

*****NEWS*****
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SUPPORTING THE BRIT TRUST
AND NORDOFF ROBBINS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



**SIMON COWELL IS HONOURED WITH THE MUSIC INDUSTRY TRUSTS AWARD
AT GALA CEREMONY**

**ONE DIRECTION PRESENT SIMON WITH THE AWARD
PERFORMANCES FROM IL DIVO, LABRINTH, LEONA LEWIS AND OLLY MURS**

Simon Cowell, record company executive, television and film producer and global TV icon, was this evening honoured with the 24th Music Industry Trusts Award (MITS). The Award, presented to him by One Direction, was in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the music and entertainment industry as well as many charitable causes.

The evening was hosted by Jo Whiley and guests were treated to live performances from Il Divo, Labrinth, Leona Lewis and Olly Murs. Oprah Winfrey, Richard Curtis, James Corden, Kevin Spacey, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Little Mix and Ella Henderson were amongst those that paid tribute to Simon.

More than 1200 guests attended this charity event which is in aid of Nordoff Robbins and The BRIT School. The Music Industry Trusts Award is sponsored by Spotify, PPL, Ingenious Media and SJM.

The Music Industry Trusts Award, now in its 24th year, has raised more than £5 million for Nordoff Robbins and the BRIT Trust. It has earned its respected place in the entertainment industry due to the great names that have held this honour: Sir George Martin, Ahmet Ertegun, Sir Elton John and Bernie Taupin, Lucian Grainge CBE, John Barry OBE, Sir Michael Parkinson CBE, Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sir Tom Jones, Kylie Minogue OBE, Sir Harvey Goldsmith, Jools

Holland OBE, Gary Barlow OBE, Annie Lennox OBE and Michael Eavis CBE. The Award was founded to recognise outstanding achievement in the UK music industry as well as to benefit the charitable work of Nordoff Robbins and the BRIT Trust.

The Award is unique because it recognises the outstanding contribution that an individual has made to British music and the British music industry. This recognition is more than about an individual's success in music, it also reflects how the honouree has used – over the course of a career – his (or her) achievements and influence to benefit and inspire others. The Award evening has become renowned for its magic moments, with unique live performances.

Angela Watts, VP Global Communications, Spotify said "Simon, you've provided us with years of entertainment and we're grateful for the music and the memories. Congratulations on your well deserved award tonight."

"Ingenious is delighted to support the Music Industry Awards once again and we congratulate Simon Cowell on his much deserved award. Ingenious is proud to be involved with the work of the MITS and our continued support of the BRIT Trust and Nordoff Robbins."

"SJM Concerts are delighted to support the Music Industry Awards and we congratulate Simon Cowell on his much deserved award. We are proud to recognise Simon's outstanding contributions to the UK music and entertainment industries where he has proved to be a true visionary."

Peter Leatham, CEO, PPL, said: *"By honouring Simon Cowell this year, it is harder to think of someone who has had a bigger impact this century on the global recorded music business and who has contributed so much to the creative and commercial success and reputation of the UK industry around the world. Everyone at PPL offers their congratulations to Simon on his incredible achievements as well as his extensive charitable work."*

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Notes to editors:

In 2014, Syco Music was named the No. 1 A&R label in the UK for both singles and albums. Currently, One Direction is the biggest band in the world. They have sales of more than 65 million and have headlined four sold-out world tours. Artists discovered by The X Factor have sold more than 200 million records worldwide, including 200 No. 1s, and 380 Top 10 records.

Before starting Syco Entertainment, Simon Cowell was an established record label executive. He first appeared on television as a judge on the UK talent show *Pop Idol*, before leading the judging panel on *American Idol* and eventually starting his own show, *The X Factor*. In addition to becoming one of Britain's most popular and enduring TV programmes, *The X Factor* is now produced in 56 territories and airs in 168 countries around the world. Cowell is a judge on *The X Factor* UK.

Cowell is the creator of *Got Talent*. The *Got Talent* format officially holds the Guinness Book of World Records title for highest number of adaptations, making it the 'Worlds Most Successful

Reality TV format.' In 2015, Cowell was one again a judge on Britain's Got Talent, which had a peak audience of 13.4m. *America's Got Talent* was nominated for a Primetime Emmy and currently airs in 193 countries with original versions of the format being produced in 69 territories worldwide. In 2016, Cowell will be a judge on *Britain's Got Talent* and *America's Got Talent*.

Nordoff Robbins

Nordoff Robbins is the UK's largest music therapy charity, dedicated to transforming the lives of vulnerable and isolated people.

Music therapy is a specialist use of music to help people in many different ways – for some it has physical benefits, for others emotional or social ones and helps many to communicate where they've struggled to do so previously.

Their music therapy is delivered to people of all ages who live in many different and challenging circumstances. The results of music therapy can have a profound impact on individuals, their families and all those around them.

The people they work with suffer from a range of conditions such as autism, dementia, mental health problems, learning difficulties, social, emotional and behavioural difficulties, as well as neurological disabilities. In some cases, Nordoff Robbins' clients receive music therapy as part of their palliative care.

Nordoff Robbins therapists work in their own music therapy centres, in schools, day centres, hospitals and care homes. They also train music therapists through their own Masters degree.

Nordoff Robbins receives no government funding. They derive a significant amount of their income from individual sponsors and events such as the Music Industry Trusts Awards and the O2 Silver Clef Awards, which enable them to continue to build awareness of their work and transform lives.

www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk

The BRIT School

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The BRIT School is the UK's leading performing arts and technology state school, providing a unique and free education for 1,200 pupils aged between 14 and 19.

The BRIT School nurtures the new fashion designers, illustrators, playwrights, performers, stage managers, composers, teachers, community group leaders, choreographers, filmmakers, game developers, and thinkers of the future.

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