



## **MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES KAREN BASS TO GIVE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT 25TH ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT LAW INITIATIVE® GRAMMY® WEEK EVENT**

### **WRITING CONTEST SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FROM NYU, GEORGETOWN AND USD WILL BE HONORED AT THE ANNIVERSARY EVENT, ALONG WITH SERVICE AWARD WINNER PETER PATERNO**

**SANTA MONICA, CALIF. (JAN. 20, 2023)** — On **Fri, Feb. 3, 2023**, the Recording Academy® [Entertainment Law Initiative®](#) will welcome **Karen Bass, Mayor of Los Angeles**, as the keynote speaker of its annual GRAMMY® Week Event at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. Mayor Bass will join leaders in the legal and creative communities as they celebrate the work of their peers and the year-round efforts of the Entertainment Law Initiative, which aims to encourage discussion and debate around the impact of legal affairs on the music industry.

"We are honored to welcome Mayor Karen Bass to the ELI GRAMMY Week Event as we gather and celebrate with the trailblazing professionals and students who are paving the way forward in the entertainment law industry," said [Harvey Mason jr.](#), CEO of the Recording Academy. "Mayor Bass has been a longtime supporter of music creators' rights in her legislative roles, and she has a unique understanding of how the creative industries intersect with law and policy that we look forward to hearing at this year's event."

Said Mayor Bass, "I'm proud to support GRAMMY Week because of the role that our entertainment industry plays in powering our local economy and to encourage efforts to increase equity and opportunities for Angelenos to break into the music business."

Mayor Bass was sworn in as L.A.'s mayor on Dec. 11, 2022, after representing California's 33rd congressional district from 2011 to 2013 and its 37th congressional district from 2013 to 2022 in the U.S. House of Representatives. Between 2004 and 2010, she served in the California State Assembly and was elected as Speaker in 2008.

In addition to hosting Mayor Bass, the event will also honor the winner and runners-up of the **Entertainment Law Initiative Writing Contest**, co-sponsored by the **American Bar Association**, which challenges students in Juris Doctorate and Master of Laws programs at U.S. law schools to research a pressing legal issue facing the modern music industry and outline a proposed solution in a 3,000-word essay. The winner of this year's Writing Contest is Aron Lichtschein, a JD student at NYU School of Law, for his essay, "Tickets to Ride: NFTs and the Future of Concert Ticketing." With this honor, Lichtschein will receive a \$10,000 scholarship



as well as tickets to the 65th GRAMMY Awards and other GRAMMY Week events, and his essay will be published in the ABA's journal *Entertainment & Sports Lawyer*. Two runners-up, Gina Maeng and Amanda Sharp, students at Georgetown Law School and University of San Diego School of Law, respectively, will each receive \$2,500 scholarships for their essays.

The Recording Academy [announced](#) last month that Peter T. Paterno, Partner at King, Holmes, Paterno & Soriano, LLP, will receive the **2023 Entertainment Law Initiative Service Award** at the ELI GRAMMY Week Event, presented each year to an attorney who has demonstrated a commitment to advancing and supporting the music community through service.

GRAMMY Week culminates with the 65th Annual GRAMMY Awards® at Los Angeles' Crypto.com Arena on Sun, Feb. 5, 2023, broadcasting live on the CBS Television Network and streaming live and on-demand on Paramount+ at 8-11:30 p.m. ET/5-8:30 p.m. PT. Media assets for GRAMMY season and events can be found [here](#).

#### **ABOUT MAYOR KAREN BASS**

Karen Bass is the 43rd Mayor of Los Angeles and the first woman and second African American to be elected as the city's chief executive. With an agenda focused on bringing urgency, accountability and a new direction to Los Angeles, she will start her term with a focus on housing people immediately and increasing safety and opportunity in every part of Los Angeles.

A daughter of Los Angeles, Mayor Bass was raised with her three brothers in the Venice/Fairfax neighborhood and is a proud graduate of Hamilton High School. After serving as a front-line healthcare provider as a nurse and as a physician assistant, Mayor Bass founded the Community Coalition to organize the predominantly Black and Latino residents of South L.A. against substance abuse, poverty and crime, and to pioneer strategies to address the root causes behind the challenges faced by underserved neighborhoods.

She then went on to represent Los Angeles in the State Assembly and was elected by her peers to serve as Speaker, making her the first African American woman to ever lead a state legislative body in the history of the United States. Her time in leadership intersected with the Great Recession, and she was honored with the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for reaching across party lines and making tough decisions to keep the state from bankruptcy while protecting vital services.

While representing Los Angeles and Culver City in Congress, Mayor Bass helped protect small businesses during the pandemic, created policy to drive local jobs from federal infrastructure funding, and led the passage of what the *Los Angeles Times* called "the most significant child welfare policy reform in decades."

Mayor Bass earned her bachelor's degree in health sciences from CSU Dominguez Hills before graduating from the USC Keck School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program and earning her masters degree in social work from USC.



Mayor Bass's oldest daughter Emilia planned to follow in her mother's footsteps working for social change. The Mayor continues to be inspired by Emilia and her son-in-law Michael's passion for life. She has three other children, Scythia, Omar and Yvette, and two grandchildren, Michael and Henry, who live in the Los Angeles area.

Photo file available [here](#).

### **ABOUT THE RECORDING ACADEMY**

The Recording Academy represents the voices of performers, songwriters, producers, engineers, and all music professionals. Dedicated to ensuring the recording arts remain a thriving part of our shared cultural heritage, the Academy honors music's history while investing in its future through the GRAMMY Museum®, advocates on behalf of music creators, supports music people in times of need through MusiCares®, and celebrates artistic excellence through the GRAMMY Awards® — music's only peer-recognized accolade and highest achievement. As the world's leading society of music professionals, we work year-round to foster a more inspiring world for creators.

For more information about the Academy, please visit [www.grammy.com](http://www.grammy.com). For breaking news and exclusive content, follow @RecordingAcad on [Twitter](#), "like" Recording Academy on [Facebook](#), and join the Recording Academy's social communities on [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [TikTok](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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