

## GRAMMY MUSEUM<sup>®</sup> ANNOUNCES JONATHAN BERNAL AS 2016 JANE ORTNER EDUCATION AWARD RECIPIENT

*8th Grade English Teacher From Hesperia, Calif., to be Recognized alongside  
Lady Gaga at Annual Luncheon on April 4 in Beverly Hills*

LOS ANGELES (March 14, 2016) — The GRAMMY Museum<sup>®</sup> at L.A. LIVE is pleased to announce **Jonathan Bernal** of Topaz Preparatory Academy in Hesperia, Calif., has been selected as the recipient of the **2016 Jane Ortner Education Award**. The award honors K-12 academic teachers who use music in the classroom as a powerful educational tool. Bernal will be honored during a luncheon on **Monday, April 4** at Ron Burkle's Green Acres home in Beverly Hills, Calif.

As previously announced, GRAMMY<sup>®</sup> winner **Lady Gaga** will also be honored with the Jane Ortner Artist Award, which celebrates a performer who has demonstrated passion and dedication to education through the arts. The luncheon will be marked by a special performance from Lady Gaga, as well as a performance from the inaugural recipient of the Jane Ortner Artist Award, GRAMMY and Oscar winner **John Legend**.

"I'm honored to have been selected as this year's Jane Ortner Education Award recipient. This would not be possible without the amazing support I receive from my students and colleagues at Topaz Preparatory Academy," said Bernal. "I believe music integration enhances the learning experience and helps my students make sense of the world. They are becoming communicators, collaborators and creative critical thinkers."

Bernal's submission for the Jane Ortner Education Award was a curriculum built around the exploration of identity — specifically group identity versus individuality — using S. E. Hinton's coming-of-age novel *The Outsiders* as the central component. In this unit students unpacked the novel and studied the role of identity in key movements of the 1960s. To further explore identity, they analyzed notable songs (The Who's "My Generation," Steppenwolf's "Born to Be Wild," and Stevie Wonder's "Stay Gold"), poetry ("Nothing Gold Can Stay" by Robert Frost), and other supplemental written works. For their final project, students worked in groups to create and record a radio show that featured a discussion about the plot, themes, and characters in *The Outsiders*. Students were also required to include two songs from the 1960s that related to the novel. As part of his award, Bernal received two tickets to the 58th Annual GRAMMY Awards on Feb. 15, 2016, and an admission scholarship for a trip for his class to the GRAMMY Museum.

Building on the Museum's successful education programs and initiatives, the Jane Ortner Education Award for teachers and the Jane Ortner Artist Award were established by the GRAMMY Museum in partnership with Chuck Ortner — entertainment attorney, Museum Board member and husband of the late Jane Ortner, a devoted and beloved public school teacher who valued music as a tool for teaching academic subjects and building confidence and community.

### **About Jonathan Bernal**

Since 2012, Jonathan Bernal has taught 8th grade English at Topaz Preparatory Academy in Hesperia, Calif. His love of the English language was first sparked when, as a young boy, his grandfather introduced him to Vin Scully — the voice of the Los Angeles Dodgers. Bernal's interest continued to grow as he listened to hip-hop on local radio stations. In addition to using music in his project-based learning classroom, he facilitates sports and technology electives, hosts poetry slams, and creates educational songs for his students by writing new lyrics to popular hits. Bernal earned his Bachelor of Arts in English and teaching credential from California State University, Fullerton.

### **About the Jane Ortner Education Award**

The Jane Ortner Education Award for teachers is unique in that it celebrates educators who incorporate music into teaching academic subjects such as English language arts, history, math, and science. Program participants recognize that making music a central part of the educational experience fosters the development of a broad range of social skills, including creative expression, confidence-building, collaboration, and social responsibility. Previous recipients include California educators Erica Amann (El Dorado High School), Sunshine Cavalluzzi (El Dorado High School), Bianca Wilson Cole (Washington Prep High School), Kylie Ko (Mark Keppel Elementary School), and Nicole Naditz (Bella Vista High School). Past recipients of the Jane Ortner Artist Award are John Legend, Janelle Monáe and Jackson Browne.

The Museum's inaugural Jane Ortner Education Award Luncheon was held on July 16, 2014, in Los Angeles and featured a keynote address from First Lady **Michelle Obama**, who noted, "Every arts organization in this country should be embracing the mission of the GRAMMY Museum."

The GRAMMY Museum thanks the generosity of its in-kind sponsors, GBK, Glossybox, Jennifer Naylor Catering, and Ovation. Additional sponsors include American Express, CBS, Chuck Ortner, Proskauer Rose LLP, Brian and Adria Sheth and the Sangreal Foundation, and The Recording Academy®.

All proceeds from the luncheon will benefit the continued expansion of the Jane Ortner Education Award program, which offers professional development for teachers and a free online library of music-integrated curricula. The program is part of the GRAMMY Museum's education initiatives, which reach more than 25,000 youth annual through Museum tours, educational workshops and summer and after-school programs.

For information on purchasing tables and tickets to the event, please contact Valentina Martinez in the Development department at 213.765.6812.

### **About the GRAMMY Museum at L.A. LIVE**

The GRAMMY Museum is an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created as a partnership between The Recording Academy and AEG. Paying tribute to music's rich cultural history, the one-of-a-kind, 21st century Museum explores and celebrates the enduring legacies of all forms of music, the creative process, the art and technology of the recording process, and the history of the premier recognition of excellence in recorded music. The GRAMMY Museum

features 30,000 square feet of interactive permanent and traveling exhibits, with four floors of dynamic and engaging multimedia presentations, and is located within L.A. LIVE, the downtown Los Angeles sports, entertainment and residential district. Through thought-provoking and dynamic public and educational programs and exhibits, guests will experience music from a never-before-seen insider perspective that only the GRAMMY Museum can deliver. For more information, please call 213-765-6800 or visit [www.grammymuseum.org](http://www.grammymuseum.org). For breaking news and exclusive content, follow @TheGRAMMYMuseum on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and like "The GRAMMY Museum" on [Facebook](#).

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