



******MEDIA ALERT FOR MAY 29, 2014******

**222 QUARTERFINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD™
PRESENTED BY THE RECORDING ACADEMY® AND THE
GRAMMY FOUNDATION®**

*Recipient and Finalists to Receive Cash Honorariums, with Generous Support and Resources Provided by
the GRAMMY Foundation®'s Education Champions: Converse, Disney Performing Arts,
Ford Motor Company Fund, and Journeys*

*Second Annual Award will be Presented at the Special Merit Awards Ceremony
during GRAMMY® Week 2015*

WHO: A total of 222 music teachers from 208 cities across 41 states have been announced as **quarterfinalists** for the **Music Educator Award™** presented by **The Recording Academy®** and the **GRAMMY Foundation®**. In total, more than **7,000 initial nominations** were submitted from all **50 states**.

WHAT: The **Music Educator Award** was established to recognize current educators (K – 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 Foundation, this special award will be presented at the Special Merit Awards Ceremony (honoring recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award, Trustees Award and Technical GRAMMY® Award) during GRAMMY Week 2015.

As announced on the 55th Annual GRAMMY Awards® by 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 nine-time GRAMMY® winner **Justin Timberlake**, the award was open to current U.S. music teachers, and anyone could nominate a teacher — students, parents, friends, colleagues, community members, school deans, and administrators. Teachers were also able to nominate themselves, and nominated teachers were notified and invited to fill out an application.

One recipient will be selected from 10 finalists each year, and will be recognized for his/her remarkable impact on students' lives. The winner will be flown to Los Angeles to accept the award, attend the GRAMMY Awards ceremony, and receive a \$10,000 honorarium. The nine finalists will each receive a \$1,000 honorarium, and the schools of all 10 finalists also will receive matching grants. The honorariums and grants provided to the finalists and schools are made possible by the generosity and support of the GRAMMY Foundation's Education Champions: **Converse, Disney Performing Arts, Ford Motor Company Fund, and Journeys**. Nominations for the 2016 Music Educator Award are now open at www.grammymusicteacher.com.

WHEN: A complete list of quarterfinalists is below. The semifinalists will be announced in **September**. For more information, please visit www.grammymusicteacher.com.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Keely Abeln	Francis Howell Middle School	Saint Charles	Mo.
Diane Abrahamian	Penfield High School	Rochester	N.Y.
Steven Acciani	Diamond Bar High School	Diamond Bar	Calif.
Phil Aguglia	Kenmore East High School	Tonawanda	N.Y.
Leslie Alan	South Miami Middle Community School	Miami	Fla.
J. Anthony Allen	McNally Smith College of Music	St. Paul	Minn.
Anthony Allmond	Kaiser High School	Fontana	Calif.
Anthony Alvaro	West Genesee High School	Camillus	N.Y.
Corey Ames	Loyola Academy	Wilmette	Ill.
Mark Anderson	Oswalt K8 Academy	Walnut	Calif.
Neil Anderson	Murrieta Valley High School	Murrieta	Calif.
David Bachart	New Hope-Solebury High School	New Hope	Pa.
Nancy Maria Balach	University of Mississippi	Oxford	Miss.
Mary Barto	The New School	New York	N.Y.
Graham "Scott" Barton	Moreau Catholic High School	Hayward	Calif.
Jeff Behrens	Richland Center High School	Richland Center	Wis.
William Bennett	Cane Bay High School	Summerville	S.C.
Fritz Benz	North Smithfield High School	North Smithfield	R.I.
Jake Bergevin	Edmonds-Woodway High School	Edmonds	Wash.
Anthony Bernhauser	Pearre Creek Elementary School	Franklin	Tenn.
Rob Blaney	Woodbridge High School	Irvine	Calif.
Cindy Bradley-Cipriano	Colonial Road School	Franklin Lakes	N.J.
Gregg Breinberg	P.S. 22	Staten Island	N.Y.
Timothy Brown	Franklin High School	Reisterstown	Md.
Stephanie Brueggeman	Progress South Elementary School	St. Peters	Mo.
Aaron Buck	DeWitt Middle School	Ithaca	N.Y.
Jean Burkhart	Seymour High School	Seymour	Tenn.
Joe Cantaffa	Howell High School	Farmingdale	N.J.
Otis Carter III	Moss Point High School	Moss Point	Miss.
Jared Cassidy	Windham High School	Windham	N.H.
Brandon Catt	Glenbard East High School	Lombard	Ill.
Caleb Chapman	Pioneer High School for the Performing Arts	American Fork	Utah
Bernie Chavez	Deming High School	Deming	N.M.
Ching-Ming Cheng	California State University San Marcos	San Marcos	Calif.
Michael Chester	Stewarts Creek High School	Smyrna	Tenn.
Josh Chodoroff	Waubonsie Valley High School	Aurora	Ill.
Joseph Chouinard	East Detroit High School	Eastpointe	Mich.
Dr. Buddy Clements	Walnut High School	Walnut	Calif.
Joyce Click	North Central High School	Indianapolis	Ind.
Travis Coakley	Biloxi High School	Biloxi	Miss.
Christy Colburn	Itawamba Community College	Fulton	Miss.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Mark Colozzi	Cranston High School East	Cranston	R.I.
Steve Connell	Moc-Floyd Valley Senior High School	Orange City	Iowa
Travis Cook	Marvin L. Winans Academy of Performing Arts	Detroit	Mich.
Cheryl Corkran	Greenacres Middle School	Bossier City	La.
Glenn Cowen	Upper Moreland High School	Willow Grove	Pa.
Ryan Crabtree	Fruita Monument High School	Fruita	Colo.
Charles Cushinery	Ed W. Clark High School	Las Vegas	Nev.
Michael Danielson	First Avenue Middle School	Arcadia	Calif.
Adrian Davis	Roosevelt High School	Minneapolis	Minn.
Andy Davis	Reavis High School	Burbank	Ill.
David Davis	Harmony Middle School	Overland Park	Kan.
Mark De Hertogh	R.L. Paschal High School	Fort Worth	Texas
David Dehner	Monte Vista Christian School	Watsonville	Calif.
Jamal Dickerson	Creative Arts Morgan Village Academy	Camden	N.J.
Jeff Doebler	Valparaiso University	Valparaiso	Ind.
Mark Duker	Waubonsie Valley High School	Aurora	Ill.
Terry Eberhardt	Marriotts Ridge High School	Marriottsville	Md.
Steven Edwards	Falmouth High School	Falmouth	Mass.
Nicholas Efstathiou	Bay High School	Panama City	Fla.
Alexandra Errico	Springdale Elementary School	Stamford	Conn.
Eufemio Escalante	Vina Danks Middle School	Ontario	Calif.
Krista Fanning	Caddo Middle Magnet	Shreveport	La.
Michael Fansler	Western Illinois University	Macomb	Ill.
Mark Femino	Millis Middle/High School	Millis	Mass.
Anne Fennell	Mission Vista High School	Oceanside	Calif.
John Flora	Franklin L. Williams Middle School #7	Jersey City	N.J.
Elizabeth Fortune	Washington Middle School	Seattle	Wash.
Desiree Fowler	Ramon C. Cortines School of Visual & Performing Arts	Los Angeles	Calif.
Brian Gagnon	Fairview Elementary School	Auburn	Maine
Michael Garvey	Lamphere High School	Madison Heights	Mich.
Sean Gavarny	Hoboken Charter School	Hoboken	N.J.
Debbie Glick	Alexandria Middle School	Pittstown	N.J.
Vivian Gonzalez	South Miami K-8 Center	Miami	Fla.
Anthony Good	Nicholas Oresko School	Bayonne	N.J.
Johnnie Green	Lehman High School	Kyle	Texas
Randy Greenwell	Lawrence Central High School	Indianapolis	Ind.
Janet Grice	Fordham High School for the Arts	Bronx	N.Y.
Melissa Gustafson-Hinds	O'Fallon Township High School	O'Fallon	Ill.
Eric Hahn	Bangor Area High School	Bangor	Pa.
Amy Hannequin	Derby High School	Derby	Conn.
Aaron Hardwick	Frank W. Cox High School	Virginia Beach	Va.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Rodney Harshbarger	Old Kings Elementary School	Flagler Beach	Fla.
Brad Hart	Johansen High School	Modesto	Calif.
Richard Hauf	Havre de Grace High School	Havre de Grace	Md.
Micah Haven	Meeker Middle School	Tacoma	Wash.
Sheila Heffernon	Northfield Mount Hermon School	Gill	Mass.
Lenora Helm Hammonds	North Carolina Central University	Durham	N.C.
Michael Henderson	Chase High School	Forest City	N.C.
Michael Anthony Hernandez	Plano Senior High School	Plano	Texas
Aaron Hill Sr.	Smithfield High School	Smithfield	Va.
Michael Hood	Wissahickon High School	Ambler	Pa.
Robin Hopper	Homestead Elementary School	Eagle River	Alaska
Ronald Horner	Frostburg State University	Frostburg	Md.
Matthew Howe	Indio High School	Indio	Calif.
Frank Hudson	Bledsoe County High School	Pikeville	Tenn.
Ian Hughes	Verner Elementary	Oakmont	Pa.
Ralph Jackson	Bridle Path Elementary School	Lansdale	Pa.
Robb Janov	Jefferson Middle School	Albuquerque	N.M.
Sarah Jester	Northeast High School	Pasadena	Md.
Calvert Johnson	Agnes Scott College	Decatur	Ga.
Curtis Johnson	West Virginia Wesleyan College	Buckhannon	W. Va.
D.L. Johnson	North Monterey County High School	Castroville	Calif.
Kyle Johnson	JJ Pearce High School	Richardson	Texas
Jamie Johnston	Camelback High School	Phoenix	Ariz.
Sean Kennedy	Sandy Run Middle School	Dresher	Pa.
Demeka Kimpson	Sedgefield Middle School	Charlotte	N.C.
Shannon Kitelinger	San Diego State University	San Diego	Calif.
Anne Klus	St. Paul Academy and Summit School	St. Paul	Minn.
Joan Knoernschild	Greenfield Middle School	El Cajon	Calif.
Barry E. Kopetz	Capital University	Columbus	Ohio
Nancie Kozel-Tobison	Barrington High School	Barrington	Ill.
Gordon Krauspe	Wheaton Warrenville South High School	Wheaton	Ill.
Jacalyn Kreitzer	Cal Poly State University	San Luis Obispo	Calif.
Don Krudop	Visual & Performing Arts Academy at Salem High School	Virginia Beach	Va.
John Landers	Patch High School	APO	N.Y.
Mark Laughlin	Georgia Southwestern State University	Americus	Ga.
David Leach	Pioneer High School	Ann Arbor	Mich.
Ollie Liddell	Memphis Central High School	Memphis	Tenn.
Susanna Loewy	Kutztown University	Kutztown	Pa.
Jason Luciana	Wilmington High School	Wilmington	Mass.
Jami Lupold	Pearl Hall Elementary	South Houston	Texas
Erik Lynch	Verona High School	Verona	N.J.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Mark Lynn	University of Louisville	Louisville	Ky.
Fernando Malvar-Ruiz	American Boychoir School	Princeton	N.J.
Dean Marino	West Port High School	Ocala	Fla.
Stevi Marks	Glenbrook South High School	Glenview	Ill.
Christine Martin-Beutner	Sam Houston Elementary School	Denton	Texas
Richard Maxwell	Arcadia High School	Phoenix	Ariz.
James McCrann	Garden City High School	Garden City	N.Y.
Lisa McCutchan	Sandra Day O'Connor High School	Helotes	Texas
Shawna Mendez	The Manning School	Golden	Colo.
Carlos Mendez Jr.	Fayetteville-Manlius High School	Manlius	N.Y.
Andrea Meyers	Douglas County High School	Castle Rock	Colo.
Jonathan Meyers	P.S. 182Q Samantha Smith	Jamaica	N.Y.
Duane Minnick	Briar Woods High School	Ashburn	Va.
Patrick Mitchell	Cameron Park Elementary	Hillsborough	N.C.
Charles Morgan	Joliet Junior College	Joliet	Ill.
Melissa Morris	CSI High School for International Studies	Staten Island	N.Y.
Mark Mraz	John Metcalf Junior High School	Burnsville	Minn.
Melton Mustafa	Parkway Middle School of the Arts	Lauderhill	Fla.
Kim Neu	Julia R. Masterman Laboratory & Demonstration School	Philadelphia	Pa.
Torrey Newhart	Academy of Arts and Academics	Springfield	Ore.
Matthew Neylon	Rockford Christian Schools	Rockford	Ill.
Pablo Ocanas	Pine Shadows Elementary	Houston	Texas
Michael Ortiz	Bellalago Academy	Kissimmee	Fla.
Frank Owens	Centennial Lane Elementary School	Ellicott City	Md.
Thomas Paster	Northern Highlands Regional High School	Allendale	N.J.
Sarah Payne	Bryan Station Middle School	Lexington	Ky.
Andrew Perkins	Fenton High School	Fenton	Mich.
Cynthia Plank	Beaumont Middle School	Portland	Ore.
Linette Popoff-Parks	Madonna University	Livonia	Mich.
Richard Popolizio	Park Ridge Middle/High School	Park Ridge	N.J.
Jay Posteraro	Mesa Verde Middle School	San Diego	Calif.
Deborah Prather	Brownsburg High School	Brownsburg	Ind.
Edward Protzman	Blue Valley Southwest	Overland Park	Kan.
Rosa Rabinovich	Norman S. Edelpcup Sunny Isles Beach K-8	Sunny Isles	Fla.
Michael Raiber	Oklahoma City University	Oklahoma City	Okla.
Mary Raymond	Immaculate High School	Danbury	Conn.
Debra Reilly	Springhouse Middle School	Allentown	Pa.
Shawn Reynolds	Howland Middle School	Warren	Ohio
Jim Rice	Inglemoor High School	Kenmore	Wash.
Erich Rivero	Glades Middle School	Miami	Fla.
John Roberts	Montana State University Billings	Billings	Mont.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Brian Roelandt	Fitzgerald High School	Warren	Mich.
Robin Rogers	Charleston School of the Arts	Charleston	S.C.
Kathy Rohrs	Chaminade College Preparatory Middle School	Chatsworth	Calif.
Don Rose	Curtis Senior High School	University Place	Wash.
Mara Rose	Fleming Island High School	Orange Park	Fla.
Susan Rydzeski	East Islip High School	Islip Terrace	N.Y.
Melissa Salguero	P.S. 48 Joseph R. Drake	Hunts Point	N.Y.
Peter Sampson	Whiteland Community High School	Whiteland	Ind.
Jesse Sanchez	Westmont High School	Campbell	Calif.
Scott Schleuter	Perrysburg High School	Perrysburg	Ohio
Glen Schneider	Metea Valley High School	Aurora	Ill.
Adam Schultheis	Fremont Middle School	Las Vegas	Nev.
Calvin Sexton	Beltline Elementary School	Lancaster	Texas
Curtis Shaw	Homestead High School	Fort Wayne	Ind.
Keven Shepherd	Miller Grove High School	Lithonia	Ga.
Chaz Shipman	Freeport Area Senior High School	Sarver	Pa.
Karl Siewertsen	John H. West School	Bethpage	N.Y.
Paula Simmons	Elwood Community High School	Elwood	Ind.
Luke Skerpon	Bellefonte Area High School	Bellefonte	Pa.
Huber Smith	Maplewood Middle School	Sulphur	La.
Michael Smith	Nyack High School	Nyack	N.Y.
Nick Smith	Hillcrest High School	Tuscaloosa	Ala.
Patrick Smith	Pueblo West High School	Pueblo	Colo.
Ronald Smith	Northfield Mount Hermon	Gill	Mass.
Andrea Crisara Snouffer	West Ridge Middle School	Austin	Texas
Wilbert Solomon	McLean Middle School	Fort Worth	Texas
Charles Somech	Murrayville Elementary	Wilmington	N.C.
Eric Songer	Chaska Middle School West	Chaska	Minn.
Michael Steele	Lake Orion High School	Lake Orion	Mich.
Roxanne Stevenson	Chicago State University	Chicago	Ill.
James Story	Volunteer State Community College	Gallatin	Tenn.
Brad Stoughton	Fall Creek High School	Fall Creek	Wis.
Daniel Strange	University of Miami	Coral Gables	Fla.
Jeffrey Street	Jesse C. Carson High School	China Grove	N.C.
Michael Struzik	Brighton High School	Rochester	N.Y.
Loy Studer	S. H. Rider High School	Wichita Falls	Texas
Siema Swartzel	Arnold Memorial Elementary School	Cleveland	Tenn.
Jennifer Theisen	Howell L. Watkins Middle School	Palm Beach Gardens	Fla.
Matthew Thomas	River Trail Middle School	Johns Creek	Ga.
Vann Thornton	Savannah Arts Academy	Savannah	Ga.
Amber Turcott	Tarpon Springs Middle School	Tarpon Springs	Fla.
Vincent Turturiello	Scotch Plains Fanwood High School	Scotch Plains	N.J.

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<u>Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Josh Tyree	Liberty Middle School	Cumming	Ga.
Matt Vanacoro	Fox Lane Middle School	Mt. Kisco	N.Y.
Amy Vanek	Clarksburg High School	Clarksburg	Md.
Micah Volz	Saint Clair High School	St. Clair	Mich.
Ashley "AJ" Walker	Linden Hall School	Lititz	Pa.
Kristen Walter	Dana Elementary School	Hendersonville	N.C.
Jay Wardeska	Brunswick High School	Brunswick	Ohio
Fred Wenger	East Middle School	Great Falls	Mont.
Ken Wiele	Indian Trail High School and Academy	Kenosha	Wis.
Dustin Wiley	Firelands High School	Oberlin	Ohio
Diana Wiley-Harrigan	Sauk Elementary School	Richton Park	Ill.
Katie Wilson	Cathedral Catholic High School	San Diego	Calif.
Kelly Winovich	Northgate Middle and Senior High School	Pittsburgh	Pa.
Mark Wurtzel	Pershing Middle School	Houston	Texas
James Wynne	Jefferson Township High School	Oak Ridge	N.J.
Danny Yancey	Martin Gifted and Talented Magnet Middle School	Raleigh	N.C.

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](#).

The GRAMMY Foundation was established in 1988 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 Recording Academy and the GRAMMY Foundation partnered to present their first Music Educator Award. Open to current U.S. music teachers in K through college, the Music Educator Award will be presented at the Special Merit Awards ceremony during GRAMMY Week 2015. For more information about the Music Educator Award, please visit GRAMMYMusicTeacher.com. 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](#), follow the GRAMMY Foundation on [Twitter](#) (@GRAMMYFdn) and join us on [Instagram](#) (@GRAMMYFdn),

Converse Inc., based in North Andover, Massachusetts, is a wholly owned subsidiary of NIKE, Inc. Established in 1908, the Converse brand has built a reputation as "America's Original Sports Company"™ and has been associated with a rich heritage of legendary shoes such as the Chuck Taylor® All Star® shoe, the Jack Purcell® shoe and the One Star® shoe. Today, Converse offers a diverse portfolio including lifestyle men's, women's and children's footwear, apparel and accessories. Converse product is sold globally by retailers in over 160 countries and through 83 company-owned retail locations in the United States. For more information, visit media.converse.com.

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Disney Performing Arts unlocks student potential and helps young people make their own dreams come true - whether it's performing in front of an international audience of thousands at Disney theme parks and resorts or honing their craft in enriching workshops and clinics taught by entertainment professionals. Every year, thousands of vocal, instrumental, and other ensembles travel from around the world to participate in Disney Performing Arts programs at the Disneyland Resort in Southern California and the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida. Disney delivers workshops and performance opportunities that enrich, inspire and often lead to life-changing personal achievement.

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 30 countries. For more information, visit www.community.ford.com.

Journeys is a leader in the teen specialty retail scene, with more than 800 stores in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and Canada. Journeys uses fashion savvy and merchandising science to keep in step with the fast-paced footwear and accessories market for 13- to 22-year-old guys and girls. Journeys offers a wide variety of trendy, relevant brands that cater to teens that seek the hottest, new styles. However, the Journeys store is more than a retail environment — it's an extension of the teen lifestyle. From the plasma TVs playing exclusive content and the latest music videos, to the visual merchandising strategy and promotions, to the employees whose image and style reflect the customers' lifestyle and attitude. In addition, Journeys reaches its customers through www.journeys.com, a mobile website, catalog, national advertising, strategic cross-promotions, social media and grass-roots events like the Noise Tour. Journeys — An Attitude You Can Wear!
Journeys is a division of Genesco Inc.

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