



For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE

**GRAMMY MUSEUM® ANNOUNCES
2017 GRAMMY® SIGNATURE SCHOOLS**

*Enterprise Award Grants Announced For Quality Music Programs In
Seven Economically Underserved U.S. Public High Schools*

Supported By The Ford Motor Company Fund And The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (May 2, 2017)—The [GRAMMY Museum®](#) announced today that seven economically underserved U.S. schools have been selected as **GRAMMY® Signature Schools Enterprise Award** recipients for 2017 and have been awarded cash grants totaling up to \$106,500 for their quality music programs. Created in 1998, the GRAMMY Signature Schools program is a GRAMMY in the Schools® initiative that recognizes U.S. public high schools that make an outstanding commitment to music education during an academic school year.

Each of the seven GRAMMY Signature Schools Enterprise Award recipients will receive a custom award and a monetary grant to benefit its music program. The GRAMMY Signature Schools Enterprise Award is made possible through the generous support of the **Chuck Lorre Family Foundation** and the **Ford Motor Company Fund**.

The GRAMMY Museum also presents the **GRAMMY Signature Schools Community Award**, an extension of the GRAMMY Signature Schools program in partnership with **Brookfield Properties, Converse, Journeys, RBC Capital Markets, Hot Topic Foundation**, and the **Les Paul Foundation**. Through this alliance, the GRAMMY Museum identifies financially challenged public high school music programs to receive this award and a \$2,000 grant. During the current fiscal year, approximately 150 schools to date have received the GRAMMY Signature Schools Community Award, with grants totaling \$300,000.

"The GRAMMY Signature Schools program is one of the most far-reaching of our key education initiatives and it has grown significantly since its establishment," said Neil Portnow, President/CEO of The Recording Academy® and Chair of the GRAMMY Museum Board. "Especially now, when we are engaged in a critical national discussion about the importance of the arts and the role of our educational institutions, it seems imperative that The Recording Academy continues to lend its resources and reputation to underscore the fundamental necessity of these in all of our lives."

"Music education plays a critical role in the success of students throughout the U.S.," said Pamela Alexander, director, community development, Ford Motor Company Fund. "Ford is honored to reward high-performing music programs in partnership with the GRAMMY Museum."

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**2017 GRAMMY Signature Schools Enterprise Awards supported by
the Chuck Lorre Family Foundation**

Culver City High School—Culver City, Calif.
Huntington Park High School—Huntington Park, Calif.
Manual Arts High School—Los Angeles
Robert Fulton College Preparatory School—Van Nuys, Calif.

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East Anchorage High School—Anchorage, Alaska
Chicago Military Academy at Bronzeville—Chicago
Overton High School—Memphis, Tenn.

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

The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation (CLFF) is dedicated to funding innovative and compassionate organizations in the areas of education, health, and the arts. Reflecting the values and unique experiences of the Lorre family, the Foundation supports programs, services, and opportunities for those struggling with less and striving for more. One of the greatest satisfactions of Chuck Lorre's successful career has been the opportunity to give back. His commitment to philanthropy began in the 1990s when he established the Dharma Grace Foundation. In 2013, he expanded his philanthropic endeavors with the Chuck Lorre Family Foundation as a way to fund and more deeply engage with select forward-thinking charitable organizations and institutions. The Foundation supports philanthropic partnerships and programs with organizations and institutions that inspire hope, leadership, creativity, and productivity, primarily in the Los Angeles area.

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**.

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