



GRAMMY FOUNDATION®

*****MEDIA ALERT FOR FEBRUARY 11 – APRIL 15, 2013*****

**NOMINATIONS FOR FIRST-EVER MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD
PRESENTED BY
THE RECORDING ACADEMY® AND GRAMMY FOUNDATION®
ARE NOW OPEN**

Support Provided By The Ford Motor Company Fund

April 15 Is Deadline For Award Nominations

WHO: The GRAMMY Foundation® and The Recording Academy®

WHAT: On last night's **55th Annual GRAMMY Awards®** broadcast live on the **CBS Television Network**, President/CEO of The Recording Academy and GRAMMY Foundation **Neil Portnow**, TV and radio host/producer and GRAMMY Foundation Honorary Board Chair **Ryan Seacrest** and multi-GRAMMY®-winning artist **Justin Timberlake** announced that the GRAMMY Foundation and The Recording Academy are partnering to present their first-ever **Music Educator Award** to recognize music educators for their contributions to our musical landscape and their positive influence on their students' musical experiences.

The award is open to current U.S. music teachers from kindergarten through college, in public and private schools. Anyone can nominate a teacher — students, parents, friends, colleagues, community members, school deans and administrators — and teachers are also able to nominate themselves. Nominated teachers will be notified and invited to fill out an application. One winner will be selected from 10 finalists each year to be recognized for their remarkable impact on their students' lives. The first award will be presented during GRAMMY® Week 2014. The winner will be flown to Los Angeles to accept the award, attend the GRAMMY Awards, and receive a \$10,000 honorarium. The nine finalists will receive a \$1,000 honorarium.

The honorariums provided to the winners are made possible by a grant from the Ford Motor Company Fund. This new partnership with the Ford Motor Company Fund expands their financial support of GRAMMY Foundation music education initiatives.

WHEN: The nomination process is **open now** and **the deadline for nominations is April 15, 2013.**

To view guidelines and/or to nominate your favorite music educator, visit www.grammymusicteacher.com.

The GRAMMY Foundation® was established in 1989 to cultivate the understanding, appreciation and advancement of the contribution of recorded music to American culture. The Foundation accomplishes this mission through programs and activities that engage the music industry and cultural community as well as the general public. The Foundation works in partnership year-round with its founder, The

Recording Academy®, to bring national attention to important issues such as the value and impact of music and arts education and the urgency of preserving our rich cultural heritage. In recognition of the significant role of teachers in shaping their students' musical experiences, the GRAMMY Foundation and The Recording Academy are partnering to present our first Music Educator Award. Open to current U.S. music teachers in K through college, the Music Educator Award will be given out during GRAMMY Week 2014. The nomination process is online at grammymusicteacher.com and the **deadline for submissions is April 15**. For more information about the Foundation, please visit www.grammyfoundation.org. For breaking news and exclusive content, please like "GRAMMY in the Schools®" on Facebook at www.facebook.com/grammyintheschools, follow the GRAMMY Foundation on Twitter @GRAMMYFdn at www.twitter.com/GRAMMYFdn and join us on Instagram @GRAMMYFdn at www.instagram.com/GRAMMYfdn.

Established in 1957, The Recording Academy is an organization of musicians, songwriters, producers, engineers and recording professionals that is dedicated to improving the cultural condition and quality of life for music and its makers. Internationally known for the GRAMMY Awards — the preeminent peer-recognized award for musical excellence and the most credible brand in music — The Recording Academy is responsible for groundbreaking professional development, cultural enrichment, advocacy, education and human services programs. The Academy continues to focus on its mission of recognizing musical excellence, advocating for the well-being of music makers and ensuring music remains an indelible part of our culture. For more information about The Academy, please visit www.grammy.com. For breaking news and exclusive content, follow @TheGRAMMYS on Twitter, like "The GRAMMYS" on Facebook, and join The GRAMMYS' social communities on Foursquare, GetGlue, Google +, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, and YouTube.

Ford Motor Company Fund & Community Services works with community partners to advance driving safety, education and community life. For more than 60 years, Ford Motor Company Fund has operated with ongoing funding from Ford Motor Company. The award-winning Ford Driving Skills for Life program teaches new drivers through a variety of hands-on and interactive methods. Innovation in education is encouraged through national programs that enhance high school learning and provide college scholarships and university grants. Through the Ford Volunteer Corps, more than 25,000 Ford employees and dealers work on projects each year that better their communities in more than 40 countries. For more information, visit www.community.ford.com.

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