



*****MEDIA ALERT FOR MAY 31, 2017*****

**197 QUARTERFINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2018 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 The GRAMMY Museum®'s Education Champions Converse, Disney Performing Arts, Ford Motor Company Fund, And Journeys

WHO: A total of 197 music teachers from 187 cities across 45 states plus Washington, D.C., have been announced as **quarterfinalists for the Music Educator Award™** presented by the **Recording Academy®** and the **GRAMMY Museum®**. In total, **more than 2,300 initial nominations** were submitted from all 50 states. **Nominations for the 2019 Music Educator Award are now open at www.grammymusicteacher.com.**

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.

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 Champions **Converse, Disney Performing Arts, Ford Motor Company Fund, and Journeys**. 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: **Quarterfinalists have been announced and are listed below.** The **semifinalists** will be announced in **September**. For more information, please visit www.grammymusicteacher.com.

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2018 Music Educator Award Quarterfinalists, Page 2

<u>Name</u>	<u>School Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
Eric Allen	Western Middle School for the Arts	Louisville	Ky.
Anthony Allmond	Kaiser High School	Fontana	Calif.
Corey Ames	Deer Path Middle School	Lake Forest	Ill.
Bonnie Anderson	Coronado Village Elementary	Universal City	Texas
Victor Anderson	Yorkville High School	Yorkville	Ill.
Pamela Andrews	Station Camp Elementary	Gallatin	Tenn.
Stratos Argyriou	American Heritage School Plantation	Plantation	Fla.
David Bachart	New Hope-Solebury High School	New Hope	Pa.
Lynn Baker	University of Denver, Lamont School of Music	Denver	Colo.
Jacob Bartlett	Peru State College	Peru	Neb.
James Beaumier	Hartsville High School	Hartsville	S.C.
Shawna Beeler	Vista Ridge High School	Colorado Springs	Colo.
Jeff Bellgardt	Mt. Enterprise High School	Mt. Enterprise	Texas
Andrew Bennett	Fredonia Central School District	Fredonia	N.Y.
Drew Benware	Saranac Lake High School	Saranac Lake	N.Y.
Shane Bonney	West Canada Valley Central School District	Newport	N.Y.
Lesley Bossert	Parkrose High School	Portland	Ore.
Jennifer Bourbonais	Overpark Elementary School	Olive Branch	Miss.
Andrew Bower	Dolores T. Aaron Academy	New Orleans	La.
JoAnn Bressler	Morley Nelson Elementary	Boise	Idaho
Scott Brown	Dickerson Middle School	Marietta	Ga.
Anthony Cao	Madison West High School	Madison	Wis.
Matt Carraher	Central Dauphin High School	Harrisburg	Pa.
Travis Coakley	Biloxi High School	Biloxi	Miss.
Connie Coleman	Bixby High School	Bixby	Okla.
Mark Collins	John S. Battle High School	Bristol	Va.
Melanie Cometa	Grasso Technical High School	Groton	Conn.
Lisa Corriveau	Mansfield Middle School	Storrs	Conn.
Curtis Crone	Red Lion Area Senior High School	Red Lion	Pa.
Kevin Croxton	Parkview Elementary School	Van Buren	Ark.
Charles Cushinery	Ed W. Clark High School	Las Vegas	Nev.
Jim Daughters	Twenhofel Middle School	Independence	Ky.
Troy Davis	Aragon High School	San Mateo	Calif.
Victor de los Santos	Santa Ana High School	Santa Ana	Calif.
Brittany DeLaVergne	Mineral Wells Junior High	Mineral Wells	Texas
Jamal Dickerson	Creative Arts Morgan Village Academy	Camden	N.J.
Joe Donnelly	Jackson Creek Middle School	Bloomington	Ind.
Vin Downes	Bayonne High School	Bayonne	N.J.
Michelle Droe	Lincoln Elementary	Cedar Falls	Iowa
Lee Duke	Floral Park Memorial High School	Floral Park	N.Y.
Amanda Ellerbe	St. Andrew's School	Richmond	Va.
Teresa Elliott	Paul Laurence Dunbar High School	Lexington	Ky.
Julie Ely	Stone Ridge Elementary	Yukon	Okla.

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Thomas Engel	Calhoun Community College	Decatur	Ala.
Gabriel Fielder	Leesburg High School	Leesburg	Fla.
Christian Fletcher	American College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts	New York	N.Y.
Jay Forrest	Clover High School	Clover	S.C.
Michelle Frank	Franklin Learning Center	Philadelphia	Pa.
Taylor Franklin	Northview Academy	Kodak	Tenn.
Neil Freebern	Burr and Burton Academy	Manchester	Vt.
Curtis Gaesser	Folsom High School	Folsom	Calif.
Melodie Galloway	University of North Carolina—Asheville	Asheville	N.C.
Michael Gaylord	Rancho Mirage High School	Rancho Mirage	Calif.
Dominic Gischia	Johnson Creek Middle/High School	Johnson Creek	Wis.
Vivian Gonzalez	South Miami K-8 Center	Miami	Fla.
Guy Gregg	Oak Creek High School	Oak Creek	Wis.
Jack Gremler	Nanuet High School	Nanuet	N.Y.
Gary Gribble	Alan C. Pope High School	Marietta	Ga.
Eric Hankey	Bishop Montgomery High School	Torrance	Calif.
Richard Harris	Islip High School	Islip	N.Y.
Daniel Harvey	Seminole Ridge Community High School	Loxahatchee	Fla.
Sheryl Hauk	West Bloomfield High School	West Bloomfield Township	Mich.
Jamie Hawkins	Southwood Academy of the Arts	Anderson	S.C.
Kristen Hill	St. Andrew's Country Day School	Kenmore	N.Y.
Kyle Hill	Pearl River Community College	Poplarville	Miss.
Peter Holsberg	The Berkeley Carroll School	Brooklyn	N.Y.
Matthew Howe	Cathedral City High School	Cathedral City	Calif.
Sara K Hugley	Grenada Upper Elementary School	Grenada	Miss.
Mitchell Hutchings	Greatbatch School of Music	Houghton	N.Y.
Kathryn Ingerson	Thousand Islands High School	Clayton	N.Y.
Ralph Jackson	Bridle Path Elementary School	Lansdale	Pa.
Brandi Jason	Liberty High School	Eldersburg	Md.
Jack Jean	Whitewater High School	Fayetteville	Ga.
Christina Jenkins	Idaho Arts Charter School	Nampa	Idaho
Jamar Jenkins	Coupeville High School	Coupeville	Wash.
Luke Johnson	Victoria Grade School	Victoria	Kan.
Nathan Johnston	Basha High School	Chandler	Ariz.
Seth Jones	Spring-Ford High School	Royersford	Pa.
Aaron Jordan	Liberty Elementary	Omaha	Neb.
Katie Kardell	Spencer High School	Spencer	Iowa
Paul Kay	Mirman School	Los Angeles	Calif.
Russ Kellogg	Charles M. Russell High School	Great Falls	Mont.
Janet Kirsten	William Lehman Elementary	Miami	Fla.
Lou Kitchner	Bedford Middle School	Westport	Conn.
Aaron Kohen	Calabasas High School	Calabasas	Calif.
Kyle Kubicki	Norwood Public School	Norwood	N.J.
Rachel Lake	Ilwaco High School	Ilwaco	Wash.

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Christina Latham	Santa Cruz High School	Santa Cruz	Calif.
Mark Laughlin	Georgia Southwestern State University	Americus	Ga.
Matt Laura	Fordson High School	Dearborn	Mich.
Andrew Lesser	Wilbur Watts Intermediate School	Burlington	N.J.
Robert Long	Van Meter Community School	Van Meter	Iowa
Lindsey Lorefice	Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School	Cliffwood	N.J.
David Lown	Carroll Senior High School	Southlake	Texas
Peter Manzi	Carlsbad High School	Carlsbad	Calif.
Kate Margrave	Pine Creek High School	Colorado Springs	Colo.
Dean Marino	West Port High School	Ocala	Fla.
Kimberly Martin-Boyd	Normal West High School	Normal	Ill.
Jennifer Maxwell	Nantucket Music Center	Nantucket	Mass.
Rachel Maxwell	Traughber Junior High School	Oswego	Ill.
Richard Maxwell	Arcadia High School	Phoenix	Ariz.
Ronald McFadden	Southwest Academy Magnet School for Science & Engineering	Baltimore	Md.
Torey Mengoni	St. Clare / St. Paul	Scranton	Pa.
Cava Lee Menzies	Oakland School for the Arts	Oakland	Calif.
Anthony Merlino	Albright College	Reading	Pa.
David Merrill	Longmont High School	Longmont	Colo.
Brian Messier	Belchertown High School	Belchertown	Mass.
Sherri Miller	Dale County High School	Midland City	Ala.
Beth Moore	Central Regional Middle School	Bayville	N.J.
Charles Morgan	Joliet Junior College	Joliet	Ill.
Jocelyn Morrow	Sage Ridge School	Reno	Nev.
John Mortensen	Cedarville University	Cedarville	Ohio
Nathan De'Shon Myers	Booker T. Washington HSPVA	Dallas	Texas
Adam Noble	Big Spring High School	Newville	Pa.
Timothy O'Brien	Gila Ridge High School	Yuma	Ariz.
Greg Odom	Roswell High School	Roswell	N.M.
Brennan Orié	Amity Middle School Bethany	Bethany	Conn.
Dee Dee Paakkari	John Marshall High School	Los Angeles	Calif.
Robert Palmer	Gables Elementary School	Neptune	N.J.
Stephen Panoff	Sandalwood High School	Jacksonville	Fla.
Matthew Paterno	Wayne Hills High School/William Paterson University	Wayne	N.J.
Henry Pearlberg	Strath Haven Middle School	Wallingford	Pa.
Michael Pelavin	Kadima Day School	West Hills	Calif.
Andrew Perkins	Fenton High School	Fenton	Mich.
Jill Phillips	Appleton Elementary School	Grand Junction	Colo.
Elizabeth Pilkington	Bondurant-Farrar Middle School	Bondurant	Iowa
Anthony Pinelli, Jr.	Paul D. Schreiber High School	Port Washington	N.Y.
Stacey Place	Metcalf Elementary School	Exeter	R.I.
Derek Polischuk	Michigan State University	East Lansing	Mich.

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Anthony Pollera	RC Murphy Junior High School	Stony Brook	N.Y.
Michael Raiber	Oklahoma City University	Oklahoma City	Okla.
Michael Rais	Frost Middle School	Livonia	Mich.
Jordan Rakita	Heritage Academy	Mesa	Ariz.
Amy Reber	Lake Oconee Academy	Greensboro	Ga.
Jeffery Redding	West Orange High School	Winter Garden	Fla.
Ulli Reiner	Bernardo Heights Middle School	San Diego	Calif.
Aaron Rex	Jackson High School	Jackson	Ohio
David Reynolds Jr	Vienna Elementary School	Vienna	Va.
David Rhen	Towson High School	Towson	Md.
Sandra Rosen	Manitou Springs Middle School	Manitou Springs	Colo.
Heather Rosner	George Mason Elementary School	Alexandria	Va.
Caleb Ruppe	Mayo Elementary School	Cowpens	S.C.
Markeise Russell	Nicholas Senn High School	Chicago	Ill.
Melissa Salguero	P.S.48 Joseph R. Drake	Bronx	N.Y.
Peter Sampson	Whiteland Community High School	Whiteland	Ind.
Daniel Sapp Jr	James Brown Academy of Musik Pupils	Augusta	Ga.
Wendy Sarnoff	Venice High School	Venice	Calif.
Mindy Scheierman	Millburn High School	Millburn	N.J.
Steve Scherer	Geneseo High School	Geneseo	Ill.
Dr. Kathy Scherler	Oklahoma Baptist University	Shawnee	Okla.
Scott Schleuter	Perrysburg High School	Perrysburg	Ohio
Bonnie Scholz	Pius XI High School	Milwaukee	Wis.
Joshua Shaw	Coronado High School	Lubbock	Texas
James Sheffer	Medford Memorial Middle School	Medford	N.J.
Kimberly Shimpo	North Mesquite High School	Mesquite	Texas
Karl Siewertsen	Plainedge Middle School	Bethpage	N.Y.
Robert Skrocki	Monadnock Regional High School	Swanzey	N.H.
Nathan Sletten	Earlham Community School District	Earlham	Iowa
Holly Smith	Ascension Catholic School	Louisville	Ky.
Robert W. Smith	Troy University	Troy	Ala.
Theodora Sotiropoulos	Northern Highlands Regional High School	Allendale	N.J.
Laura Steigerwald McCoy	St. Joseph Central Elementary School	Fort Wayne	Ind.
Amy J. Steiner	Hutchinson Central Technical High School	Buffalo	N.Y.
Scott Stewart	The Westminster Schools	Atlanta	Ga.
Vicky Stockton	N.Y. State School for the Deaf	Rome	N.Y.
Ronald Stowell	Will Rogers Middle School	Miami	Okla.
Kevin Michael Sullivan	Special Music School- High School	New York	N.Y.
Michelle Swanson	University of Northern Iowa	Cedar Falls	Iowa
Amy Szanto	Rose Garden Elementary	Universal City	Texas
Theresa Thomasulo	The Park School of Buffalo	Buffalo	N.Y.
Brian Thompson	Richfield High School	Richfield	Utah
Daryl Timmer	Woodbury High School	Woodbury	Minn.
Matthew Trevino	Roan Forest Elementary	San Antonio	Texas

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George Tullos	Longfellow Middle School	San Antonio	Texas
Jose Valenzuela	Weslaco High School	Weslaco	Texas
Joel Vanderheyden	Jefferson College	Hillsboro	Mo.
Philip Ventre	Choate Rosemary Hall	Wallingford	Conn.
Vivian Ventura	Arvida Middle School	Miami	Fla.
Lauren Visel	Orange County High School	Orange	Va.
Ida Warner	Eldersburg Elementary School	Sykesville	Md.
Davida Washer	Colin Powell Elementary	El Paso	Texas
Kyle Weary	Barbara Ingram School for the Arts	Hagerstown	Md.
Shawn Weis	Natrona County High School	Casper	Wyo.
Robert West	Ed W. Clark High School	Las Vegas	Nev.
Tyler Wigglesworth	West Covina High School	West Covina	Calif.
Diana Wightman	Liberty Middle School	Newark	Ohio
Alexander Wilga	Davenport Central High School	Davenport	Iowa
Janeen Wilkins	East Anchorage High School	Anchorage	Alaska
Teresa Williams	Cook High School	Adel	Ga.
Stephanie Williamson	Williamsburg High School	Williamsburg	Iowa
Ashley Willits	Notre Dame High School Belmont	Belmont	Calif.
Kelly Winovich	Northgate Middle/Senior High School	Pittsburgh	Pa.
Mary Woodward	North Vista Elementary School	Florence	S.C.
James Yaques	Palm Beach Central High School	Wellington	Fla.
Davey Yarborough	The Duke Ellington School of the Arts	Washington	D.C.
Ben Yoder	Fall Creek Junior High School	Fishers	Ind.
Jamie Young	Lake Cormorant High School	Lake Cormorant	Miss.

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](#).

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 educational and preservation initiatives. As a unified organization, the GRAMMY Museum fulfills its mission of making music a valued and indelible part of our society through exhibits, education, grants, and public programming.

Converse Inc., based in Boston 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 and is sold globally by retailers in over 160 countries. For more information, visit Media.Converse.com and follow [@converse](#).

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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 Calif. and the Walt Disney World Resort in Fla. Disney delivers workshops and performance opportunities that enrich, inspire and often lead to life-changing personal achievement.

Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services works with community and global partners to advance driving safety, education and community life. Ford Motor Company Fund has operated for more than 65 years with ongoing funding from Ford Motor Company. Ford Driving Skills for Life is free, interactive, hands-on safety training focused on skill development and driving techniques, while addressing inexperience, distractions and impaired driving. Innovation in education is encouraged through Ford Blue Oval Scholars, Ford Next Generation Learning and other inspiring programs that enhance high school learning and provide college scholarships and university grants. The Ford Volunteer Corps enlists more than 30,000 Ford employees and retirees each year to work on local projects that strengthen their communities and improve people's lives in more than 40 countries around the world. For more information, visit 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 to retail stores, Journeys reaches its customers through journeys.com, catalogs, social media, and grass-roots events like the Warped Tour, Alternative Press Music Awards, and national club-level music tours in the spring and fall seasons. Journeys—An Attitude You Can Wear! Journeys is a division of Genesco Inc.

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