

# **OFFICIAL NOMINEES MISSISSIPPI GOSPEL MUSIC AWARDS 2017**

**“Music from The Soul”** All recordings and Best categories are based on activities performed between July 2016 and the time of nominations. All Radio Playlists, National and Regional Charts should be used as references. The Gospel Music Awards will be held on Sunday, July 23rd.

## **1. FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR**

Chrishon Smith  
Hattie Kaiser  
Autumn Cannon  
Tanya J  
Shanda Gray-Steele  
Rochell Demby

## **2. GROUP OF THE YEAR**

The Sons of God  
The Dewdrop Singers  
The Southern Stars  
The Hobbs Brothers  
Joe Robinson and Faithful

## **3. SONG OF THE YEAR BY A NATIONAL SINGLE ARTIST**

James Bolton “Count It All Joy”  
Luther Barnes “God’s Grace”  
Doug Williams “Let It Go”  
Paul Porter “Joy”  
Melvin Williams “I Claim It Now”  
Troy Sneed “Kept by His Grace”  
Damon Little “I Won’t Be Defeated”

## **4. JACKSON GOSPEL RADIO ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR**

Claude Stevens  
Joe A. Washington  
Val Blue  
Torrez Harris



**MISSISSIPPI  
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**5. NATIONAL MALE LEAD SINGER OF A GROUP**

Doug Williams  
Spencer Taylor  
Lee Williams  
Damon Little  
Melvin Williams

**6. MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR**

Tommy Carter  
Frederick Demby II  
Sherry Milton  
Lannie Spann McBride  
David Curry III

**7. MALE LEAD SINGER OF THE YEAR (The Jimmie Ray Lewis Award)**

Stephen Johnson  
Damien Thomas  
Billy Deer  
Pastor Douglas Noel  
Freddie Poindexter



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**8. DANCE MINISTRY OF THE YEAR**

Lynch Street CME  
Greater Fairview  
T & S Mimes  
Pearlie Grove  
Pilgrim Rest

**9. SPOKEN WORD**

**Selection**

**10. MISSISSIPPI GOSPEL ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR**

Trenia "TG" Webster – WTYJ – Natchez, MS  
Recardo Thomas – WNLA / AM- Indianola, MS  
Isaac Lindsey–WAGR-Yazoo City, MS

## **11. MALE CHORUS OF THE YEAR**

Mt. Nebo  
Lynch Street C.M.E  
Hope Springs Male Chorus  
St. Thomas Male Chorus

## **12. ALBUMS OF THE YEAR RECORDED BY AN UPCOMING ARTIST (SPONSORED BY WAPT)**

“Victory” Pastor Shawn Jones and The Believers  
“Live in Tupelo” The Spiritual Messengers  
“I’m Looking” The Sensational Wells Brothers

## **13. CHURCH CHOIR OF THE YEAR**

Unity Fellowship Choir  
Greater Bethlehem Temple  
Greater Fairview  
Anderson UMC Choir  
True Vine Baptist Church Choir

## **14. THE FRANK WILLIAMS MEMORIAL AWARD**

**Special Selection**

## **15. COMMUNITY CHOIR OF THE YEAR**

Crystal Springs Community Youth Choir  
The Children of Christ Community Choir  
Anointed Bodies of Christ  
Jubilee Performing Arts Center Choir

## **16. BEST ENGINEERED RECORDING**

“I claim It Now” Melvin Williams  
“You” Jermaine Dolly  
“Joy” Paul Porter  
“I’ll Stick with Jesus” Mississippi Mass Choir  
“Let It Go” Doug Williams  
“I Won’t Be Defeated” Damon Little



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**17. THE LINZY “DON” DIXON MEMORIAL AWARD**

Tyrone Lindsey  
David Curry  
Alvin Burkes  
Lannie Spann McBride  
Larry Armstrong

