**Embargoed Until 3.31.15 / 10 p.m. PST**

**Sergio George and Top Latin Songwriters Honored at 22nd Annual BMI Latin Music Awards**

*Espinoza Paz, Horacio Palencia and Universal Music Publishing Group
Among Honorees at Ceremony in Miami Beach*

MIAMI BEACH, FLA. April 1, 2015 — Broadcast Music, Inc.® (BMI®), a global leader in music rights management, last night announced the songwriters and publishers of Latin music’s most-performed songs of the past year on U.S. radio and television at the 22nd annual BMI Latin Music Awards at the Fontainebleau Hotel Miami Beach.

Multiple GRAMMY® award winner,multitalented producer, pianist and composer **Sergio George** received the **BMI President's Award** in recognition of his influential role as one of Latin music's most beloved pioneers. To celebrate, Laritza Bacallao opened the night’s tribute performances with a touching rendition of “Si Te Contara,” which was followed by Salsa great Charlie Aponte, who performed the rhythmic “Sin Salsa No Hay Paraíso.” Oscar D' Leon then gave a high-energy performance of “Lloraras” and was joined by Jose Alberto "El Canario"toclose the show with a rousing performance of “Llego el Sabor.”

**Espinoza Paz/Editora Arpa Musical/Ferca Global Publishing** was honored with **BMI Song of the Year** for the chart-topping Regional Mexican hit "El Ruido de tus Zapatos." **Horacio Palencia** was awarded **BMI Latin Songwriter of the Year** for writing five songs that rank among the year’s most performed, including “Cero A La Izquierda,” “Hermosa Experiencia,” “Mi Niña Traviesa,” “Mi Razón De Ser,” and “Mi Segunda Vida.” With eight songs among the most performed, **Universal Music Publishing Group** clinched the prestigious **Publisher of the Year** crown.

The 22nd annual BMI Latin Music Awards were hosted by BMI President and CEO Mike O’Neill and BMI Vice President, Latin Music Delia Orjuela. BMI represents Latin songwriters based in the U.S. and around the globe through reciprocal agreements with sister societies in the songwriters’ home countries.

For a complete list of 2015 BMI Latin Awards winners, please visit [www.bmi.com/latin](http://www.bmi.com/latin).

**High-resolution photos of awards, performances and video footage can be downloaded here:** [http://www.epklink.com/bmilatinawards2015/](http://www.epklink.com/bmilatinawards2014/)

**High-resolution photos will be available for download at:** <http://www.bmi.com/press>
*Username: bmimedia; password: songwriter*

**ABOUT BMI:**

Celebrating 75 years of service to songwriters, composers, music publishers and businesses, Broadcast Music, Inc.® (BMI®) is a global leader in music rights management, serving as an advocate for the value of music. BMI represents the public performance rights in more than 8.5 million musical works created and owned by more than 650,000 songwriters, composers, and music publishers. The Company negotiates music license agreements and distributes the fees it generates as royalties to its affiliated writers and publishers when their songs are performed in public. In 1939, BMI created a groundbreaking open-door policy becoming the only performing rights organization to welcome and represent the creators of blues, jazz, country, and American roots music. Today, the musical compositions in BMI’s repertoire, from chart-toppers to perennial favorites, span all genres of music and are consistently among the most-performed hits of the year. For additional information and the latest BMI news, visit [www.bmi.com](http://www.bmi.com), follow us on Twitter @BMI or stay connected through Broadcast Music, Inc.’s Facebook page.

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**Media Contact**:

Marlene Meraz, BMI

310.289.6325

mmeraz@bmi.com