

Carrie Underwood overachieves in VH1's 5th annual Grammy Awards poll

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Justin Timberlake and Mary J. Blige are also predicted to take home trophies on Sunday, February 11

An "American Idol," a guy who's bringing sexy back, and the queen of hip hop soul will win big at the Grammy Awards on Sunday, February 11, according to the results from VH1's 5th annual Grammy poll.

Carrie Underwood is predicted to be chosen "Best New Artist"

Adult respondents in VH1's poll singled out Carrie Underwood as "Best New Artist" and predicted that her "Jesus, Take The Wheel" will win the award for "Song of the Year." Justin Timberlake's "FutureSex/LoveSounds" came out on top for "Album of the Year" while Mary J. Blige's "Be Without You" is pegged for "Record of the Year."

VH1 commissioned a telephone poll of a random national sample of 484 men and women between the ages of 18-49 who were asked who they, personally, thought would win Record, Album, Song, and Best New Artist of the Year.

"I don't think anyone could have predicted just how big Carrie Underwood would be with her debut album," said Rick Krim, EVP, Talent and Music Programming, VH1. "The promotional power of 'American Idol' cannot be denied, but Carrie also delivered a vocally strong album with a number of great songs that connected with country music fans around the country. We'll have to wait and see if the music industry views her talent as highly as her fans do."

Number of adults who opt to purchase downloaded music from web sites nearly doubles from previous VH1 poll 9 months ago

The poll also confirmed "What a difference a holiday season can make." VH1 also asked respondents where they would buy music during a busy week. 48% said from a mass retailer such as Wal-Mart or Target while 26% said they would download from a web site. 16% said they would go to a traditional music store and 9% said they would buy a CD from a site such as Amazon.

The download number is almost double the response VH1 received when it asked roughly the same number of adults the same question in April 2006. The April 2006 poll found that 15% of adults said they would download music from a website during a busy week. In fact, music downloading showed significant increases among three key adult age groups:

Age Group	April 2006	January 2007
18-29	17%	29%
30-39	18%	29%
40-49	10%	20%

Christina Aguilera and Sheryl Crow also tied for #1 in the poll when respondents were asked which nominee for "Best Female Pop Vocal Performance" they would like to take singing lessons from.

Full VH1 Poll findings are below:

Album of the Year Rankings:

- 1.) "FutureSex/LoveSounds" - Justin Timberlake 34%
- 2.) "Stadium Arcadium" - Red Hot Chili Peppers 27%
- 3.) "Continuum" - John Mayer 14%
- 4.) "Taking The Long Way" - Dixie Chicks 10%
- 5.) "St. Elsewhere" - Gnarls Barkley 5%

Record of the Year Rankings:

- 1.) "Be Without You" - Mary J. Blige 31%
- 2.) "You're Beautiful" - James Blunt 22%
- 3.) "Crazy" - Gnarls Barkley 16%
- 4.) "Not Ready To Make Nice" - Dixie Chicks 15%
- 5.) "Put Your Records On" - Corinne Bailey Rae 4%

Song of the Year Rankings:

- 1.) "Jesus, Take The Wheel" - Carrie Underwood 35%
- 2.) "Be Without You" - Mary J. Blige 23%
- 2.) "You're Beautiful" - James Blunt 23%
- 4.) "Not Ready To Make Nice" - Dixie Chicks 8%
- 5.) "Put Your Records On" - Corinne Bailey Rae 3%

Best New Artist of the Year Rankings:

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| 1.) Carrie Underwood | 51% |
| 2.) Chris Brown | 20% |
| 3.) James Blunt | 16% |
| 4.) Corinne Bailey Rae | 5% |
| 5.) Imogen Heap | 1% |

Singing Lessons from Best Female Pop Vocal Performance Nominees:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| 1.) Christina Aguilera | 38% |
| 1.) Sheryl Crow | 38% |
| 3.) Pink | 10% |
| 4.) KT Tunstall | 5% |
| 5.) Natasha Bedingfield | 3% |

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