

School of Rock: 10 Supersmart Musicians

As students return to classrooms, TIME looks at an honor roll of rock stars who really made the grade

Robert Leonard

By Wook Kim | September 6, 2012



BEST KNOWN AS: a vocalist and founding member of the doo-wop group Sha Na Na

THE INTEL: Formed only months before its breakout performance at Woodstock — where the group opened for Jimi Hendrix — Sha Na Na was among a handful of acts that generated nostalgia for 1950s-era pop culture. But music stardom held little appeal for Leonard, who traded limousines and gold-lamé suits to pursue studies in linguistics. Piling up a slew of advanced degrees (an M.A., an M.Phil. and a Ph.D.) from Columbia (including eight years of field research among tribes in East Africa), Leonard is now a professor and the director of Hofstra University's Institute for Forensic Linguistics, Threat Assessment and Strategic Analysis.

BRAINIAC RATING, ON A SCALE OF 1 TO 11: 10

RATING: Leonard is also a forensic linguist, offering his expert testimony for clients that include the Department of Justice and Apple.



Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3K0yJ5JVw14>

Original article:

<http://entertainment.time.com/2012/09/07/school-of-rock-10-super-smart-musicians/#robert-leonard>