

JANURAY 2022



# Charlotte Blues Society

*Monthly E-Bluesletter*

## CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY

### IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Update on the IBC Plans for 2022

Marty Gunther's Red Hot & Blues Reviews

CBS Shows in 2022

Updates on Venues & Virus (V&V)

### Charlotte Blues Society

JAN. 2, 2022

RED DRESS AMY



Doors: 6:30pm

RDA: 7-8pm

Jam: 8:15-10pm

MIGHTY FINE

MIGHTY FINE BLUES JAM



511 E 36th St. Charlotte, NC

JANUARY 2022

# Musings

from the President

Mary London Szpara



Happy New Year to all our Members, old and new (no reference to age here, just happy to report we do continue to have new people join our membership)

It has been an insane year, one that ended up on a very positive note, seeing us back out in the community, enjoying shows once again. We ended our year on a huge upnote with our December Blues Christmas Bash at the Neighborhood Theatre with the oh so talented Davy Knowles! The blues rocker always puts on a great show and endears himself to all. It was a pleasure to see local talent Josh Daniel open the show, and we were pleased to see so many new faces out and about.

January has brought a new twist to the live music scene, but we are excited to announce our **Upcoming events for Blues Sundays in 2022:**

**January** brings **Red Dress Amy** - They wowed us at the Sept. Jam! And their performance will be followed by another Mighty Fine Blues Jam Jan. 2, 2022 at Neighborhood Theatre! This talented trio is making waves in the Charlotte area, having performed on stage in 2021 at the Whitewater Center River Jam, where we first saw them. Don't miss this show: They are a solid blues-rock band, that absolutely pays homage to the blues artists that have gone before, plus their originals are top notch. This show is FREE to those with valid memberships, non-members: \$10 at the door, or advance tix available at MaxxMusic

**February 6-** it's **Sticky Fingers:** A Rolling Stones Tribute band, followed by an Mighty Fine Blues Jam! If you love to jam, do not miss this event. Stones fans will love it, and jammer will have a ball. FREE show to those with current membership, non-members \$10 at the door, or online at MaxxMusic

March is looking good for Eddie Turner. Due to earlier booking, we will not be at Neighborhood Theatre that night, but stay tuned for the details!

The wait is over: time to celebrate our **29th anniversary April 3rd 2022** with the one and only **Vanessa Collier!** All presales will be honored, and additional tickets will be available for this outstanding artist and winner of multiple blues awards.



RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP

# THE IBC RETURNS TO MEMPHIS IN 2022

The Blues Foundation is excited to announce the new  
dates for the  
International Blues Challenge: May 6 – 9,  
2022

It will be a full week of blues this May in Memphis as we celebrate the Blues Music Award nominees and winners on Thursday, May 5 and are Back On Beale with IBC beginning Friday, May 6.

## IBC Important Dates

**Friday, May 6: Quarterfinals Night 1**

**Saturday, May 7: Quarterfinals Night 2**

**Sunday, May 8: KBA Ceremony, Youth Showcases, & Semifinals**

**Monday, May 9: IBC Finals at The Orpheum**

Stay tuned for the updated IBC event schedule that includes workshops, panels, and showcases.

All previously purchased passes will be honored for the new dates, without any action on your part. Passes will now be mailed out in mid-April.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRE CHANGES POLICY REGARDING COVID-19**

Thanks to the love and support of numerous patrons and the city of Charlotte, the **Neighborhood Theatre** survived with its doors closed for more than a year. Now that we have reopened, the staff of the NoDa music venue is doing everything it can to keep the doors open.

**With COVID-19 infection rates once again on the rise, the time has come for a difficult decision.**

**Effective, Aug. 20, 2021, the Neighborhood Theatre will require proof of a full course of COVID-19 vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 (48) hours of the show date for entry into any event. The final vaccination dose must occur at least 14 days prior to the event.**

**"This is what needs to be done to safely keep our doors open - for our employees, our patrons and the performers," Gregg McCraw, owner of MaxxMusic and booking agent (talent buyer) for the Neighborhood Theatre, said. "We can't handle another shutdown if our staff gets sick."**

**Proof of vaccination can be a physical card or the photo of a complete vaccination that matches the patron's ID. Proof of a negative test can be a printed or digital test result that matches the patron's ID. All patrons are to wear a mask, as per City of Charlotte indoor requirements, when they are not drinking while inside the venue.**

**"A lot of music venues are going this route, especially now that Lollapalooza showed how effective it can be," McCraw said. "We hope everyone who would like to attend a show at the Neighborhood Theatre will do what they can to minimize the risks for staff, artists and fellow music lovers. The Charlotte music community has always been outstanding when it comes to helping out one of their own. This is something we can all do together."**

**Streaming tickets will now be available to many of the Neighborhood Theatre performances. Patrons who have already purchased a ticket but would like a refund can contact the Neighborhood Theatre**

**Gregg McCraw  
MaxxMusic, Inc**

**Charlotte Blues Society members have been very vocal about wanting to return to live music. Our polls also reflect our desire to be safe. Our diverse demographic represent every age group and differing opinions. Although some may prefer not to attend under these requests, we ask you to consider your options and join us. In America, every business has the right to create their own rules, and we ask you to respect the desire of our new "home" and our members to keep us all safe and "Keep the Blues Alive!"**



with

**Rick Ballew**

Get YOUR BLUZ on!

Every Sunday night from 8-10pm, Rick Ballew brings you two hours of great blues and blues rock on WYTX

His "Keeping the Blues Alive" Award winning show features artist interviews, new releases and music from the masters of this genre, along with the fresh new talent shakin' up the blues world today.

Don't miss a single show from former Charlotte Blues Society president and well-known radio personality Rick Ballew

*You can find his weekly playlist on our Facebook Group page every Thursday.*

**C**harlotte **B**lues **S**ociety  
Upcoming

*Blues Sundays*

**RED DRESS AMY**

&

**MIGHTY FINE BLUES JAM**

**JANUARY 2,**

**2022**

Neighborhood Theatre  
511 E 36th Street  
Charlotte NC  
7:00 PM Doors

**STICKY FINGERS**

-A Rolling Stones Tribute

&

**MIGHTY FINE BLUES JAM**

**FEBRUARY 6,**

**2022**

Neighborhood Theatre  
511 E 36th St  
Charlotte, NC  
7:00 PM Doors

**EDDIE TURNER**

**MARCH 6,**

**2022**

Heist Barrel & Arts  
1030 Woodward Ave.  
Charlotte. NC  
7:00 PM Doors

**29th Anniversary Bash**  
**Vanessa Collier**

**APRIL 3, 2022**

Heist Barrel & Arts  
1030 Woodward Ave  
Charlotte NC  
7:00 PM Doors

All tickets sold for the  
original April 2020 date will  
be honored!



**John Mayall – The Sun Is Shining Down**  
Forty Below Records FBR 026  
[www.johnmayall.com](http://www.johnmayall.com)

The father of British blues, John Mayall is well into his sunset years at age 88 with hundreds of recordings to his credit, but he's never sounded better than on this star-studded CD, a mix of six of his own tunes with others that bridge generations penned by Bobby Rush, Roosevelt Sykes, Bernard Allison and Tinsley Ellis. John shines on harp and keys and his voice glistens like a diamond in a lineup that includes bandmate Carolyn Wonderland, both Buddy Miller and Scarlet Rivera from Bob Dylan's Rolling Thunder Review, Marcus King, The Heartbreakers' Mike Campbell and Chicago transplant guitar master Melvin Taylor. It's a funky set punctuated by horns, violins and more. True blues with an upbeat feel, you'll enjoy "Hungry and Ready," "Can't Take It No More," "Got to Find a Better Way," "One Special Lady," "A Quitter Never Wins," "Deep Blue Sea" and "The Sun Is Shining Down."

e!

**Chris BadNews Barnes – BadNews Rising**  
VizzTone Label Group VT-CB19  
[www.chrisbarnesnyc.com](http://www.chrisbarnesnyc.com)

After a lengthy career as a funnyman/actor, Chris BadNews Barnes has established himself in the past decade as a proponent of hokum blues before shifting to a more contemporary version of tunes infused with humor and sexual innuendo. He teams here with Grammy-winning producer Tom Hambridge and delivers a mix of original music that mixes new-age hokum with intimate autobiographical memories. A native of Scranton, Pa., whose background includes time with Saturday Night Live, Carroll Burnett, Second City and more, Chris co-wrote with Hambridge and features backing from several of the top sessions players in Nashville. It's a fully realized set that should establish him as a standout in blues, too. You'll dance, chuckle and – just maybe -- shed a tear or two as you lend an ear to "You Wanna Rock," "When Koko Came to Town," "My Baby Be Cray Cray," the intimate "I Slow Danced with Joni Mitchell," "Chicks Dig Me," "The Creamy Caramel Café," "Texas Weiner" and "I Like Cleavage."



**Tinsley Ellis – Devil May Care**  
Alligator Records ALCD 5008  
[www.tinsleyellis.com](http://www.tinsleyellis.com)



Sidelined from touring for the first time in 40 years, blues-rocker Tinsley Ellis could spent his down time during the coronavirus shutdown revisiting guitars and amps he hadn't used for decades and polishing his already prodigious songwriting skills. The ten tunes in this muscular, burning set are the result. Tinsley had just started traveling in support of his BMA-nominated Ice Cream in Hell when the world came to a halt. In the months that followed, he kept fans engaged by posting some of the songs that made it to this CD online during the shutdown, a beefy blend of Southern rock, blues and more. "One More Reason" puts a positive spin on the end of a relationship to open before reality sets in with "Right Down the Drain." But the action sweetens dramatically for the ballad "Just Like Rain." Other pleasers include "Beat the Devil," "Juju," "Step Up," "28 Days" and "Slow Train to Hell."



## AWEK – AWEK

Self-produced CD

[www.awekblues.com](http://www.awekblues.com)

Based out of Toulouse, France, AWEK are a veteran ensemble that delivers deep-in-the pocket, straight-ahead Chicago-style blues. Their previous release, *Let's Party Down*, was produced in California by Kid Andersen. Someone else was at the controls for this one, which soars from the jump. Featuring the vocals and guitar of Bernard Sellam and the harp work of Stephane Bertolino – winner of the Lee Oskar Award at the 2008 IBCs, and a rock-steady rhythm section, the 11 originals and four covers here meld classical blues stylings with French cocktail lounge sophistication. Highlights include “We’re Gonna Make It Through,” the humorous love song “Bring It On,” the instrumental “Smokin’ Mambo,” “I Like to Be Alone,” “Beer O’Clock,” “The Healer,” “Tell Me What’s the Reason” and “I’m Staying Home.”

Diane Durrett & Soul Suga – Put a Lid on It  
Blooming Tunes Music  
[www.dianedurrett.com](http://www.dianedurrett.com)

Georgia-based Diane Durrett and her ensemble, Soul Suga, join forces with fellow Atlantan Tinsley Ellis for their ninth album, a sizzling mix of blues, gospel, funk and more that offers up messages of hope, love and laughter to a world in need of all they provide and a whole lot more. A smoky alto who’s a regional board member of the Recording Academy, Diane fronts a group whose most recent previous release, *Diane Durrett & Soul Suga LIVE*, soared to the top of international soul-blues charts. This release is destined for similar acclaim. Mellow and perfectly modulated from the open, you’ll enjoy “In My Soul,” “We Got It,” “Sweeter Love Grows,” “Blue Water,” “Put a Lid on It,” “Good News” and “Make America Groove.”



The Record Company – Play Loud  
Concord Records

[www.therecordcompany.net](http://www.therecordcompany.net)

Grammy winners in the rock world, members of The Record Company have always acknowledged a deep debt to Muddy Waters, Jimmy Reed and the blues – something that’s evident throughout the grooves of their latest CD, a powerful effort that bridges both mediums with class. Based out of Los Angeles and led by Chris Vos on guitar and vocals, they deliver a sound that’s highly polished rock one minute and driving blues the next – a formula that follows in lock step with their previous EP, *Side Project*, which reimagined material culled from Big Mama Thornton, Willie Dixon and others. The percussive “Never Leave You” opens. Other azure-based pleasers include “How High,” “Gonna Be Movin’,” “Today Forever,” “Get Up and Dance,” “Awake” and “Lady Lila.” If your tastes straddle both the blues and rock worlds, this one’s definitely for you.





# RED HOT & BLUES REVIEWS

By Marty Gunther

## WILLIE JACKSON



### Willie Jackson – All in the Blues

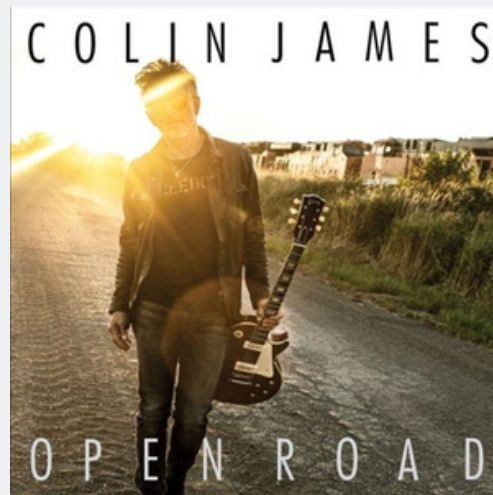
Self-produced CD

[www.williejacksonblues.com](http://www.williejacksonblues.com)

Based out of Savannah, Ga., and fixture across the Low Country for the past decade, Willie Jackson is a powerful baritone who grew up in the church, but turned to the blues full-time after an accident derailed him from his day job on the railroad. An old-school belter with limited range but plenty of emotion, Willie penned all of the tunes in this pleaser. He's backed by his regular unit, Tybee Blues Band, with guest appearances for a pair of hitmakers from the R&B/soul world: Mary Davis of the SOS Band and Jimmy Williams from Brink. A three-time winner in the recent Indie Music Channel Awards, some of the top cuts include "I'm Your Landlord," "Come Here Junior," "Beautiful Disease," "Sticky Hands Blues," "Coon Hound Nose," "Give Me My Rib Back" and "Brother I'll Take Her."

### Colin James – Open Road Stony Plain Records SPCD1434 [www.colinjames.com](http://www.colinjames.com)

A fixture internationally since opening for Stevie Ray Vaughan in his native Saskatchewan in 1984, guitarist Colin James veers slightly off the course he established in recent years, delivering a tasty mix of both blues and Americana on the 20th release in his catalog. A Juno Award winner for his most recent previous release, Miles to Go, James should be headed toward more honors for this one, which infuses four originals and nine cleverly refashioned covers from Albert King, Magic Sam, Otis Rush, Bob Dylan, Booker T. Jones and others. The new tunes – "Open Road," "When I Leave This House," "Raging River" and "There's a Fire" – all shine. And you'll like his takes on "As the Crow Flies," "It Takes Time," "It Takes a Lot to Laugh, It Takes a Train to Cry" and "Bad Boy," too.



### Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson – Once in a Blue Moon Blues Media Production

[www.lutherguitarjuniorjohnson.com](http://www.lutherguitarjuniorjohnson.com)

A beloved member of the Boston music community since leaving the Muddy Waters band after a decade run in 1980, Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson delivers a heaping helping of old-school blues in this live set, which was recorded at the height of the pandemic in front a small but enthusiastic crowd in St. Petersburg, Fla. Backed by his regular group, The Magic Rockers, Junior enjoyed a long solo career on Telarc and Bullseye Blues prior to a lengthy hiatus, and this disc is a follow-up to the all-acoustic Won't Be Back No More, which marked his return to the studio and was released about the same time as this CD was recorded. If you're a fan of classic Chicago blues, you'll enjoy his 13-minute take on "C.C. Rider," which opens, "Flippin' & Floppin'," a medley of Muddy's "Hoochie Coochie Man" and "I'm a Man" and the originals "Thank You Sugar," "Stealing Chickens" and "You Got Me Wonderin'."





Dionne Bennett – Sugar Hip Ya Ya  
Hunnia Records HRCD-2116  
[www.dionnebennett.com](http://www.dionnebennett.com)

A British-Jamaican singer/songwriter and radio personality, Dionne Bennett explodes out of the gate on her debut CD, an incendiary package that mixes blues, R&B and Afro-Caribbean rhythms and was produced in Budapest, Hungary, by former IBC-winning guitarist Little G Weevil. Bennett possesses a sultry alto who spent 18 months prior to COVID-19 touring Europe in the official Blues Brothers Musical. She also chairs Ladies of Rage, a non-profit that supports women in electronic music genres. She's backed throughout by Little G, who had a hand in penning all the originals, and top local talent. You'll be dancing from the jump to a stellar cover of Etta James' "Tell Mama" and swing and sway throughout to "Sugar Hip Ya Ya," "Spy Me," "My Life," "Yes We Can Can," "Don't Fall for Love" and "Get Style."

Mike Nagoda – Outside of the Box  
Self-produced CD  
[www.mikenagoda.com](http://www.mikenagoda.com)

The 2020 winner of the Toronto Blues Society talent search, singer/songwriter Mike Nagoda cuts new ground in the blues world on this CD. Born with cerebral palsy, he celebrates both the guitar styling that helped free him from his body and boldly delivers a few originals that honor his identity as a queer male, too. Backed by the Spectrum Blues Band and produced by Chris Birkett (Buffy Sainte-Marie, Sinéad O'Connor), Mike's got a pleasant, mid-range voice and accompanies himself on both organ and six-string using the double-slide technique invented by late countryman Brian Cober, who mentored him until his passing. Subject matter aside, this is one stylish album. Open your mind and heart, and give a good listen to "He's My Man," "Kingdom of Heaven," "P.R.I.D.E.," "Busker's Blues," "Crumble and Fall," "Conquistador" and "We've Got a Party."



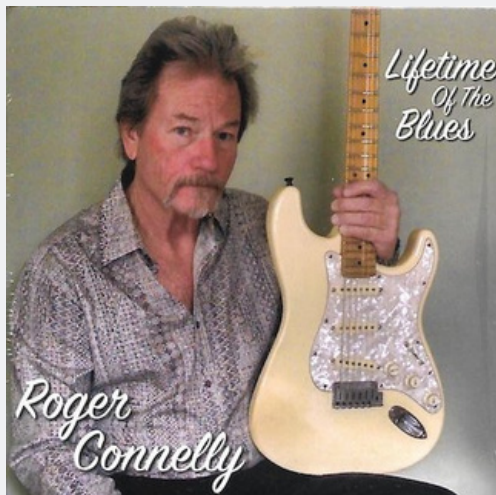
Various Artists – Low Blows for Ida: Harmonica Blues for Hurricane Relief  
Self-produced CD  
<https://tomwalbank.bandcamp.com/album/low-blows-for-ida>

Arizona-based producer Tom Walbank served up a winner with Hootmatic Blues last year, a compilation that featured top harp players in primarily solo acoustic settings, and he outdoes himself with this release: a 50-cut, two-hour effort that features 38 world-class reed-benders as a fund raiser for Gulf Coast residents who were inundated by Hurricane Ida. Released as a digital download, it includes contributions from Charlie Musselwhite, Kim Wilson, Rick Estrin, Mark Hummel, Bob Corritore, Annie Raines, Phil Wiggins, Peter "Madcat" Ruth, Deak Harp, Adam Gussow, Joe Filisko, Terry "Harmonica" Bean, Andrew Alli and Aki Kumar as well as 24 more equally gifted artists from the U.S., Canada, France, Italy and the United Kingdom, too. A master class for harmonicas player and a delight for fans, too, there's far too much here to describe in three short paragraphs, but there's a highlight at every turn. Contribute to a good cause by purchasing it through Bandcamp (address above).



# RED HOT & BLUES REVIEWS

By Marty Gunther



**Roger Connelly – Lifetime of the Blues**

Lyn' Dog Records

[www.rogerconnelly.net](http://www.rogerconnelly.net)

A native Chicagoan now based out of Nashville, Roger Connelly returns to the studio for the first time in 20 years for this interesting set of original blues-rockers, all of which are presented from a unique point of view. A longtime fixture at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Music City where he doubles on guitar and harp, Roger was a member of Maxwell Street legend Jimmie Lee Robinson's last touring band before joining Spencer Davis' Catalina Island All-Stars. A clever tunesmith, his songs have appeared in two major films. Just Connelly's third solo album in a long career, you'll enjoy the medium-paced shuffle, "Epitaph," which opens, as well as "I'm Comin' Down with Somethin'," "Lifetime of the Blues," the fingerpicked ballad "It's Only a Matter of Time," "Oughta Be a Law," "A Song for Kathy" and "Point of View."

**Joseph Veloz Presents: Joseph and the Velozians**

Big O Records

[www.jmveloz.com](http://www.jmveloz.com)

Here's a CD that'll catch you off-guard. A veteran bassist who's toured with Matt "Guitar" Murphy, Lucky Peterson, Thornetta Davis and Larry McCray, Joseph Veloz assembled some of the top talent from his home state of Michigan – Thornetta and Larry included -- for this clever blend of blues, funk and rock. The roster also includes jazz keyboard master Jim Alfredson, Bob Seger guitarist Drew Abbott, percussionist Donny Brown and a host of others who combine to deliver a slick, highly danceable package. McCray handles vocals and guitar for the opener, "Pretty Is as Pretty Does," before yielding to Davis for "I Got My Mojo Working." Other pleasers include "The Velozian Shuffle," "Mr. Cooper," "What You Won't Do for Love (NeoSoul Experiment)," "Just Jammin' Again" and "Up in My Ear."



**Lowell Fulson – Live with Jeff Dale & the Blue Wave Band**

Pro Sho Bidness PSB 1983

[www.jeffdaleblues.com](http://www.jeffdaleblues.com)

One of the most influential of all West Coast guitarists in the modern era, Lowell Fulson lives again in this live set thanks to bandleader Jeff Dale who unearthed this stellar set after rummaging through a long-forgotten box of tapes in his home while housebound at the height of the coronavirus crisis. A native Chicagoan and a respected bluesman guitarist, Dale was in his early 20s when he met Fulson backstage at the Cathay de Grande club in Hollywood, Calif., in the early '80s. They formed an instant friendship that led to touring with him and other blues giants. The music here was captured on Nov. 5, 1983, during a stop at Club 88 in Los Angeles. Turn back the clock a while and check out a true master at the top of his game in a set that features several of Lowell's gold-standard originals, including "You're Gonna Miss Me," "Too Many Drivers," "Reconsider Baby," "Do You Feel It," "Blues Pain," "Lowell's Lollipop" and more.



A member of the CBS board since 2018, Marty is no stranger to the area or the Blues. A native Rhode Islander who attended App State, his first exposure to the music came through Muddy Waters at Newport in 1960. His complete baptism into the Blues came in 1966 when Howlin' Wolf was crawling across the Newport stage and singing "Moaning at Midnight." A longtime member of the Chicago blues community, where many international stars were close friends, he was taught by harmonica payer Sugar Blue, and co-founded the Nuclebusters, one of the hardest working bands in South Florida, where he resided previously. In addition to writing the "Red Hot 'n Blues Reviews" column and contributing occasional articles, Marty's an in-demand journalist across the Blues spectrum. Senior writer at Blues Blast Magazine, he's also a contributor to The Groove, the monthly newsletter of the Crossroads (Ill.) Blues Society, and his CBS reviews appear regularly in Chicago Blues Guide.

# CBS NEEDS



WE NEED A WEBMASTER AND EDITOR FOR OUR MONTHLY BLUESLETTER. BOTH HAVE BEEN HANDLED BY OUTGOING PRESIDENT POSITION WILL BE VACATED AFTER FEB. 1 2022.

# VOLUNTEER FOR EVENTS

**Welcome our latest  
Board Members  
installed on  
Dec. 5, 2021  
Linda Graham  
Bonnie Spalding  
Floyd Carroll  
Dexter Cline**

Linda is our new Secretary,  
Bonnie will be handling  
Membership & Merch duties  
and acting VP

Floyd will be helping us on  
Social Media, Blues in the  
Schools and special projects.

Dexter is assuming  
Treasurer duties.

## **President**

Mary London Szpara is acting  
President only, having resigned  
earlier in 2021. She will no longer  
be with CBS after February 2022.  
Be active! Be a part of our CBS



Keep Your  
Beer Cold

PICK UP  
YOUR  
FREE  
KOOZIE  
AT OUR  
NEXT  
EVENT!

Keep Your  
Head Cooler

WITH A CBS  
CAP

\$20



CLICK ON THE IMAGES TO PURCHASE

*Please consider a tax-deductible donation to*  
**Charlotte Blues Society**

*Your end of year donation is good for you ~  
and your business may have matching funds.*

*Your end of year donation helps us continue our mission of*

***"Keeping the Blues Alive!"***

*Donate online [www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org](http://www.CharlotteBluesSociety.org)*

*or*

*send your check to  
Charlotte Blues Society*

*PO Box 32752  
Charlotte NC 28232-2752*



*Charlotte Blues Society is a 501(c)3 organization  
and will provide you with a receipt for tax records*

Keep  
the  
Blues  
Alive

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WORLD CLASS BLUES PRESENTED BY CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY

# Charlotte Blues Society Blues Sunday Special Events

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HOLD ON TO YOUR TICKETS FOR VANESSA COLLIER.  
OK, IT HAS TAKEN US LONGER THAN WE HAD HOPED, BUT WE  
ARE FINALIZING THE DETAILS NOW!

THIS IS A POSTPONED DATE, AND YOUR TICKETS WILL BE  
HONORED FOR THE RESCHEDULED DATE APRIL 3, 2022  
VENUE TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!



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STAY POSITIVE

OUR 29TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

WILL BE EPIC

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GUIDELINES & COURTESIES  
CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY OPEN BLUES JAMS

# Blues Jam Guidelines

YOU ARE PARTICIPATING IN A TRADITION THAT IS OVER 26 YEARS IN THE MAKING. THE CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY HAS CONSISTENTLY PROMOTED A BLUES JAM AS PART OF ITS BLUES SUNDAY. THE CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY'S BLUES SUNDAY OCCURS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. THE BLUES JAMS DO NOT HAPPEN AT EVERY BLUES SUNDAY. ALWAYS REFER TO CHARLOTTEBLUESOCIETY.ORG FOR DETAILS AND SCHEDULES. WE HOPE YOUR EXPERIENCE WILL BE INSPIRING AND THAT YOUR OWN MUSICAL ABILITIES WILL BE INFORMED BY THESE JAMS.

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES TO CONSIDER WHEN SIGNING ON AS A PARTICIPATING JAMMER:

\*A PRACTICAL SUGGESTION, SIGN UP EARLY. ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET PLEASE LIST YOUR INSTRUMENT AND/OR ABILITY THAT YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE JAM. WHILE THE BLUES HAS A LOT OF VARIATIONS, PLEASE BE ADVISED THIS IS A BLUES JAM. PLEASE KEEP IT REAL LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

\*BE RESPECTFUL OF ANY EQUIPMENT THAT YOU USE, BACKLINE AND PA, TREAT IT AS YOUR OWN OR POSSIBLY BETTER THAN YOUR OWN. IF YOU HAVE A SPECIAL AMP, PEDAL OR SET-UP THAT YOU NEED TO USE, REMEMBER GUIDELINE #1; COME EARLY

"BRING YOUR OWN GEAR INCLUDING AMP. DO NOT RELY ON THERE BEING ENOUGH AMPS ON STAGE. IF YOU HAPPEN TO BLOW UP AN AMP DURING A RIGHTEOUS JAM, THEN MAKE SURE IT IS YOUR OWN"

\*KEEP TRACK OF YOUR PLACE ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET. IT IS NOT UP TO THE JAM MASTER TO TRACK YOU DOWN WHEN YOUR TIME TO SHINE ARRIVES.

\*PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT YOU NEED TO BE TUNED AND READY BEFORE YOU GET ON STAGE. ADDITIONALLY, IF YOU ARE A GUITARIST THAT TUNES DOWN A HALF STEP, PLEASE NOTE THE HOUSE BAND WILL BE TUNED TO STANDARD 440. TWO CHOICES REMAIN, EITHER TUNE TO 440 OR MAKE ALLOWANCES IN YOUR CHOICE OF A CHORD VOICING.

\*IF YOU ONLY HEAR YOURSELF ON STAGE, PERHAPS YOU ARE TOO LOUD. LIKewise, IF YOU HEAR EVERYONE ELSE, BUT NOT YOURSELF; TURN UP.

\*BE RESPECTFUL OF YOUR FELLOW MUSICIANS, NO MATTER WHAT THEIR ABILITY MAY BE. EVERYONE USUALLY STARTS AT THE SAME PLACE.

\*IN REGARDS TO SOLOING, AGAIN PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF OTHER MUSICIANS IN THE JAM. FOR EXAMPLE, RHYTHM GUITAR IS NOT JUST SOMETHING TO WASTE YOUR TIME ON WHILE YOU WAIT FOR YOUR NEXT SOLO. ONE OF THE LESSONS OF A BLUES JAM IS TO LEARN HOW TO BE AS APT AN ACCOMPANIST AS YOU HOPE TO BE AS A SOLOIST. THE JAM MASTER WILL BE GENEROUS WITH SOLOS, BUT BE MINDFUL OF OTHER MUSICIANS THAT MAY BE WAITING TO JAM.

\*LASTLY, HAVE FUN. ALSO RESPECT THE TRADITIONS AS WELL AS THE INNOVATIONS OF THE BLUES. LIKewise, RESPECT THE CHARLOTTE BLUES SOCIETY AND THE RABBIT HOLE FOR PROVIDING THE SPACE AND EQUIPMENT FOR YOU TO JAM.

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# before you go...think... **Loaves & Fishes**

As we continue our fight against hunger, especially for at risk kids, now more than ever your help is needed. COVID-19 virus, has affected schoolchildren throughout the Charlotte area that relied on school meals. Summer is no vacation when you are hungry and the need continues.

Thank you for your donations in the past, and know we understand that not everyone is in a position to give. If you are, please do so. Thank you.

Normally we ask you to bring multiple cans of food to our next event. We ask that you do that on Sept 5th for our Blues Jam.

You can also make a donation to Loaves & Fishes during this difficult time. Any amount, small or large is greatly appreciated. Your generosity makes all the difference.

Loaves & Fishes has recently added two mobile units for "food pharmacies". The mobile food pharmacies will travel to communities identified as "food deserts," where access to nutritious, fresh food is limited by the barriers of availability, cost and transportation.

They also have drivers to bring food to the families, since it is unsafe to have them come to the pantry. Please help if you can.

Thank you

