



The Recording Academy[®]

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THE RECORDING ACADEMY[®] TO HONOR KEITH URBAN AND SENATORS SUSAN COLLINS, TOM UDALL AT GRAMMYS ON THE HILL[®] AWARDS ON APRIL 5

GRAMMY[®] Winners And Nominees To Lobby For Next Generation Of Music Makers On Capitol Hill On April 6

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 4, 2017) — Representatives from the worlds of music and politics will come together at The Recording Academy[®]'s 2017 [GRAMMYS on the Hill[®]](#) Awards on April 5 to honor four-time GRAMMY[®] winner **Keith Urban**. Urban will receive the Recording Artists' Coalition[®] Award for his musical achievements and commitment to numerous music education programs that have inspired young musicians and provided thousands of musical instruments to underserved programs across the country. The Academy will also honor **Sens. Susan Collins (R-Maine)** and **Tom Udall (D-N.M.)** for their ongoing support of music programs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Known as "Washington's most interesting mix of music and politics," the awards presentation takes place on Wednesday, April 5 at the Hamilton Live in Washington D.C. **Martina McBride** will host the ceremony, which will feature unique live performances by **Keith Urban**, **John Popper** of Blues Traveler, and GRAMMY winner **Wynonna** with special guests, as well as a special presentation by renowned television composer **Jonathan Wolff**.

Joined by more than 60 members of Congress, confirmed attendees include GRAMMY-winning producer **Peter Asher**, GRAMMY-winning Americana artist **William Bell**, GRAMMY-winning producer **Steve Berkowitz**, rapper **Chill Moody**, producer and singer/songwriter **Kara DioGuardi**, **Duke Fakir** of Recording Academy Lifetime Achievement Award recipients the Four Tops, GRAMMY winner **Rory Feek** of Joey+Rory, GRAMMY-winning engineer/mixer **Frank Filipetti**, GRAMMY-nominated contemporary Christian singer/songwriter **Natalie Grant**, country music artist **Jack Ingram**, GRAMMY and Latin GRAMMY winners **Jesse & Joy**, GRAMMY-winning engineer/producer **Dmitriy Lipay**, **Kirstin Maldonado** of GRAMMY winners Pentatonix, GRAMMY-nominated R&B singer/songwriter **Mario**, GRAMMY-nominated producer **Harvey Mason Jr.**, **Lukes Morgan** of GRAMMY-winning reggae band Morgan Heritage, **Rick Nielsen** of Cheap Trick, GRAMMY-nominated R&B singer/songwriter **Kelly Price**, GRAMMY-winning blues singer **Bobby Rush**, rapper **Uncle Luke** of 2 Live Crew, and singer/songwriter **VASSY**.

"Keith Urban is an outstanding member of our music community with an extraordinary passion and focus on inspiring and educating the next generation of creators," said Recording Academy President/CEO Neil Portnow. "It is fitting and a great joy to recognize Keith and highlight his ongoing commitment to the future of music."

"As funding for the arts is a critical conversation with the current administration, we are pleased to honor Sen. Collins and Sen. Udall who understand the importance of arts programs for our nation and culture, and whose ongoing support at GRAMMYS on the Hill is sincerely welcomed," Portnow continued.

On April 6, the Academy's annual GRAMMYS on the Hill Advocacy Day will bring more than 100 accomplished music creators from across the country to Washington, D.C., to visit with lawmakers and

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bring music issues to the frontlines in hopes that Congress will better understand how these issues impact not only the music they know and love, but music creators nationwide, including in their hometowns. Bills that will be discussed include the Fair Play Fair Pay Act, which seeks to reform music licensing for sound recordings in a logical, comprehensive way and close current corporate radio loopholes, as well as the Allocation for Music Producers Act (AMP Act), which includes producers in copyright law for the first time. GRAMMYS on the Hill Advocacy Day is the music community's largest annual advocacy day in Washington, D.C.

The GRAMMYS on the Hill Awards are sponsored by performance rights organization SESAC. Event proceeds benefit the GRAMMY Museum®.

For updates and breaking news, please visit The Recording Academy's Advocacy social networks on [Twitter](#) (@GRAMMYAdvocacy) and [Facebook](#).

About Keith Urban

Urban has celebrated 22 No. 1 songs, including "Blue Ain't Your Color" from his Best Country Album GRAMMY-nominated *Ripcord*. A streak of 37 Top 10 songs, dating back to 2000, is an historic mark that has placed him at No. 8 on the all-time Country Airplay Chart. He's sold more than 20 million albums, scoring five consecutive platinum or multiplatinum albums, and he is the only male country artist to simultaneously debut atop the all-genre album charts in the U.S., Canada, and Australia, a feat he's achieved twice.

About Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine)

Elected to the Senate in 1996, Susan Collins is the senior senator from Maine. Over her four terms in the Senate, she has long championed the arts and music education opportunities as the founding member of the Senate Afterschool Caucus and as a member of the Senate Cultural Caucus. Additionally, Sen. Collins serves on the influential Appropriations Committee where she regularly has supported funding for the arts, and on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee where she champions music and arts education opportunities.

About Sen. Tom Udall (D-N.M.)

Tom Udall is the senior senator from New Mexico having previously served in the House of Representatives. In both the House and the Senate, he has tirelessly championed the arts and music. A longtime member of the Senate Cultural Caucus, Sen. Udall became its Democratic Chairman for the 115th Congress. As the ranking member of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Senate Appropriations Subcommittee, Senator Udall annually leads the funding request for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

About The Recording Academy

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's advocacy efforts, please visit [grammy.com/action](#), and follow the online conversation on Twitter @GRAMMYAdvocacy, #SupportMusic, and "like" GRAMMY Advocacy on Facebook.

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