



## B. Slade Courage Award



With a career spanning over 20 years, **B. Slade** has never shied away from using his musical gifts to move gospel, soul and rock audiences. Whether writing a song about a mother losing her sons during Hurricane Sandy or scoring the music for television shows or series, B. Slade's musical efforts have blended styles, including pop, R&B, soul, funk, rock, latin punk and trance to create sounds that are distinctly his. His courage to speak his truth about his sexuality has not dimmed his talent or the desire of many to collaborate with this musical wonder.

Born and raised in San Diego, California, B. Slade early life was filled with music; mostly gospel but also infused with R&B, funk and soul. B. Slade recorded his first album at 10 and at 24, his performance at the 14th Annual Stellar Awards received critical acclaim and helped make him a fixture among young urban gospel music lovers.

Since then, he has released several hundred songs on over 30 albums, while producing several others for both gospel and secular artists. He has won 7 Stellar Awards, a GMA Award and received 3 Grammy nominations – one for Best Soul Gospel Album for his 2004 gold album, *Out The Box*, another in 2009 for Best Urban/Soul Alternative Performance for his single, "Blend" from his 2009 mainstream album, *Unspoken*, and a 3rd in 2014 for writing and co-producing Angie Fisher's debut hit single, "I.R.S.", which received a nomination for "Best Traditional R&B performance."

B. Slade also penned the theme song and incidental music for the OWN Network TV Series "Flex & Shanice", starring husband and wife Flex Alexander and Shanice Wilson, as well as writing and co-producing Shanice's songs which appeared on the series, "Gotta Blame Me" and "We Can Fly", which also feature B. Slade on co-lead vocals.

B. Slade remains a highly sought-after songwriter and producer for artists such as Chaka Khan, Sheila E., Faith Evans and Elijah Blake. B. Slade has also been bitten by the acting bug and had his first starring role in the motion picture "Anything for Wifey" released in September 2014 by director KJ Anderson.

Better Brothers Los Angeles and The DIVA Foundation are proud to present B. Slade with the inaugural "**Courage**" Truth Award.