

2025 - 2026

41st Annual Stellar Gospel Music Award Nominees

Category #1

ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **Darrel Walls**; Heart of Mine; Tyscot Records / Gumbo Studios
- **Jekalyn Carr**; Jekalyn X The Legends; Waynorth Music
- **Kim Person**; Reflections; Blockbuster Records/KLP Music Enterprise
- **Tasha Cobbs Leonard**; TASHA; Motown Gospel. TeeLee Records
- **Tye Tribbett**; Only On The Road (Live); Motown Gospel, Freligious Music

Category #2

SONG OF THE YEAR

- **Able** ft. Kim Burrell ~ Paul Sylvester Morton Jr.~ Tyscot Records/Gumbo Studios
- **Come Jesus Come** ~ Stephen McWhirter, Tara McWhirter, Hank Bentley, and Bryan Fowler ~ Pure Springs Gospel/Fair Trade Services
- **On The Way Remix** ft. Erica Campbell ~ Adia Andrews, Karl Powell, Michael McClure Jr., Jeremy James, Jaicko Raphael Lawrence, Israel Allen, & Erica Campbell ~ Rock City Media Group
- **Promises (Live)**~ Alescia Knowles-Smith ~ EvoWorld Entertainment
- **Your Love** ~ Kim Person ~ Blockbuster Records/KLP Music Enterprise

Category #3

MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **Asaun Bynum** ~ True To Him ~ Blockbuster Records/LRAE Entertainment
- **Darrel Walls** ~ Heart of Mine ~ Tyscot Records/Gumbo Studios
- **John P. Kee** ~ Throwback: An Evening with John P. Kee Part I ~ Kee Music Group/Tyscot Records
- **Jonathan McReynolds** ~ Still (Live) ft. Jamal Roberts ~ Motown Gospel, Life Room Label
- **Tye Tribbett** ~ Only On The Road (Live) ~ Motown Gospel, Freligious Music

CATEGORY #4

ALBERTINA WALKER FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **Adia** ~ On The Way EP ~ Rock City Media Group
- **Jekalyn Carr** ~ Jekalyn X The Legends ~ Waynorth Music
- **Kim Person** ~ Reflections ~ Blockbuster Records/KLP Music Enterprise
- **Lisa Knowles Smith** ~ Revival: Live in Dallas ~ EvoWorld Entertainment
- **Maranda Curtis** ~ Worship Restored ~ ButterflyWorks/Red Alliance Media
- **Tasha Cobbs Leonard** ~ TASHA ~ Motown Gospel. TeeLee Records

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CATEGORY #5

DUO/CHORUS GROUP OF THE YEAR

- **Asaun Bynum ft. LeekGoHard** ~ Jesus I love You ~ Blockbuster Records/LRAE Entertainment
- **CeCe Winans & Pastor Shirley Caesar** ~ Come Jesus Come ~ Pure Springs Gospel/Fair Trade Services
- **Jason Clayborn x Melvin Crispell III** ~ Whatever It Is ~ Jay Clay Music/Tyscot
- **Jonathan McReynolds ft. Jamal Roberts** ~ Still (Live)~ Motown Gospel, Life Room Label
- **Lisa Knowles Smith & The Brown Singers** ~ Revival: Live in Dallas ~ EvoWorld Entertainment

CATEGORY #6

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **Ablaze** ~ Ablaze ~ Independent
- **Asaun Bynum** ~ True To Him ~ Blockbuster Records/LRAE Entertainment
- **Bishop Charles Ellis & Greater Grace Worship Choir** ~ Bishop Charles Ellis & Greater Grace Worship Choir ~ Graceful Records
- **United Music & Arts Conference Choir** ~ Clap Your Hands ft. Beverly Crawford & Craig Hayes ~ High C

CATEGORY #7

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

- **Heart of Mine** ~ Darrel Walls ~ Tyscot Records/Gumbo Studios
- **Live in New York** ~ Vincent Bohanan & SOV ~ Independent
- **Reflections** ~ Kim Person ~ Blockbuster Records/KLP Music Enterprise
- **TASHA** ~ Tasha Cobbs Leonard ~ Motown Gospel. TeeLee Records

CATEGORY #8

CHOIR OF THE YEAR

- **B. Chase Williams & Shabach** ~ Secret Place ~ Millie's Boy Muzik
- **JJ Hairston & Youthful Praise** ~ The Live Reunion: Washington, DC ~ Motown Gospel, Jamestown Music
- **John P. Kee & New Life** ~ Throwback: An Evening with John P. Kee Part I ~ Kee Music Group/Tyscot Records
- **Vincent Bohanan & SOV** ~ Live in New York ~ Independent

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CATEGORY #9

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

- **Alescia Knowles-Smith & Frederick Perry** ~ Revival: Live in Dallas (Lisa Knowles & The Brown Singers) ~ EvoWorld Entertainment
- **Donald Lawrence & Cedric Thompson** ~ Global Love Alive (London) ~ Platoon
- **Kim Person & Phillip Bryant** ~ Reflections ~ Blockbuster Records/KLP Music Enterprise
- **PJ Morton** ~ Heart of Mine (Darrel Walls) ~ Tyscot Records/Gumbo Studios

CATEGORY #10

CONTEMPORARY DUO/CHORUS GROUP OF THE YEAR

- **Deitrick Haddon & Voices of Unity** ~ Chain Breaker 2.5 ~ ManHaddon Ministries/Tyscot Records
- **Jason Clayborn x Melvin Crispell III** ~ Whatever It Is ~ Jay Clay Music/Tyscot
- **Jonathan McReynolds ft. Jamal Roberts** ~ Still (Live) ~ Motown Gospel, Life Room Label
- **Mariah Carey** (feat. The Clark Sisters ~ Jesus I Do ~ MARIAH/gamma.
- **Red Hands** ~ Red Hands ~ Black Suit Music/Anderson Music Group/TAMLA Records
- **Tasha Cobbs Leonard ft. John Legend** ~ Church ~ Motown Gospel. TeeLee Records
- **The Group Fire** ~ I Can Count On You ~ Jet Records North/East

CATEGORY #11

TRADITIONAL DUO/CHORUS GROUP OF THE YEAR

- **Brandon Camphor & One Way** ~ In Christ Alone ~ TOMii Entertainment
- **Darrel Petties & Take 2** ~ Word ~ Independent
- **Lucinda Moore** featuring Bishop Paul S. Morton ~ Someone who cares (the lala song) ~ Nalah Music Group/New Day Christian Distributor
- **Ron Carter & Ricky Dillard** ~ Sweet, Sweet Spirit ~ Motown Gospel, Blue Note Records

CATEGORY #12

CONTEMPORARY MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **Darrel Walls** ~ Heart of Mine ~ Tyscot Records/Gumbo Studio
- **Jonathan McReynolds** ~ Still (Live) ft. Jamal Roberts ~ Motown Gospel, Life Room Label
- **Thomas Ware** ~ The Book of Thomas ~ Blockbuster Records/CHMG Music Group
- **Zacardi Cortez** ~ Ibhar: The Journey (Chapter 2) ~ Blacksmoke Music

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CATEGORY #13

TRADITIONAL MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **E. Dewey Smith** ~ Songs Daddy Used To Sing ~ Pebble Street Records
- **Earnest Pugh** ~ We Wanna See You, Vol 1 Live ~ Blacksmoke Music Worldwide
- **JJ Hairston** ~ The Live Reunion: Washington, DC ~ Motown Gospel, Jamestown Music
- **John P. Kee** ~ Throwback: An Evening with John P. Kee Part I ~ Kee Music Group/Tyscot Records

CATEGORY #14

CONTEMPORARY FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **Adia** ~ On The Way EP ~ Rock City Media Group
- **Crystal Aikin** ~ Lord I Need Your Help ~ Godshand Management Services LLC/Mixed Bag Entertainment
- **Erica Campbell** ~ Trust and Obey - London ~ My Block Records Inc.
- **Kim Person** ~ Reflections ~ Blockbuster Records/KLP Music Enterprise
- **Nia Allen** ~ Lord I Love You ~ Lewis-Kortez Group
- **Tasha Cobbs Leonard** ~ TASHA ~ Motown Gospel. TeeLee Records

CATEGORY #15

TRADITIONAL FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **Blanche McAllister-Dykes** ~ Words (Donald Lawrence) ~ Platoon
- **Bobbi Lane** ~ He Never Failed Me ft. Paul Porter ~ Taylor Music Group
- **K. Jeanette** ~ Jesus Is My Friend ft. Shawn Bigby ~ Devine Records
- **Lucinda Moore** ~ Someone who cares (the lala song) ft, Bishop Paul S. Morton ~ Nalah Music Group/New Day Christian Distributor

CATEGORY #16

CONTEMPORARY ALBUM OF THE YEAR

- **Fred Hammond Presents Sensere: The Soul Of Future Worship Vol. II** ~ Sensere ~ Wrightsound M&E
- **Live in New York** ~ Vincent Bohanan & SOV ~ Independent
- **TASHA** ~ Tasha Cobbs Leonard ~ Motown Gospel. TeeLee Records
- **The Book of Thomas** ~ Thomas Ware ~ Blockbuster Records/CHMG Music Group

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CATEGORY #17

TRADITIONAL ALBUM OF THE YEAR

- ***Jekalyn X The Legends*** ~ Jekalyn Carr ~ Waynorth Musi
- ***Sweet, Sweet Spirit*** ~ Ron Carter & Ricky Dillard ~ Motown Gospel, Blue Note Records
- ***The Live Reunion: Washington, DC*** ~ JJ Hairston & Youthful Praise ~ Motown Gospel, Jamestown Music
- ***Throwback: An Evening with John P. Kee Part I;*** ~ John P. Kee & New Life ~ Kee Music Group/Tyscot Records

CATEGORY #18

URBAN SINGLE OR PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

- ***Church Parking Lot*** ft. Tasha Page-Lockhart ~ Otis Kemp ~ Revive 5.0 Entertainment
- ***Do It Again*** ~ Kirk Franklin ~ Fo Yo Soul Recordings/Tribl Records
- ***Jesus I love You*** ~ Asaun Bynum ft. LeekGoHard ~ Blockbuster Records/LRAE Entertainment
- ***Make A Way*** ~ VaShawn Mitchell ~ VMan Entertainment/Fair Trade Services
- ***On The Way Remix*** ft. Erica Campbell ~ Adia ~ Rock City Media Group
- ***The Light*** ~ Jor'Dan Armstrong ~ Jor'Dan Armstrong Music/Lewis-Kortez Group

CATEGORY #19

MUSIC VIDEO OF THE YEAR

- ***I Am Happy*** ~ Allen Carr & Jekalyn Carr ~ Waynorth Music
- ***Find Jesus*** ~ Deitrick Haddon ~ ManHaddon Ministries/Tyscot Records
- ***You Matter*** ~ Maurice Griffin ~ World Changing Entertainment
- ***On the Way Remix*** (Adia ft. Erica Campbell) ~ Will Thomas ~ Rock City Media

CATEGORY #20

TRADITIONAL CHOIR OF THE YEAR

- ***B. Chase Williams & Shabach*** ~ Secret Place ~ Millie's Boy Muzik
- ***Bishop Brian D. Moore & The Life Center Choir*** ~ Always Come Through ~ Independent
- ***JJ Hairston & Youthful Praise*** ~ The Live Reunion: Washington, DC ~ Motown Gospel, Jamestown Music
- ***John P. Kee & New Life*** ~ Throwback: An Evening with John P. Kee Part I ~ Kee Music Group/Tyscot Records

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CATEGORY #21

CONTEMPORARY CHOIR OF THE YEAR

- **Ablaze** ~ Ablaze ~ Independent
- **Johnny Sanders Featuring Faith On Full** ~ A Song ~ Just 1 Global Productions/Johnny Sanders Presents LLC
- **Sounds of Blackness** Feat Jamecia Bennett, NUNNABOVE, Atlanta Drum Academy ~ We're Unstoppable ~ Sounds of Blackness/AtomicK Records
- **Vincent Bohanan & SOV** ~ Live in New York ~ Independent
- **Voices of Fire** ~ Ophanim ~ EZ FLO Innovations LLC/PW Music/Warner Records

CATEGORY #22

TRADITIONAL ARTIST OF THE YEAR

- **E. Dewey Smith** ~ Songs Daddy Used To Sing ~ Pebble Street Records
- **Jekalyn Carr** ~ Jekalyn X The Legends ~ Waynorth Music
- **JJ Hairston & Youthful Praise** ~ The Live Reunion: Washington, DC ~ Motown Gospel, Jamestown Music
- **John P. Kee & New Life** ~ Throwback: An Evening with John P. Kee Part I ~ Kee Music Group/Tyscot Records

CATEGORY #23

SPECIAL EVENT ALBUM OF THE YEAR

- **Bishop S.Y. Younger Presents: Almost Home - A Ramp Record with Friends** ~ Bishop S.Y. Younger ~ Ramp Records, Under Exclusive License to MNRK Records LP
- **Live in New York** ~ Vincent Bohanan & SOV ~ Independent
- **Sweet, Sweet Spirit** ~ Ron Carter & Ricky Dillard ~ Motown Gospel, Blue Note Records
- **Throwback: An Evening with John P. Kee Part I** ~ John P. Kee & New Life ~ Kee Music Group/Tyscot Records

CATEGORY #24

RAP/HIP HOP GOSPEL ALBUM OF THE YEAR

- **All We Like Sheep** ~ Childlike CiCi ~ Capitol Christian Music Group, TAMLA
- **Party in Heaven** ~ Mike Teezy ~ MTEntertainment, LLC
- **Reconstruction** ~ Lecrae ~ Reach Records
- **Walking with Purpose** ~ DFG SUL ~ Independent

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CATEGORY #25

YOUTH PROJECT OF THE YEAR

- **AMG Kidz x Wilson World**; Boombox; Anderson Music Group / TAMLA Records
- **Janessa Smith**; Lift Him; Inspired Recording
- **Pure N Heart**; Alphaeus Anderson Presents Pure N Heart Celebrate Jesus 20yrs; Music2ChangeU

CATEGORY #26

QUARTET OF THE YEAR

- **Lisa Knowles Smith & The Brown** ~ Revival: Live in Dallas ~ EvoWorld Entertainment
- **The Flying Clouds of South Carolina** ~ Don't Leave Me ~ Blockbuster Records
- **The Gospel Legends** ~ Jesus Is The Man ~ 4Winds/Malaco Records
- **Tim White** ~ Help Live In Chicago ~ Independent

CATEGORY #27

RECORDED MUSIC PACKAGING OF THE YEAR

- **Brianna Dowd & JJ Hairston** – The Live Reunion – Motown Gospel/Jamestown Music
- **Kim Person & JP Designs Art** – Reflections – Blockbuster Records/KLP Music Enterprise
- **Octavius Holmes** – Jekalyn Carr x The Legends – Waynorth Music
- **PJ Morton** – Heart of Mine (Darrel Walls) – Tyscot Records/Gumbo Studios

CATEGORY #28

PRAISE AND WORSHIP ALBUM OF THE YEAR

- **Coritos Vol. 1**; Israel & New Breed; Integrity Music/District 11
- **Jesus Over Everything (Live in Las Vegas)**; Naomi Raine; Tribl Records
- **Promises**; Todd Dulaney; DulaneyLand Music, FairTrade Services
- **Worship Restored**; Maranda Curtis; ButterflyWorks/Red Alliance Media

CATEGORY #29

PRAISE AND WORSHIP SONG OF THE YEAR

- **Be Glad** ~ Naomi Raine ~ Tribl Records
- **Bless Your Name** ~ Maranda Curtis ~ ButterflyWorks/Red Alliance Media
- **Proverbs 3** ~ Todd Dulaney ~ DulaneyLand Music, FairTrade Services
- **Your Name** ~ Jovonta Patton ~ Newton Street Entertainment/Integrity

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CATEGORY #30

RAP/HIP HOP SONG OF THE YEAR

- ***Headphones*** ~ Lecrae ft. TI & Killer Mike ~ Reach Records
- ***Move It!*** ~ 1K Phew Ft. Forrest Frank & 1K Pson ~ Reach Records
- ***Movin*** ~ JustCordell ~ Rock City Media Group
- ***10X My Blessings*** ~ Jevon Dewand & The Trap Starz ft. Isaac Carree, Jazze Pha, Gaz Money, & Blanco Brown ~ Blacksmoke Music Worldwide

CATEGORY #31

HBCU CHOIR OF THE YEAR

- ***Howard Gospel Choir of Howard University*** ft. Damien Sneed & The Levites and Kierra Sheard Kelly
- ***Morgan State University Choir***
- ***NCA&T Fellowship Gospel Choir***
- ***Southern University Gospel Choir*** ft. Cameron Blain
- ***The Fort Valley State University Choir*** ft. Loren Michelle & Tiffany Boone

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- **GOSPEL RADIO OF THE YEAR NOMINEES**

TOP MARKET OF THE YEAR

- **WPZE Praise 102.5** ~ Atlanta
- **WPZS 102.5 and 610AM** ~ Charlotte
- **WFTB 104.1** ~ Nashville
- **WPRS Praise 92.7/95.9** ~ Washington, DC

MEDIUM MARKET OF THE YEAR

- **WDEK Columbia's Praise 95.7|1170 AM** ~ Columbia
- **WFMV 96.1FM 620AM** ~ Columbia
- **WXHL 89.1 FM Reach Gospel Radio** ~ Wilmington
- **KFFH 93.7 FM** ~ North Little Rock

SMALL MARKET OF THE YEAR

- **WWDA FM 101.9** ~ Clarksville
- **WRNP 94.1 FM** ~ Ft. Wayne
- **WEHA 88.7FM 100.3** ~ Atlantic City
- **WKTT 97.5 FM** ~ Salisbury

INTERNET STATION OF THE YEAR

- **Black Gospel Radio**, <https://BlackGospelRadio.net>
- **Hands Up Radio**, <https://handsupradio.org>
- **WTRC Praise 98.3**, <https://live365.com/station/a33136>
- **WVTC Detroit**, <https://wvtcdetroit.com>

SYNDICATED GOSPEL RADIO SHOW OF THE YEAR

- **Get Up! Mornings with Erica Campbell**; Erica Campbell with Arlen "Griff" Griffin & Cheryl Jackson
- **The Bobby Parker Show**; Bobby Parker
- **The Tracy Morgan Show**; Tracy Morgan
- **Willie Moore Jr.**; Willie Moore Jr.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR

- **Anna Johnson**; WFLT 1420 AM, Flint, MI
- **Neiko Flowers**; WPZE 102.5, Atlanta, GA
- **Pam Dixon**; WEAM 100.7, Columbus, GA
- **Trey Nickelson**; WBZF-FM – Glory 98.5, Florence, SC