****

**JESSIE JAMES DECKER, SCOTT EVANS, AJ GIBSON, ERIKA JAYNE, LAURA MARANO AND ZACH SANG TO HOST**

**“AMAs RED CARPET LIVE PRESENTED BY SECURITY BENEFIT”**

**THE OFFICIAL PRE-SHOW OF**

**THE “2018 AMERICAN MUSIC AWARDS®”**

**This Year’s Pre-Show Will Live Stream from**

**6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. ET / 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. PT**

**Exclusively on YouTube at** [**YouTube.com/TheAMAs**](file:///%5C%5Cdcpfs%5Cdcpdata%5CCommunications%5CAmerican%20Music%20Awards%20-%20ABC%5CAMAs%202018%5CRELEASES%20-%20DRAFT%5CYouTube.com%5CTheAMAs)

**The “2018 American Music Awards” Return to ABC**
**Tuesday, October 9 Live at 8:00 p.m. ET**

[EDITOR’S NOTE]: For media assets please click [*here*](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o2jhxbb7onujyqy/AAAZYV-CxhG2gxLRQbFkC_pVa?dl=0)

For digital assets, please go to: *bit.ly/AMAs18Media*

**Los Angeles, CA (October 4, 2018)** – dick clark productions today announced “AMAs Red Carpet Live presented by Security Benefit,” the official pre-show for the “2018 American Music Awards.” Jessie James Decker, Scott Evans, AJ Gibson, Erika Jayne, Laura Marano and Zach Sang will host. The two-hour pre-show will stream LIVE from Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles on Tuesday, October 9 starting at 6:00 p.m. ET / 3:00 p.m. PT, and the pre-show will stream live on the official American Music Awards YouTube channel ([**YouTube.com/TheAMAs**](https://www.youtube.com/TheAMAs)).

Produced by dick clark productions, the “AMAs Red Carpet Live presented by Security Benefit” pre-show live stream will be available exclusively on YouTube, where fans can watch and participate in the live red carpet experience. Featuring exclusive interviews and a star-studded lineup of nominees, performers and presenters, fans will be able to engage in real-time conversation on the platform as some of the biggest moments of the night unfold.

Hosted by Tracee Ellis Ross, the “2018 American Music Awards,” the world’s largest fan-voted awards show, will broadcast live from the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. ET on ABC.

**Jessie James Decker** is a country music singer/songwriter, style entrepreneur, television personality and author. Her most recent album, *Southern Girl City Lights*, debuted as #1 on the iTunes Top Country Albums Chart and Billboard’s Top Country Albums chart following the success of her gold-certified single “Wanted.”  A star of the hit reality show *Eric and Jessie,* she is the creator and designer of Kittenish, a playful fashion line inspired by her personal style. Decker’s first book, Just Jessie, is her guide to love, life, family and food, and will be released October 2 from Harper Collins Publishers.

**Scott** **Evans** is an on-air host and correspondent for NBC's Access Hollywood and Access Live. He's a regular 'Top Talker' on CBS's The Talk, has made guest appearances on CNN, Wendy Williams and was hand-picked by Oprah Winfrey to co-host on OWN's first weekly live talk show OWN Tonight. His personable approach and charisma has him specifically requested for interviews and intimate conversations with Hollywood heavyweights such as Oprah, Denzel Washington, Will Smith, Sandra Bullock, Sterling K. Brown, Tom Hanks and Heidi Klum. Through his media savvy and work ethic he’s building relationships with today's top up-and-coming stars.

TV host, author and speaker **AJ Gibson** has a gift for connecting with people both on camera and off! Known for his ability to engage while interviewing some of the world’s most fascinating celebrities and covering Hollywood’s biggest red carpets and pop culture events, it’s actually AJ’s passion for people and important causes that drive his life and career. It’s this same passion that was the driving force behind his first book, Flipping the Script, which debuted as a #1Amazon New Release among all LGBTQ autobiographies in its first hour of presales! He’s certainly a “people person.” From his small town Ohio upbringing to his fast paced LA life, AJ Gibson has experienced it all! Since entertaining viewers as a contestant on ABC’s “Expedition Impossible” in 2011 and being singled out as “What To Watch” by TV Guide magazine, AJ has turned his 15 minutes in the spotlight into a successful career as a television host and public speaker. AJ spent 2 years as the host of Hollywood Today Live on FOX, has filled in as a guest co-host on Access Hollywood Live and has appeared regularly on Southern California’s iconic morning chat fest Good Day LA! From time to time, you can also catch AJ sitting next to the ladies of The Talk on CBS or giving fans the Inside Scoop on The Wendy Williams Show. Just recently, AJ had the honor or presenting the Daytime Emmy for Outstanding Morning Program to Good Morning America, alongside actress Vivica A. Fox. AJ has also become a fixture on some of the industry biggest red carpets, such as the Golden Globes, Billboard Music Awards and others!

As a musical artist, **Erika** **Jayne** has raked in a whopping nine #1’s on the US Billboard’s Dance Club Songs chart, toured the globe and racked up superstar fans like Christina Aguilera. On top of that, the Atlanta native is a *New York Times* bestselling author, a cast member and fan favorite on Bravo’s *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, a virtual character in mobile app *Kim Kardashian: Hollywood*, and has appeared on major network television programs like ABC’s *Dancing with the Stars*, CBS’s *The Young and The Restless* and Paramount’s *Lip Sync Battle*. With her popularity soaring across America, Jayne’s famous face has been seen on just about every top-tier media platform, including Ellen, Good Morning America, Nightline, Larry King, Forbes, Cosmopolitan, Vogue and People Magazine. After reaching such heights from just three seasons on Real Housewives of Beverly Hills, Erika Jayne is still just getting started.

**Laura** **Marano** is widely known for starring as “Ally” in the Disney Channel's international hit television series *Austin & Ally*, for which she won Best Actress on TV at the Kids Choice Awards and nominations for Choice Summer TV Star Female and Choice TV Actress Comedy, at the Teen Choice Awards. The series has won Kids Choice Awards in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Columbia. Most recently, Marano was seen in the highly acclaimed Greta Gerwig-directed high school drama, *Ladybird*. She can be seen next year in three feature films which include the romantic comedy, “The Stand In” with Noah Centineo and Camila Mendes, the Robert De Niro comedy, “War With Grandpa” and the dramatic theatrical movie, “Saving Zoe” which she also serves as a producer. She is partnered with Equality Now with “Saving Zoe” to spread the word regarding human trafficking, ad will be making appearances at the UN and meeting Senators in 2019 to discuss Fosta/Sesta to make tech companies take responsibility hosting web sites that promote sexual abuse against women. Marano is also an established singer songwriter. She wrote and performed the theme song to the latest video for Miraculous Tales of Ladybug and Cat Noir, which made its video debut at San Diego Comic-Con and has over 55 million views on YouTube. She is dropping her single “ME” on Friday, October 5th and the music video on October 8th. Marano has her own shoe line with Not Rated and perfume line which is currently sold at TJ Max, Ross, Marshall’s and Amazon. Each product gives fans the opportunity to spread kindness through their actions with #inspirekindness. She also launched her own weekly radio show on the Radio Disney Network and co-hosted TLC’s *Say Yes to The Prom Dress*, treating deserving high school girls to a fairytale transformation for their prom. Most recently Marano hosted the red carpet telecast with Dick Clark Productions at the 2017 American Music Awards and at the 2017 Billboard Music Awards, which had over 8 million viewers.

**Zach** **Sang** is a radio prodigy, on-camera personality, social media addict, and pop culture junkie. As host of the Zach Sang Show on Westwood One, America’s largest audio network, Zach has become one of the most recognizable voices in media. His popular radio show is syndicated in over 80 markets across the US and Canada with a global army of fans that follow his long-form interviews on YouTube. Through his many national press breaks, artist exclusives, and viral bits, Zach Sang has become the new media superstar to watch.

The American Music Awards winners are voted entirely by fans. Voting is now open in all categories.

Fans can vote for each award 100 times per day, per voting platform in one or both of the ways below.

* Via web at [VoteAMAs.com](http://voteamas.com/)
* Posting a tweet on Twitter that includes the nominee's name or Twitter handle, the [category name](https://www.theamas.com/2018-vote-categories/) and #AMAs within the tweet

Voting for New Artist of the Year presented by Capital One Savor Card and Collaboration of the Year will close on Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 5:59:59 p.m. PDT, one hour into the live broadcast. Voting for all other categories will close on Thursday, Oct. 4 at 11:59:59 p.m. PDT.

American Music Awards nominees are based on key fan interactions as reflected on [Billboard.com](http://billboard.com/), including streaming, album and digital song sales, radio airplay, social activity and touring. These measurements are tracked by Billboard and its data partners, including Nielsen Music and Next Big Sound, and reflect the time period of September 15, 2017 through August 9, 2018.

YouTube Music is the presenting sponsor of the “2018 American Music Awards.”

The Capital One Savor Card and Subaru of America, Inc. are sponsors of the “2018 American Music Awards.” The all-new 3-row Subaru Ascent will be featured on the AMAs red carpet..

Media partner is Cumulus Media/Westwood One.

The “2018 American Music Awards” is produced by dick clark productions. Barry Adelman, Mark Bracco and Tracee Ellis Ross are Executive Producers. Larry Klein is Producer.

For the latest American Music Awards news, exclusive content and more, be sure to follow the AMAs on social and join the conversation by using the official hashtag for the show, **#AMAs**.

**Facebook**: [Facebook.com/AMAs](https://facebook.com/AMAs)
**Twitter**: [@AMAs](https://twitter.com/AMAs)
**Instagram**: [@AMAs](https://instagram.com/AMAs)
**Snapchat**: [TheAMAs](https://www.snapchat.com/add/theamas)
**YouTube**: [YouTube.com/TheAMAs](https://www.youtube.com/TheAMAs)

**Tickets are now on sale at** [www.axs.com](http://www.axs.com/events/243824/american-music-awards-tickets).

**About the American Music Awards**

The American Music Awards, the world’s largest fan-voted award show, features performances from today’s hottest artists and presents fan-voted awards in the music genres of Pop/Rock, Alternative Rock, Country, Rap/Hip-Hop, Soul/R&B, Adult Contemporary, Contemporary Inspirational, Latin, EDM and Soundtrack, and the categories of Artist of the Year, New Artist of the Year presented by the Capital One Savor Card, Collaboration of the Year, Tour of The Year, Favorite Social Artist presented by Xfinity and Favorite Music Video. The American Music Awards pays tribute to today’s most influential and iconic artists.  The show is produced by dick clark productions and is seen in more than 200 countries and territories around the world. For more information, visit [www.theamas.com](http://www.theamas.com), [www.dickclark.com](http://www.dickclark.com) or [abc.go.com/shows/american-music-awards](http://www.abc.go.com/shows/american-music-awards).

**About dick clark productions**

dick clark productions (dcp) is the world's largest producer and proprietor of televised live event entertainment programming with the "Academy of Country Music Awards," "American Music Awards," "Billboard Music Awards," "Golden Globe Awards," "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest" and the “Streamy Awards.” Weekly television programming includes "So You Think You Can Dance" from 19 Entertainment and dcp. dcp also owns one of the world's most unique and extensive entertainment archive libraries with over 60 years of award-winning shows, historic programs, specials, performances and legendary programming. dcp is a division of Valence Media, a diversified media company with divisions and strategic investments in premium television, wide release film, specialty film, live events and digital media. For additional information, visit [www.dickclark.com](file://dcpfs/dcpdata/Communications/NYRE-%20ABC/NYRE%202015_2016/PRESS%20RELEASE-DRAFTS/www.dickclark.com).

**About YouTube Music**

YouTube Music is a completely reimagined streaming music service with music videos, official albums, singles, remixes, live performances, covers and hard-to-find music you can only get on YouTube. It’s ALL here! YouTube Music serves music based on your tastes and what’s moving the community around you. Discover something new or keep up with what’s trending. Basic functions such as playing music and watching videos are totally free, but you can upgrade to YouTube Music Premium to explore the world of music ad-free, offline, and with the screen locked. Available on mobile and desktop.  For additional information, visit  [www.youtube.com/musicpremium](http://www.youtube.com/musicpremium).

# # #

**Press Contacts:**
dick clark productions:
Kelly Striewski 310-255-4602 KStriewski@dickclark.com
Gina Sorial 310-255-0308 gsorial@dickclark.com

SLATE PR:
Andy Gelb 310-461-0111 andy@slate-pr.com
Rachael Trager 212-235-6817 rachael@slate-pr.com

ABC Media Relations:
Nicole Gonzales 818-460-7421 Nicole.J.Gonzales@abc.com
Nate Reeves 818-460-6422 Nate.Reeves@abc.com