

# STUDENT LIFE

## Mary J. Blige, Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Dixie Chicks lead 49th annual Grammy nominations

By Sean Mihlo  
student life editor

On Wednesday, at the Music Box in the Fonda Theater in Hollywood, the 49th annual Grammy nominations were announced, with Mary J. Blige, The Dixie Chicks and Red Hot Chili Peppers leading the pack of this year's contenders. Blige, deemed "hip-hop queen of soul," landed a tremendous eight nominations, including Record of the Year and Song of the Year for "Be Without You," which topped Billboard's Hot 100 Airplay chart for nine weeks straight. Blige's seventh studio album *The Breakthrough*, from which "Be Without You" was culled, garnered a nod in the category of Contemporary R&B Album. Other nominees in the Contemporary R&B Album category include Jamie Foxx (*Unpredictable*), India.Arie (*Testimony: Vol. 1, Life & Relationships*), Prince (*3121*), and Lionel Richie (*Coming Home*).



The Dixie Chicks, Gnarls Barkley, John Mayer, Justin Timberlake and Red Hot Chili Peppers are nominated for Album of the Year.

Country superstars The Dixie Chicks, who topped the headlines in March of 2003 when lead singer Natalie Maines dissed President Bush during a concert in London, are nominated for Record of the Year for the album *Taking The Long Way*. The trio is also nominated in both Record and Song of the Year categories for "Not Ready to Make Nice," the first single from *Taking The Long Way*. Since its release in May of this year, the album has gone platinum.

Over two decades after forming, Red Hot Chili Peppers have still managed to sell-out arenas, along with millions of records, including their latest, *Stadium Arcadium*, a double-disc that saw release this past May; it's nominated for Album of the Year. The Peppers are also nominated for Best Rock Album and Best

Rock Song for "Dani California," which also picked up a nod in the Best Short Form Music Video category.

Grammy cast its golden crown on a few new artists for this year's awards, including Gnarls Barkley, the side project of DJ/producer Danger Mouse and rapper Ceelo. Gnarls Barkley, who are nominated for Best New Artist, also picked up nominations in the Best Album Category for *St. Elsewhere* and in the Record of the Year category for "Crazy." Corinne Bailey Rae, an artist who first emerged from Internet hype to earn favorable album reviews, is also nominated for Best New Artist, along with a nod for Record of the Year for "Put Your Records On." Others nominated for Best New Artist include teen R&B star Chris Brown, "You're Beautiful" singer James Blunt and Imogen Heap, who's best known for "Hide and Seek," which gained major attention from airplay on TV's "The O.C."

Former Mickey Mouse Clubbers Justin Timberlake and Christina Aguilera took home a few nominations as well. Timberlake, who recently brought sexy back from wherever it was, is nominated for Album and Pop Album of the Year for *FutureSex/LoveSounds*. The album's first two singles, "SexyBack" and "My Love" (featuring T.I.), have catapulted it to 3 million sales worldwide since its release in September. Aguilera, who released her third album *Back To Basics* in September, won nominations in the Best Pop Album category and in the Best Female Pop Vocal category for "Ain't No Other Man." Since its release in August of this year, *Back To Basics* has sold over two million copies worldwide. The Grammy Awards are scheduled to air live February 11th on CBS.

## John M. Lilley Library Fall 2006 Finals & Winter Holiday Hours

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