



In this issue

Charlotte IBC 2024 challenge is ON! Oct 1 at Neighborhood Theatre
Meet the Contestants.

- The Queen City Blues Kings from Waxhaw, NC
 - The Knights of Soul, High Point, NC
 - Red Dress Amy from Charlotte, NC
 - Mama & the Ruckus from Asheville, NC
 - Mojo Stomp, Salisbury, NC
 - Rare Coins, Charlotte, NC
- And our Youth showcase entry
- The Southern Groove Machine, also from Charlotte.

Skyla Burrell plays Nov, 5. Bring your proof of Panthers ticket for reduced entry.



THE ROAD TO MEMPHIS HAS BEGUN!

Winners will receive a sponsorship to offset costs of the IBC in Memphis Jan 16-20, 2024 and perform at our January 7, 2024 Blues Sunday show. We will be fund raising until they depart. Consider leaving a donation at the show or on line at the secure link.

This is a judged contest with knowledgeable judges from the Charlotte area.

They will be looking for the following

Blues Content: The sound and feel of the music should be true to any of blues sub-categories: traditional blues, country blues, soul blues, blues rock and/or contemporary blues. Judges will be listening for inspired and original song selections or new takes on blues standards. Creative reach is encouraged.

Originality: Original work is encouraged. Cover tunes are allowed but playing the recorded rendition lick by lick is discouraged, will not be looked upon favorably by the judges, and will be reflected in scoring.

Acts must indicate if their songs are their own original material (this can be done at the start of the set or before each song as appropriate) and/or identify the covers that they are playing and acknowledge the originator.

Vocals: The act's vocal skills to include concepts of tone, musicality, meaning, and expression.

Instrumental Talent: Ability level on all instruments featured within the act.

Stage Presence: The ability to command the attention of the audience by the impressiveness of one's manner and appearance on stage. Judges will consider how an act connects with and engages the audience in the music. Proper use of microphones and amplification will be considered.

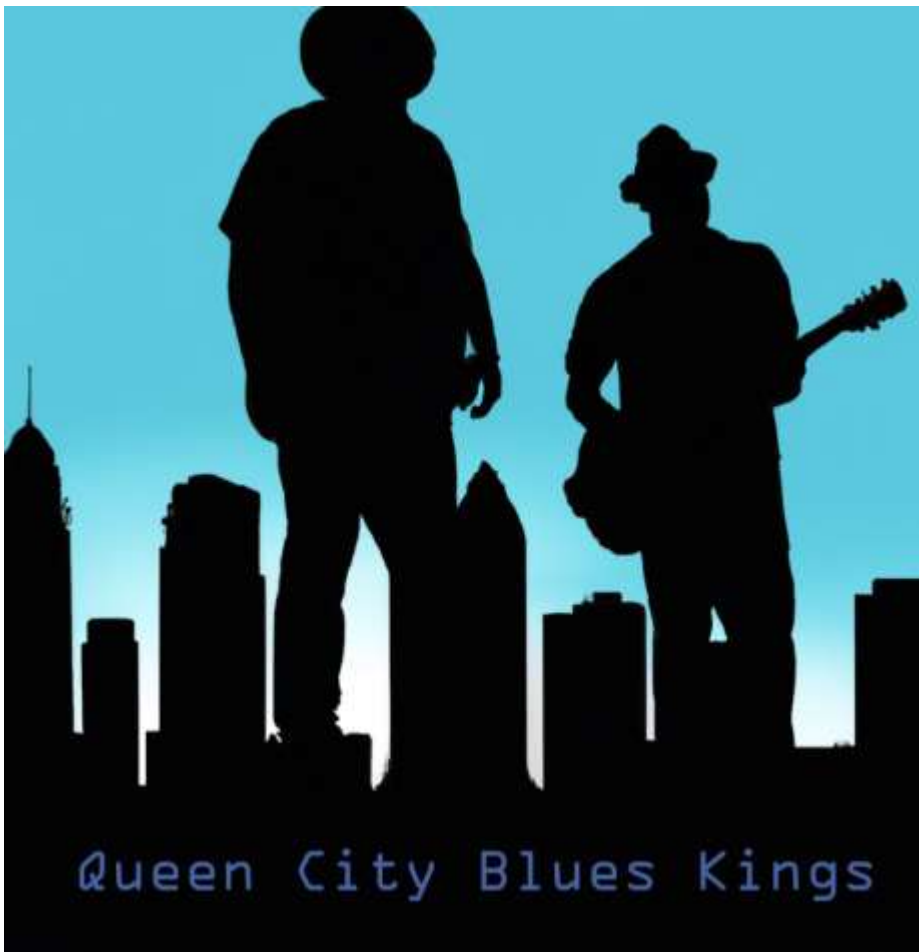
Audience reaction matters. Come out and support all our local Blues musicians. Clap, Cheer, Stomp your Feet, Dance.



Meet the Contestants.....

"The Queen City Blues Kings"

The Queen City Blues Kings is a local blues band based out of Charlotte, NC and composed of a group of seasoned musicians influenced and versed in genres such as classic rock, honky-tonk, soul R&B, rockabilly and more. All shared a love of Blues. This four-piece group delivers a host of tasty guitar leads over a locked in and rolling rhythm section with gritty vocals and a side of moaning blues harp. QCBK will take a trip with original blues tunes in styles up and down the Mississippi, through Texas and out to the West Coast. So put on your high heel sneakers and throw that wig hat on your head. The joint will be jumping.



Joe Dellapina -
vocals/harmonica/guitar
Bryan Porter - lead guitar
Brian Hicks - bass/vocals
Rick Cutshaw - drums

Check out their original music on
YouTube.

https://youtu.be/N130XuW1scQ?si=LPN2cofVCqtVp_oW
https://youtu.be/OVAqFLOWfgc?si=35H8xke4_q9xe9Wm

“The Knights of Soul”

The Knights of Soul (KOS) are, without a doubt, the best kept secret on the East Coast. Originally assembled as a Blues Band in 1993, the KOS took home first place at the Piedmont Blues Preservation Society’s competition for unsigned bands and went to Memphis, Tennessee to compete against unsigned bands from around the country. A stellar appearance at the Memphis competition drew national attention for the band and has played on various stages for over 20 years.

After the pandemic, the band started a new era and expanded their repertoire to include the perfect combination of Blues, Funk, Jazz, and Classic R&B. On stage, this union of styles creates the ultimate show setting for any festival, club, or private functions.

The band continues the class act they traditionally offer. The members of the KOS are respected musicians and vocalists relying on their talent and not from programmed or sequenced music. Here, you will find the real deal - a band who loves music!



Theron Thomas - bass/guitar

Penny Smith - vocals

Erica Horne - vocals

William (Bill) Sidberry - guitar, vocals

Tony Cullins - drums/vocals

Harold Holloway - keyboard/sax

<https://youtu.be/k4x-f9oh0UA?si=jTaKFuUGLLHYFIkM>

“Red Dress Amy”

Born in Charlotte, and raised on blues and rock n’ roll, Red Dress Amy brings a ton of energy to any stage they set foot on. The trio combines blues influences such as Philip Sayce and Cream, with rock performers such as The Black Keys and Black Pistol Fire to cultivate their own sound. The three piece is composed of Kevin Hamilton and a pair of Daltons. Dalton Johnson on drums and backing vocals together with Dalton Rowland on bass guitar provide a robust rhythm section needed to pair up with Hamilton’s raspy vocal delivery and guitar tones. This sound is apparent with their newly released single “No Stranger” which has continued to showcase their live performances and ability to deliver their sound in front of an audience. With this in mind, RDA plans to release its second album this fall. “Mirage”, the album name, was recorded live at The Evening Muse in Charlotte earlier in 2023 and contains a combination of current released material, while also including new previously unreleased tracks to further imprint the live sound that the band prefers.



Dalton Johnson - drums/vocals
Dalton Rowland - bass
Kevin Hamilton - vocals/guitar

Their new album is out on Spotify and other platforms.

<https://open.spotify.com/album/47EPTYunTzTHUliZbHINhm?si=i3Pn9GkNT6q4zl6ORKA5Hg>

“Mama and the Ruckus”

The Ruckus is led by Mama who writes songs about the trauma and pain that every person inevitably experiences in their lives. She sings these songs as a cry for hope, healing, and inspiration to others and you hear that in every single note that the band plays and that she sings. This intergenerational Roots project is based out of Asheville, NC and often features her daughter, McKinney, a dynamic singer/songwriter and musician with a powerful presence. There is another family connection between guitar player, Patrick French and his father, Rob on harmonica. Featuring original music that they hope will ignite healing, spread joy, and shine up your soul. With soaring guitars, wailing vocals, screaming harmonicas, and funky bass, keys, and drums, the Ruckus has a unique sound that will touch your heart and move your soul (and your feet too).

Melissa McKinney - vocals
Patrick French - guitar
Hinton Edgerton - drums
Rob French - harmonica
Matt Guard - keys
Michael Dunham - bass
Owen Myers - guitar
Kayla McKinney - vocals



<https://melissamckinneymusic.com/mama-and-the-ruckus>

“Mojo Stomp”

Mojo Stomp formed in 2021, with Chad Butler on guitar and vocals, Jeremy Surratt on bass, and Scott Stewart on drums. Jeremy and Scott met years earlier when they were practicing in bands next door to each other. In the late 90's the three first played music together in the band *Orange*. Combining together added a varied rhythm section to Chad's bluesy guitar and voice. The band mostly prefers writing music together by improvising together to see what pans out, with Chad usually adding any lyrics later.

Chad was deeply influenced by blues guitarists like John Lee Hooker, Junior Kimbrough, and Lightning Hopkins. Scott grew up playing both rock and jazz and always loved the blues influence of Jimi Hendrix and SRV. Jeremy also had roots in both jazz and rock, and was influenced by the bass playing of Nathan East, Lee Sklar, and Geddy Lee.

Mojo Stomp went to Chris Mara in Nashville to record 'When the Dust Settles' in late 2022, released April 2023.

Most of the music was captured playing live to tape. The entire album was recorded and mixed in a couple of days

capturing the raw energy of playing live. Our songs have been featured on internet radio shows in several countries and streamed from all the major music sites. The group looks forward to sharing more music and continuing to play live wherever people gather and can't wait to meet you at the next show!

<https://mojostomp.hearnow.com>

Chad Butler - guitar/vocal

Scott Stewart - drums

Jeremy Surratt - bass



“Rare Coins”

Lisa Thornton on Keys & Vocals - started playing at 5 1/2 and fell in love with Jazz & Blues as a teen, often going to concerts alone “to focus on the music.” Influenced by the music of Ray Charles, Oscar Peterson, Muddy Waters, Jerry Lee Lewis, & Chick Corea; these artists keep her ever challenged to hone her ear & skills as a performer and songwriter.

Lisa has paired with the versatile Bill Miller on guitar, harmonica and rich vocals. As far as influences go, Chuck Berry led Bill also to Muddy Waters, then BB King & Robert Johnson and so many other great artists. Though he has played for years in 4-5 piece bands, now branching out to record long awaited original pieces as a duo is what’s taken hold since they joined forces.

Sure to capture the audience with their unique style, hence the name, they view each other as a couple of precious & timeless “Rare Coins.”



Lisa Thornton- keyboard/
vocals/percussion

Bill Miller - guitar/ harmonica/
vocals

“The Southern Groove Machine”

Born from the vibrant music scenes of Charlotte and Atlanta, the Southern Groove Machine is a dynamic musical force. Their signature blend of contemporary blues rock, jazz-infused funk, and soulful vocals creates an electrifying fusion that captivates audiences everywhere they play. With roots deeply embedded in the rich musical traditions of the American South, this band's sound pays homage to its heritage while pushing boundaries to create something entirely fresh.

The band is comprised of exceptionally talented members, all at the age of 18. Hannah Arnold (lead vocals), whose rock and soul background infuses every performance with raw emotion, Jack Slater (guitar), channeling his blues roots to deliver blistering solos, and the rhythm section consisting of Evan Schmit (drums) and Anderson Shelkey (bass), both hailing from jazz and funk backgrounds, which provide the band's irresistibly groovy foundation. Together, these young musicians create a harmonious tapestry of sound that's as diverse as the Southern musical traditions they represent, offering a truly unforgettable musical experience.



Jack Slater - guitar/vocals
Evan Schmit - drums
Hannah Arnold - vocals
Anderson Shelley - bass

<https://youtu.be/5QaA86zud2s?si=Zxn4PniLVwBUJImE>

If you love us, please share the news...

Please take a moment to leave us a (great, please) review on Google

<https://g.page/r/CYUGsZPGF7SaEB0/review>

Want to be on the board of directors? Help in other ways?

Volunteers needed for webpage maintenance and newsletter content.

Thanks for helping to Keep the Blues Alive!

30th Anniversary Merchandise now available.

Sky blue and khaki cotton Ballcaps are in. Priced at \$25/ea.

Middle C Jazz in uptown Charlotte has a great fall lineup. Please consider joining their mailing list or follow them on your favorite social platform. If you haven't been there yet, you are in for a treat.

GREAT SEATS, GREAT ACOUSTICS, PARKING NEARBY,
AMAZING SERVICE middlecjazz.com/calendar

300 South Brevard Street

Charlotte, NC 28202

(704) 595-3311

info@middlecjazz.com



>> Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials perform Sept 21 at Middle C Jazz.

Electrifying Chicago Blues Masters
Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials



Middle C Jazz
Thursday
Sept 21, 2023
Doors at 5:00
Show at 6:00
Tickets \$28-
\$35

Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials

Charlotte Blues Society



info@middlecjazz.com
300 South Brevard Street
Charlotte, NC 28202
(704) 595-3311





Save the dates for the Blues Sunday events.

First Sunday of the Month

Nov. 5

Watch for your member only discount by email. Heist
Brewery and Barrel Arts
Charlotte, NC

Skyla Burrell Band
Sunday November 5, 2023
Doors at 6:30 Show at 7:00

1030 Woodward Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28206

\$20-25 on Eventbrite
Bring your Panthers e-ticket
for discount at the door

CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY
30
OF BLUES

In December and January, we return to the Neighborhood Theatre.

Dec. 3 – Our Holiday Bash with Silent Auction, door prizes, raffles and of course great live Blues.

Stay tuned for our BIG announcement!

Jan. 7 – the Winner of the Blues Challenge will perform before they head out to Memphis



Introducing our newly formed(ing) house band, ***the C.B.S Orchestra*** with members John Kunkle (bass), Jack Slater (guitar/vocals), Ken Klokel (guitar/vocals) and Stephen Onuska (drums). After multiple successful jams, our new band of members is forming.

John has been playing music since he was 12 (long ago). The last 10 years he is focused on blues bass.

Eighteen years old, yet an old soul, Jack is a new board member and our youth representative. Blues guitar chose him 9 years ago and he hasn't stopped since.

Long time member, Ken, a self-proclaimed Old Fool, tears it up on the guitar. When he is not playing with his guitar, you will find him messing with his Hemi cars.

SteveO has been a Charlottean for over 20 years. He is also on our board of directors. He plays drums when not on the "motor sports" road.

We are hard at work securing a permanent backline to continue to improve the Open Blues Jams.

If you are a singer and want to practice and jam with the CBSO, please get in touch with John or any board member.

Local Jams, Shows and Festivals



Have shows to contribute?
Send a PM or email to
CLTbluessociety@gmail.com
Be sure to join our Charlotte
Blues Society
[Group page on Facebook.](#)



[VFW Post 1160](#) and [Guitars 4 Vets](#)
host the Charlotte Blues Jam
3rd Sundays 5-8PM
Please check the dates before you go.
September 17
October 15
November 19



Old Town Public House Blues Jam

2nd & 4th Sundays 1-4 PM
21314 Catawba Ave.
Cornelius, NC 28031



TOSCO MUSIC OPEN MIC

The Evening Muse
Wed. Oct 4



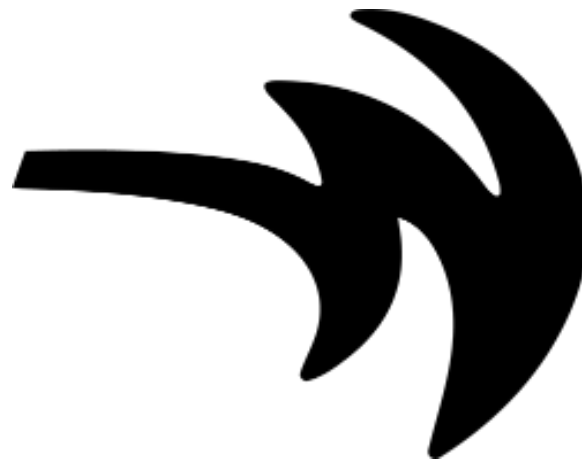
Local Jams, Shows and Festivals

MusicEverywhereCLT has a great calendar and an open mic listing.
<http://musiceverywhereclt.com/calendar/>



**MUSIC
EVERY
WHERE**
CHARLOTTE
presented by
avidxchange

Fall Festival season is upon us!
Cooler weather and hot music
Check out the latest.



THE RIVER JAM AT USNWC.ORG

music Thursday, Friday & Saturday nights. Parking fee apply.

October 1, 2023

Charlotte International Blues Challenge contest

Neighborhood Theatre

Door at 5, first act at 5:30. Each will play a 20 minute judged set.

Winners are sponsored to Memphis for the 2024.

International Blues Challenge

Jan. 16-20, 2024

Come on out and support these musicians on their journey to Memphis!

Free Event

Maxxmusic.com



The *Blues* Foundation



October CBS Board meeting

Oct 17, 2023

Charlotte

Location: TBD in city center

October 17th: GA-20 Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts



ConfluenceCarolina.com

**Oct. 18-19
Charlotte, NC**

Relaunching in 2023, Confluence is the Carolinas' premier music industry conference. Over two days and nights, Confluence will inspire, connect, elevate, and celebrate the Charlotte and Carolinas' music community.

Our Story

Confluence debuted in 2019 at the U.S. National Whitewater Center. Produced by the Whitewater Center, MaxxMusic, and Midwood Entertainment, Confluence featured two great days of panel discussions and keynotes and dozens of performances by a diverse lineup of Charlotte artists. After a pandemic-induced hiatus, Music Everywhere CLT is proud to relaunch Confluence, bigger and better than ever



Skyla Burrell performs for our Nov 5 Blues Sunday.

The Skyla Burrell Band is a hardworking, traveling blues band. With dual lead guitar work from cofounder Mark Tomlinson and Skyla Burrell on vocals/lead guitar, the band's live show consists of all original high energy electric blues.

Called "one of the most smokin' blues bands in the US", the band's ten year plus history bears out in its fiery, vibrant live performances. Skyla Burrell's voice not only shines, but her guitar work also cuts through. Music Monthly magazine said "Many women in the blues have great voices and have made their careers singing the blues, but not too many can double it up, slice it, dice it and sacrifice it on the best Fender has to offer like Skyla can."

Supporting their sixth and latest CD release, "[Broken 45's](#)", Skyla and company deliver unpretentious, self described "hard drivin' blues" in which strength and understatement unite in an easy, fluid balance without sucking up to rock.

Skylar Burrell Tickets on sale in September 14 on [Eventbrite](#). Members only discount code is sent by email. Come after the Panthers game and receive a special ticket price with your stub.

November shows:
Albert Castiglia 11/8
Walter Trout 11/11
Jamie McLean 11/15
Popa Chubby 11/21

Dec 17 Double Door Inn 50th Anniversary show

Got any ideas for future shows?

Please let us know at CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com

Or post to the [Facebook Group](#).

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.charlottebluesociety.org>

Charlotte *Blues* Society

2023-2024 G&L Guitar Raffle

Drawing April 2024

The G&L ASAT® Classic Bluesboy™ is a factory-modded version of Leo's final word on the traditional single-cutaway blues electric guitar. For players looking for the unmistakable warm, woody tone of a classic humbucker in the neck position, the Tribute® Series ASAT Classic Bluesboy is equipped with a well-balanced pairing of a G&L Alnico humbucker pickup and a single-coil G&L Magnetic Field Design™ bridge pickup designed by Leo Fender.

The Tribute® Series ASAT Classic Bluesboy is dripping with mojo. In Candy Apple Red over Poplar body, tortoise pickguard, vintage tint satin finish neck, Rosewood fingerboard.



www.CharlotteBlues Society.org

Signatures include: Mac Arnold, Blood Brothers (Mike Zito and Albert Castiglia), Johnny Burgin, All of the Band of Heathens, Pam Taylor, North Mississippi Allstars, Daniel Nicole, Jamie McLean, Jason Scavone, Tommy Castro, Curtis Salgado, The BoneShakers, Ghost Town Blues Band, Rob "Hound Dog" Baskerville, Chris O'Leary, Duane Betts, Selwyn Birchwood, Vanessa Collier

Special thanks to our Blues Friends



[FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES
CHARLOTTE UPTOWN](#)



[U.S. National Whitewater Center](#)



Keepin' The Blues Alive

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY (CBS) is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the American Blues tradition through the presentation of concerts, forums, educational programs and support of local musicians in Charlotte and surrounding areas.

CBS NEEDS YOU !

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR A COMMITTEE, BOARD POSITION, OR EVENT, OR SIMPLY MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION. JUST A FEW HOURS PER YEAR WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Your memberships fund our shows. We are a 501(c)3 organization and count on members to contribute.

Like us on [Facebook](#). Be sure to post blues related articles on the [CBS group page](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#).

Know of an upcoming show? Share the details with us so we can spread the word!

All are welcome to our monthly Board meetings. These are typically the 3rd Tuesday of the month at a local Charlotte establishment. Next meeting is Tuesday Sept 18-- Location TBD. Please send any agenda items at least one week in advance.

Tell your friends and family, neighbors and co-workers. With your help, we can continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you!

The CBS Board



www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org