



# *The Recording Academy*<sup>®</sup>

3030 Olympic Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90404

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## **BEYONCÉ LEADS GRAMMY<sup>®</sup> NOMINATIONS WITH NINE; DRAKE, RIHANNA, AND KANYE WEST EACH GARNER EIGHT**

## **ADELE, BEYONCÉ, JUSTIN BIEBER, DRAKE, AND STURGILL SIMPSON VIE FOR ALBUM OF THE YEAR AT THE 59TH ANNUAL GRAMMY AWARDS<sup>®</sup> ON FEB. 12, 2017, LIVE ON CBS**

**SANTA MONICA (Dec. 6, 2016)** — **The Recording Academy**<sup>®</sup> welcomes the class of nominees for the **59th Annual GRAMMY Awards**<sup>®</sup>. Top nominees are **Beyoncé** (9), **Drake** (8), **Rihanna** (8), **Kanye West** (8), and **Chance The Rapper** (7). Selected from nearly 22,000 submissions across 84 categories, the nominations reflect the range of artistic innovation that defined the year in music. As the only peer-selected music award, the GRAMMY<sup>®</sup> is voted on by The Recording Academy's membership body of music makers, who represent all genres and creative disciplines, including recording artists, songwriters, producers, mixers, and engineers.

"Just as we see emerging musicians experimenting, we're also seeing established artists resisting what's expected of them and, instead, embracing the creative freedom they've been afforded through their success, blurring the lines between music's mainstream and artistic edge," said Neil Portnow, President/CEO of The Recording Academy.

The dynamic range of this year's nominees is exhibited across several awards fields, including American Roots Music, R&B, Dance/Electronic Music, and Rock, but it's perhaps best showcased in the Album Of The Year category, which represents a mix of genres—pop, R&B, rap, and country. Looking at the recordings nominated for Album Of The Year, an even greater degree of musical advancement and sonic experimentation is revealed: the emotion-stirring vocals of **Adele**, who brings a soulful depth to a collection of classically fine-tuned pop ballads; **Beyoncé's** ability to paint a picture, layering poignant R&B vocals over a tapestry of sounds that range from blues-rock to hip-hop; **Justin Bieber's** growth as a songwriter and evolution as a pop powerhouse; **Drake's** continued genre-bending, which now invites island influences to his signature sound; and the definition-defying **Sturgill Simpson** who made many of us re-explore the vast territories that country abides.

"Every submission we receive for GRAMMY consideration represents intensely soul-baring, technically exacting creative work—no group understands what each recording embodies better than Recording Academy voters, who are professional music makers themselves," said Bill Freimuth, Recording Academy Senior Vice President of Awards.

Final-round GRAMMY ballots will be mailed Dec. 14 and are due Jan. 13, 2017. The Recording Academy will present the GRAMMY Awards on **Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017**, live from STAPLES Center in Los Angeles and broadcast on the CBS Television Network from **8:00-11:30 pm ET/5:00-8:30 pm PT**.

The following is a sampling of nominations from the GRAMMY Awards' 30 Fields and 84 categories. For a complete nominations list, visit [www.grammy.com](http://www.grammy.com). Congratulate nominees by following "Recording Academy / GRAMMYs" on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#), and use #GRAMMYs to join the conversation.

(more)

**GENERAL FIELD**

**Album Of The Year:**

25 — Adele  
*Lemonade* — Beyoncé  
*Purpose* — Justin Bieber  
*Views* — Drake  
*A Sailor's Guide To Earth* — Sturgill Simpson

**Record Of The Year:**

"Hello" — Adele  
"Formation" — Beyoncé  
"7 Years" — Lukas Graham  
"Work" — Rihanna Featuring Drake  
"Stressed Out" — Twenty One Pilots

**Song Of The Year:**

"Formation" — Khalif Brown, Asheton Hogan, Beyoncé Knowles & Michael L. Williams II, songwriters (Beyoncé)  
"Hello" — Adele Adkins & Greg Kurstin, songwriters (Adele)  
"I Took A Pill In Ibiza" — Mike Posner, songwriter (Mike Posner)  
"Love Yourself" — Justin Bieber, Benjamin Levin & Ed Sheeran, songwriters (Justin Bieber)  
"7 Years" — Lukas Forchhammer, Stefan Forrest, Morten Pilegaard & Morten Ristorp, songwriters (Lukas Graham)

**Best New Artist:**

Kelsea Ballerini  
The Chainsmokers  
Chance The Rapper  
Maren Morris  
Anderson .Paak

**POP FIELD**

**Best Pop Vocal Album:**

25 — Adele  
*Purpose* — Justin Bieber  
*Dangerous Woman* — Ariana Grande  
*Confident* — Demi Lovato  
*This Is Acting* — Sia

**DANCE/ELECTRONIC MUSIC FIELD**

**Best Dance/Electronic Album:**

*Skin* — Flume  
*Electronica 1: The Time Machine* — Jean-Michel Jarre  
*Epoch* — Tycho  
*Barbara Barbara, We Face A Shining Future* — Underworld  
*Louie Vega Starring...XXVIII* — Louie Vega

**ROCK FIELD**

**Best Rock Album:**

*California* — Blink-182  
*Tell Me I'm Pretty* — Cage The Elephant

*Magma* — Gojira  
*Death Of A Bachelor* — Panic! At The Disco  
*Weezer* — Weezer

**ALTERNATIVE FIELD**

**Best Alternative Music Album:**

*22, A Million* — Bon Iver  
*Blackstar* — David Bowie  
*The Hope Six Demolition Project* — PJ Harvey  
*Post Pop Depression* — Iggy Pop  
*A Moon Shaped Pool* — Radiohead

**R&B FIELD**

**Best Urban Contemporary Album:**

*Lemonade* — Beyoncé  
*Ology* — Gallant  
*We Are King* — KING  
*Malibu* — Anderson .Paak  
*Anti* — Rihanna

**RAP FIELD**

**Best Rap Performance:**

"No Problem" — Chance The Rapper Featuring Lil Wayne & 2 Chainz  
"Panda" — Desiigner  
"Pop Style" — Drake Featuring The Throne  
"All The Way Up" — Fat Joe & Remy Ma Featuring French Montana & Infared  
"That Part" — ScHoolboy Q Featuring Kanye West

**COUNTRY FIELD**

**Best Country Solo Performance:**

"Love Can Go To Hell" — Brandy Clark  
"Vice" — Miranda Lambert  
"My Church" — Maren Morris  
"Church Bells" — Carrie Underwood  
"Blue Ain't Your Color" — Keith Urban

**JAZZ FIELD**

**Best Jazz Vocal Album:**

*Sound Of Red* — René Marie  
*Upward Spiral* — Branford Marsalis Quartet With Special Guest Kurt Elling  
*Take Me To The Alley* — Gregory Porter  
*Harlem On My Mind* — Catherine Russell  
*The Sting Variations* — The Tierney Sutton Band

**GOSPEL/CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC FIELD**

**Best Gospel Album:**

*Listen* — Tim Bowman Jr.  
*Fill This House* — Shirley Caesar  
*A Worshipper's Heart [Live]* — Todd Dulaney  
*Losing My Religion* — Kirk Franklin  
*Demonstrate [Live]* — William Murphy

**Best Contemporary Christian Music Album:**

*Poets & Saints* — All Sons & Daughters  
*American Prodigal* — Crowder  
*Be One* — Natalie Grant  
*Youth Revival [Live]* — Hillsong Young & Free  
*Love Remains* — Hillary Scott & The Scott Family

**LATIN FIELD**

**Best Latin Pop Album:**

*Un Besito Mas* — Jesse & Joy  
*Ilusión* — Gaby Moreno  
*Similares* — Laura Pausini  
*Seguir Latiendo* — Sanalejo  
*Buena Vida* — Diego Torres

**AMERICAN ROOTS MUSIC FIELD**

**Best American Roots Performance:**

"Ain't No Man" — The Avett Brothers  
"Mother's Children Have A Hard Time" — Blind Boys Of Alabama  
"Factory Girl" — Rhiannon Giddens  
"House Of Mercy" — Sarah Jarosz  
"Wreck You" — Lori McKenna

**SPOKEN WORD FIELD**

**Best Spoken Word Album (Includes Poetry, Audio Books & Storytelling):**

*The Girl With The Lower Back Tattoo* — Amy Schumer  
*In Such Good Company: Eleven Years Of Laughter, Mayhem, And Fun In The Sandbox* — Carol Burnett  
*M Train* — Patti Smith  
*Under The Big Black Sun: A Personal History Of L.A.Punk (John Doe With Tom DeSavia)* — (Various Artists)  
*Unfaithful Music & Disappearing Ink* — Elvis Costello

**MUSIC FOR VISUAL MEDIA FIELD**

**Best Song Written For Visual Media:**

"Can't Stop The Feeling!" — Max Martin, Shellback & Justin Timberlake, songwriters (Justin Timberlake, Anna Kendrick, Gwen Stefani, James Corden, Zooey Deschanel, Walt Dohrn, Ron Funches, Caroline Hjelt, Aino Jawo, Christopher Mintz-Plasse & Kunal Nayyar), Track from: *Trolls*  
"Heathens" — Tyler Joseph, songwriter (Twenty One Pilots), Track from: *Suicide Squad*  
"Just Like Fire" — Oscar Holter, Max Martin, P!nk & Shellback, songwriters (P!nk), Track from: *Alice Through The Looking Glass*  
"Purple Lamborghini" — Shamann Cooke, Sonny Moore & William Roberts, songwriters (Skrillex & Rick Ross), Track from: *Suicide Squad*  
"Try Everything" — Mikkel S. Eriksen, Sia Furler & Tor Erik Hermansen, songwriters (Shakira), Track from: *Zootopia*  
"The Veil" — Peter Gabriel, songwriter (Peter Gabriel), Track from: *Snowden*

**MUSIC VIDEO/FILM FIELD**

**Best Music Video:**

"Formation" — Beyoncé  
"River" — Leon Bridges

"Up & Up" — Coldplay  
"Gosh" — Jamie XX  
"Upside Down & Inside Out" — OK Go

**PRODUCTION, NON-CLASSICAL FIELD**

**Producer Of The Year, Non-Classical:**

Benny Blanco  
Greg Kurstin  
Max Martin  
Nineteen85  
Ricky Reed

**About The Recording Academy:**

Established in 1957, The Recording Academy is an organization of musicians, songwriters, producers, engineers and recording professionals 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 Recording Academy, please visit [www.grammy.com](http://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](#).

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**MEDIA, PLEASE NOTE:** A complete list of nominees is available at [www.grammy.com](http://www.grammy.com). The deadline to apply for press credentials to cover the 59th Annual GRAMMY Awards has passed, and credential applications will no longer be accepted.