



# 25 SEMIFINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2019 MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD™ PRESENTED BY THE RECORDING ACADEMY™ AND THE GRAMMY MUSEUM®

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

**WHO:** A total of 25 music teachers from 24 cities across 16 states have been announced as semifinalists for the Music Educator Award™ presented by the Recording Academy™ and the GRAMMY Museum®. In total, more than 2,800 initial nominations were submitted from all 50 states. Nominations for the 2020 Music Educator Award are now open at [www.grammymusicteacher.com](http://www.grammymusicteacher.com).

Name	School Name	City	State
Michael Antmann	Freedom High School	Clermont	Fla.
Jeff Ball	The Grand Street Campus High Schools	Brooklyn	N.Y.
Deanna Bell	Vestavia Hills Elementary East	Irondale	Ala.
Jeremy Bradstreet	Dublin Coffman High School	Dublin	Ohio
John Burn	Homestead High School	San Jose	Calif.
Victor de los Santos	Santa Ana High School	Santa Ana	Calif.
David Dehner	Cornerstone Christian Schools	San Antonio	Texas
Elizabeth Hering	Churchill High School	Canton	Mich.
Paul Holzen	Parkway Central Middle School	Dardenne Prairie	Mo.
Brandi Jason	Liberty High School	Sykesville	Md.
Gary Meggs	Arkansas High School	Texarkana	Ark.
Henry Miller	Sierra Vista Middle School	Lake Forest	Calif.
Brian Querry	Charles A. Huston Middle School	North Apollo	Pa.
Michael Raiber	Oklahoma City University	Norman	Okla.
Amy Rangel	Glendale High School	Burbank	Calif.
Jeffery Redding	West Orange High School	Orlando	Fla.
Joshua Shaw	Coronado High School	Lubbock	Texas
Scott Sheehan	Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School	Hollidaysburg	Pa.
Mickey Smith Jr.	Maplewood Middle School	Sulphur	La.
Craig Snyder	Penncrest High School	Garnet Valley	Pa.
Sarah Todd	Mary Lyon Elementary School	Chicago	Ill.
Matthew Trevino	Roan Forest Elementary	San Antonio	Texas
Helen Walker	Doby's Mill Elementary	Camden	S.C.
John Weatherspoon	Lake Worth Community High School	West Palm Beach	Fla.
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 Music Educator Award 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 **finalists** will be announced in **December**. For more information, please visit [www.grammymusicteacher.com](http://www.grammymusicteacher.com).

### **ABOUT THE RECORDING ACADEMY**

The Recording Academy represents the voices of performers, songwriters, producers, engineers, and all music professionals. Dedicated to ensuring the recording arts remain a thriving part of our shared cultural heritage, the Academy honors music's history while investing in its future through the GRAMMY Museum, advocates on behalf of music creators, supports music people in times of need through MusiCares®, and celebrates artistic excellence through the GRAMMY Awards—music's only peer-recognized accolade and highest achievement. As the world's leading society of music professionals, we work year-round to foster a more inspiring world for creators.

For more information about the Academy, please visit [www.grammy.com](http://www.grammy.com). For breaking news and exclusive content, follow @RecordingAcad on [Twitter](#), "like" Recording Academy on [Facebook](#), and join the Recording Academy's social communities on [Instagram](#), [Tumblr](#), and [YouTube](#).

### **ABOUT THE GRAMMY MUSEUM**

Established in 2008 as a partnership between the Recording Academy™ and AEG, the GRAMMY Museum® is a non-profit 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](http://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. For more information, visit <http://community.ford.com>, or join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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