

## FROM : MERIGUE DROPS

by Lauren Sanders  
Opinion Editor

Whether you're looking to impress your grandparents, win over the girl in your English class, or just serve up a tasty treat for you and your friends, this sweet and minty holiday dessert is sure to do the trick. Crisp on the outside and chewy on the inside, these white chocolate meringues topped with peppermint are a holiday staple.

- Ingredients:**
- 2 large egg whites
  - 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
  - 1/8 tsp. salt
  - 3/4 cup sugar
  - 1/8 tsp. cream of tartar
  - 1 cup white chocolate chips
  - 1/3 cup + 1 1/2 tbsp. coarsely crushed peppermint candies

**Instructions:**

1. Preheat oven to 250° Fahrenheit. Beat egg whites and cream of tartar in a deep bowl with a mixer until soft peaks form, then add vanilla and salt. With the mixer running on high speed, pour in one tbsp. sugar and beat for 10 to 15 seconds, then repeat until you have added all of the sugar. Scrape the inside of the bowl and beat for another 15 seconds. The meringue should now be forming straight peaks when the beaters are lifted. Now, fold in white chocolate chips and 1/3 cup of crushed candies.



courtesy Sunset Magazine

2. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper, using some meringue to "glue" down the corners. Drop meringue in one tbsp. portions slightly apart on the sheets using a soup spoon, and sprinkle with the remaining 1 1/2 tbsp. of crushed candies.

3. Bake for 30-35 minutes, until the meringues feel dry and set when touched but are still pale. Make sure to switch pan positions halfway through. When done baking, open the oven door and let them stand for about ten minutes. Voilà!

Serve these treats at your next holiday get-together! Or, if you're making them to impress that girl... go get 'em, tiger.

## Models strut in the 2015 VS Fashion Show

by Shreya Koushik  
Sports Editor

Does your ego need a reality check? Don't you fret! On Nov. 10, 47 of arguably the most flawless women of the 21st century walked the runway at The 20th Annual Victoria's Secret Fashion Show. The event will be broadcast to over 500 million people in 158 countries on Dec. 8.

Performers at the show included Selena Gomez, The Weeknd, and Ellie Goulding. Rihanna also sparked controversy when she dropped out of the lineup. Although Rihanna was initially expected to perform during the show, she stated that she would not perform at the Fashion Show in order to spend more time on her upcoming album, *Anti*.

Although the show was only one night, these models work rigorously for months to make sure they look better than 99 percent of the world's population. The models have to restrict their diets and participate in vigorous exercises; Victoria's Secret Model Jessica Hart revealed her favorite snacks and meals in an exclusive interview with Business Insider. Hart's hearty breakfast includes "hot water with lemon, fresh grapefruit juice, organic granola, yogurt, fruit, and coffee with milk." Her favorite healthy snacks include celery, carrots, and almonds.

In case you had any doubts, these models do make more money than you. Forbes estimates that, combined, the models walking the Victoria's Secret catwalk bank over 50 million dollars. To the longtime Angels,

Victoria's Secret even dispenses seven-figure salaries.

One highlight of the show was newbie Kendall Jenner walking the runway with best friend Gigi Hadid and mentor Behati Prinsloo. In addition, Maria Borges made a statement by becoming the first African American model to ever



courtesy wikimedia commons

wear her hair naturally on the Victoria's Secret runway; in an interview Borges confessed "I was nervous, but I had to do it." Natural hair does not fit into the 'typical beauty standards' of Victoria's Secret, so Borges' seemingly small action made a huge impact. Lily Aldridge strutted her stuff in lingerie that costs

more than the average Los Gatos house (two million dollars). Designed by billionaire jewelry maker Mouawad, the aptly named "Fantasy Bra" is encrusted with diamonds, blue topaz, yellow sapphires, and 18 karat gold. To the TMZ interviewer's question of "What are you most excited to eat after the show?", Polish model Magdalena Frackowiak retorted "What? No guys, not with these



courtesy wikimedia commons

kinds of questions, this is stupid! Ask more smart questions, not eating after the show." Frackowiak intends to end the stereotype that models starve themselves to attain prestigious fashion shows and photo shoots.

Need inspiration for January's New Year's Resolution? Grab your ice cream and tissue boxes to tune in on Dec 8, 2015 for the airing of the 2015 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show!

(Sources: Harper's Bazaar, Forbes, Cosmopolitan, Business Insider, People)

## AMERICAN MUSIC AWARDS RECOGNIZES ARTISTS

by Rowyn van Miltenburg  
News Editor

Jennifer Lopez took the stage to host the forty-third annual American Music Awards on Sun., Nov. 22. Inside Los Angeles' Microsoft Theater, the music industry's best were awarded for their accomplishments over the past year. In between awards, star-studded performances from artists such as Selena Gomez, Justin Bieber and Celine Dion wowed the audience.

To kick off the night, Lopez proved her dancing days are far from over during a medley of the years' biggest hits. The medley included Anaconda, Hotline Bling, Trap Queen, Bad Blood, Thinking Out Loud, Can't Feel My Face and 7/11. J-Lo made a total of 11 outfit changes throughout the show.

Along with J-Lo, many stars made appearances as presenters for the evening. These included actors Jeremy Renner, Hailee Steinfeld, and Chloe Grace Moretz, singers Shawn Mendes, Tove Lo, and Ciara, and models Kylie Jenner and Gigi Hadid. Even the Miss America Betty Cantrell presented an award.



photos courtesy wikimedia commons

Taylor Swift topped the award count for the night, walking away with three AMAs. She won awards for Favorite Rock/Pop Album with 1989, Single of the Year for Blank Space, and Favorite Adult Contemporary Artist. Swift is now the artist with the third most AMAs, with a grand total of 19 awards. One Direction also won multiple awards. The group came home with the coveted Artist of the Year and Favorite Pop/Rock Band/Duo/Group awards. Nicki Minaj cleaned up in the Rap/Hip-Hop section, taking home two awards.

Among the many stars to grace the AMA stage were Charlie Puth and Meghan Trainor. They ended the performance of their Marvin Gaye and Get it On with a passionate kiss, which left audience members stunned and curious about a possible relationship between the two.

Carrie Underwood debuted her new song Heartbeat in a heartfelt performance. Nick Jonas also took to the stage, performing a medley



of his hits Chains, Levels, and Jealous. Other performances included Selena Gomez, Luke Bryan, Demi Lovato, 5 Seconds of Summer, and Walk the Moon. They saved the best, or at least the most 'out there,' performance for last. For the finale, Justin Bieber performed a medley of his new songs while fake rain poured down on him. The audience waved pink glowsticks in the air as Bieber jumped

around in puddles on stage.

One of the more memorable and heartwarming performances was Celine Dion's tribute to the victims of the Paris attacks. Singer and actor Jared Leto introduced the Canadian pop sensation with some touching words in light of the tragic attacks: "France matters. Russia matters. Syria matters. Mali matters. The United States matters. The entire world matters and peace is possible."

The AMAs marks the last music award show of the year, but keep your eyes open for the nominations for February's Grammy Awards, which are due to come out in December. (Sources: Fox News, USA Today, ABC)

## YouTube debuts remarkable new mobile music app

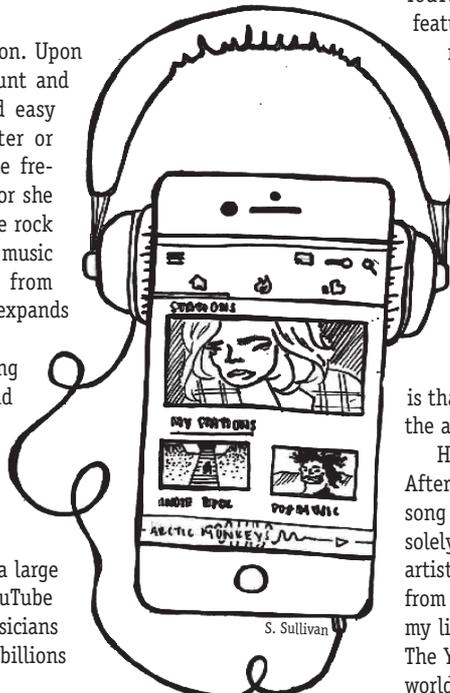
by Sarah Sullivan  
Culture Editor

The new YouTube Music app, if nothing else, makes a great first impression. Upon downloading the app, it automatically connects with the user's Gmail account and leads him or her to a homescreen that is both aesthetically pleasing and easy to navigate. Based on past YouTube searches made on the user's computer or mobile phone, the app suggests songs from artists whose videos he or she frequents, as well as stations based off of an analysis of the types of music he or she listens to. Fans of the Strokes and the Shins will find themselves with an indie rock station, while fans of Taylor Swift and Justin Bieber can jam out to a pop music station. By mixing music that users have already heard with new songs from similar artists, the YouTube music app both satisfies familiar music tastes and expands one's horizons.

In addition, the app accommodates those who are easily frustrated by confusing software. It lets you play music videos while browsing. A simple swipe up and down will transfer users between exploring and the video, as well as display the running music video on a bar on the bottom of the screen.

The fact that YouTube music is based on YouTube videos is also a huge bonus. The app will never have the problem of conflicts between streaming services and musicians. The Taylor Swift versus Apple Music/Spotify debates are null when it comes to YouTube, as no artist whose use of visuals account for a large part of their music, like Swift, would ever pull their music from YouTube. YouTube also currently helps smaller musicians by allowing previously unrecognized musicians to reach a broader audience by putting their music on a platform accessible to billions of viewers for free.

One drawback users might dislike, however, is the lack of a playlist feature. Instead,



S. Sullivan

YouTube makes daily playlists for you based on genre. There are also infrequent ads, a feature that can be eradicated with YouTube Red, which is available for 9.99 dollars per month. YouTube Red also allows music to be backed up and available offline. Users are also able to activate an audio mode in order to save data by not playing videos. The YouTube Music app has also become one of the App Store's top ten grossing apps on iPhone, an accomplishment most likely attributable to its one free trial month of YouTube Red, which entices users to update at the end of the month.

So, how does YouTube Music compare to other popular music apps? YouTube Red is basically the same as Spotify Premium when it comes to extra benefits, including ad-free, offline listening for only ten dollars a month. Although YouTube Music doesn't allow users to make playlists, it is still possible to access playlists made on the YouTube website. If users want to jam out to the Guardians of the Galaxy soundtrack and related tracks, they can do that on YouTube Music as well as they could on their favorite Spotify playlist. The only major problem with YouTube Music is that without YouTube Red, music from the app will not continue playing when you exit the app or turn off your phone.

However, YouTube Music's best feature is its uncanny ability to play what the user wants. After listening to music for about an hour on the YouTube Music app, there wasn't one song I didn't like. I simply searched a song I wanted to listen to, and it first played songs solely by that artist, then began to branch out to other artists of the same genre and other artists I liked and already watched. It also managed to dredge up from of my favorite songs from 2012 and 2013 that I hadn't listened to in awhile but still love. How the app tracked my listening preferences so well is a mystery to me, but a welcome mystery nonetheless. The YouTube Music app, despite its few flaws, has proven a worthy new competitor in the world of mobile music.

The YouTube Music app is now available on the App Store and on the Google Play Store.