

Children's Artist Bobby Susser Receives High Honor from Teacher's College, Columbia University

Songwriter, performer and record producer Bobby Susser receives Distinguished Alumni Award recognizing his life's work from alma mater Teacher's College, Columbia University.

New York, NY (April 13, 2013) -- New Hope Records announced that Long Island resident Bobby Susser, was honored today with a prestigious Distinguished Alumni Award from Teachers College, Columbia University, for his life's work as an American songwriter, performer, and record producer. Susser joins notables and previous recipients of the university's Distinguished and Service awards such as global economist Jeffrey Sachs and former congresswoman Shirley Chisolm. The ceremony took place as part of the College's Academic Festival 2013, at Columbia University, where Bobby Susser's name will be permanently engraved, on the wall in the main hall of the University.

Susser participated in several of the Festival's weekend-long events celebrating the College's 125th Anniversary, including a Trustee's Cocktail Reception, the Opening Ceremonies, and the Awards Luncheon, where he made his acceptance remarks, adding, "Teaching children through songs, in addition to entertaining, always appealed to me. I've been immersed in the children's music world over the years, and one can be tempted to follow trends in this, or any, genre. However, this incredible honor reinforces my commitment to both educating and entertaining children through music. Understanding the importance of that goal is a true gift that one receives in attending Teacher's College."

Teachers College's 90,000 graduates include leading educators, psychologists, administrators, and other professionals. From among those, The Alumni Council honors the College's most extraordinary alumni each year with the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Early Career Award. Susser's fellow honorees include leaders in various fields such as Jody Gottfried Arnhold (MA '73), Founder, Dance Education Lab, 92nd Street Y; Susan Jay Spungin (EdD '75), President, Blind Biz; Chong Yang Kim (EdD '83), Chairman of the Board, Hanyang University Foundation, as well as Early Career Award Recipients Sarah Bolson Barnett (MA '08), Associate Vice President for Foundation Relations at The New York Botanical Garden and (posthumously) Sreyashi Jhumki Basu (PhD '06), former professor of Science Education at New York University.

Susser's latest album, for children of all ages, is titled WO! It has received critical acclaim from both School Library Journal and Educational Dealer, as well as two Dr. Toy Awards including top 10 Best Audio-Video Products, and a Parent's Choice award. With 12 children's albums in the marketplace, 25 albums recorded, and over 5 million albums sold, Susser is best known in the music industry as an accomplished children's artist, although he has long written, performed and produced pop songs for adults. He scored an international hit with "Once You Understand," which inspired him to focus on the power of music to shape young lives; he has written and produced original, award-winning songs for children since 1972, and, in 1987, he earned an M.A. in Communication Arts and Sciences in Early Childhood Education from Teacher's College, Columbia University. He continues to write, produce and market internationally-acclaimed popular songs for all ages, and says that one very special highlight of his career is his recording and contribution of an official theme song for the world renowned St. Jude Children's Hospital.

To explore the music, visit www.BobbySusser.com; to read Susser's full biography, visit:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bobby_Susser. For interviews and album review copies, contact Beth Ann Hilton, The B Company, 310-560-8390 or bethhilton@thebcompany.com.

About Bobby Susser

Bobby Susser (MA '87) earned his master's in Communication Arts and Sciences in Early Childhood Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. He has written and produced original, easy-to-learn, award-winning children's songs since 1972, as well as internationally acclaimed popular songs for all ages. Bobby works with several types of singers and musicians depending upon the song, style, and subject matter. He has sold over 5 million CDs, produced 25 albums, and entertained and taught lessons to scores of children through his songs. Along the way, he has received dozens of awards from respected children's, parenting and educational organizations. His latest album, released for children of all ages, is titled WO! www.BobbySusser.com

About the Awards

In the early 1970s, Alumni Council members, at Teachers College, Columbia University, expressed both surprise and satisfaction in the variety of careers represented among the alumni. The Council and Dr. William Summerscales initiated the Distinguished Alumni Awards Program to broadcast this breadth and variety. Teachers College's 90,000 graduates include leading educators, psychologists, administrators, and other professionals. The Alumni Council honors the College's most extraordinary alumni each year with the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Early Career Award. <http://www.tc.edu/125/>

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