



2026

Dear Educational Leader,

The Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame is excited to announce the opening of nominations for our 2025 Music Educator of Note Award, once again recognizing outstanding achievement in Long Island music education.

Our awardees have included - Herbert Deutsch, 2007; John McNeur, 2008; Joseph R. Sugar, 2009; Laurence Ballereau, 2010; Robert W. Krueger, 2011; William Katz, 2012; Steven E. Schopp, 2013; David Fryling, 2014; Joseph Rutkowski, 2015; Frank Doyle, 2016; Abby Behr, 2017, Lynette Carr-Hicks, 2018, Susan Weber, 2019, Marc Green, 2020, Kim Löwenborg-Coyne 2021, and Frank Abel 2022. Additional information about our previous Educators of Note, can be found at: [www.limusichalloffame.org](http://www.limusichalloffame.org).

This organization is dedicated to the idea that our musical heritage is an important resource to be celebrated and preserved for future generations. The Hall is a place to inspire, entertain, educate, and engage each person in the creative process. The Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame has inducted over 100 artists of many genres including Billy Joel, Tony Bennett, Joan Jett, Cyndi Lauper, Run-DMC, Kenny Vance, Jean Richie, Louis Armstrong, Stanley Drucker, Oscar Brand and Donnie McClurkin.

Paramount to our organization's success continues to be our Educational Programs. Our museum supports the NY State Educational core curriculum and works with Steven Van Zandt's TeachRock! to supplement and enhance Long Island school's current music programs.

Recognizing that education is the key to the development of musicians, we are interested in celebrating the work of those who allow young people to explore their talents. The recipient of the Music Educator of Note Award will be someone who has worked with children in public, private or regional programs. Following the initial nomination, the committee will seek additional information incorporating the references of students, colleagues, parents, and administrators.

We request your assistance in nominating an outstanding music educator from your district. LIMEHOF accepts applications from teachers affiliated with institutions of higher education in Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk.

Please feel free to copy and pass on the application to other educational leaders or download copies at [www.limusichalloffame.org](http://www.limusichalloffame.org). All nominations must be received by **October 2, 2026**. All previous nominees are eligible for consideration, and past applications will be reviewed. Successful nominees will receive a Certificate of Merit from the Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame. The winner will be honored at our next Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame Gala.

We look forward to hearing about your outstanding music educator(s).

Yours truly,

Tom Needham  
Chairman, Education Advisory Board

## **LONG ISLAND MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT HALL OF FAME MUSIC EDUCATOR OF NOTE AWARD**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame Music Educator of Note Award is to celebrate and honor Long Island music educators who exemplify the highest standards of their profession, and who, through their influence on the lives of young students, have made significant contributions to their school, community, and the betterment of music education.

The selection of Music Educator will focus attention on excellence in music education within Brooklyn, Nassau, Queens and Suffolk. By honoring an exemplary member of the teaching profession, the Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame (LIMEHOF) will acknowledge and pay tribute to the contributions of thousands of dedicated Long Island music educators. The person selected for this award will serve as a spokesperson and role model for music teachers across Long Island. Nominees for the award will receive a Certificate of Merit from the LIMEHOF Board of Directors.

The Long Island Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame is a 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to the idea that Long Island's musical heritage is an important resource to be celebrated and preserved for future generations. LIMEHOF was created as a place to inspire in each person the desire to explore and celebrate music in all its forms and to be a place where the music community will find the support, resources and leadership necessary to aid them in that exploration. The Hall of Fame sponsors the Long Island Sound Award, has traveling educational exhibits, and now has a permanent ho museum in Stony Brook Village.

### **CRITERIA:**

*The candidate must:*

- Have at least ten years' experience as a music educator in any private studio, public, or non- public Long Island school or university.
- Demonstrate commitment to music education by playing an active role in the community in conjunction with their professional responsibilities.
- Demonstrate a significant impact on the lives of music students of all backgrounds and abilities.
- Be an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled individual who is respected and admired by students, colleagues, parents, and the community.

### **SELECTION PROCESS:**

Any candidate who meets the criteria may be nominated. All previous nominees are eligible for consideration, and past applications will be reviewed.

All applications will be evaluated by the LIMEHOF Advisory Board. Successful nominees continuing in the selection process may be asked to provide letters of recommendation from three (3) of the following constituent groups: Current or former student, Community group or member, Colleague, Current supervisor or an Administrator, Parent of a student

Email nomination application, photo & letter of recommendation to:

[info@limusichalloffame.org](mailto:info@limusichalloffame.org) or mail to

**LONG ISLAND MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT HALL OF FAME**

Attn: Tom Needham/Education Committee  
1175 Walt Whitman Road  
Melville, NY 11747

Please fill out to the best of your ability.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List Certification(s) (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

School District/Private School/Parochial School/Other Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Music Director/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone of Music Dir./Supervisor: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's School (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

School Address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone Number (if applicable): (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade(s) Taught (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students Currently Taught by Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Students in School: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Years Teaching: \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Present Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

**Qualifications of the nominee that meet the criteria of this award:**

Significant achievements in music education:

---

---

---

Service to the school or other music program, service to any programs outside the music department and service to the community:

---

---

---

Professional affiliations and activities (e.g. membership in professional organizations, offices held, etc.):

---

---

---

Honors and awards received:

---

---

---

Discuss the nominee's impact on the lives of students (please provide specific anecdotes):

---

---

---

In your opinion, what makes the nominee uniquely deserving of this award:

---

---

---

Please attach a current resume and photo of the nominee if available.  
*(Attach additional pages if necessary)*