

# Winners of coveted OFM Music Awards announced

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The winners of the coveted OFM Music Awards were announced on Thursday, 21 September 2017, during a special, live radio broadcast, hosted by much-loved presenter Cyril Viljoen.

In the run-up to the awards show, listeners had a chance to vote for their favourite artists, albums and songs in five national and five international categories.

In the international categories, the British redhead Ed Sheeran reclaimed his title as Best Male Artist International, which he also won in 2015. Central South Africans really showed their love for Sheeran in this year's competition, by also choosing his album, *Divide*, as Album of the Year International. Smouldering beauty Selena Gomez won Best Female Artist International. American pop rock band One Republic knocked previous winners One Direction off their top spot to win Best International Group.

Song of the Year International could not have been anything other than the Latin rhythms of *Despacito*, by Puerto Rican heartthrob Luis Fonsi and Daddy Yankee, featuring Justin Bieber.



In the national categories, Elvis Blue won Album of the Year National for a second year running for his album, *Die Brug*. *The Voice SA* winner Richard Stirton won Best Male Artist, while the bubbly blue-eyed Leah took the honours for Best Female Artist. Cape Town's pop trio, Blackbyrd, won Best South African Group.

Finally, Central South Africans chose Vernon Barnard's song, *I Like It That Way*, as their Song of the Year National.

Says Nick Efstathiou, OFM General Manager: "The OFM Music Awards continues to flourish. We are extremely proud of this competition and of our listeners, who continue to make their voices heard. Congratulations to all our Golden Note winners. Keep inspiring and entertaining us, keep making beautiful music and keep making this world a better place through your incredible talent!"

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