

# A Cappella Legends To Be Honored

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## For Immediate Release – A Cappella Music Awards Announces Lifetime Achievement Honors Ahead of Inaugural Event – Nashville, Tennessee

The first three recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award for the [A Cappella Music Awards](#) will honor [Deke Sharon](#), [Keith Lancaster](#), and [Bobby McFerrin](#). These awards will be formally presented at the A Cappella Music Awards red carpet event hosted May 19, at Northfield Church in Gallatin, just outside of Nashville, Tennessee.

Due to forerunners like Sharon, Keith Lancaster, and McFerrin, the space for a cappella has grown. Tim Foust says, "It has been a thrill to see a cappella music go from underground to mainstream over the last couple of decades..." [Tim Foust](#) of the hit group [Home Free](#), along with a cappella sound engineer, Melissa Lancaster will host the inaugural A Cappella Music Awards event.



**Deke Sharon** (pictured left)

[Deke Sharon](#)- Deke Sharon is an American singer, arranger, composer, director, producer and teacher of a cappella music, and is one of the leaders and promoters of the contemporary a cappella community and a pioneer of the contemporary a cappella style, referred to as "the father of contemporary a cappella" by some authors. Associated acts include [The House Jacks](#), [Tufts University Beelzebubs](#), [Straight No Chaser](#), [NOTA](#), [Committed](#), and [Street Corner Symphony](#). Deke Sharon founded the Contemporary A Cappella Society. Sharon's website is [www.dekesharon.com](http://www.dekesharon.com).

[Keith Lancaster](#) - Keith Lancaster began his career in 1982 by founding Acappella Ministries in his hometown of Paris, Tennessee. Through this ministry, a quartet was formed, that ultimately became known as the musical group

[Acappella](#). Acappella was inducted into the [Christian Music Hall of Fame](#) in 2007. Associated record labels include Word and [Epic Records](#). Associated acts include [Vocal Union](#), AVB, Durant, and [Acappella](#). Lancaster's website is [Acappella.com](http://Acappella.com). **Keith Lancaster** (pictured right)



[Bobby McFerrin](#) - Robert Keith "Bobby" McFerrin Jr. (born March 11, 1950) is an American jazz vocalist and conductor. A ten-time [Grammy Awards](#) winner, he is known for his unique vocal techniques, such as singing fluidly but with quick and considerable jumps in pitch—for example, sustaining a melody while also rapidly alternating with arpeggios and harmonies—as well as scat singing, polyphonic overtone singing, and improvisational vocal percussion. He is widely known for performing and recording regularly as an unaccompanied solo vocal artist. He has frequently collaborated with other artists from both the jazz and classical scenes. McFerrin's song "Don't Worry, Be Happy" was a No. 1 U.S. pop hit in 1988. **Bobby McFerrin** (pictured left, photo by Steve Jurvetson)

[A Cappella Music Awards](#) founder, Nathan Hunnicutt said, "These outstanding individuals were nominated by the a cappella community. They have contributed to the overall landscape of a cappella through writing, producing, and most importantly, through leading."

The Lifetime Achievement recipients will be honored during the inaugural A Cappella Music Awards event. The other categories include Entertainer, Female and Male Vocalist, Choir, Collegiate Group, High School Group, Beatboxer / Vocal Percussionist, Octet, Sextet, Quintet, Quartet, Barbershop Group, Pop Group, Religious Group, Traditional Group, Radio/Podcast Show, and Video of the Year.

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**ABOUT** - The A Cappella Music Awards aims to foster, promote, and engage growth in all aspects of music production and performance in the a cappella community.

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