

## ALL CLASSICAL RADIO'S COTY RAVEN MORRIS NAMED FINALIST FOR THE 2024 MUSIC EDUCATOR AWARD PRESENTED BY THE RECORDING ACADEMY AND GRAMMY MUSEUM



## Watch Coty Raven Morris's Music Educator Award Application Video <u>Here</u> Photos of Coty Raven Morris are <u>Here</u>

PORTLAND, OR - Coty Raven Morris, on air host at Portland-based independent station All Classical Radio, has been shortlisted as a top-10 finalist for the Music Educator Award, presented by the Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum. The ultimate recipient of the 2024 Music Educator Award will be recognized by the Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum during GRAMMY Week, prior to the GRAMMY ceremony on February 4, 2024.

Ms. Morris is one of 10 finalists, narrowed down from a field of 25 semifinalists. More than 2,000 music educators representing all 50 U.S. states were initially nominated. Ms. Morris was also named a quarter-finalist for the 2023 Music Educator Award, and was nominated for the Portland State University George C. Hoffman Faculty Award.

The annual Music Educator Award celebrates music educators across the U.S. by recognizing those who have made a significant and lasting contribution to their field, and have demonstrated a commitment to the cause of fostering music education in the schools. The recipient of the Music Educator Award will receive a \$10,000 honorarium and matching grant for their school's music program. The remaining nine finalists receive a \$1,000 honorarium and matching grants, while the 15 additional semifinalists receive a \$500 honorarium with matching school grants.





"Coty Raven Morris is a star who employs the power of music and education to changes lives every day," says Suzanne Nance, President and CEO of All Classical Radio. "It is a joy to see her outstanding work in the classroom and community, and on the stage, recognized nationally by the Recording Academy and GRAMMY Museum."

Ms. Morris joined All Classical Radio's on air team in May 2023. In addition to her role as radio host, she is a featured author for All Classical Radio's Arts Blog, and a contributor to ICAN Radio, All Classical's 24-hour arts and music network for children, their families, caregivers, and educators (icanradio.org).

Ms. Morris is currently the Hinckley Assistant Professor of Music Education and Social Justice at Portland State University. She is the Northwest Choral representative for the National Association for Music Education as well as the Community Choir Chair for the Northwest region of the American Choral Directors Association. She is also the Founder of Being Human Together, a community rooted in music education striving to normalize difficult topics – like mental health, systemic oppression, diversity, and inclusivity – through conversation and connection.

Prior to working at Portland State University, Ms. Morris was the Director of Choirs at Crosby High School in the Houston, Texas area. She has served as the Outreach Choir Director at the Michigan State University Community Music School and Music Director at Grand Ledge United Methodist Church. Her choirs received consistent Sweepstakes & Division I ratings at UIL and choral festivals.

Ms. Morris sings with Mirabai, a professional women's ensemble that aims to enhance the artistic expectations of women's choral singing by connecting powerful music of women, past and present. She has devoted over a decade of summers to working as a camp director at the Texas State University, Northwestern University, and Lamar University Music Camps. She has been given the Hays CISD Linebarger Academic Recognition Award for 2013 & Galena Park ISD's Dazzling Diamond Award in 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018 for outstanding mentorship and leadership in her field.

Ms. Morris studied with Drs. Lynn Brinckmeyer, Jonathan Bacock, and Joey Martin at Texas State University - San Marcos. She received her Masters of Music in Choral Conducting from Michigan State University in 2020 under Drs. David Rayl, Jonathan Reed, and Sandra Snow.



## **About All Classical Radio**

All Classical Radio is consistently ranked in the top 3 classical radio stations in the USA. The network is recognized for its bold collaborations and outreach, and for broadcasting 98% locally produced programming, including innovative music playlists, interviews, live broadcasts, and arts and culture specials. Home to the award-winning Recording Inclusivity Initiative and the International Children's Arts Network, All Classical Radio is one of the first classical stations in the nation to name artists and composers in residence, and to develop robust youth journalism mentorships.

Broadcasting from the heart of the Pacific Northwest, All Classical Radio is an independent and community-funded radio station, providing unparalleled access to classical music, outstanding performances, information about the arts, and more since 1983. Serving nearly 250,000 local listeners in Oregon and SW Washington, thousands more stream online from 100+ countries around the globe. Learn more at allclassical.org.

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