

# Destiny's Child wins big at World Music Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Destiny's Child and Mariah Carey helped solidify their status as bankable international acts, combining to win the most honors at the 2005 World Music Awards, which selects winners based on the strength of their worldwide record sales.

Destiny's Child won for best-selling pop group, best-selling R&B group and best-selling female group of all time at last week's ceremony.

Carey, who staged a huge comeback this year with "The Emancipation of Mimi," nabbed the best-selling R&B artist, best-selling pop female artist and female entertainer of the year awards.

"This is an incredible night," Carey said after accepting the entertainer of the year award. "I never expected to be standing here."

The Game and Gwen Stefani each took honors for



Destiny's Child members from left, Kelly Rowland, Beyonce Knowles and Michelle Williams perform during the World Music Awards last week in Los Angeles.

the best-selling new male and female artist, respectively, at the awards show held at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood. It will be telecast Sept. 13 on ABC.

Usher, who won three awards at last year's show, earned the award for male

entertainer of the year, and 50 Cent won for best-selling pop male artist. Eminem was presented with two awards before the show — best-selling pop-rock artist and best-selling hip-hop artist — while Irish supergroup U2 took the honors for best-selling rock

artist.

Co-hosts James Denton of "Desperate Housewives" and Carmen Electra started off the night with a sexy vibe as Electra stripped down to black bra, panties and a feather boa shortly after taking the stage. Before the show, Denton and other celebrity attendees struck a serious tone while reflecting on the destruction that Hurricane Katrina wrought this week upon New Orleans and surrounding areas.



Songstress Mariah Carey makes a comeback at during the World Music Awards last week in Los Angeles.

"We saw the aerial photos this morning and that's when it really hit home, the devastation," Denton said. "I think there's a bit of denial. At some point you can just turn the TV off (but) they have to wake up with it every morning."

Percussionist Sheila E was particularly concerned because she has family in New Orleans. "We have family there so we're still waiting to hear from our family," she said. "We don't know where they are. We don't know if they even got out."

## LV Music Alliance awards honors best local sounds

By Chelsi Cheatom  
Sentinel-Voice

On Saturday, the Las Vegas Music Alliance hosted its first annual Las Vegas Music Awards show. The event, held at the Horn Theatre building on the Cheyenne Campus of Community College of Southern Nevada, was attended by approximately 200 people.

According to event promoter Andre Banks, the Las Vegas Music Awards show will be an annual event which intends to open doors and help local independent artists receive the recognition they deserve. He said that the event is inspired by the fact that local artists aren't getting a fair chance at national exposure.

The pre-show consisted of the usual awards show red carpet entrance. The show was kicked off by local vocalist Christal Ray's soul-stirring performance of the National Anthem with U.S. flags marched in by the Nellis Air Force base Color Guard. Ray later took home the award for Star Achievement LVMA Debut Artist. Following Ray was a performance by LVMA Star Achievement hip-hop winners, The Chapter.

The event featured appearances by actor/comedian Kel Mitchell ("All That," "Keenan & Kel"); "Jazz" of 90s R&B group Dru Hill; Az

Yet; and Kool & The Gang, who was awarded the LVMA Legends Award.

According to Banks, Las Vegas has long been in need of its own awards show.

"Las Vegas is more than just buffets, gambling and old-school lounge acts," said Banks. "Las Vegas' music scene has grown at such a rapid pace that it now has to play host to its own Awards Show [and have] a venue for its homegrown artists to perform and be recognized. [The] Las Vegas Music Awards was founded to encourage excellence in independent music, recognize achievements, and reward the desire, passion, and talent that go into becoming a 'star' in this business of music," he said.

According to Banks, in order to participate in the event, local performers had to submit their work for nomination. After they were nominated, a selection panel took on the task of choosing the winners based on the artist's talent, originality, stage presence and creativity.

Many of the nominated artists and featured performers have been pursuing careers in the music industry for several years. Most have performed locally in talent showcases and concerts in addition to releasing independent albums.

"Unlike the Grammy's

and American Music Awards, which are based solely on units sold, the "Las Vegas Music Awards" will present the prestigious "Rising Star & Star Achievement Awards" to independent, unsigned artists who have taken a grassroots approach by recording their music independently."

The LVMA presents a unique set of honors called the Rising Star Awards.

"To qualify as a nominee for the Rising Star Award, young artists are required to demonstrate exceptional talent in music, dance and modeling. Rather than competing against one another, these invited artists are evaluated using established artistic criteria. The program is important because a distinguished panel of music industry record executives, artists, modeling talent agencies and educators will be present to offer guidance and assistance to further enhance participants' career through our showcase series and workshops."

An award was also given to a company that helped to make the event as successful as possible by sponsoring.

Banks acknowledged the event sponsors and said that LVMA gives a Platinum Signature Award to "the sponsor that contributes the most to the success of our event."

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