



School District of Williamsburg County

"Imagine Greatness"

Post Office Box 1067 · Kingstree, South Carolina 29556
Telephone (843) 355-5571 Fax (843) 355-3213
www.wcsd.k12.sc.us

Dr. Kelvin Wymbs, Superintendent

Myron E. Davis, Ed.D
Executive Director of Public Relations

May 9, 2023



KINGSTREE HIGH SCHOOL BAND DIRECTOR DR. JAMES L. PATTERSON NOMINATED FOR GRAMMY AWARD

The Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum have announced that Dr. James L. Patterson of Kingstree High School is a quarterfinalist for the 2024 Music Educator Award, which recognizes educators who have made a significant contribution to music education. Dr. Patterson is the Director of Bands for Kingstree High School's "River of Soul" Marching Band. Dr. Patterson is among 212 music teachers that were announced as quarterfinalists for the 2024 Music Educator Award, which recognizes current educators — kindergarten through college across public and private schools — who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of music education and who demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in the schools. The quarterfinalists, who hail from 197 cities, were selected from more than 2,000 initially submitted nominations. In addition to the quarterfinalists, 123 legacy applicants from 2023 will also be eligible to win the Music Educator Award this year. Semi-finalists for the 2024 Music Educator Award will be announced this September. The ultimate recipient will be recognized during GRAMMY Week 2024.

A joint partnership and presentation between the Recording Academy (<https://www.recordingacademy.com/>) and GRAMMY Museum (<https://grammymuseum.org/>), the Music Educator Award is open to current U.S. music teachers, and anyone can nominate a teacher — students, parents, friends, colleagues, community members, school deans, and administrators. Teachers are also able to nominate themselves, and nominated teachers are notified and invited to fill out an application. Each year, one recipient is selected from 10 finalists and recognized for their remarkable impact on students' lives. The 10th annual honoree will be flown to Los Angeles to attend the 2024 GRAMMYS, officially known as the 66th GRAMMY Awards, as well as a range of GRAMMY Week events. The nine additional finalists will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, and the schools of all 10 finalists will receive matching grants. Fifteen semi-finalists will receive a \$500 honorarium with matching school grants. Read

More: 8 Artists Who Were Inspired By Their Teachers: Rihanna, Adele, Jay-Z & More (<https://www.grammy.com/news/artists-teachers-inspiration-music-in-our-schools-month-rihanna-katy-perry-adele-jay-z-lizzo-john-legend-lil-jon-billy-joel>) The matching grants provided to the schools are made possible by the generosity and support of the GRAMMY Museum's Education Champion Ford Motor Company Fund. In addition, the American Choral Directors Association, National Association for Music Education, NAMM Foundation, and National Education Association support this program through outreach to their constituencies.