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# “MTV VMAJ 2018 – THE LIVE” DELIVERED A STUNNING NIGHT OF J-POP ENERGY

KENSHI YONEZU WON BEST VIDEO OF THE YEAR – JAPAN

QUEEN HONORED WITH THE 1ST MTV VMAJ LEGEND AWARD SINCE 2006

ARIANA GRANDE, SHAWN MENDES, MARSHMELLO & ANNE-MARIE, BTS AND BLACKPINK SCORED ONE VMAJ AWARD EACH

ELECTRIFYING PERFORMANCES BY BRITISH POP STAR ANNE-MARIE, HOTTEST K-POP GIRL GROUP BLACKPINK AND JAPANESE ACTS – AIKO, DEAN FUJIOKA, E-GIRLS, KEYAKIZAKA46, LITTLE GLEE MONSTER, DAICHI MIURA, OFFICIAL HIGE DANDISM AND SKY-HI

*Images can be downloaded [HERE](#) (Photo Credit: Stage photos – MTV Japan/ Teppei Kishida; Backboard official photos: MTV Japan/ Seitaro Tanaka)*



**TOKYO – 11 OCTOBER 2018** – All attention turned to Studio Coast in Tokyo last night as it took centerstage with live performances from eight of the hottest Japanese pop music acts at the **17th MTV Video Music Awards Japan (VMAJ)**. The MTV VMAJ is one of the biggest annual music awards shows in Japan, which honors the best music videos by both international and Japanese artists. 2,000 fans joined the spectacular celebration party “**MTV VMAJ 2018 – THE LIVE**”, which also included electrifying performances by 5x BRIT Award-nominated pop star, **Anne-Marie** and hottest K-pop girl group, **BLACKPINK**. **Kenshi Yonezu** won ‘Best Video of the Year – Japan’. International acts **Ariana Grande**, **Shawn Mendes**, **Marshmello & Anne-Marie** and K-pop acts **BTS** and **BLACKPINK** each scored one VMAJ award.

**Queen** was also honored with MTV VMAJ’s Legend award, in celebration of Queen’s 45th anniversary of the band’s self-titled debut album and in recognition of their music influence in the Japanese music industry. Previous Legend award recipients include Jimmy Page (2002), Ozzy Osbourne (2004) and Michael Jackson (2006).

Winners for each of the 16 categories were chosen by a Selection Committee consisting of MTV creative directors around Asia Pacific, with a lens of ensuring each winner met a “global standard” for their music videos. Winners from each award category, except Best Video of the Year – Japan, were announced on September 7th. Additionally, over 3 million votes were cast by fans through [www.mtvjapan.com/vmaj](http://www.mtvjapan.com/vmaj) from September 7th to 25th to select the ‘Best Video of the Year’ and the winner was announced last night.

“The Japanese music acts are consistently creative and innovative with their music and videos. Nowhere else in Asia Pacific does MTV have a music night celebrating the best music videos of each year like Japan. I am thrilled we are not only able to continue to spotlight the artistry in Japanese music through the VMAJ, but are able to honor some of the hottest acts in the current music scene in Japan,” said Simon Bates, Vice President and Head of MTV Asia Pacific.

The biggest moments from last night include:

- BLACKPINK, kicked off the night with their current biggest hit “DDU-DU DDU-DU”. The red hot K-pop girl group slayed the stage with the catchy earworm, combined with their chic looks and stunning dance moves.
- OFFICIAL HIGE DANDISM performed their major single debut this year “No Doubt” and “Stand By You”.
- E-girls wowed the audience with their dance party anthem “Show Time”, which allowed the group to show off some of their most intense choreography before they performed their digital single “Perfect World” released early October, which was used as the theme song for the film “Perfect World: Kimi to Iru Kiseki”.
- SKY-HI amped up the energy with a medley of their top hits, mixing their tracks with live rap segments in “Tyrant Island”, “Name Tag”, “Walking on Water” and “Marble”.
- Little Glee Monster lit up the stage with their performance of “So, not alone” and “The world is smiling to you”.
- Dean Fujioka mesmerized the audience with his intense rendition of “Echo” and “Hope”.
- Keyakizaka46 who dazzled the audience at last year’s VMAJ, reprised another solid performance with “Student Dance” and “Ambivalent”.
- aiko delivered a vivacious performance of “Kabutomushi” and “Straw”.
- Daichi Miura took to the stage and wowed the audience with top hits “Be Myself” and “hikosen”.
- Icon of the night, Anne-Marie ruled the stage with her performance of “Friends” and a surprise collaboration performance with E-girls.
- Special Awards were presented as below to the artist/album that had made significant achievements across the music scene.

**Full List of 2018 MTV VMAJ winners:**

**Best Video of the Year – Japan**

Kenshi Yonezu LemonTomokazu Yamada

**Best Male Video – Japan**

Kenshi YonezuLemonTomokazu Yamada

**Best Male Video – International**

Shawn MendesIn My BloodJay Martin

**Best Female Video – Japan**

aiko □ Straw □ Hiroshi Usui □

**Best Female Video – International**

Ariana Grande □ No Tears Left to Cry □ Dave Meyers □

**Best Group Video – Japan**

Keyakizaka46 □ Ambivalent □ Ryohei Shingu □

**Best Group Video – International**

BTS □ FAKE LOVE □ YongSeok Choi □

**Best New Artist Video – Japan**

OFFICIAL HIGE DANDISM □ No Doubt □ Misato Kato □

**Best New Artist Video – International**

Marshmello & Anne-Marie □ Friends □ Hannah Lux Davis □

**Best Rock Video**

WANIMA □ Human □ Satoshi Kuroda □

**Best Alternative Video**

Dean Fujioka □ Echo □ Ken Ninomiya □

**Best Pop Video □ Best Art Direction Video**

HOSHINO GEN □ Idea □ Kazuaki Seki □

**Best Hip Hop Video**

SKY-HI □ Marble □ Spikey John □

**Best Dance Video**

BLACKPINK □ DDU-DU DDU-DU □ HYUN SEUNG SEO □

### **Best Cinematography**

Little Glee Monster □ The world is smiling to you □ □ Takuro Okubo □

### **Best Choreography**

E-girls □ Show Time □ □ Shigeaki Kubo □

### **Special Awards:**

### **SAS Lifetime Achievement Award Japan**

Southern All Stars

### **Artist of the Year**

Daichi Miura

### **Best Album of the Year**

Hikaru Utada □ Hatsukoi □

### **MTV VMAJ Legend Award**

Queen

### **On air schedule in Asia Pacific:**

#### **MTV Asia / MTV PH**

Premiere: 18 Nov @ 7:35pm SGT

Repeats: 19 Nov @ 9:40pm | 21 Nov @ 12:30pm | 24 Nov @ 4:15pm | 25 Nov @ 9:10pm

#### **SBS MTV Korea**

Premiere: 3 Dec @ 10pm KST

Repeats: 4 Dec @ 10pm | 6 Dec @ 11pm | 8 Dec @ 10pm | 9 Dec @ 10pm

#### **MTV Australia/New Zealand**

Premiere: end October

**J □ One**

Premiere: end October

## **MTV China**

Premiere: November

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## **About MTV**

MTV is the leading youth media brand inspired by music, in nearly 180 countries and 450 million homes around the world, connecting with over 350 million fans across all social media platforms. A unit of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIAB, VIA), MTV operations span cable and mobile networks, live events, theatrical films and new MTV Studios unit which produces new and reimagined content for SVOD and Linear platforms based on MTV's library of over 200+ youth titles and franchises.

## **About Viacom International Media Networks**

Viacom International Media Networks (VIMN), a unit of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIAB, VIA), is comprised of many of the world's most popular multimedia entertainment brands, including MTV, MTV LIVE HD, Nickelodeon, Nick Jr., Comedy Central, Paramount Channel, and more. Viacom brands reach more than 3.8 billion cumulative subscribers in 180+ countries and territories via more than 200 locally programmed and operated TV channels and more than 550 digital media and mobile TV properties, in 40 languages. Keep up with VIMN news by visiting the VIMN PR Twitter feed at [www.twitter.com/VIMN\\_PR](http://www.twitter.com/VIMN_PR). For more information about Viacom and its businesses, visit [www.viacom.com](http://www.viacom.com), [blog.viacom.com](http://blog.viacom.com) and the Viacom Twitter feed at [www.twitter.com/Viacom](http://www.twitter.com/Viacom).

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