The ASCAP Foundation Honors

The ASCAP Foundation 2017 Honors event celebrated the achievements of up-and-coming songwriters, composers and lyricists who represent our musical hopes and dreams for the future. The music creators, performers and music business students who are beginning their careers and already making an impact.

The evening also honored Grammy and Tony Award-winning jazz legend Dee Dee Bridgewater with The ASCAP Foundation Champion Award for her outstanding contributions to music and her work in building a food-secure world. Honored with the Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award were acclaimed Broadway composers/lyricists/librettists David Hein and Irene Sankoff for their show, Come From Away.

ASCAP Foundation President Paul Williams and Executive Director Colleen McDonough hosted the event which was held in December in the Appel Room, Frederick P. Rose Hall, Home of Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City.

In addition to the wide variety of ASCAP Foundation beneficiaries, the ceremony featured stellar performances by honorees including Drake Milligan, the Desmond Child Anthem Award winner performing “Cheatin’ Backwards;” “Party Fowl” by David Leon, the Herb Alpert Young Jazz

Dear ASCAP Foundation,

My students and I cannot thank The ASCAP Foundation enough for our experience seeing DEAR EVAN HANSEN. Meeting the writers helped them feel a personal connection to Broadway, something that, although geographically close, has never been within their reach. Not only did my students learn to have empathy for one another through this story, but they saw themselves within the characters on stage, which provided the perfect gateway theatre experience. Seeing a show also provided my students with a frame of reference for what professional theatre looks like and to what they can aspire. How can we expect our students to do great work if they have never seen great work? You have taken 45 children in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn and created a cohort of theatre fans and motivated actors. If not for this organization, many of these children may never have set foot in a Broadway theatre. Thank you to The ASCAP Foundation for making my students feel special and for giving them a memory they will never forget.

– Jennifer DeRosa
6-8 grade drama teacher,
Ron Brown Academy MS 57

Visit our website for an awesome video on this program.
Award-winning Film & TV Composer Mark Snow Establishes Lecture Series

Thanks to the generosity of prolific and successful Film & TV composer and ASCAP member Mark Snow (pictured), The ASCAP Foundation Mark Snow Lecture Series has been established in partnership with Brooklyn College located in Brooklyn, N.Y.

The lecture series, which launches in spring 2018, will provide a unique opportunity for aspiring film and tv composers, songwriters, composition and film students as well as SCL members to learn from Snow who will share his knowledge and experience.

Brooklyn native Snow has been making music since the 1950s. Following a start in the music industry as a popular recording artist with his band the New York Rock and Roll Ensemble, Mark made the switch to composer for television and film in the 1970s.

Best known for his scores for such television series as The X-Files, Smallville, One Tree Hill, Kojak, Millennium, Pasadena, Starsky and Hutch, Hart to Hart and Blue Bloods, Snow is the only ASCAP composer to receive the “Most Performed Background Music” award every year consecutively since the inception of the award in 1985-6, through the present. Mark’s iconic theme for the X-Files has been recorded by almost every musical genre, from pop, to country, hip-hop, heavy metal, punk and jazz to name a few.

Mark has been nominated 22 times for Emmy’s for his work on television series and television films including Helter Skelter, Children of the Dust, Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All and Something about Amelia. Recent film projects include the scores for the two X-Files movies, and the last four movies by the iconic French director, Alain Resnais: Private Fears in Public Places, Wild Grass, You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet and Life of Riley.

Jerry Herman: The Broadway Legacy Concerts & Educational Programs Get Off to a Smashing Start!

Fans of the great composer/lyricist Jerry Herman received a special treat as the 2017/18 season of Jerry Herman: The Broadway Legacy Concert series, a program of The ASCAP Foundation, got off to a rousing start with performances taking place in Aventura and Del Ray Beach, FL, Bloomfield, MI, Cleveland, OH and Harrisburg, PA. Songs from Jerry Herman musicals (Hello, Dolly!; Mame; La Cage aux Folles; Milk and Honey; Dear World; The Grand Tour; and Mack and Mabel) were featured. Performances included a full symphony orchestra, student performers and Broadway stars such as Klea Blackhurst, Scott Coulter, Jason Graae and Debbie Gravite.

As part of this initiative, Jerry Herman created The ASCAP Foundation Jerry Herman Broadway Legacy Prize. Recipients are high school and university students chosen from a musical theater performing master class held in each touring city and hosted by the Broadway performers.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming dates: Pocono Mountains Music Festival (August 4), Ocean City, MD (August 15), Chattanooga, TN (October 6), and Buffalo, NY (October 19 & 20).
The ASCAP Foundation announced the recipients of the 2018 Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Awards. The program, established in 2002 to encourage young gifted jazz composers up to the age of 30, carries the name of the great trumpeter and ASCAP member Herb Alpert thanks to a generous, multi-year gift from The Herb Alpert Foundation. The recipients, who receive cash awards, range in age from 14 to 29 and are selected through a juried national competition. And thanks to our partnership with The Newport Festival Foundation, one of these young composers will perform this summer at the 2018 Newport Jazz Festival.

The 2018 Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award recipients are: Lucas Apostoleris, age 24; Mariel Austin, age 29; Benjamin Barson, age 29; Enrico Bergamini, age 26; Owen Broder, age 28; Estar Cohen, age 25; Alexander Hurvitz, age 14; Gene Knific, age 25; Sara McDonald, age 26; Zachary Rich, age 24; Elijah Shiffer, age 26; Billy Test, age 28; Garrett Wingfield, age 25; Sam Wolsk, age 20; and Drew Zaremba, age 26.

Composers receiving Honorable Mention this year are: Eddie Codrington, age 21; Evan Hyde, age 28; Takumi Kakimoto, age 23; Ben Rosenblum, age 24; Josh Shpak, age 24; Katelyn Vincent, age 25; and Matthew Whitaker, age 16.

The ASCAP composer/judges for the 2018 competition were: Sylvie Courvoisier, Wycliffe Gordon and Sachal Vasandani. Additional funding for this program is provided by The ASCAP Foundation Bart Howard Fund.
The ASCAP Foundation Honors a Wide Variety of Scholarship and Award Recipients

December 14, 2017 | New York City

1: Paul Williams presents The ASCAP Foundation Champion Award to Dee Dee Bridgewater
2: Joan & Irwin Robinson with Mary McManus, recipient of the Joan & Irwin Robinson Scholarship
3: Recipients of the Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award, Irene Sankoff (l) and David Hein (2nd from l), with Paul Williams, Stephen Schwartz and ASCAP's Michael Kerker
4: Broadway star, Jenn Colella, performs “Me and the Sky” from Come From Away
5: Mariana & Paul Williams with recipients of the Mariana & Paul Williams “Sunlight of the Spirit” Award, Patrick Ward (2nd from l) and Thomas Yurkovic (2nd from r)
6: Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award recipient, David Leon, with George Wein and Marcus Miller
7: Eunice David presents the Eunice and Hal David Merit Award to Kiana Kinley.
8: Danielle Harris performs her original song (co-written with Myles Potters), “Our Love Is Alive”
10: Jamie deRoy with Rick Jensen, recipient of the Jamie deRoy & friends Award
11: Drake Milligan performs “Cheatin’ Backwards” co-written with Desmond Child
12: Desmond Child with Drake Milligan, recipient of the Desmond Child Anthem Award
13: Louis Prima Jr. with Saida Smith-Jones, recipient of the Louis Prima Award, joined by Linda Consolazio
14: Stanley Crouch, President of the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, presents the Louis Armstrong Scholarship to University of New Orleans student Geovane Santos
15: Drew Mikuska accepts the Michelle and Dean Kay Award from Dean Kay
16: Alex Shapiro and Jim Kendrick present the Morton Gould Young Composer Award to Tengku Irfan
17: Zach Katz presents the BMG Scholarship in honor of Quincy Jones to Brian (Nathan) Seay
18: Patty Allen with recipients of the Robert Allen Award, Myles Potters (l) and Danielle Harris (second from r), joined by ASCAP’s Jason Silberman
19: Lynn Mizzy Jonas with Jason Schoenfeld, recipient of the Vic Mizzy Scholarship
20: Brian (Nathan) Seay performs his original song “New Year’s Day (We Made It All the Way)”
21: ASCAP’s John Titta presents the Sammy Cahn Award to Oliver Houser
22: Andrea Brettler presents the Leon Brettler Award to Jared Scott
23: Jamie Bernstein with Jessie Montgomery, recipient of the Leonard Bernstein Composer Award
24: ASCAP Foundation Herb Alpert Young Composer Award recipient, David Leon (sax) with Lowell Ringel (bass) and Lucas Apostoleris (drums) performing David’s composition, “Party Fowl”
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He transformed The ASCAP Foundation by making a major bequest to not only preserve his legacy and support the organization, but to fund music education programs that provide educational and meaningful music experiences for young people with an emphasis on the economically disadvantaged.

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