

# Murray Is Grammy-Bound



Rapper Kanye West, pop singer Christina Aguilera and JCCC adjunct associate professor of music Alan Murray all have something in common: they are nominees in the 50th Annual Grammy Awards.

Murray is a member of the Kansas City Chorale, a professional choir of 12 men and 12 women under the direction of Charles Bruffy, who also directs the Phoenix Bach Choir. Together the two groups recorded Grechaninov's *Passion Week*, which received five Grammy nominations, including Best Classical Album and Best Choral Album. Released April 2007 on the Chandos label, the CD was recorded in surround sound at Blessed Sacrament Church, Kansas City, Kan.

Since moving to Kansas City in 2002, Murray has taught at JCCC and been director of music and media at Asbury United Methodist Church, Prairie Village. He has sung with the KC Chorale since 2003, having previously been with the Phoenix Bach Choir. Murray has a bachelor's degree from New Mexico State University and a master's degree from Arizona State University, both in vocal music/pedagogy.

At JCCC, Murray teaches three classes and has 10 to 15 private voice students.

"I work with voice students in all musical genres – jazz, pop, classical and even heavy metal – and I encourage them to find their own sound," Murray said. "I tell them they won't achieve success by trying to sound like someone else."

Murray plans to attend the Grammy Awards.

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## ThisMonth

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