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Composer Chris Tyng is opening his Santa Barbara County studio to developing and buzz-worthy musicians for free, no strings attached.

Tyng is launching the Grow Music Project to provide artists with two or three days in his state of the art studio with the goal of each leaving with a finished recording. Through submissions to the GMP website, Tyng and the GMP teams select artists to move in, socialize with industry professionals and record. Sessions during the GMP journey will be filmed documentary style for future uses.

“I think back to the opportunities I had when I was starting out and I wanted to create something that could give really talented individuals an advantage,” Tyng tells

## Billboard.

Six acts have been chosen for the first sessions: Dialtone, a rock band from North Hollywood, Calif.; Engelo Charles of Hollywood; songwriter Joey Hendrickson of Columbus, Ohio; Joshua Meltzer, recipient of the ASCAP Robert Allen Award, from Northampton, Mass.; Nashville soul-rocker Scott McLeod; and New York's Star + The Sea (aka Dominique Star). Through sessions at Tyng's Star Hill Studio, they will receive assistance in refining, developing and recording their music.

"I was helped at the start of my music career by individuals who believed in me without demanding anything in return, and I wanted to 'pay that forward' by doing something similar with GMP," says Tyng, a New Englander who moved to L.A. 20-plus years ago and has become known for music on the TV shows "Rescue Me," "Futurama" and "Suits."

"The diminishing role of the traditional record labels and music business has meant that many of the former barriers and gatekeepers to broader success for emerging artists are now gone - but so are many of the resources which enabled artists to hone, refine, and represent their craft at the level necessary to fully capitalize on their potential."

GMP has an advisory board that includes songwriter Jesse Harris, NBC Universal Television music supervision director Stacy Wallen-McCarthy, Glassnote Records' Blanca Bhagat and SESAC senior VP Trevor Gale. Kristin Tyng, who handles artist Relations for GMP, is also on the board.

Submissions for the second round of GMP is open until Oct. 1.

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