



KANO ANNOUNCED WINNER OF "BEST UK ACT" FOR THE BET HIP HOP AWARDS 2007

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British music fans have voted Kano as the "Best UK Act" ahead of the BET Hip Hop Awards in Atlanta, GA on October 13th. Kano went head to head with five of the UK's finest rappers; Dizzee Rascal, JME, Klashnekoff, Lethal B and Wiley to win the gong.

For two weeks, Hip Hop fans battled it out by voting interactively on MTV Base and 1 Xtra BBC websites for their favourite act; and on Monday 1st October, live on 1 Xtra BBC Kano was announced as the winner.

On hearing news that he'd won the award the East London based rapper said, "It's great to see so many people nominated to be fair. It doesn't matter who wins as long as they deserve it and they represent. It's the UK's award, we have never been recognised like this overseas before, you know, so it's good for everyone." Talking about the "Crunk" sound of Atlanta he said, "I see a lot of similarities in it (Grime). Like the energy and sometimes it's stripped down and hard".

Commenting on Kano's big scoop, Stephen Hill, Executive Producer of the BET Hip Hop Awards said, "Kano's killing it right now and the fact the he emerged victorious among such a talented nominee crew speaks volumes. I first became familiar with him through the "Run the Road" CD and further through the excellent BET News report on UK hip-hop. It really is only a matter of time before Kano is dazzling American audiences like he does those in the UK. We're glad to facilitate the introduction".

This is the second year that BET International will be shining their spotlight on UK artists by creating a special award around the British urban music scene at the BET Hip Hop Awards. Last Year Sway won the award, which he attended in Atlanta and took part in an on screen rooftop battle alongside Papoose, Remy and Lupe Fiasco. This year, International acts confirmed to take part in an on screen freestyle battle include Dizzee Rascal and Flo from Guadeloupe.

The BET Hip Hop Awards 2007 will take place on Saturday, October 13 at Atlanta's Civic Center, and premiere on the network Wednesday, October 17 at 8 p.m. ET/PT.

For more information about the BET Hip Hop Awards please visit www.hiphopawards.bet.net or email donna@glenyearwoodgroup.com or call +44 (0) 208 318 0040 or 07875 188 929

For up-to-the-minute and archival press information including releases and photographs, visit BET's press-only Web site at www.bet.com/pr.

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Editor's notes

About BET NETWORKS

BET Networks, a division of Viacom Inc. (NYSE: VIA, VIA.B), is the nation's leading provider of quality entertainment, music, news and public affairs television programming for the African-American audience. The primary BET channel reaches more than 87 million households according to Nielsen Media Research, and can be seen in the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean. BET is the dominant African-American consumer brand with a diverse group of businesses extensions: BET.com, a leading internet destination for Black entertainment, music, culture, and news; BET Digital Networks - BET J, BET Gospel and BET Hip Hop, attractive alternatives for cutting-edge entertainment tastes; BET Event Productions, a full-scale event management and production company; BET Home Entertainment, a collection of BET-branded offerings for the home environment including DVDs and video-on-demand; BET Mobile, a service venture into the lucrative world of ringtones, games and video content for wireless devices; and BET International, an extension of BET network programming for global distribution.

www.bet.com

About BET Hip Hop Awards

The BET Hip Hop Awards 2007 will take place on Saturday, October 13 at Atlanta's Civic Center, and premiere on the network Wednesday, October 17 at 8 p.m. ET/PT. Veteran host actor/comedian Katt Williams is sure to deliver a high energy show filled with hot performances by the best in the business!

The legendary hip hop artist KRS-One, known for his political and socially conscious raps, will be honored with the "I Am Hip Hop" Icon Award during this year's festivities. ATL native T.I. leads all Hip Hop Awards nominees with nine nods. T.I. is up for possible honors in the Best Collabo, Best Live Performance, Lyricist of the Year, MVP, Track of the Year, CD of the Year, Hustler of the Year, Best Ringtone and Viewer's Choice categories.

Other artists with multiple nods include Lil' Wayne with seven, Kanye West with six, Common with five, Jay-Z with four, Ludacris and 50 Cent with three, and Diddy and UGK with two. For the second year in a row, BET also adds an international twist to the Hip Hop Awards by partnering with British music entities MTV Base and 1 Xtra BBC to create a special award around the British urban music scene.

www.hiphopawards.bet.net

About Kano

Kane Brett Robinson (born 21 May 1985 in East Ham, Newham, London), better known as Kano, is an English rapper. His grandparents came to the United Kingdom as immigrants from Jamaica. He is signed to 679 Recordings and is a label-mate of The Streets.

In 2005, Kano was nominated for 4 MOBO (Music of Black Origin) Awards, winning the award for Best Newcomer. He also won an award at the first Channel U "Best of British" Awards. On New Years Eve 2005, Kano was announced as one of "London's Heroes of 2005" by Mayor of London Ken Livingstone. He was also nominated for a BRIT Award for Best Urban Act in January 2006. Kano is a playable character in the game Def Jam: Icon, the only British person to have yet been featured.

Home Sweet Home was a great critical success, well reviewed across the British press, most notably in The Independent and The Observer, two of the UK's major newspapers. Many artists in the UK and in America have expressed positive views of the album, including Busta Rhymes, Nas, RZA, Jay-Z, Andre 3000 and Chuck D of Public Enemy.

www.ka-no.com

About 1 Xtra BBC

1Xtra BBC is the UK's only national black music radio station - formed in 2002, and part of the BBC, it is sister station to BBC Radio 1, the UK's largest youth radio station for over 35 years. 1Xtra was one of the first in a new wave of digital radio stations to hit the UK.

1Xtra specialises in Hip Hop, Dancehall, R&B, Drum and Bass and UK Garage, and also reflects the full spectrum of black music.

www.bbc.co.uk/1xtra

About MTV Networks UK & Ireland

MTV Networks is the largest television network in the world and a leading creator of programming and content across all media platforms, with 111 channels and 94 websites reaching more than 440 million households in 167 countries worldwide.

MTV Networks UK & Ireland operates 3 channel groups - Comedy, Kids and Music. Our 9 branded music channels comprise of MTV, VH1, MTV Hits, MTV Base, MTV Dance, MTV2, VH2, VH1 Classic and TMF. They feature the best in music alongside popular shows such as Pimp My Ride, Punk'd, Dirty Sanchez and Cribs. MTV Network's music channels are available on Sky, Cable (through ntl & Telewest) and Freeview, reaching larger audiences than at any time in UK history, with an average of over 17 million viewers each month according to BARB research.

Paramount and Nickelodeon in the UK are part of the MTV Networks International portfolio of channels through joint ventures with BSKYB.

In addition, MTV Networks is a pioneer in the new and exciting world of digital media, winning awards for its interactive and online services, as well as being the first media company to offer made-for-mobile 3G video content. MTV Networks UK & Ireland offers

mobile distribution of four TV channels (MTV Snax, MTV Trax, Paramount and Nickelodeon) as well as online, on-demand entertainment service, MTV Overdrive.

MTV Networks is a unit of Viacom.

www.mtv.co.uk

About Glen Yearwood Group

The Glen Yearwood Group is a London based communications consultancy that works on behalf of major companies, brands and public sector organisations.

We deliver targeted marketing solutions that reach urban based 11-35 year olds, often from a multi – ethnic cultural background, using innovative and non-traditional methods of delivery.

Our strength lies in understanding the power of Black lifestyle and culture, it's relationships with technology, music and the disproportionate influence it has on mainstream purchasing decisions. We understand brands but we also understand “the power of the street”.

www.glenyearwoodgroup.com