

**Fourth Annual Pensado Awards Winners Announced at Sold-Out Event**

Winners announced in 12 categories at a live ceremony at the Fonda Theatre in Los Angeles on Sunday, December 3, 2017

*LOS ANGELES, CA, December 8, 2017* — The fourth annual [Pensado Awards](http://pensadoawards.com/), an award show acknowledging today’s emerging brand of music professional and “recognizing the faces behind the sound,” held its fourth annual awards ceremony on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at Los Angeles’ historic Fonda Theatre.

The ceremony hosted a sold-out crowd of nearly 700 recording and music industry figures – some as proud nominees, some as presenters, some there to simply be part of the evening. This year’s co-hosts were drummer Samantha Maloney (Hole, Mötley Crüe, Peaches), legendary producer, engineer and mixer Chris Lord-Alge (Pink, Foo Fighters, Avril Lavigne, Green Day) and Kosine of acclaimed production duo Da Internz (Ludacris, Nicki Minaj, John Legend). A highlight of the evening was when music industry legend Miles Copeland presented multiple GRAMMY®-nominated producer, musician and mixing engineer Greg Wells (Adele, OneRepublic, Keith Urban, Katy Perry, Twenty One Pilots) with the Pensado Giant Award. That segment of the show also included a special taped video tribute to Greg Wells from James Corden, Katy Perry, Hugh Jackman, Rivers Cuomo of Weezer, Keith Urban, Mix Master Mike and k.d. lang, and a live performance by Greg on drums.

Presenters included such acclaimed industry figures as 2018 GRAMMY® nominees 1500 or Nothin'; engineer/mixer DJ Swivel (The Chainsmokers, others) and producer/engineer Noah Passovoy (Maroon 5); multi-platinum producer/composer Busbee and Hamilton soundtrack engineer Eboni Smith; Harry Shearer (of *This Is Spinal Tap*, *The Simpsons* and much more), CJ Vanston (producer, film composer, keyboardist) and Candace Stewart (Manager, EastWest Studios); mastering engineers Eric Boulanger (*La La Land*, Green Day, Diana Krall) and Jonathan Wyner; Lindsay Rothschild from YouTube and Matt Terrell from Facebook; and *Pensado’s Place* co-hosts Herb Trawick and Dave Pensado.

A truly special aspect of the evening was when David Francisco Platillero, a talented young producer-engineer and musician who suffered a severe traffic accident last year that left him unable to walk, came to the stage to present the OMG Mix Of The Year award. At last year’s Pensado Awards, Herb Trawick, Co-host/Executive Producer and Creator of *Pensado’s Place*, as well as Manager and Advisor to Co-host Dave Pensado, told David and his family, in front of the entire audience, that next year the audio community’s dream was to have David be able to walk again. And one year later after intensive physical therapy, David walked out on stage by himself and brought the house down with applause and tears of joy.

At the ceremony, the following winners were announced:

* OMG! Mix of the Year: Jason Joshua for “Despacito”
* Game Changer of the Year Award: Busbee for Keith Urban, *Ripcord*
* Break Thru Songwriter: James Fauntleroy
* Master of Mastering: Colin Leonard
* Tracking Engineer: Joe Chiccarelli
* Outstanding Brand (tie): NAMM (the National Association of Music Merchants)
* Outstanding Brand (tie): Mix With The Masters
* Break Thru Mixer Award: Seth Firkins
* Live/FOH: Rachel Rozzi, Florida Georgia Line
* Spin Doctor DJ Award: Don Diablo
* Pensado Giant Award: Greg Wells
* Dave Pensado Educator Award: Reggie Andrews, Locke High School
* Herb Trawick Visionary Award: Ray Williams, Xchange

Herb Trawick stated, “Four years running, and Dave and I remain humbled that the Pensado Awards means so much to so many. From the movers and shakers to the enthusiasts, it’s an honor and a pleasure to recognize these incredibly gifted nominees and winners. We thank all of them for their tremendous contributions to our industry.”

This year’s Pensado Awards drew a list of sponsors that comprises some of the most prominent names in professional audio, M.I., audio education and the media. Hip-hop production collective 1500 or Nothin', an American musical ensemble composed of record producers, songwriters, musicians and music videographers, based in Inglewood, CA, served as the Premier Sponsor for the fourth annual Pensado Awards. Additional main sponsors included The Blackbird Academy, NAMM, Avid, Westlake Pro, Roland, Recording Academy® Producers & Engineers Wing®, Audio-Technica, AFM & SAG-AFTRA, iZotope, The Fab Factory, accusonus, FabFilter, BeatSkillz, Celemony, Tascam, Groove3, IK Multimedia, Indaba Music, LANDR, Heavyocity Media, International Music Software Trade Association (IMSTA) and Music Connection Magazine.

Created by Herb Trawick and Dave Pensado of Penwick Media (the producers of *Pensado's Place* and other industry-leading audio-related media), the Pensado Awards were founded as a means of acknowledging talented music producers, engineers, mixers, songwriters and their work, serving as a grand opportunity for the best pros, amateurs, brands and press to come together as one community to celebrate the uncelebrated. Since its inception, the show has continued to gain momentum and garner attention throughout the industry and beyond. The Fonda Theatre will provide an intimate backdrop for Pensado Awards 4, which will feature an entirely new vibe and new show format using cutting-edge technology, plus additional surprises throughout the night.

More about the Pensado Awards:

The Pensado Awards are a natural outgrowth of the ethos behind *Pensado’s Place*. In recent years, developments in music and technology have changed the landscape for producers, songwriters, engineers and musicians, encouraging artists and composers of all types to hone their craft. From the self-taught basement enthusiast to the seasoned industry producer, all manner of music professionals are discovering new methods of working and novel ways to reach fans. The science and art of music-making are in a rapid state of flux, with exciting opportunities awaiting among the talented figures in and out of the spotlight – the people who are currently engineering the next sound that will move the world in the music, film, television and digital realms. Over 100,000 albums and millions of songs are released every year, not to mention the hundreds of thousands of concerts put on worldwide, but the awards often end up in the hands of a lucky select group. So the brilliance and hard work of all those producers, songwriters, DJ’s, engineers, mixers, live wizards and behind-the-scenes technicians in audio often go unnoticed. The Pensado Awards, founded as a means of acknowledging these talented individuals and their work, are a grand opportunity for the best pros, amateurs, brands and press to come together as one community to celebrate the uncelebrated.

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Photo file 1: Wells\_Copeland.JPG

Photo caption 1: At the fourth annual Pensado Awards on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at Los Angeles’ historic Fonda Theatre, multiple GRAMMY®-nominated producer, musician and mixing engineer Greg Wells (left) received the Pensado Giant Award presented by music industry legend Miles Copeland (right). Photo by Chris Schmitt Photography. © 2017.

Photo file 2: BreakThruSongwriter\_Dave\_Herb.JPG

Photo caption 2: Pictured L-R at podium: Break Thru Songwriter honoree James Fauntleroy, with *Pensado’s Place* co-hosts Dave Pensado and Herb Trawick, at the fourth annual Pensado Awards on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at Los Angeles’ historic Fonda Theatre. Photo by Chris Schmitt Photography. © 2017.

Photo file 3: PA4\_CoHosts.JPG

Photo caption 3: The fourth annual Pensado Awards were presented on on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at Los Angeles’ historic Fonda Theatre to a sold-out crowd of nearly 700 recording and music industry figures. Pictured L-R are the evening’s co-hosts: Kosine of acclaimed production duo Da Internz (Ludacris, Nicki Minaj, John Legend); legendary producer, engineer and mixer Chris Lord-Alge (Pink, Foo Fighters, Green Day); and drummer Samantha Maloney (Hole, Mötley Crüe, Peaches). Photo by Chris Schmitt Photography. © 2017.

Photo file 4: BreakThruSongwriter.JPG

Photo caption 4: Break Thru Songwriter honoree James Fauntleroy (pictured at podium), with presenters Busbee (multi-platinum producer/composer) and Eboni Smith (Hamilton soundtrack engineer), at the fourth annual Pensado Awards on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at Los Angeles’ historic Fonda Theatre. Photo by Chris Schmitt Photography. © 2017.

**About *Pensado’s Place***

The hour-long weekly web series *Pensado’s Place* was created over five years ago. Co-hosted by legendary mix engineer Dave Pensado (Black Eyed Peas, Beyoncé, Christina Aguilera, Kelly Clarkson, Michael Jackson and more) and show creator Herb Trawick, *Pensado’s Place* includes interviews with top music industry artists, engineers, producers, mixers, and record executives, as well as in-depth tutorials in production, engineering and mixing. *Pensado’s Place* has positioned itself as “the most influential show for audio engineers,” mixers and producers (Forbes Magazine). *Pensado’s Place* is more than just a show, as it highlights the very best in the audio industry from music, film, TV, gaming, live, hardware and software with a presence in live events. As a leading educational resource, *Pensado’s Place* is helping build the next generation of audio greats. <http://www.pensadosplace.tv/>.

*PR Contacts:*

*Robert Clyne / Clyne Media / 615-662-1616 /* Robert@clynemedia.com */* [www.clynemedia.com/](http://www.clynemedia.com/)

*Lisa Roy / Rock & Roy / 310-463-1563 /* lisaroyaudio@mac.com