



25 SEMIFINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2018 MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD™ PRESENTED BY THE RECORDING ACADEMY™ AND THE GRAMMY MUSEUM®

RECIPIENT, FINALISTS, AND SEMIFINALISTS TO RECEIVE CASH HONORARIUMS, WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT AND RESOURCES PROVIDED BY THE GRAMMY MUSEUM®'S EDUCATION CHAMPION: FORD MOTOR COMPANY FUND

WHO: A total of 25 music teachers from 25 cities across 17 states have been announced as **semifinalists** for the **Music Educator Award™** presented by the **Recording Academy™** and the **GRAMMY Museum®**. **Initial nominations** were submitted from all **50 states**. A complete list of semifinalists is below.

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 the GRAMMY Museum, the recipient will be recognized during GRAMMY® Week 2018. **Nominations and applications** for the **2019 Music Educator Award** are now open via www.grammymusicteacher.com.

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 fifth annual honoree will be flown to New York to attend the 60th 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.



Name	School Name	City	State
Bonnie Anderson	Coronado Village Elementary	Universal City	Texas
Pamela Andrews	Station Camp Elementary School	Gallatin	Tenn.
Drew Benware	Saranac Lake High School	Saranac Lake	N.Y.
John Churchville	Go Like The Wind Elementary School	Ann Arbor	Mich.
Victor de los Santos	Santa Ana High School	Santa Ana	Calif.
Michelle Droe	Lincoln Elementary	Cedar Falls	Iowa
Dale Duncan	Henderson Middle School	Atlanta	Ga.
Curtis Gaesser	Folsom High School	Folsom	Calif.
Ralph Jackson	Bridle Path Elementary School	Lansdale	Pa.
Brandi Jason	Liberty High School	Eldersburg	Md.
Mike Kurilko	Trenton High School	Trenton	Mich.
Kate Margrave	Pine Creek High School	Colorado Springs	Colo.
Chris Maunu	Arvada West High School	Arvada	Colo.
Darren McCoy	Oak Harbor High School	Oak Harbor	Wash.
Aaron Rex	Jackson High School	Jackson	Ohio
David Reynolds Jr.	Vienna Elementary School	Vienna	Va.
David Rhen	Towson High School	Towson	Md.
Melissa Salguero	P.S. 48 Joseph R. Drake	Bronx	N.Y.
Bonnie Scholz	Pius XI Catholic High School	Milwaukee	Wis.
Joani Slawson	Saturn Elementary	Cocoa	Fla.
Laura Steigerwald McCoy	St. Joseph Central Elementary School	Fort Wayne	Ind.
Amy J. Steiner	Hutchinson Central Technical High School	Buffalo	N.Y.
Vicky Stockton	New York State School for the Deaf	Rome	N.Y.
James Yaques	Palm Beach Central High School	Wellington	Fla.
Davey Yarborough	Duke Ellington School of the Arts	Washington	D.C.

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 Recording Academy, please visit www.grammy.com. For breaking news and exclusive content, follow @RecordingAcad on [Twitter](#), "like" Recording Academy / GRAMMYs on [Facebook](#), and join the Recording Academy's social communities on [Google+](#), [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, "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 <http://community.ford.com>, or join us on Facebook [@FordFund](#) and Twitter [@FordFund](#).

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