RECORDING ACADEMY® AND GRAMMY MUSEUM® HONOR LOCAL TEACHERS ACROSS UNITED STATES AS 2027 MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD™ FINALISTS

TEN MUSIC TEACHERS WILL RECEIVE CASH HONORARIUMS. ONE AWARD WINNER TO BE ANNOUNCED DURING GRAMMY® WEEK

WHO: **A total of 10 music teachers from 10 cities across seven states** have been announced as **finalists** for the **2027 Music Educator Award™** presented by the **Recording Academy®** and **Grammy Museum®**. In total, **more than 2,100** initial nominations were submitted from all 50 states. **Nominations for the 2028 Music Educator Award are now open at www.grammymusicteacher.com.** A complete list of finalists is below:

- ***Justin Antos,*** *Dwight D. Eisenhower High School | Blue Island, IL*
- ***Ernesta Chicklowski,*** *Roosevelt Elementary School | Tampa, FL*
- ***Michael Coelho,*** *Ipswich High School | Ipswich, MA*
- ***Roland Hatcher,*** *Adlai E. Stevenson High School | Lincolnshire, IL*
- ***Rachel Jayson,*** *Lexington High School | Lexington, MA*
- ***Dominique Lane,*** *Crisp County High School | Cordele, GA*
- ***Angela McKenna,*** *Classen School of Advanced Studies @ Northeast High School | Oklahoma City, OK*
- ***Alberto Rodriguez,*** *Mount Vernon High School | Alexandria, VA*
- ***Edgar Rubio,*** *Gulliver Prep School | Coral Gables, FL*
- ***Emily Saenz,*** *Benbrook Middle/High School | Fort Worth, TX*

WHAT: **The Music Educator Award** recognizes current educators who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the music education field and demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in the schools.

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. They will receive a $10,000 honorarium and matching grant for their school's music program. The nine additional finalists will receive a $1,000 honorarium and matching grants. The remaining 15 semifinalists will receive a $500 honorarium with matching school grants.

Nominations and applications for the 2028 Music Educator Award are now open. For more information, please visit www.grammymusicteacher.com.

ABOUT THE GRAMMY MUSEUM
The Grammy Museum is a nonprofit organization dedicated to celebrating and exploring music from yesterday and today to inspire the music of tomorrow through exhibits, education, grants, preservation initiatives, and public programming. Paying tribute to our collective musical heritage, the Museum values and celebrates the dynamic connection in people's diverse backgrounds and music's many genres, telling stories that inspire us, and creative expression that leads change in our industry.

For more information, visit www.grammymuseum.org, "like" the Grammy Museum on Facebook, and follow @GrammyMuseum on YouTube, Instagram and TikTok.

ABOUT THE GRAMMYS
Music is a powerful force for good in the world. It heals. It unites. It moves us like nothing else. The people who create it deserve an organization dedicated to their well-being. That's us. We exist to serve music, and all the people who make it. The Grammy® organization is powered by 30,000 members, working songwriters, performers, producers, engineers, and music professionals, and we serve music people by spearheading public policy efforts to protect their rights, opening pathways of opportunity for them while dismantling old barriers, providing direct assistance, recognizing musical excellence, and upholding a peer-based awards process that endures as music's highest honor. Our service positively impacts music creators everywhere, and results in a growing, thriving and more fair music industry.

The Grammy organization is made up of the Recording Academy®, The Latin Recording Academy®, MusiCares®, the Grammy Museum®, and the Latin Grammy Cultural Foundation®. For more information about the Grammys, please visit Grammy.com. For breaking news and exclusive content, join the Grammys' social communities on Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, Facebook, LinkedIn, Threads, and X. For media assets, please visit our Press Room.

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