecasts that may be included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any applicable free writing prospectus may involve estimates, assumptions and other risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” contained in this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any applicable free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Accordingly, investors should not place undue reliance on this information.

## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC using a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we are registering an unspecified amount of each class of the securities described in this prospectus, and we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. In addition, selling security holders may sell securities under our shelf registration statement. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we or any selling security holder may offer. Each time we or any selling security holder use this prospectus to offer securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. Any prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus or in documents we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. This prospectus, together with the applicable prospectus supplements, any applicable free writing prospectuses and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, includes all material information relating to the securities we may offer. Please carefully read both this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement and any applicable free writing prospectus, together with the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus described below under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information,” before making a decision to purchase any of our securities.

The prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of the securities offered, any initial public offering price, the price paid to us for the securities, the net proceeds to us, the manner of distribution and any underwriting compensation, and the other specific material terms related to the offering of the securities. The prospectus supplement may also contain information, where applicable, about material United States federal income tax considerations relating to the securities.

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by the actual documents. Copies of the documents referred to herein have been filed, or will be filed or incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below under “Where You Can Find More Information.”

As used in this prospectus, unless the context otherwise requires, “we”, “us”, “our”, “ours”, and the “Company” refer to Warner Music Group Corp., not including any of its consolidated subsidiaries.

## RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risks. Before you make a decision to buy our securities, in addition to the risks and uncertainties discussed below under “Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements,” you should carefully consider the specific risks set forth under the caption “Risk Factors” in any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and under the caption “Risk Factors” in our filings with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, incorporated by reference herein, before making an investment decision. Additionally, the risks and uncertainties discussed in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or in any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus are not the only risks and uncertainties that we face, and our business, financial condition, liquidity and results of operations and the market price of any securities we may sell could be materially adversely affected by other matters that are not known to us or that we currently do not consider to be material.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus is a part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the SEC, but the registration statement includes additional information and also attaches exhibits that are referenced in this prospectus. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. Some items are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information with respect to us and the securities offered hereby, we refer you to the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules filed therewith. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract, agreement or any other document referred to are summaries of the material terms of the respective contract, agreement or other document. With respect to each of these contracts, agreements or other documents filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, reference is made to the exhibits for a more complete description of the matter involved. The SEC maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC. The address of the SEC's website is <http://www.sec.gov>.

We are subject to the information and periodic reporting requirements of the Exchange Act and, in accordance therewith, file periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Such periodic reports, proxy statements and other information are available at the website of the SEC referred to above. We maintain a website at [www.wmg.com](http://www.wmg.com). You may access our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, proxy statements and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act with the SEC free of charge at our website as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC. The reference to our website address does not constitute incorporation by reference of the information contained on our website.

## INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" information in this prospectus that we have filed with it. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document already on file with the SEC. The information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we have previously filed with the SEC (excluding any document, or portion thereof, to the extent disclosure is furnished and not filed):

- Annual Report on [Form 10-K](#) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020;
- Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended [December 31, 2020](#), [March 31, 2021](#) and [June 30, 2021](#);
- Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on [October 1, 2020](#), [October 19, 2020 \(Item 8.01\)](#), [October 23, 2020](#), [November 2, 2020](#), [November 13, 2020](#), [January 20, 2021](#), [February 11, 2021](#), [March 1, 2021](#), [March 3, 2021](#), [March 8, 2021](#), [March 18, 2021](#), [April 15, 2021](#), [May 13, 2021](#), and [July 13, 2021](#);
- The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on [Form 8-A](#) (Commission File No. 001-32502) filed with the SEC on May 27, 2020; and
- Definitive Proxy Statement on [Schedule 14A](#) for our annual meeting held on March 2, 2021.

All documents filed by us pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c) 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, other than reports or portions thereof furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 on Form 8-K and not specifically incorporated by reference, after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering of securities shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and to be a part hereof from and after the respective dates of filing of such documents.

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Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for the purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a later statement contained in this prospectus or in any other document incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes the earlier statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide to each person, including any beneficial owners, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of these reports at no cost. Any such request may be made by writing or telephoning us at the following address or phone number:

Warner Music Group Corp.  
Attn: Investor Relations  
1633 Broadway  
New York, New York 10019  
Telephone: (212) 275-4850

These documents can also be requested through, and are available in, the Investor Relations section of our website, which is located at <http://investors.wmg.com> or as described under "Where You Can Find Additional Information" above. The reference to our website address does not constitute incorporation by reference of the information contained on our website.

## SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and statements made by our representatives from time to time include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. We have based these forward-looking statements largely on our current expectations and projections about future events and financial trends affecting the financial condition of our business. Forward-looking statements are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties, many of which may be beyond our control. We caution you that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance or outcomes and that actual performance and outcomes, including, without limitation, our actual results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the market in which we operate, may differ materially from those made in or suggested by the forward-looking statements contained in this section. In addition, even if our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows, and the development of the market in which we operate, are consistent with the forward-looking statements contained in this section, those results or developments may not be indicative of results or developments in subsequent periods. New factors emerge from time to time that may cause our business not to develop as we expect, and it is not possible for us to predict all of them. Factors that could cause actual results and outcomes to differ from those reflected in forward-looking statements include, without limitation:

- risks related to the effects of natural or man-made disasters, including pandemics such as COVID-19;
- our ability to identify, sign and retain recording artists and songwriters and the existence or absence of superstar releases;
- our inability to compete successfully in the highly competitive markets in which we operate;
- the ability to further develop a successful business model applicable to a digital environment and to enter into artist services and expanded-rights deals with recording artists in order to broaden our revenue streams in growing segments of the music entertainment business;
- the popular demand for particular recording artists and/or songwriters and music and the timely delivery to us of music by major recording artists and/or songwriters;
- the diversity and quality of our recording artists, songwriters and releases;
- slower growth in streaming adoption and revenue;
- our dependence on a limited number of digital music services for the online distribution and marketing of our music and their ability to significantly influence the pricing structure for online music stores;
- trends, developments or other events in some foreign countries in which we operate;
- risks associated with our non-U.S. operations, including limited legal protections of our intellectual property rights and restrictions on the repatriation of capital;
- unfavorable currency exchange rate fluctuations;
- the impact of heightened and intensive competition in the recorded music and music publishing industries and our inability to execute our business strategy;
- significant fluctuations in our operations, cash flows and the trading price of our common stock from period to period;
- our failure to attract and retain our executive officers and other key personnel;
- a significant portion of our revenues are subject to rate regulation either by government entities or by local third-party collecting societies throughout the world and rates on other income streams may be set by governmental proceedings, which may limit our profitability;
- risks associated with obtaining, maintaining, protecting and enforcing our intellectual property rights;

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- our involvement in intellectual property litigation;
- threats to our business associated with digital piracy, including organized industrial piracy;
- an impairment in the carrying value of goodwill or other intangible and long-lived assets;
- our failure to have full control and ability to direct the operations we conduct through joint ventures;
- the impact of, and risks inherent in, acquisitions or other business combinations;
- risks inherent to our outsourcing certain finance and accounting functions;
- the fact that we have engaged in substantial restructuring activities in the past, and may need to implement further restructurings in the future and our restructuring efforts may not be successful or generate expected cost savings;
- our ability to maintain the security of information relating to our customers, employees and vendors and our music;
- risks related to evolving laws and regulations concerning data privacy which might result in increased regulation and different industry standards;
- legislation limiting the terms by which an individual can be bound under a “personal services” contract;
- a potential loss of catalog if it is determined that recording artists have a right to recapture U.S. rights in their recordings under the U.S. Copyright Act;
- potential employment and withholding liabilities if our recording artists and songwriters are characterized as employees;
- any delays and difficulties in satisfying obligations incident to being a public company;
- the impact of our substantial leverage on our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, on our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry and on our ability to meet our obligations under our indebtedness;
- the ability to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness, and the risk that we may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under our indebtedness, which may not be successful;
- the fact that our debt agreements contain restrictions that limit our flexibility in operating our business;
- the significant amount of cash required to service our indebtedness and the ability to generate cash or refinance indebtedness as it becomes due depends on many factors, some of which are beyond our control;
- our indebtedness levels, and the fact that we may be able to incur substantially more indebtedness, which may increase the risks created by our substantial indebtedness;
- risks of downgrade, suspension or withdrawal of the rating assigned by a rating agency to us could impact our cost of capital;
- the dual class structure of our common stock and Access’s existing ownership of our Class B common stock have the effect of concentrating control over our management and affairs and over matters requiring stockholder approval with Access (defined below); and
- risks related to other factors discussed under Item 1A of the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2020.

The words “will,” “should,” “could,” “would,” “plan,” “believe,” “may,” “estimate,” “continue,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “expect,” “predict,” “project,” “potential” and similar expressions, as they relate to our

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company, our business and our management, are intended to identify forward-looking statements. In light of these risks and uncertainties, the forward-looking events and circumstances discussed or incorporated in this prospectus may not occur and actual results could differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements set forth above and those discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and/or in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and in our other filings with the SEC that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement. In addition, there may be other factors of which we are not currently aware that may affect matters discussed in the forward-looking statements and may also cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed. All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date made. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. We assume no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changes in assumptions or changes in other factors affecting forward-looking information, except to the extent required by applicable law. If we update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.

You should carefully read this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, any free writing prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in their entirety. They contain information that you should consider when making your investment decision.

### **OUR COMPANY**

Warner Music Group Corp. is one of the world’s leading music entertainment companies. Our renowned family of iconic record labels, including Atlantic Records, Warner Records, Elektra Records and Parlophone Records, is home to many of the world’s most popular and influential recording artists. In addition, Warner Chappell Music, our global music publishing business, boasts an extraordinary catalog that includes timeless standards and contemporary hits, representing works by over 80,000 songwriters and composers, with a global collection of more than one million musical compositions. Our entrepreneurial spirit and passion for music has driven our recording artist and songwriter focused innovation for decades.

Our Recorded Music business, home to superstar recording artists such as Ed Sheeran, Bruno Mars and Cardi B, generated \$3.810 billion of revenue in fiscal 2020, representing 85% of total revenues. Our Music Publishing business, which includes esteemed songwriters such as Twenty One Pilots, Lizzo and Katy Perry, generated \$657 million of revenue in fiscal 2020, representing 15% of total revenues. We benefit from the scale of our global platform and our local focus.

Our mailing address and executive offices are located at 1633 Broadway, New York, New York 10019, and our telephone number at that address is (212) 275-2000. Our website address is [www.wmg.com](http://www.wmg.com). The information on, or accessible through, our website is not part of this prospectus.

### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities under this prospectus for our general corporate purposes. We would not receive any proceeds from the sale of securities by any selling security holder.



## DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

### General

As of August 6, 2021, there were 116,924,555 shares of our Class A Common Stock issued and outstanding and 397,461,268 shares of our Class B common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (“Class B Common Stock”), issued and outstanding.

Our fourth amended and restated certificate of incorporation (“Certificate of Incorporation”) authorizes us to issue common stock of up to 1,000,000,000 shares of Class A Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share, 1,000,000,000 shares of Class B Common Stock and 100,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$1.00 par value per share. All of our issued and outstanding shares of Class A Common Stock and preferred stock, if any, are duly authorized, validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable. Our shares of Class A Common Stock are not redeemable and do not have preemptive rights.

The remaining shares of authorized and unissued capital stock are available for future issuance, subject to our Certificate of Incorporation, our fourth amended and restated bylaws (“Bylaws”) and applicable law, including any regulations governing the exchange on which our shares of capital stock are then listed. While the additional shares are not designed to deter or prevent a change of control, under some circumstances we could use the additional shares to create voting impediments or to frustrate persons seeking to effect a takeover or otherwise gain control by, for example, issuing those shares in private placements to purchasers who might side with our board of directors in opposing a hostile takeover bid.

The following description of our capital stock and provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarize the material terms and provisions of our capital stock, including the shares of Class A Common Stock that we may offer from time to time pursuant to this prospectus. Such descriptions are qualified by reference to the Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws, copies of which have been filed with the SEC. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future shares of common stock that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any offering in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### Common Stock

#### Voting Rights

Shares of our Class A Common Stock are entitled to one vote per share and shares of our Class B Common Stock are entitled to 20 votes per share. Our shares of Class B Common Stock will automatically be converted into shares of Class A Common Stock upon the occurrence of certain events set forth below under “Conversion, Exchange and Transferability.” Holders of shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock vote together as a single class on all matters (including the election of directors) submitted to a vote of stockholders, except as otherwise required by applicable law and as specified in our Certificate of Incorporation.

#### Dividends

Any dividend paid or payable to the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock will be paid on an equal priority, *pari passu* basis, on a per share basis to the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, unless different treatment of the shares of each such class is approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding shares of Class A Common Stock entitled to vote thereon and by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock entitled to vote thereon, each voting separately as a class; *provided, however*, that if a dividend is paid in the form of Class A Common Stock or Class B Common Stock (or rights to acquire shares of Class A Common Stock or Class B Common Stock), then the holders of Class A Common Stock will receive Class A Common Stock (or rights to acquire shares of Class A Common

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Stock) and holders of Class B Common Stock will receive Class B Common Stock (or rights to acquire shares of Class B Common Stock) with holders of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock receiving an identical number of shares of Class A Common Stock or Class B Common Stock (or rights to acquire such stock, as the case may be), unless approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding shares of Class A Common Stock entitled to vote thereon and by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock entitled to vote thereon, each voting separately as a class. For the avoidance of doubt, shares of Class B Common Stock or rights to acquire Class B Common Stock may not be issued, paid or otherwise distributed to holders of Class A Common Stock or rights to acquire Class A Common Stock unless approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock entitled to vote thereon.

A dividend payable in shares of any class or series of securities of the Company or any other person, other than shares of Class A Common Stock or Class B Common Stock (or rights to acquire Class A Common Stock or rights to acquire Class B Common Stock) may be declared and paid on the basis of a distribution of (i) identical securities, on an equal per share basis, to holders of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock or (ii) a separate class or series of securities to the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock and a different class or series of securities to the holders of shares of Class B Common Stock, on an equal per share basis to such holders; *provided that*, in connection with a dividend payable in shares pursuant to (ii) above, such separate classes or series of securities do not differ in any respect other than their relative voting rights, with holders of Class B Common Stock receiving the class or series of securities having the highest relative voting rights and the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock receiving securities having lesser relative voting rights; *provided that* the highest relative voting rights are no more than 20 times greater than the lesser relative voting rights; *provided further*, that unless approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock, entitled to vote thereon, the class or series of securities received by the holders of the Class B Common Stock shall provide for 20 votes per share.

### ***Liquidation***

In the event of our dissolution, liquidation or winding-up of our affairs, whether voluntary or involuntary, after payment of all our preferential amounts required to be paid to the holders of any series of preferred stock, our remaining assets legally available for distribution, if any, will be distributed among the holders of the shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock, treated as a single class, *pro rata* based on the number of shares held by each such holder, unless different treatment of the shares of each such class is approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class A Common Stock and a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class B Common Stock, voting separately.

### ***Merger, Consolidation or Tender or Exchange Offer***

The holders of Class B Common Stock will not be entitled to receive economic consideration for their shares in excess of that payable to the holders of Class A Common Stock in the event of a merger, consolidation or other business combination requiring the approval of our stockholders or a tender or exchange offer to acquire any shares of our common stock, unless different treatment of the shares of each such class is approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class A Common Stock and a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class B Common Stock, voting separately. However, in any such event involving consideration in the form of securities of another corporation or other entity, then the holders of shares of Class B Common Stock shall have their shares of Class B Common Stock converted into, or may otherwise be paid or distributed, such securities with a greater number of votes per share (but in no event greater than 20 times; *provided that*, unless otherwise approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock entitled to vote thereon, the class or series of securities received by the holders of Class B Common Stock shall provide for 20 votes per share) than such securities into which shares of Class A Common Stock are converted, or which are otherwise paid or distributed to the holders of shares of Class A Common Stock.

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Any merger or consolidation that is not a change of control transaction would require approval by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class A Common Stock and a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class B Common Stock, voting separately, unless (i) the shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to such merger or consolidation are treated equally, identically and ratably or (ii) such shares are converted on a pro rata basis into shares of the surviving entity having identical rights, powers and privileges to the shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock in effect immediately prior to such merger or consolidation, respectively; *provided* that if the voting power of the Class B Common Stock would be adversely affected in connection with such merger or consolidation, the approval by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock shall be required.

### ***Reclassification, Subdivisions and Combinations***

If we reclassify, subdivide or combine in any manner our outstanding shares of Class A Common Stock or Class B Common Stock, then all outstanding shares of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock will be reclassified, subdivided or combined in the same proportion and manner, unless different treatment of the shares of each such class is approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class A Common Stock and a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding Class B Common Stock, voting separately; *provided* that if the voting power of the Class B Common Stock would be adversely affected by such reclassification, subdivision or combination, the approval by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock will be required.

### ***Spin-offs***

Any new company formed as a result of a spin-off to our stockholders must have a certificate of incorporation or other constituent document with provisions substantially similar in all material respects to the Certificate of Incorporation, including provisions providing for the distribution of voting securities to holders of Class B Common Stock that have 20 times the voting power of any securities distributed to holders of Class A Common Stock, unless a majority of the voting power of the Class B Common Stock otherwise consents.

### ***Conversion, Exchange and Transferability***

Shares of Class A Common Stock are not convertible into any other class of shares.

Each outstanding share of Class B Common Stock may at any time, at the option of the holder, be converted into one share of Class A Common Stock. In addition, each outstanding share of Class B Common Stock will be automatically converted into one share of Class A Common Stock upon any transfer of such share of Class B Common Stock, except for certain permitted transfers described in our Certificate of Incorporation. Permitted transfers include transfers made to Access Industries, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and its affiliates, certain of which are our controlling stockholders (“Access”); Len Blavatnik; the Blavatnik Family Foundation LLC; any direct or indirect equityholder of Access; any family member of any direct or indirect equityholder of Access; entities controlled, directly or indirectly, or managed by Access or an affiliate of Access; and any affiliate or permitted transferee of any of the foregoing, including any affiliate of any permitted transferee. Permitted transferees include family members, trusts solely for the benefit of any direct or indirect equityholder of Access or one or more of such equityholder’s family members and other tax and estate planning vehicles, partnerships, corporations and other entities controlled by the equityholder or such equityholder’s family members, and certain foundations and charities affiliated with Access or any permitted transferees, so long as the equityholder or permitted transferees, or a fiduciary who is selected by Access or such equityholder or permitted transferees and whom Access or such equityholder or permitted transferees have the power to remove and replace, retains voting control over the shares transferred to such foundation or charity.

Each outstanding share of Class B Common Stock will automatically convert into one share of Class A Common Stock on the first business day after the date on which the outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock constitutes less than 10% of the aggregate number of shares of common stock then -outstanding.

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In addition, all of our shares of Class B Common Stock will convert into shares of Class A Common Stock if our board of directors approves such conversion with the consent of a majority of the voting power of the Class B Common Stock.

Other than as described above or set forth in our Certificate of Incorporation, our Class B Common Stock will not automatically be converted into Class A Common Stock. Once converted into Class A Common Stock, the Class B Common Stock may not be reissued.

### **Other Provisions**

The holders of our common stock do not have any preemptive, cumulative voting, subscription, conversion, redemption or sinking fund rights. The common stock is not subject to future calls or assessments by us. The rights and privileges of holders of our common stock are subject to any series of preferred stock that we may issue in the future, as described below.

Under the Certificate of Incorporation, the rights, powers, preferences and privileges of the shares of Class B Common Stock may not be adversely affected in any manner without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the then-outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock entitled to vote thereon.

### **Preferred Stock**

Under our Certificate of Incorporation, our board of directors has the authority, without further action by our stockholders, to issue up to 100,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the voting powers, designations, preferences and the relative participating, optional or other special rights and qualifications, limitations and restrictions of each series, including dividend rights, dividend rates, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preferences and the number of shares constituting any series. As of August 6, 2021, no shares of our authorized preferred stock are outstanding. Because our board of directors has the power to establish the preferences and rights of the shares of any additional series of preferred stock, it may afford holders of any preferred stock preferences, powers and rights, including voting and dividend rights, senior to the rights of holders of our common stock, which could adversely affect the holders of the common stock and could delay, discourage or prevent a takeover of us even if a change of control of our company would be beneficial to the interests of our stockholders.

### **Annual Stockholders Meeting**

Our Bylaws provide that annual stockholders meetings will be held at a date, time and place, if any, as exclusively selected by our board of directors. To the extent permitted under applicable law, we may conduct meetings by remote communications, including by webcast.

### **Voting**

The affirmative vote of a plurality of the voting power of the shares of our then-outstanding common stock present, in person or by proxy, at the meeting and entitled to vote on the election of directors will decide the election of any directors, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting power of the shares of our then-outstanding common stock present, in person or by proxy, at the meeting and entitled to vote at any annual or special meeting of stockholders will decide all other matters voted on by stockholders, unless the question is one upon which, by express provision of law, under our Certificate of Incorporation, or under our Bylaws, a different vote is required, in which case such provision will control.

## **Removal of Directors**

Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that directors may be removed with or without cause upon the affirmative vote of holders of at least a majority of the total combined voting power of our outstanding shares of common stock then entitled to vote at an election of directors; provided that the Company shall not permit the removal of an Access-designated director without Access's consent until such time as Access first beneficially ceases to own at least 10% of the total combined voting power of the then-outstanding common stock. Any vacancy in the board of directors that results from (x) the death, disability, resignation or disqualification of any director shall be filled by an affirmative vote of at least a majority of the directors then in office, even if less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director and (y) an increase in the number of directors or the removal of any director shall be filled (a) until the first date on which Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our common stock, solely by an affirmative vote of the holders of at least a majority of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock entitled to vote in an election of directors and (b) from and after the first date on which Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our common stock, by an affirmative vote of at least a majority of the directors then in office, even if less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director.

## **Anti-Takeover Provisions of Our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws**

The provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws summarized below may have an antitakeover effect and may delay, defer or prevent a tender offer or takeover attempt that may be considered in the best interest of our holders of common stock, including an attempt that might result in the receipt of a premium over the market price for shares of common stock. These provisions are also designed, in part, to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with our board of directors, which could result in an improvement of the terms offered to us.

*Dual Class Common Stock.* As described above in the section titled "Common Stock—Voting Rights," our Certificate of Incorporation provides for a dual class common stock structure pursuant to which holders of our Class B Common Stock have the ability to control the outcome of matters requiring stockholder approval, even if they own significantly less than a majority of the shares of our outstanding Class A and Class B Common Stock, including the election of directors and significant corporate transactions, such as a merger or other sale of our company or its assets. Current investors, executives, and employees will have the ability to exercise significant influence over those matters.

*Authorized but Unissued Shares of Common Stock.* Our shares of authorized and unissued common stock are available for future issuance without additional stockholders approval. While our authorized and unissued shares are not designed to deter or prevent a change of control, under some circumstances we could use the additional shares to create voting impediments or to frustrate persons seeking to effect a takeover or otherwise gain control by, for example, issuing those shares in private placements to purchasers who might side with our board of directors in opposing a hostile takeover bid.

*Authorized but Unissued Shares of Preferred Stock.* Under our Certificate of Incorporation, our board of directors has the authority, without further action by our stockholders, to issue up to 100,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the voting powers, designations, preferences and the relative participating, optional or other special rights and qualifications, limitations and restrictions of each series, including dividend rights, dividend rates, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preferences and the number of shares constituting any series. The existence of authorized but unissued preferred stock could reduce our attractiveness as a target for an unsolicited takeover bid since we could, for example, issue shares of preferred stock to parties who might oppose such a takeover bid or shares that contain terms the potential acquiror may find unattractive. This may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control, may discourage bids for the common stock at a premium over the market price of the common stock, and may adversely affect the market price of, and the voting and other rights of the holders of, our common stock.

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*Special Meetings of Stockholders.* Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that, until the date when Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock, a special meeting of stockholders may be called only by our board of directors or our corporate secretary at the request of the holders of at least a majority of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock. From and after such date, a special meeting of the stockholders may be called only by the Chairman of our board of directors or by a resolution adopted by a majority of our board of directors.

*Stockholders Advance Notice Procedure.* Our Bylaws establish an advance notice procedure for stockholders to make nominations of candidates for election as directors or to bring other business before an annual meeting of our stockholders. The Bylaws provide that any stockholders wishing to nominate persons for election as directors at, or bring other business before, an annual meeting must deliver to our corporate secretary a written notice of the stockholder's intention to do so. These provisions may have the effect of precluding the conduct of certain business at a meeting if the proper procedures are not followed. We expect that these provisions may also discourage or deter a potential acquirer from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect the acquirer's own slate of directors or otherwise attempting to obtain control of our company. To be timely, the stockholder's notice must be delivered to our corporate secretary at our principal executive offices not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days before the first anniversary date of the annual meeting for the preceding year; provided, however, that in the event that the annual meeting is set for a date that is more than 30 days before or more than 70 days after the first anniversary date of the preceding year's annual meeting, a stockholder's notice must be delivered to our corporate secretary (x) not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the meeting or (y) no later than the close of business on the 10th day following the day on which a public announcement of the date of the meeting is first made by us.

*No Stockholders Action by Written Consent.* Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that stockholders action may be taken only at an annual meeting or special meeting of stockholders, provided that stockholders action may be taken by written consent in lieu of a meeting until Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock.

*Amendments to Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws.* Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that our Certificate of Incorporation may be amended by both the affirmative vote of a majority of our board of directors and the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the total combined voting power of our outstanding shares of our common stock then entitled to vote at any annual or special meeting of stockholders; provided that, after the date when Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock, specified provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation may not be amended, altered or repealed unless the amendment is approved by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock then entitled to vote at any annual or special meeting of stockholders, including the provisions governing:

- dual class common stock capital structure;
- liability and indemnification of directors;
- corporate opportunities;
- elimination of stockholders action by written consent if Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock;
- prohibition on the rights of stockholders to call a special meeting if Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock; and
- required approval of the holders of at least 66 2/3% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock to amend our Bylaws and certain provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation if Access ceases to beneficially own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock.

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In addition, our Bylaws may be amended, altered or repealed, or new Bylaws may be adopted, by the affirmative vote of a majority of our board of directors, or by the affirmative vote of the holders of (x) as long Access beneficially owns more than 50% of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock, a majority, and (y) thereafter, at least 66 2/3%, of the total combined voting power of our outstanding common stock then entitled to vote at any annual or special meeting of stockholders.

These provisions make it more difficult for any person to remove or amend any provisions in our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws that may have an anti-takeover effect.

*Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.* In general, Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (“DGCL”) prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination, such as mergers, sales and leases of assets, issuances of securities and similar transactions by a corporation or subsidiary with an interested stockholder including a person or group who beneficially owns 15% or more of the corporation’s voting stock for a period of three years following the date the person became an interested stockholder, unless (with certain exceptions) the business combination or the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder is approved in a prescribed manner. Section 203 permits corporations, in their certificate of incorporation, to opt out of the protections of Section 203. Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that we have elected not to be subject to Section 203 of the DGCL for so long as Access owns, directly or indirectly, at least five percent of the outstanding shares of our common stock. From and after the date that Access ceases to own, directly or indirectly, at least five percent of the outstanding shares of our common stock, we will be governed by Section 203.

### **Corporate Opportunities**

Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that we, on our behalf and on behalf of our subsidiaries, renounce any interest or expectancy in, or in being offered an opportunity to participate in, corporate opportunities, that are from time to time presented to Access or any of its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, stockholders, members, partners or subsidiaries, even if the opportunity is one that we or our subsidiaries might reasonably be deemed to have pursued or had the ability or desire to pursue if granted the opportunity to do so. Neither Access nor any of its affiliates, directors, officers, employees, stockholders, members, partners or subsidiaries will generally be liable to us or any of our subsidiaries for breach of any fiduciary or other duty, as a director or otherwise, by reason of the fact that such person pursues or acquires such corporate opportunity, directs such corporate opportunity to another person or fails to present such corporate opportunity, or information regarding such corporate opportunity, to us or our subsidiaries unless, in the case of any such person who is a director or officer of the Company, such corporate opportunity is expressly offered to such director or officer in writing solely in his or her capacity as a director or officer of the Company. To the fullest extent permitted by law, by becoming a stockholder in the Company, stockholders will be deemed to have notice of and consented to this provision of our Certificate of Incorporation.

### **Choice of Forum**

Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternate forum, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware will, to the fullest extent provided by law, be the sole and exclusive forum for: (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought on our behalf; (ii) any action asserting a claim of breach of a fiduciary duty owed to us or our stockholders by any of our directors, officers, other employees, agents or stockholders; (iii) any action asserting a claim against us arising under the DGCL or as to which the DGCL confers jurisdiction on the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware (including, without limitation, any action asserting a claim arising out of or pursuant to our Bylaws); or (iv) any action asserting a claim against us that is governed by the internal affairs doctrine, in each case subject to such Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware having personal jurisdiction over the indispensable parties named as defendants. However, claims subject to exclusive jurisdiction in the federal courts, such as suits brought to enforce a duty or liability created by the Securities Act, the Exchange Act or the rules and regulations thereunder, need not be

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brought in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware. Although our Certificate of Incorporation contains the exclusive of forum provisions described above, it is possible that a court could find that such provision is inapplicable for a particular claim or action or that such provision is unenforceable, and our stockholders will not be deemed to have waived our compliance with the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations thereunder. To the fullest extent permitted by law, by becoming a stockholder in the Company, stockholders will be deemed to have notice of and have consented to the provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation related to choice of forum.

### **Limitations on Liability and Indemnification**

Our Certificate of Incorporation contains provisions relating to the liability of directors. These provisions will eliminate a director's personal liability for monetary damages resulting from a breach of fiduciary duty, except in circumstances involving:

- any breach of the director's duty of loyalty;
- acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law;
- unlawful payments of dividends or unlawful stock repurchases, redemptions or other distributions; or
- any transaction from which the director derives an improper personal benefit.

The principal effect of the limitation on liability provision is that a stockholder is unable to prosecute an action for monetary damages against a director unless the stockholder can demonstrate a basis for liability for which indemnification is not available under the DGCL. These provisions, however, should not limit or eliminate our rights or any stockholder's rights to seek non-monetary relief, such as an injunction or rescission, in the event of a breach of director's fiduciary duty. These provisions will not alter a director's liability under federal securities laws. The inclusion of this provision in our Certificate of Incorporation may discourage or deter stockholders or management from bringing a lawsuit against directors for a breach of their fiduciary duties, even though such an action, if successful, might otherwise have benefited us and our stockholders. In addition, holders of our common stock may be adversely affected to the extent we pay costs of settlement and damage awards against directors and officers pursuant to these indemnification provisions.

Our Certificate of Incorporation and our Bylaws require us to indemnify and advance expenses to our directors and officers to the fullest extent not prohibited by the DGCL and other applicable law, except in the case of a proceeding instituted by the director without the approval of our board of directors. Our Certificate of Incorporation and our Bylaws provide that we are required to indemnify our directors and executive officers, to the fullest extent permitted by law, for all judgments, fines, settlements, legal fees and other expenses incurred in connection with pending or threatened legal proceedings because of the director's or officer's positions with us or another entity that the director or officer serves at our request, subject to various conditions, and to advance funds to our directors and officers to enable them to defend against such proceedings. To receive indemnification, the director or officer must have been successful in the legal proceeding or have acted in good faith and in what was reasonably believed to be a lawful manner in our best interest and, with respect to any criminal proceeding, have had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

We have entered into an indemnification agreement with each of our directors. The indemnification agreement provides our directors with contractual rights to the indemnification and expense advancement rights provided under our Bylaws, as well as contractual rights to additional indemnification as provided in the indemnification agreement.

### **Market Listing**

Our Class A Common Stock is listed on NASDAQ under the symbol "WMG".



**Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our Class A Common Stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC and its telephone number is (800) 937-5449.

## DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes certain general terms and provisions of the debt securities we may offer under this prospectus. We may issue debt securities either separately, or together with, or upon the conversion or exercise of or in exchange for, other securities described in this prospectus. Debt securities may be our senior, senior subordinated or subordinated obligations and, unless otherwise specified in a supplement to this prospectus, the debt securities will be our direct, unsecured obligations and may be issued in one or more series. When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms of the series in a supplement to this prospectus. We will also indicate in the supplement to what extent the general terms and provisions described in this prospectus apply to a particular series of debt securities.

Debt securities may be issued under the Base Indenture to be entered into between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee (the “indenture”). The form of the indenture has been incorporated by reference in the registration statement of which this prospectus is part. We have summarized select portions of the indenture below. The summary is not complete and you should read the indenture for provisions that may be important to you. In the summary below, we have included references to the section numbers of the indenture so that you can easily locate these provisions. Capitalized terms used in the summary and not defined herein have the meanings specified in the indenture.

### General

The terms of each series of debt securities will be established by or pursuant to a resolution of our board of directors and set forth or determined in the manner provided in a resolution of our board of directors, in an officers’ certificate or by a supplemental indenture (Section 2.01). The particular terms of each series of debt securities will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to such series (including any pricing supplement or term sheet).

We can issue an unlimited amount of debt securities under the indenture that may be in one or more series with the same or various maturities, at par, at a premium, or at a discount (Section 2.01). We will set forth in a prospectus supplement (including any pricing supplement or term sheet) relating to any series of debt securities being offered, the aggregate principal amount and the following terms of the debt securities, if applicable:

- the title of the debt securities of the series;
- any limit upon the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the series;
- the maturity date or dates of the debt securities of the series;
- the rate or rates at which the debt securities will bear interest or the manner of calculation of such rate or rates, if any;
- the date or dates from which such interest will accrue, the dates on which interest will be payable or the manner of determination of such date or dates and the record date for the determination of holders of the debt securities of the series to whom interest is payable on any such interest payment date;
- whether the amount of principal of or any premium or interest on the debt securities of the series may be determined with reference to any index, formula, or other method, such as one or more currencies, commodities, equity indices or other indices, and the manner in which such amounts will be determined;
- the place or places where the principal of and any premium and interest on the debt securities of the series will be payable;
- the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which, debt securities of the series may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at our option, and the manner

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in which the particular debt securities of such series (if less than all the debt securities of such series are to be redeemed) are to be selected for redemption;

- our obligation, if any, to redeem, repay or purchase debt securities of the series pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions (including payments made in cash in participation of future sinking fund obligations) or at the option of a holder of the debt securities and the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which, and the terms and conditions upon which, the debt securities of the series shall be redeemed, repaid or purchased, in whole or in part, pursuant to such obligation;
- the denominations in which the debt securities of the series will be issued, if other than denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof;
- if other than the full principal amount, the portion, or methods of determining the portion, of the principal amount of the debt securities which we must pay upon the acceleration of the maturity of the debt securities in connection with an event of default (as described below);
- if other than U.S. dollars, the currency, currencies or currency units in which the principal of or any premium or interest on any of the debt securities of the series shall be payable, and the manner of determining the equivalent thereof in U.S. dollars for any purpose;
- provisions, if any, granting special rights to holders of the debt securities of the series upon the occurrence of specified events;
- any deletions from, modifications of or additions to the Events of Default or our covenants provided for with respect to the debt securities of the series;
- the application, if any, of the terms of the indenture relating to defeasance and covenant defeasance (which terms are described below) to the debt securities of the series;
- whether the debt securities of the series will be convertible or exchangeable into shares of common stock or other securities or our property and, if so, the terms and conditions upon which such debt securities will be so convertible or exchangeable, including the conversion or exchange price or method of determining the conversion or exchange price and the conversion or exchange period;
- whether any of the debt securities of the series are issuable as a global security and, if so, the identity of the depositary, which initially shall be The Depositary Trust Company (“DTC”), for such series and the terms and conditions upon which global securities may be exchanged for certificated debt securities;
- the provisions, if any, relating to any collateral provided for the debt securities of the series;
- the forms of the debt securities of the series;
- any special tax implications of the debt securities of the series, including any provisions for discount securities, if offered;
- any change in the right of the trustee or the requisite holders of the debt securities of the class to declare the principal amount thereof due and payable because of an Event of Default;
- any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars, calculation agents or other agents with respect to the debt securities of the series;
- any restrictions on the registration, transfer or exchange of the debt securities of the series; and
- any other terms of the debt securities of the series not inconsistent with the provisions of the indenture, as amended or supplemented, and which may modify or delete any provision of the indenture with respect to such series. (Section 2.01)

We may issue debt securities that provide for an amount less than their stated principal amount to be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of their maturity pursuant to the terms of the indenture. We will provide you with information on the United States federal income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to any of these debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

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If we denominate the purchase price of any of the debt securities in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, or if the principal of and any premium and interest on any series of debt securities is payable in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, we will provide you with information on the restrictions, elections, general tax considerations, specific terms and other information (including foreign paying agents and registrars) with respect to that issue of debt securities and such foreign currency or currencies or foreign currency unit or units in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Transfer and Exchange**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be represented by one or more global securities registered in the name of the DTC or a nominee of the DTC. (we will refer to any debt security represented by a global security as a “book-entry debt security”), or a certificate issued in definitive registered form (we will refer to any debt security represented by a certificated security as a “certificated debt security”) as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Except as set forth under the heading “— Global Securities and Book-Entry System” below, book-entry debt securities will not be issuable in certificated form.

*Certificated Debt Securities.* You may transfer or exchange certificated debt securities at any office or agency we maintain for this purpose in accordance with the terms of the indenture (Section 2.05). No service charge will be made for any transfer or exchange of certificated debt securities, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with a transfer or exchange (Section 2.11) or issue of new securities in case of partial redemption of any series.

You may effect the transfer of certificated debt securities and the right to receive the principal of, premium and interest on certificated debt securities only by surrendering the certificate representing those certificated debt securities and either reissuance by us or the trustee of the debt securities or the same series as the debt security presented for a like aggregate principal amount.

*Global Securities and Book-Entry System.* Each global security representing book-entry debt securities will be deposited with, or on behalf of, the DTC, and registered in the name of the DTC or a nominee of the DTC. Please see “Global Securities.”

### **Covenants**

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement any restrictive covenants applicable to any issue of debt securities.

### **No Protection In the Event of a Change of Control**

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not contain any provisions which may afford holders of the debt securities protection in the event we have a change in control or in the event of a highly leveraged transaction (whether or not such transaction results in a change in control) which could adversely affect holders of debt securities.

### **Consolidation, Merger, Conveyance, Transfer or Lease**

We may not merge with or into or consolidate with, or convey, lease or otherwise transfer all or substantially all of our assets to any person (a “successor person”) and no successor person may merge with or into or consolidate with us unless:

- we are the surviving corporation or the successor person (if other than the Company) is a corporation organized and validly existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of

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Columbia and expressly assumes by a supplemental indenture, our obligations on the debt securities and under the indenture;

- immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing; and
- we deliver to the trustee an officers' certificate and opinion of counsel, each to the effect that the relevant supplemental indenture complies with the indenture.

Notwithstanding the above, any of our direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries may convey or transfer all or any portion of its capital stock, assets or liabilities to us or any of our other direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries, and any of our direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries may consolidate or merge with and into us. (Section 10.01)

### **Events of Default**

“*Event of Default*” means with respect to any series of debt securities, any of the following:

- default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of that series when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of such default for a period of 30 days (unless the entire amount of the payment is deposited by us with the trustee or with a paying agent prior to the expiration of the 30-day period);
- default in the payment of principal of, or any premium of, any security of that series as and when the same becomes due and payable whether at maturity, upon redemption, because of acceleration or otherwise, or in any payment required by any sinking or analogous fund established with respect to that series, provided that a valid extension of the maturity of such debt securities in accordance with the terms of any supplemental indenture hereto shall not constitute a default in the payment of principal or premium, if any, and provided further that no Event of Default will occur if the failure to make payment when due and payable results solely from nonpayment by reason of mistake, oversight or transfer difficulties and does not continue beyond three business days;
- default in the performance or breach of any other covenant or warranty by us in the indenture (other than a covenant or warranty that has been included in the indenture solely for the benefit of a series of debt securities other than that series), which default continues uncured for a period of 90 days after we receive written notice from the trustee or the Company and the trustee receive written notice from the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series as provided in the indenture;
- certain voluntary or involuntary events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company; or
- any other Event of Default provided with respect to debt securities of that series that is described in the applicable prospectus supplement. (Section 6.01)

No Event of Default with respect to a particular series of debt securities (except as to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization) necessarily constitutes an Event of Default with respect to any other series of debt securities. (Section 6.01) The occurrence of certain Events of Default or an acceleration under the indenture may constitute an event of default under certain indebtedness of ours or our subsidiaries outstanding from time to time.

If an Event of Default with respect to debt securities of any series at the time outstanding occurs and is continuing, then the trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may, by a notice in writing to us (and to the trustee if given by the holders), declare to be due and payable immediately the principal of (or, if the debt securities of that series are discount securities, that portion of the principal amount as may be specified in the terms of that series) all debt securities of that series. In

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the case of an Event of Default resulting from certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, the principal (or such specified amount) of all outstanding debt securities will become and be immediately due and payable without any declaration or other act on the part of the trustee or any holder of outstanding debt securities. At any time after a declaration of acceleration with respect to debt securities of any series has been made, but before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind and annul the acceleration if all Events of Default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal and interest, if any, with respect to debt securities of that series, have been cured or waived as provided in the indenture or we have paid or deposited with the trustee or paying agent a sum sufficient to pay all matured installments of interest on all the securities of the series and the principal of, and premium, if any, on any and all securities of the series that are due otherwise than by acceleration. We refer you to the prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities that are discount securities for the particular provisions relating to acceleration of a portion of the principal amount of such discount securities upon the occurrence of an Event of Default.

The indenture provides that the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture unless the trustee receives indemnity satisfactory to it against any cost, liability or expense which might be incurred by it in exercising such right of power. (Section 7.02) Subject to certain rights of the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the debt securities of that series. (Section 6.07)

No holder of any debt security of any series will have any right to institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the indenture or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee, or for any remedy under the indenture, unless:

- that holder has previously given to the trustee written notice of a continuing Event of Default with respect to debt securities of that series; and
- the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have made written request, and offered reasonable indemnity or security, to the trustee to institute the proceeding as trustee, and the trustee has not received from the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series a direction inconsistent with that request and has failed to institute the proceeding within 60 days. (Section 6.04)

Notwithstanding any other provision in the indenture, the holder of any debt security will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal of, premium and any interest on that debt security on or after the due dates expressed in that debt security and to institute suit for the enforcement of payment. (Section 6.05)

The indenture requires us, within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year, to furnish to the trustee an officers' certificate statement as to whether it is or is not in default in the performance and observance of any of the terms, provisions and conditions of the indenture. If a Default or Event of Default occurs and is continuing with respect to the securities of any series and if it is known to the trustee by way of written notice, the trustee shall give to each Securityholder of the securities of that series notice of a Default or Event of Default within 90 days after it occurs. The indenture provides that the trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any series of any Default or Event of Default (except in payment of the principal of, premium or interest on any debt securities of that series) with respect to debt securities of that series if the trustee determines in good faith that withholding notice is in the interest of the holders of those debt securities. The trustee shall not be deemed to have knowledge or notice of a Default or an Event of Default unless notified in writing by us or one or more Securityholders; and is received in the Corporate Trust Office of the trustee.

## **Modification and Waiver**

We and the trustee may modify and amend the indenture or the debt securities of any series without the consent of any holder of any debt security:

- to cure any ambiguity, mistake, omission, defect or inconsistency;
- to comply with covenants in the indenture described above under the heading “Consolidation, Merger, Conveyance, Transfer or Lease”;
- to provide for uncertificated securities in addition to or in place of certificated securities;
- to add to the covenants to be observed by us for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of securities or to surrender any right or power herein conferred upon us;
- to add to, delete from, or revise the conditions, limitations, and restrictions on the authorized amount, terms, or purposes of issue, authentication, and delivery of securities;
- to make any change that does not materially adversely affect the rights of any holder of debt securities, provided that any change to the terms of the indenture or to a series of debt securities made solely to conform to the description of such series of debt securities in an offering document, prospectus supplement or other similar offering document relating to the initial offering of such series of debt securities shall be deemed to not materially adversely affect the rights of the holders of such series of debt securities;
- to provide for the issuance of and establish the form and terms and conditions of debt securities of any series as permitted by the indenture;
- to add any additional Events of Default for the benefit of the Securityholders of all or any series of securities;
- to add to, change or eliminate any of the provisions of the indenture in respect of one or more series of securities provided that such change shall neither apply to any securities of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture and entitled to the benefit of such provision nor modify the rights of the Securityholders of any such security with respect to that provision, or shall become effective only when there is no such security outstanding;
- to secure the securities;
- to comply with requirements of the SEC in order to effect or maintain the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act; or
- to effect the appointment of a successor trustee with respect to the debt securities of any series and to add to or change any of the provisions of the indenture to provide for or facilitate administration by more than one trustee. (Section 9.01)

We may also modify and amend the indenture with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series affected by the modifications or amendments. However, we may not make any modification or amendment without the consent of the holders of each affected debt security then-outstanding if that amendment will:

- extend the fixed maturity of any debt securities of any series, or reduce the principal amount thereof, or reduce the rate or extend the time of payment of interest thereon, or reduce any premium payable upon the redemption thereof;
- reduce the amount of principal of a discount security or any other debt security payable upon acceleration of the maturity thereof;
- change our obligation to maintain an office or agency and for the purposes specified in the indenture;

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- change the currency in which any debt security of the series or any premium or interest is payable;
- impair the right to enforce any payment on or with respect to any debt security of the series;
- adversely change the right to convert or exchange, including decreasing the conversion rate or increasing the conversion price of, such debt security in the series (if applicable);
- reduce the percentage in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of any series, the consent of whose holders is required for modification or amendment of the indenture or for waiver of compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or for waiver of certain defaults;
- reduce the requirements contained in the indenture for the consent of holders of the debt securities of any series; or
- modify any of the above provisions. (Section 9.03)

Each indenture permits the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series issued under such indenture which is affected by the modification or amendment to waive our compliance with certain covenants contained in such indenture. (Section 4.05)

### **Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance**

If indicated in the applicable supplemental indenture, we may discharge or defease our obligations as set forth below.

We may discharge certain obligations to holders of any debt securities of the series issued under the supplemental indenture which have not already been delivered to the trustee for cancellation and which have either become due and payable or are by their terms due and payable within one year (or scheduled for redemption within one year) by irrevocably depositing with the trustee cash or, U.S. government obligations (as defined in the applicable indenture) sufficient, without reinvestment, or a combination thereof, as trust funds in an amount sufficient to pay when due, whether at maturity, upon redemption or otherwise, the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such debt securities of the series.

If indicated in the applicable supplemental indenture, we may elect either (i) to defease and be discharged from any and all obligations with respect to any debt securities or any series of debt securities (“defeasance”) or (ii) to be released from its obligations with respect to certain covenants applicable to any debt securities or any series of debt securities (“covenant defeasance”) upon the irrevocable deposit with the trustee, in trust for such purpose, of money and/or U.S. government obligations which, through the payment of principal and interest in accordance with their terms and the terms of the indenture, will provide money in an amount sufficient, without reinvestment, to pay the principal of (and premium, if any) or interest on such debt securities to maturity or redemption, as the case may be, as applied by the trustee (or any such other qualifying trustee).

As a condition to defeasance or covenant defeasance, we must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of such debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of such deposit, defeasance or covenant defeasance, and discharge, and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such deposit, defeasance or covenant defeasance, and discharge had not occurred. Such opinion of counsel, in the case of defeasance only, must refer to and be based upon a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service or a change in applicable U.S. federal income tax law occurring after the date of the indenture. In addition, in the case of either defeasance or covenant defeasance, we shall have delivered to the trustee (i) an officers’ certificate to the effect that the relevant securities exchange(s) have informed us that neither such debt securities nor any other debt securities of the same series, if then listed on any securities exchange, will be delisted as a result of such deposit, (ii) an officers’ certificate and an opinion of counsel, each to the effect that all conditions precedent with respect to such defeasance or covenant defeasance have been complied with, and (iii) an officers’ certificate



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expressing the Company's view that the payments of principal and interest when due on the deposited U.S. government obligations without reinvestment plus any deposited money without investment will provide the cash at such times and in such amounts as will be sufficient to pay the principal of and any premium and interest when due on the debt securities of such series.

**Governing Law**

The indenture and the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

## DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the warrants that we may offer under this prospectus, which consist of warrants to purchase shares of Class A Common Stock, preferred stock and/or debt securities in one or more series. Warrants may be offered independently or together with shares of Class A Common Stock, preferred stock and/or debt securities offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from those securities.

While the terms we have summarized below will generally apply to any future warrants we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any warrants that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The specific terms of any warrants may differ from the description provided below as a result of negotiations with third parties in connection with the issuance of those warrants, as well as for other reasons. Because the terms of any warrants we offer under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below, you should rely solely on information in the applicable prospectus supplement if that summary is different from the summary in this prospectus.

We will issue the warrants under a warrant agreement, which we will enter into with a warrant agent to be selected by us. We use the term “warrant agreement” to refer to any of these warrant agreements. We use the term “warrant agent” to refer to the warrant agent under any of these warrant agreements. The warrant agent will act solely as an agent of ours in connection with the warrants and will not act as an agent for the holders or beneficial owners of the warrants.

We will incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the form of warrant agreement, including a form of warrant certificate, which describes the terms of the series of warrants we are offering before the issuance of the related series of warrants. The following summaries of material provisions of the warrants and the warrant agreements are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the warrant agreement applicable to a particular series of warrants. We urge you to read any applicable prospectus supplement related to the warrants that we sell under this prospectus, as well as the complete warrant agreement that contain the terms of the warrants and defines your rights as a warrant holder.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms relating to a series of warrants. If warrants for the purchase of debt securities are offered, the prospectus supplement will describe the following terms, to the extent applicable:

- the offering price and the aggregate number of warrants offered;
- the currencies in which the warrants are being offered;
- the designation, aggregate principal amount, currencies, denominations and terms of the series of debt securities that can be purchased if a holder exercises a warrant;
- the designation and terms of any series of debt securities with which the warrants are being offered and the number of warrants offered with each such debt security;
- the date on and after which the holder of the warrants can transfer them separately from the related series of debt securities;
- the terms of any rights to redeem or call the warrants;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants begins and the date on which that right expires;
- federal income tax consequences of holding or exercising the warrants; and
- any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the warrants.

Warrants for the purchase of debt securities will be in registered form only.

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If warrants for the purchase of shares of common stock or preferred stock are offered, the prospectus supplement will describe the following terms, to the extent applicable:

- the offering price and the aggregate number of warrants offered;
- the total number of shares that can be purchased if a holder of the warrants exercises them;
- the number of warrants being offered with each share of common stock;
- the date on and after which the holder of the warrants can transfer them separately from the related shares of common stock or preferred stock;
- the number of shares of common stock or preferred stock that can be purchased if a holder exercises the warrant and the price at which those shares may be purchased upon exercise, including, if applicable, any provisions for changes to or adjustments in the exercise price and in the securities or other property receivable upon exercise;
- the terms of any rights to redeem or call, or accelerate the expiration of, the warrants;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants begins and the date on which that right expires;
- federal income tax consequences of holding or exercising the warrants; and
- any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the warrants.

Warrants for the purchase of shares of common stock or preferred stock will be in registered form only.

A holder of warrant certificates may exchange them for new certificates of different denominations, present them for registration of transfer and exercise them at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Until any warrants to purchase debt securities are exercised, the holder of the warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the debt securities that can be purchased upon exercise, including any rights to receive payments of principal, premium or interest on the underlying debt securities or to enforce covenants in the applicable indenture. Until any warrants to purchase shares of Class A Common Stock or preferred stock are exercised, holders of the warrants will not have any rights of holders of the underlying shares of Class A Common Stock or preferred stock, including any rights to receive dividends or to exercise any voting rights, except to the extent set forth under “— Warrant Adjustments” below.

### **Exercise of Warrants**

Each holder of a warrant is entitled to purchase the principal amount of debt securities or number of shares of common stock or preferred stock, as the case may be, at the exercise price described in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the day when the right to exercise terminates (or a later date if we extend the time for exercise), unexercised warrants will become void.

A holder of warrants may exercise them by following the general procedure outlined below:

- delivering to the warrant agent the payment required by the applicable prospectus supplement to purchase the underlying security;
- properly completing and signing the reverse side of the warrant certificate representing the warrants; and
- delivering the warrant certificate representing the warrants to the warrant agent within five business days of the warrant agent receiving payment of the exercise price.

If you comply with the procedures described above, your warrants will be considered to have been exercised when the warrant agent receives payment of the exercise price, subject to the transfer books for the securities

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issuable upon exercise of the warrant not being closed on such date. After you have completed those procedures and subject to the foregoing, we will, as soon as practicable, issue and deliver to you the debt securities or shares of common stock or preferred stock that you purchased upon exercise. If you exercise fewer than all of the warrants represented by a warrant certificate, a new warrant certificate will be issued to you for the unexercised amount of warrants. Holders of warrants will be required to pay any tax or governmental charge that may be imposed in connection with transferring the underlying securities in connection with the exercise of the warrants.

### **Amendments and Supplements to the Warrant Agreements**

We may amend or supplement a warrant agreement without the consent of the holders of the applicable warrants to cure ambiguities in the warrant agreement, to cure or correct a defective provision in the warrant agreement, or to provide for other matters under the warrant agreement that we and the warrant agent deem necessary or desirable, so long as, in each case, such amendments or supplements do not materially adversely affect the interests of the holders of the warrants.

### **Warrant Adjustments**

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement states otherwise, the exercise price of, and the number of securities covered by, a warrant for shares of Class A Common Stock or preferred stock will be adjusted proportionately if we subdivide or combine our common stock or preferred stock, as applicable. In addition, unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, if we, without payment:

- issue shares of common stock or preferred stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for common stock or preferred stock, or any rights to subscribe for, purchase or otherwise acquire any of the foregoing, as a dividend or distribution to all or substantially all holders of our common stock or preferred stock;
- pay any cash to all or substantially all holders of our common stock or preferred stock, other than a cash dividend paid out of our current or retained earnings;
- issue any evidence of our indebtedness or rights to subscribe for or purchase our indebtedness to all or substantially all holders of our common stock or preferred stock; or
- issue common stock, preferred stock or additional shares or other securities or property to all or substantially all holders of our common stock or preferred stock by way of spinoff, split-up, reclassification, combination of shares or similar corporate rearrangement,

then the holders of Class A Common Stock warrants or preferred stock warrants will be entitled to receive upon exercise of the warrants, in addition to the securities otherwise receivable upon exercise of the warrants and without paying any additional consideration, the amount of shares and other securities and property such holders would have been entitled to receive had they held the Class A Common Stock or preferred stock issuable under the warrants on the dates on which holders of those securities received or became entitled to receive such additional shares and other securities and property.

Except as stated above, the exercise price and number of securities covered by a warrant for shares of Class A Common Stock or preferred stock, and the amounts of other securities or property to be received, if any, upon exercise of those warrants, will not be adjusted or provided for if we issue those securities or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for those securities, or securities carrying the right to purchase those securities or securities convertible into or exchangeable for those securities.

Holders of Class A Common Stock warrants or preferred stock warrants may have additional rights under the following circumstances:

- certain reclassifications, capital reorganizations or changes of the common stock or preferred stock;

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- certain share exchanges, mergers, or similar transactions involving us and which result in changes of the common stock or preferred stock;  
or
- certain sales or dispositions to another entity of all or substantially all of our property and assets.

If one of the above transactions occurs and holders of our Class A Common Stock or preferred stock are entitled to receive shares, securities or other property with respect to or in exchange for their securities, the holders of the Class A Common Stock warrants or preferred stock warrants then-outstanding, as applicable, will be entitled to receive upon exercise of their warrants the kind and amount of shares and other securities or property that they would have received upon the applicable transaction if they had exercised their warrants immediately before the transaction.

## DESCRIPTION OF RIGHTS

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes the general features of the rights that we may offer under this prospectus. We may issue rights to our stockholders to purchase shares of our Class A Common Stock and/or any of the other securities offered hereby. Each series of rights will be issued under a separate rights agreement to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as rights agent. When we issue rights, we will provide the specific terms of the rights and the applicable rights agreement in a prospectus supplement. Because the terms of any rights we offer under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below, you should rely solely on information in the applicable prospectus supplement if that summary is different from the summary in this prospectus. We will incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the form of rights agreement that describes the terms of the series of rights we are offering before the issuance of the related series of rights.

If we offer any series of rights, certain terms of that series of rights will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement, including, without limitation, the following:

- the date of determining the stockholders entitled to the rights distribution;
- the securities purchasable upon exercise of the rights;
- the exercise price;
- the aggregate number of rights issued;
- the date, if any, on and after which the rights will be separately transferable;
- the date on which the right to exercise the rights will commence, and the date on which the right will expire;
- a discussion of certain United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the rights; and
- any other terms of the rights, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the distribution, exchange and exercise of the rights.

Each right will entitle the holder of rights to purchase for cash the securities at the exercise price provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. Rights may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date for the rights provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, all unexercised rights will be void.

Holders may exercise rights as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Upon receipt of payment and the rights certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the rights agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the securities purchasable upon exercise of the rights. If less than all of the rights issued in any rights offering are exercised, we may offer any unsubscribed securities directly to persons other than stockholders, to or through agents, underwriters or dealers or through a combination of such methods, including pursuant to standby underwriting arrangements, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes the general features of the purchase contracts that we may offer under this prospectus. While the features we have summarized below will generally apply to any future purchase contracts we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any purchase contracts that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The specific terms of any purchase contracts may differ from the description provided below as a result of negotiations with third parties in connection with the issuance of those purchase contracts, as well as for other reasons. Because the terms of any purchase contracts we offer under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below, you should rely solely on information in the applicable prospectus supplement if that summary is different from the summary in this prospectus.

We will incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the form of any purchase contract that we may offer under this prospectus before the sale of the related purchase contract. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplements related to the specific purchase contracts being offered, as well as the complete instruments that contain the terms of the securities that are subject to those purchase contracts. Certain of those instruments, or forms of those instruments, have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and supplements to those instruments or forms may be incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part from reports we file with the SEC.

We may issue purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and for us to sell to holders, a specific or variable number of our, or an unaffiliated entity's, securities at a future date or dates. Alternatively, the purchase contracts may obligate us to purchase from holders, and obligate holders to sell to us, a specific or varying number of our securities. When we issue purchase contracts, we will provide the specific terms of the purchase contracts in a prospectus supplement. A copy of the applicable form of purchase contract will be included as an exhibit to a report we file with the SEC incorporated by reference herein.

If we offer any purchase contracts, certain terms of that series of purchase contracts will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement, including, without limitation, the following:

- the price of the securities or other property subject to the purchase contracts (which may be determined by reference to a specific formula described in the purchase contracts);
- whether the purchase contracts are issued separately, or as a part of units each consisting of a purchase contract and one or more of our other securities or securities of an unaffiliated entity, including U.S. Treasury securities, securing the holder's obligations under the purchase contract;
- any requirement for us to make periodic payments to holders or vice versa, and whether the payments are unsecured or pre-funded;
- any provisions relating to any security provided for the purchase contracts;
- whether the purchase contracts obligate the holder or us to purchase or sell, or both purchase and sell, the securities subject to purchase under the purchase contract, and the nature and amount of each of those securities, or the method of determining those amounts;
- whether the purchase contracts are to be prepaid or not;
- whether the purchase contracts are to be settled by delivery, or by reference or linkage to the value, performance or level of the securities subject to purchase under the purchase contract;
- any acceleration, cancellation, termination or other provisions relating to the settlement of the purchase contracts;

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- a discussion of certain United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the purchase contracts;
- whether the purchase contracts will be issued in fully registered or global form; and
- any other terms of the purchase contracts and any securities subject to such purchase contracts.



## DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes the general features of the units that we may offer under this prospectus. We may issue units consisting of two or more other constituent securities. These units may be issuable as, and for a specified period of time may be transferable only as a single security, rather than as the separate constituent securities comprising such units. While the features we have summarized below will generally apply to any units we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any units that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The specific terms of any units may differ from the description provided below as a result of negotiations with third parties in connection with the issuance of those units, as well as for other reasons. Because the terms of any units we offer under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below, you should rely solely on information in the applicable prospectus supplement if that summary is different from the summary in this prospectus.

We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplement related to the specific units being offered, as well as the complete instruments that contain the terms of the securities that comprise those units. Certain of those instruments, or forms of those instruments, have been or will be filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and supplements to those instruments or forms may be incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part from reports we file with the SEC.

If we offer any units, certain terms of that series of units will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement, including, without limitation, the following, as applicable:

- the title of the series of units;
- identification and description of the separate constituent securities comprising the units;
- the price or prices at which the units will be issued;
- the date, if any, on and after which the constituent securities comprising the units will be separately transferable;
- a discussion of certain United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the units; and
- any other terms of the units and their constituent securities.

## GLOBAL SECURITIES

### Book-Entry, Delivery and Form

Unless we indicate differently in a prospectus supplement, the securities initially will be issued in book-entry form and represented by one or more global notes or global securities (collectively, “global securities”). The global securities will be deposited with, or on behalf of, the DTC, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., the nominee of DTC. Unless and until it is exchanged for individual certificates evidencing securities under the limited circumstances described below, a global security may not be transferred except as a whole by the depository to its nominee or by the nominee to the depository, or by the depository or its nominee to a successor depository or to a nominee of the successor depository.

DTC has advised us that it is:

- a limited-purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York;
- a “banking organization” within the meaning of the New York State Banking Law;
- a member of the Federal Reserve System;
- a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the Uniform Commercial Code; and
- a “clearing agency” registered under Section 17A of the Exchange Act.

DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among its participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in participants’ accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. “Direct participants” in DTC include securities brokers and dealers, including underwriters, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (“DTCC”). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others, which we sometimes refer to as “indirect participants,” that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of securities under the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the securities on DTC’s records. The ownership interest of the actual purchaser of a security, which we sometimes refer to as a “beneficial owner,” is in turn recorded on the direct and indirect participants’ records. Beneficial owners of securities will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchases. However, beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of their transactions, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participants through which they purchased securities. Transfers of ownership interests in global securities are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the global securities, except under the limited circumstances described below.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all global securities deposited by direct participants with DTC will be registered in the name of DTC’s partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other nominee will not change the beneficial ownership of the securities. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the securities. DTC’s records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts the securities are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants are responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

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So long as the securities are in book-entry form, you will receive payments and may transfer securities only through the facilities of the depository and its direct and indirect participants. We will maintain an office or agency in the location specified in the prospectus supplement for the applicable securities, where notices and demands in respect of the securities and the indenture may be delivered to us and where certificated securities may be surrendered for payment, registration of transfer or exchange. Neither we nor the trustee has any responsibility or liability for any act or omission of DTC.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants and by direct participants and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any legal requirements in effect from time to time.

Redemption notices will be sent to DTC. If less than all of the securities of a particular series are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each direct participant in the securities of such series to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (or such other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the securities. Under its usual procedures, DTC will mail an omnibus proxy to us as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns the consenting or voting rights of Cede & Co. to those direct participants to whose accounts the securities of such series are credited on the record date, identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy.

So long as securities are in book-entry form, we will make payments on those securities to the depository or its nominee, as the registered owner of such securities, by wire transfer of immediately available funds. If securities are issued in definitive certificated form under the limited circumstances described below, we will have the option of making payments by check mailed to the addresses of the persons entitled to payment or by wire transfer to bank accounts in the United States designated in writing to the applicable trustee or other designated party at least 15 days before the applicable payment date by the persons entitled to payment.

Redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments on the securities will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit direct participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from us on the payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC records. Payments by participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the account of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name." Those payments will be the responsibility of participants and not of DTC or us, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC, is our responsibility, disbursement of payments to direct participants is the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of payments to the beneficial owners is the responsibility of direct and indirect participants.

Except under the limited circumstances described below, purchasers of securities will not be entitled to have securities registered in their names and will not receive physical delivery of securities. Accordingly, each beneficial owner must rely on the procedures of DTC and its participants to exercise any rights under the securities and the indenture.

The laws of some jurisdictions may require that some purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. Those laws may impair the ability to transfer or pledge beneficial interests in securities.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the securities at any time by giving reasonable notice to us. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, securities certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

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As noted above, beneficial owners of a particular series of securities generally will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in those securities. However, if:

- DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a depository for the global security or securities representing such series of securities or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act at a time when it is required to be registered and a successor depository is not appointed within 90 days of the notification to us or of our becoming aware of DTC's ceasing to be so registered, as the case may be;
- we determine, in our sole discretion, not to have such securities represented by one or more global securities; or
- an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to such series of securities,

we will prepare and deliver certificates for such securities in exchange for beneficial interests in the global securities. Any beneficial interest in a global security that is exchangeable under the circumstances described in the preceding sentence will be exchangeable for securities in definitive certificated form registered in the names that the depository directs. It is expected that these directions will be based upon directions received by the depository from its participants with respect to ownership of beneficial interests in the global securities.

We have obtained the information in this section and elsewhere in this prospectus concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system from sources that are believed to be reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities from time to time pursuant to underwritten public offerings, negotiated transactions, block trades or a combination of these methods or through underwriters or dealers, through agents and/or directly to one or more purchasers. In addition, selling security holders may sell securities under this prospectus in any of these ways. The securities may be distributed from time to time in one or more transactions:

- at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;
- at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;
- at prices related to such prevailing market prices; or
- at negotiated prices.

Offers to purchase the securities being offered by this prospectus may be solicited directly. Agents may also be designated to solicit offers to purchase the securities from time to time. Any agent involved in the offer or sale of our securities will be identified in a prospectus supplement.

If a dealer is utilized in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, the securities will be sold to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale.

If an underwriter is utilized in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, an underwriting agreement will be executed with the underwriter at the time of sale and the name of any underwriter will be provided in the prospectus supplement that the underwriter will use to make resales of the securities to the public. In connection with the sale of the securities, we or the purchasers of securities for whom the underwriter may act as agent, may compensate the underwriter in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions. The underwriter may sell the securities to or through dealers, and those dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for which they may act as agent. Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, an agent will be acting on a best efforts basis and a dealer will purchase securities as a principal, and may then resell the securities at varying prices to be determined by the dealer.

Any compensation paid to underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the offering of the securities, and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers will be provided in the applicable prospectus supplement. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions. In compliance with the guidelines of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., or FINRA, the maximum amount of underwriting compensation, including underwriting discounts and commissions, to be paid in connection with any offering of securities pursuant to this prospectus may not exceed 8% of the aggregate principal amount of securities offered. We may enter into agreements to indemnify underwriters, dealers and agents against civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments they may be required to make in respect thereof and to reimburse those persons for certain expenses.

The securities may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange. To facilitate the offering of securities, certain persons participating in the offering may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the securities. This may include over-allotments or short sales of the securities, which involve the sale by persons participating in the offering of more securities than were sold to them. In these circumstances, these persons would cover such over-allotments or short positions by making purchases in the open market or by exercising their over-allotment option, if any. In addition, these persons may stabilize or maintain the price of the securities by bidding for or purchasing securities in the open market or by imposing penalty bids, whereby selling concessions allowed to dealers participating in the offering may be reclaimed if

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securities sold by them are repurchased in connection with stabilization transactions. The effect of these transactions may be to stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. These transactions may be discontinued at any time.

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, underwriters or other persons acting as agents may be authorized to solicit offers by institutions or other suitable purchasers to purchase the securities at the public offering price set forth in the prospectus supplement, pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in the prospectus supplement. These purchasers may include, among others, commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies and educational and charitable institutions. Delayed delivery contracts will be subject to the condition that the purchase of the securities covered by the delayed delivery contracts will not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which the purchaser is subject. The underwriters and agents will not have any responsibility with respect to the validity or performance of these contracts.

We may engage in at the market offerings into an existing trading market in accordance with Rule 415(a)(4) under the Securities Act. In addition, we may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement so indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell securities covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us or borrowed from us or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of common stock, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of common stock. The third party in such sale transactions will be an underwriter and, if not identified in this prospectus, will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement (or a post-effective amendment). In addition, we may otherwise loan or pledge securities to a financial institution or other third party that in turn may sell the securities short using this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement. Such financial institution or other third party may transfer its economic short position to investors in our securities or in connection with a concurrent offering of other securities.

The underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with us, or perform services for us, in the ordinary course of business for which they receive compensation.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the securities offered in this prospectus will be passed upon by Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, New York, NY. If certain legal matters in connection with an offering of the securities made by this prospectus and a related prospectus supplement are passed on by counsel for the underwriters of such offering, that counsel will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement related to that offering.

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP from time to time represents Warner Music Group Corp. and its affiliates in connection with matters unrelated to the offering of the securities.

## **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Warner Music Group Corp. (the “Company”) as of September 30, 2020 and 2019 and for each of the years in the three-year period ended September 30, 2020 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing. The audit report refers to the Company’s change in its method of accounting for leases as of October 1, 2019 due to the adoption of “ASC Topic 842, Leases”, and the Company’s change in its method of accounting for revenue recognition as of October 1, 2018, due to the adoption of “ASC Topic 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers”. To the extent that KPMG LLP audits and reports on financial statements of the Company issued at future dates, and consents to the use of its report thereon, such financial statements also will be incorporated by reference in the registration statement in reliance upon its report and said authority.

**2,340,000 Shares**



# **Warner Music Group Corp.**

**Class A Common Stock**

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**PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

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**Morgan Stanley**

, 2021

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