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# National Association for Music Education Grateful for Generous Research Donation from CMA Foundation, Announced by Country Star Charles Kelley

By PR Rocket on October 30, 2015

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The National Association for Music Education is one of the many 2016 grant recipients of the CMA Foundation, which is expanding its grant focus from purchasing instruments to supporting music education initiatives for deserving children nationwide. Charles Kelley announced that CMA Foundation charitable giving in 2016 will exceed \$2.6 million.

Nashville, TN (PRWEB) October 30, 2015

A trumpet on a school shelf sits silent without a teacher showing a student how to play.

Early in the creation of the CMA Foundation the focus was on purchasing instruments, primarily in Metro Nashville Public Schools, which hadn't received new instruments in decades. Five years and thousands of instruments later, the CMA Foundation Board has made the strategic shift to focusing not only on providing instruments, but expanding efforts to support sustainable, quality music education through partnerships with in-school and after-school programs nationwide.

Tuesday night (October 27) at the annual conference of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), which represents 60,000 music teachers across the country, the CMA Foundation and Country star Charles Kelley, of Lady Antebellum, announced a \$150,000 grant from the CMA Foundation to the Give a Note Foundation, which was created by NAfME in 2011 to nurture, grow, and strengthen music education opportunities through grants, scholarships, and research. The research grant will bring the CMA's music education funding in 2016 to a record \$2.6 million.

"We couldn't think of a better platform to talk about the importance of supporting sustainable music education programs than sharing this expanded strategy with the teachers who are on the front line of this important issue every day," said Sarah Trahern, CMA Chief Executive Officer.

The grant will fund a national study on access to music education that can be analyzed and made available to organizations who wish to make informed decisions for philanthropic gifts in music education – where the need exists, and where the infrastructure exists to make gifts sustainable and impactful.

"It has become clear as we review hundreds of grant applications each year that being able to identify those regions and cities with the greatest need would be very beneficial – not just to the

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## Lady Antebellum's Charles Kelley announces CMA Foundation education grant

BY VANESSA VALLON | October 30, 2015



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When **Charles Kelley** took the stage at the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) In-Service Conference at Nashville's Gaylord Opryland Hotel Tuesday night (Oct. 27), he immediately told the crowd, "I think I'm more nervous to talk! If I was up here to sing, it'd be easier."

The powerhouse vocalist recently launched his solo project with the release of debut single **"The Driver"** and an announcement of a club tour, which will kick off on November 28 at the House of Blues in Cleveland. However, last night he appeared at the 2015 NAfME Conference's closing concert event to discuss music education fundraising.

NAfME is a trade association representing more than 60,000 music educators and its annual conference gathers thousands of students, parents, teachers, industry members and educational decision makers to empower creativity and promote music education.

Alongside Country Music Association (CMA) director Sarah Trahern and **CMA Foundation** Board Chairman Ron Samuels, he presented NAfME's Give A Note Foundation with a \$150,000 grant that will specifically fund a national study on access to music education.

Samuels told an excited audience, "Being able to identify the regions and cities with the greatest need [for improved music education] will be very beneficial, not just to the CMA Foundation, but to many other

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## Charles Kelley Announces \$150,000 On Behalf Of The CMA Foundation

October 28, 2015 at 1:18 PM (PT)

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Charles Kelley  
Announces \$150K  
On Behalf Of The  
CMA Foundation

The CMA FOUNDATION and CAPITOL NASHVILLE artist **CHARLES KELLEY** announced a \$150K grant from the CMA FOUNDATION to the GIVE A NOTE FOUNDATION, which is dedicated to growing and strengthening music education opportunities through grants, scholarships, and research. Last night (10/27) KELLEY made the announcement at the annual conference of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MUSIC EDUCATION (NAFME).

This grant symbolizes the CMA FOUNDATION's shift of focus from purchasing and donating instruments to instead expanding efforts to support quality music education as well as providing instruments. "We couldn't think of a better platform to talk about the importance of supporting sustainable music education programs than sharing this expanded strategy with the teachers who are on the front line of this important issue every day," said CMA CEO SARAH TRAHERN. For more information, visit the GIVE A NOTE FOUNDATION [website](#).



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Jessica Nickelsen • October 30, 2015

### CMA Foundation, Charles Kelley Announce Research Funding For National Association For Music Education



Pictured (L-R): Glenn Newman, President, President; Elyse McKeau; Sarah Tramm, Chief Executive Officer, CMA; Charles Kelley; Ross Samuels, Board Chairman, CMA Foundation; Beth Slusher, President and Chair, Give a Note Foundation Board. Photo: Dusty Draper / CMA

During the annual conference of the National Association for Music Education (NAFME), the CMA Foundation and **Charles Kelley** of Lady Antebellum announced a \$150,000 grant from the CMA Foundation to the Give A Note Foundation. In 2011, the NAFME created the Give A Note Foundation to strengthen music education opportunities through grants and research. The grant



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## Charles Kelley And CMA Foundation Announce Grant

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Tuesday night at the annual conference of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), which represents 80,000 music teachers across the country, the CMA Foundation and Country star Charles Kelley of Lady Antebellum announced a \$150,000 grant from the CMA Foundation to the Give a Note Foundation, which was created by NAfME in 2011 to nurture, grow, and strengthen music education opportunities through grants, scholarships, and research. The

research grant will bring the CMA's music education funding in 2016 to a record \$2.6 million.

"We couldn't think of a better platform to talk about the importance of supporting sustainable music education programs than sharing this expanded strategy with the teachers who are on the front line of this important issue every day," said Sarah Trahern, CMA Chief Executive Officer.

The grant will fund a national study on access to music education that can be analyzed and made available to organizations who wish to make informed decisions for philanthropic gifts in music education – where the need exists, and where the infrastructure exists to make gifts sustainable and impactful.

"It has become clear as we review hundreds of grant applications each year that being able to identify those regions and cities with the greatest need would be very beneficial – not just to the CMA Foundation, but to many other grant-making organizations," said Ron Samuels, Chairman of the CMA Foundation Board of Directors. "The need for music education programs is clear. Determining where the need is the greatest will help us better focus our resources."

The research grant was made on behalf of CMA's artist community.

"The CMA continuing their mission to support music education is something all of us artists are proud to be part of," said Kelley. "But, what really takes it to the next level for me is that they continue to reevaluate where the money is going so that the resources can be used where they are most valuable. I think that evolution of giving makes an even bigger impact on these kids."

Kelley recently released his first solo single, "The Driver," as Lady Antebellum wraps their successful "When Love Takes Over" tour. The album features Kelly Rowland, Justin Bieber, and more.



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