News 18 November 2026 | English article

Latest: CeCe Winans Leads 69th Grammy Nominations as Brandon Lake and Kirk Franklin Earn Nods

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"In Best Gospel Performance/Song,"

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

CeCe Winans leads the gospel and contemporary Christian field at the 69th Annual Grammy Awards with three nominations. The nominees were revealed on Monday morning, 16 November 2026, and Winans - one of the most decorated voices in gospel music - picked up nods for "At The Cross" in Best Gospel Performance/Song, "The Hymns" in Best Gospel Album, and "Worthy Of It All (Worthy)" in Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance/Song. Brandon Lake earned two nominations of his own, and Kirk Franklin was nominated alongside Karen Clark Sheard. The ceremony takes place on 7 February 2027 in Los Angeles.

Three nominations is not a small thing in a field this crowded. Across the five gospel and contemporary Christian categories, 26 entries were nominated this year - and Winans, at the height of a career that has already spanned four decades, stands at the front of all of them. For an artist who has spent her life singing hymns in churches long before she ever sang them on a Grammy stage, the recognition feels like a homecoming.

Winans' three nominations span the full range of her work. "At The Cross" is nominated in Best Gospel Performance/Song, the category that honours a single song's performance. "The Hymns" - her album of classic hymns - is up for Best Gospel Album. And "Worthy Of It All (Worthy)" crosses into the contemporary Christian field, nominated for Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance/Song.

Brandon Lake, the worship leader turned arena headliner, is right behind her. His album "King of Hearts - In the Room!" Is nominated for Best Contemporary Christian Music Album, and his song "The Jesus I Know Now", recorded with country star Lainey Wilson, is nominated for Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance/Song. The co-writers on the song are Luke Laird and Emily Weisband.

The Lake and Wilson collaboration is one of the most interesting pairings of the year. Wilson is a country music star; Lake is a worship leader. Their song together - about a Jesus who is known personally, not just believed in - bridges two audiences that rarely share a stage. Its nomination suggests the Grammy voters noticed.

Kirk Franklin, meanwhile, earned his nomination alongside Karen Clark Sheard for "Thank You For Everything" in Best Gospel Performance/Song, with Franklin credited as songwriter. Franklin has been a Grammy fixture for three decades, and his presence on this year's list is a reminder of how long he has shaped the sound of modern gospel - and how much of it still runs through him.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

READ THE FULL STORY

Continue on FaithStories -- the complete article, with sources and related stories:
https://faithstories.onrender.com/articles/news-939.html?utm_source=pdf_guide&utm_medium=organic_pdf

More from FaithStories

FaithStories - Home
https://faithstories.onrender.com/

(Spanish) Hoy: Dante Gebel a presidente, las iglesias evangélicas de Argentina ya preparan su apoyo
https://faithstories.onrender.com/articles/es/news-945.html

(Portuguese) Band confirma fim da Igreja Universal nas madrugadas: último culto em 20 de novembro
https://faithstories.onrender.com/articles/pt/news-946.html

(French) Aujourd'hui : la France, épicentre des attaques antichrétiennes en Europe, selon le rapport OIDAC 2026
https://faithstories.onrender.com/articles/fr/news-947.html