



188 QUARTERFINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2019 MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD™ PRESENTED BY THE RECORDING ACADEMY™ AND GRAMMY MUSEUM®

RECIPIENT AND FINALISTS TO RECEIVE CASH HONORARIUMS, WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES PROVIDED BY FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND

WHO: A total of 188 music teachers from 171 cities have been announced as quarterfinalists for the Music Educator Award™ presented by the Recording Academy™ and GRAMMY Museum®. In total, more than 2,800 initial nominations were submitted.

Name	School Name	City	State
Alan Alder	Ball State University	Anderson	Ind.
Travis Alexander	North Carolina A&T State University	Greensboro	N.C.
Chris Allen	Willis High School	Conroe	Texas
Donny Allen	Grassfield High School	Chesapeake	Va.
Chris Alvarado	Oak Run Middle School	New Braunfels	Texas
Christopher Andies	Volunteer High School	Rogersville	Tenn.
Michael Antmann	Freedom High School	Clermont	Fla.
George Arsenault	Westford Academy	Chelmsford	Mass.
Wade Baker	Olney Central College	Vincennes	Ind.
Paul Bakner	East Stroudsburg Area High School—North	Easton	Pa.
Jeff Ball	The Grand Street Campus High Schools	Brooklyn	N.Y.
Carol Ballard	Winding Waters K-8	Spring Hill	Fla.
Sue Ellen Ballard	Bourbon County Middle School	Paris	Ky.
Cory Barnfield	Norton Commons Elementary	Louisville	Ky.
James Baum	Riverside Brookfield High School	North Riverside	Ill.
Scott Beauregard	Jacqueline M. Walsh School for the Performing and Visual Arts	Cumberland	R.I.
Shawna Beeler	Vista Ridge High School	Colo. Springs	Colo.
Deanna Bell	Vestavia Hills Elementary East	Irondale	Ala.
Ramiro Benavides Jr.	Monaco Middle School	Henderson	Nev.
Tina Bernard	Lumberton High School	Orange	Texas
Brandon Bitner	Central Dauphin High School	Hershey	Pa.
Kevin Blakeslee	La Follette High School	Madison	Wis.
Carolyn Boudreau	Lindblom Math & Science Academy	Chicago	Ill.
Cherie Bowe	Colmer Middle School	Gautier	Miss.
Andrew Bowerly	Tenino High School	Tumwater	Wash.
Kenneth Boyd	West Orange High School	Orlando	Fla.
John Brackbill	Manheim Central High School	Manheim	Pa.
Michael Bradam	Maryville Christian School	Alcoa	Tenn.
Jeremy Bradstreet	Dublin Coffman High School	Dublin	Ohio



Jesse Bunge	Eagle Valley High School	Gypsum	Colo.
Julie Burgess	D.C. Everest Middle School	Wausau	Wis.
John Burn	Homestead High School	San Jose	Calif.
Debra Burnell-Wise	Pleasure Ridge Park High School	Louisville	Ky.
Christopher Burns	Lakeview Elementary School	Saint Cloud	Fla.
Anthony Camarda	Marlowe Middle School	Wonder Lake	Ill.
Whitney Campbell	Pryor Junior High	Tulsa	Okla.
Jordan Canner	Huntingdon Area High School	Huntingdon	Pa.
Helen Capehart	Whitewright Elementary	Bonham	Texas
Matthew Carraher	Central Dauphin High School	Harrisburg	Pa.
Brooks Clarke	Saint Johns Classical Academy	Orange Park	Fla.
Shane Colquhoun	Loachapoka High School	Auburn	Ala.
Daniel Cook	Adolfo Camarillo High School	Oxnard	Calif.
JD Cooney	Mayville High School	Sun Prairie	Wis.
Tiffany Cox	Lake Worth High School	Lake Worth	Fla.
Travis Cuckler	Gallistel Language Academy	Chicago	Ill.
Charles Cushinery	Ed W. Clark High School	Las Vegas	Nev.
Brandon Czubachowski	Hall High School	Peru	Ill.
Adrian Davis	Roosevelt High School	Minneapolis	Minn.
Troy Davis	Aragon High School	Santa Clara	Calif.
Victor de los Santos	Santa Ana High School	Santa Ana	Calif.
David Dehner	Cornerstone Christian Schools	San Antonio	Texas
Brandon Deike	Forest Area High School	Fife Lake	Mich.
Mario DeSantis	Collingswood Middle School	Glassboro	N.J.
Heather Dipasquale	Ballard County Middle School/Ballard Memorial High School	West Paducah	Ky.
Doris Doyon	Norwalk High School	Long Beach	Calif.
Patrick Dunham	Dundee Central School	Dundee	N.Y.
Paige Edwards	Wilson Memorial High School	Waynesboro	Va.
Nicholas Efsthathiou	Bay High School	Panama City	Fla.
Brandon Elliott	Moorpark College	Moorpark	Calif.
Doug Elmore	Floyd Central High School	New Albany	Ind.
Eric Emch	Short Line School	New Martinsville	W. Va.
Brian Endlein	Middletown High School	Townsend	Del.
Carrie Epperson	North Kansas City High School	Kansas City	Mo.
Travis Erikson	DeKalb High School	DeKalb	Ill.
Brice Evans	Little Rock Central High School	Little Rock	Ark.
Aaron Evens	Spring Hill High School	Columbia	Tenn.
Doug Fischer	Pioneer Middle School	Irvine	Calif.
Lisa Forbis	Hume-Fogg Academic Magnet High School	Nashville	Tenn.
Marc Foster	High Point University	High Point	N.C.
Keith Galasso	Dr. Phillips High School	Orlando	Fla.
Brian Gallagher	Ramona High School	Eastvale	Calif.
Laura Garrison	West Jefferson Middle School	Evergreen	Colo.
Patricia Gaskill	Cloudcroft High School	Cloudcroft	N.M.
Vivian Gonzalez	Miami Arts Studio 6-12 at Zelda Glazer	Miami	Fla.
Amanda Griffis	Chamberlain High School	Tampa	Fla.



Daniel Gutierrez	Reed Academy Middle School	Springfield	Mo.
Lisa Gwasda	Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music	Bronx	N.Y.
Sandi Hagood	SouthTech Academy	Boynton Beach	Fla.
Elizabeth Hankins	Lakewood High School	Lakewood	Ohio
Theodore Hanman	Benedictine College	Platte City	Mo.
Dylan Harlan	Katella High School	Lake Forest	Calif.
N. Marie Hayden	Hinkley High School	Brighton	Colo.
Jared Hearld	Timpview High School	Lehi	Utah
Brian Hellhake	Freedom High School	Clermont	Fla.
Elizabeth Hering	Churchill High School	Canton	Mich.
Kristen Hill	Hoover Middle School	Amherst	N.Y.
Laura Hill	Graves County High School	Murray	Ky.
Paul Holzen	Parkway Central Middle School	Dardenne Prairie	Mo.
Doug Hoover	Parkway Central High School	Ballwin	Mo.
Rebecca Huddilston	Lakota East High School	West Chester	Ohio
Kristoffer Hudson	Open Door Christian Schools	Amherst	Ohio
Paul Hunt	Ventura High School	Ventura	Calif.
Jeff Jahnke	Edmond Memorial High School	Oklahoma City	Okla.
Brandi Jason	Liberty High School	Sykesville	Md.
Christina Johnson	Wellington Landings Middle School	Boca Raton	Fla.
Alexander Kaminsky	Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School	Parkland	Fla.
Todd Karenbauer	Butler Intermediate High School	Butler	Pa.
Joshua Kaye	Hellen Caro Elementary School	Pensacola	Fla.
Topher Keene	Phoenix Boys Choir	Mesa	Ariz.
Kathryn Kem	Miller Elementary School	Salem	Ore.
Marshall Keough	Roncalli Catholic High School	Fort Calhoun	Nebr.
Michael Kernodle	Lakewood High School	Gisonton	Fla.
Stephen Keys	Bondurant Middle School	Leitchfield	Ky.
Janet Kirsten	South Miami K-8 Center	Miami	Fla.
Adam Kossler	River Bend Middle School	Sterling	Va.
Kathrine Kouns	Carmel High School	Carmel	Ind.
Brad Laibly	Hartland High School	Howell	Mich.
Rachel Lake	Ilwaco High School	Ilwaco	Wash.
John Landers	Stuttgart High School	Boblingen	Germany
Isaac Lavadie	Grand Junction High School	Grand Junction	Colo.
Edward Leonard	Lake Ridge Academy	Hudson	Ohio
Heather Marsh	Arcanum High School	Troy	Ohio
Jacob Martin	Iola-Scandinavia School District	Stevens Point	Wis.
Demetrius			
Mason-Walker	East Jessamine High School	Nicholasville	Ky.
Collette Mather	Brookside School	Teaneck	N.J.
Gary Meggs	Arkansas High School	Texarkana	Ark.
Diana Miller	Southern Huntingdon County Middle/High School	Huntingdon	Pa.
Henry Miller	Sierra Vista Middle School	Lake Forest	Calif.
Curtis Mills III	Northwood High School	Bossier City	La.
Jeremy Milton	Old Saybrook High School	Old Saybrook	Conn.
Chris Moore	Jupiter High School	Hobe Sound	Fla.



Larry Mulligan	Bishop Fenwick High School	Middletown	Ohio
Melissa Munafo	Lynn Classical High School	South Grafton	Mass.
Emily Murphy	McEwen High School	White Bluff	Tenn.
Melton Mustafa	Parkway Middle School	Miami	Fla.
Jeff Neavor	Morton High School	Morton	Ill.
Brandon Nelson	Oak Harbor High School	Oak Harbor	Wash.
Frank Newton	Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School		
Adam Nobile	Big Spring High School	Chicopee	Mass.
Douglas Orzolek	University of St. Thomas	Mechanicsburg	Pa.
Michael Pavlik	York Community High School	Burnsville	Minn.
Thomas Pierre	Glassmanor Elementary School	Elmhurst	Ill.
Bryan Pinkall	Kansas State University	Washington	D.C.
Andrew Price	North Charleston Creative Arts Elementary	Manhattan	Kans.
Brian Querry	Charles A. Huston Middle School	North Charleston	S.C.
Geoffrey Radant	San Marcos High School	North Apollo	Pa.
Lauren Ramey	Ravenwood High School	San Marcos	Calif.
Amy Rangel	Glendale High School	Spring Hill	Tenn.
Jeffery Redding	West Orange High School	Burbank	Calif.
Robert Renzi	Schalmont High School	Orlando	Fla.
Jon Rickman	Boerne Middle School North	Clifton Park	N.Y.
Patricia Risley	Northampton Area Middle School	Boerne	Texas
Joshua Rist	McNary High School	Allentown	Pa.
Amy Robinson	Krum High School	Salem	Ore.
Caleb Ruppe	Chesnee Elementary School	Denton	Texas
Brian Russell	Frost School of Music at the University of Miami	Campobello	S.C.
Danielle Sabol	Pembroke Middle School	Miami	Fla.
Timothy Sandford	Lake City High School	Raeford	N.C.
Christopher Schroeder	Conservatory Lab Charter School	Coeur d'Alene	Idaho
Luke Schwartz	Special Music School	Boston	Mass.
Nate Seamons	American Fork High School	New York	N.Y.
Scott Sheehan	Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School	Highland	Utah
Adam Shekleton	Randolph High School	Hollidaysburg	Pa.
Matthew Shephard	Meridian High School	Dedham	Mass.
Wendy Shrestha	Sunnyside High School	Midland	Mich.
Karl Siewertsen	Plainedge Middle School	Fowler	Calif.
Nathan Sletten	Lake Mills Community School District	Mastic Beach	N.Y.
Bradley Smith	Milford High School	Lake Mills	Iowa
Mickey Smith Jr.	Maplewood Middle School	Hollis	N.H.
Derrick Sneed	Alfred Ely Beach High School	Sulphur	La.
Warren Sneed	High School for the Performing and Visual Arts	Savannah	Ga.
Craig Snyder	Penncrest High School	Houston	Texas
Chloe Spitzer	Rosenwald Elementary Middle School	Garnet Valley	Pa.
Eric Stearns	St. Helens High School	Florence	S.C.
Bethany Stearns-Miller	Waccamaw Intermediate School	Saint Helens	Ore.
Heidi Stirling	Hannah Solomon Elementary School	Pawleys Island	S.C.
Matthew Stott	Vero Beach High School	Chicago	Ill.
		Vero Beach	Fla.



Mike Sundt	Tolt Middle School	Redmond	Wash.
Tyrone Sutton	Boston Arts Academy	Boston	Mass.
Steve Sveum	Sun Prairie High School	Sun Prairie	Wis.
Kokoe Tanaka-Suwan	Bronx Global Learning Institute for Girls	Bergenfield	N.J.
Sarah Todd	Mary Lyon Elementary School	Chicago	Ill.
Cesar Torruella	Yes Prep Gulfton	Houston	Texas
Dr Guylene Gigi Tree	Center High School	Sacramento	Calif.
Julie Trent	Hamilton High School	Gilbert	Ariz.
Heather Ukrisna	Richmond Street Elementary School	El Segundo	Calif.
David Umstead	Hollis Brookline High School	Nashua	N.H.
James Villegas	Spring Valley Academy	San Diego	Calif.
Helen Walker	Doby's Mill Elementary	Camden	S.C.
John Weatherspoon	Lake Worth Community High School	West Palm Beach	Fla.
Scott Werner	Corona del Sol High School	Chandler	Ariz.
Bryce Werntz	Oak Hill High School	Oak Hill	Ohio
Dustin Wiley	Firelands High School	Lorain	Ohio
Edward Wilkin	Fair Haven Union High School	Fair Haven	Vt.
Richie Williams	Paragould High School	Paragould	Ark.
Jill Wishon	Sullins Academy	Bluff City	Tenn.
Kimberly Wolbert	Ashland High School	Ashland	Ohio
Heath Wolf	Farmington Junior High	Kaysville	Utah

WHAT: The **Music Educator Award** was established to recognize current educators (kindergarten through college, public and private schools) who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of music education and who demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in the schools. A joint partnership and presentation of the Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum, the recipient will be recognized during GRAMMY® Week 2019.

The award is open to current U.S. music teachers, and anyone can nominate a teacher—students, parents, friends, colleagues, community members, school deans, and administrators. Teachers are also able to nominate themselves, and nominated teachers are notified and invited to fill out an application.

Each year, one recipient is selected from 10 finalists and recognized for their remarkable impact on students' lives. The sixth annual honoree will be flown to Los Angeles to attend the 61st Annual GRAMMY Awards® and a range of GRAMMY Week events. The nine additional finalists will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, and the schools of all 10 finalists will receive matching grants.

Fifteen semifinalists will receive a \$500 honorarium with matching school grants. The matching grants provided to the schools are made possible by the generosity and support of the GRAMMY Museum's Education Champion **Ford Motor Company Fund**. In addition, the American Choral Directors Association, National Association for Music Education, NAMM Foundation, and National Education Association support this program through outreach to their constituencies.



WHEN: The **semifinalists** will be announced in **September**. For more information, please visit www.grammymusicteacher.com.

ABOUT THE GRAMMY MUSEUM

Established in 2008 as a partnership between the Recording Academy and AEG, the GRAMMY Museum is a nonprofit organization dedicated to cultivating a greater understanding of the history and significance of music. Paying tribute to our collective musical heritage, the Museum explores and celebrates all aspects of the art form—from the technology of the recording process to the legends who've made lasting marks on our cultural identity. In 2017, the Museum integrated with its sister organization, the GRAMMY Foundation®, to broaden the reach of its music education and preservation initiatives. As a unified organization, today, the GRAMMY Museum fulfills its mission of making music a valued and indelible part of our society through exhibits, education, grants, and public programming.

For more information, visit www.grammymuseum.org, "like" the GRAMMY Museum on [Facebook](#), and follow @GRAMMYMuseum on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

ABOUT FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND

Ford Motor Company Fund is the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company. Established in 1949, Ford Fund invests in transformational programs that advance innovation, empower people, promote social mobility, and improve community prosperity. Ford Fund works with local and global partners to create opportunities in education, encourage safe driving, enlist employee volunteers, and enrich community life. Ford Fund's signature programs include Ford Blue Oval Scholars, Ford College Community Challenge, Ford Driving Dreams, Ford Driving Skills for Life, Ford Next Generation Learning, and the Ford Volunteer Corps. For more information, visit www.community.ford.com, or join us on Facebook [@FordFund](#) and Twitter [@FordFund](#).

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