

# 24TH ANNUAL **BLUES FESTIVAL** GUIDE 2026



2026 BFG Sponsor



THE BLUES  
FOUNDATION

**New Blues Trail**  
**Iconic Club Ebony**  
**Top 5 Live Albums**

**BluesFestivalGuide.com**



VISIT  
CLARKSDALE  
MISSISSIPPI

PHOTO BY RORY DOYLE

SPEND A  
WEEKEND  
AT THE  
CROSSROADS!

HEAR LIVE BLUES  
EVERY NIGHT IN  
CLARKSDALE, MS

EXPERIENCE OVER A DOZEN  
FESTIVALS EVERY YEAR



## UPCOMING EVENTS 2026

- 4/8-12 - Juke Joint Festival & Bonus Events
- 4/12 - Cat Head Mini Blues Fest
- 5/9 - 19th Clarksdale Caravan Music Fest (Cat Head/Bad Apple Blues Club/Bluesberry)
- 5/9 - Pinetop Boogie & w Crawfish Boil. Ground Zero Blues Club, benefiting Pinetop Perkins Foundation
- 5/16 - Women In Blues festival
- 5/22-23 - Ground Zero Blues Club Anniversary
- 5/23 - Tater Superbad Blues Festival
- 5/24 - 6th annual Bad Apple Blues Festival
- 5/28-30 - Son House Tribute Festival
- 6/19-21 - B.A.M. Fest (Birthplace of American Music)
- 8/7-9 - 38th Sunflower River Blues & Gospel Festival
- 8/7-9 - Cat Head 24th Anniversary Weekend
- 9/5 - 8th Red's Old-Timers Blues Fest (MLK Park Stage)
- 9/25-26 - Mighty Roots Music Festival (Stovall Farm)
- 9/26 - 3rd Jessie Mae Hemphill Hill Country Blues Festival at Crossroads Cultural Arts Center
- 10/8-10 - King Biscuit Blues Festival (Helena, Arkansas)
- 10/2026 - TBD - Hopson Pumpkin Pickin' Festival w/ music, kids' activities and more
- 10/11 - Clarksdale Super Blues Sunday: Cat Head Mini Blues Fest, Bluesberry Café, Delta Blues, Ground Zero Blues Club, Pinetop Perkins Homecoming, Levon's, Hooker Grocer, Red's, and more!
- 10/15-17 - 34th annual Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival
- 10/17 - Clarksdale Crossroads Blues Festival
- 10/29-11/01 - Hambone Festival
- 10/31 - Cruz'n The Crossroads Car & Truck Show
- 12/31 - Celebrate New Year's at the Crossroads w/ multiple shows around town



Be sure to visit The Delta Blues Museum, the first museum in the world dedicated to blues music.

DELTA BLUES  
MUSEUM  
DELTA BLUES MUSEUM.ORG



VISITCLARKSDALE.COM



326 BLUES ALLEY LANE 662.627.6149  
CLARKSDALE, MISSISSIPPI 38614

PUBLISHED BY RBA Publishing, Inc.  
dba BLUES FESTIVAL GUIDE  
2150 Western Ave, Arcata, CA 95521  
775/846-8238

www.BluesFestivalGuide.com  
Facebook.com/BluesFestivalGuide  
Instagram.com/BluesFestivalGuide

TO HAVE A COPY MAILED TO YOU  
Send \$12.00 (\$17.00 overseas)



### PUBLISHER

Kaati Gaffney

### EDITOR

Irene Johnson

### BLUES FESTIVAL E-GUIDE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Michele Lundeen

### EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Amy Brat, Richard Ledbetter, Lamont Jack Pearley,  
Sugaray Rayford, Reverend Billy C. Wirtz

### PHOTO & ART CONTRIBUTORS

Courtesy Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail, Courtesy B.B. King  
Museum and Delta Interpretive Center, Laura Carbone, Rory  
Doyle, Courtesy Jack Dappa Blues Heritage Preservation  
Foundation, Courtesy New York State Blues Festival,  
Pam Rayford, © Marilyn Stringer

### ADVERTISING SALES

Kaati Gaffney, Joana LeRoque, Melisa Nunn

### MARKETING CONSULTANTS

Nancy Edwards, Cathy Greaney, Mary Ann Haskell,  
Michele Lundeen, Beth Rudolph, Marilyn Stringer

### DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Melisa Nunn

### DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Amy Goldberg, www.livemusicart.com

### IT TECHNICAL ENGINEER

Derick Johnson

### STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marilyn Stringer

The opinions of the contributors are not necessarily the views  
of RBA Publishing, Inc.

### FRONT COVER

Here's the ferociously talented Vanessa Collier performing  
at the Southern Utah Blues Festival in 2025. The multi-award  
winning saxophonist, singer, songwriter, guitarist arrived on the  
scene with an undeniable fervor and maturity, and continues  
to bewitch crowds around the world. Vanessa is a fifteen-time  
Blues Music Award nominee and five-time winner, including  
nominations for Contemporary Blues Female Artist of the Year,  
Horn Player of the Year, B.B. King Entertainer of the Year, and  
Contemporary Blues Album of the Year. She is charismatic,  
down-to-earth, and delivers her own brand of funky and soulful  
blues. www.vanessacollier.com

### FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPHER

© Marilyn Stringer, Facebook.com/MarilynJStringer,  
Instagram.com/mjstringerphoto

# In This Magazine

FEATURED FESTIVALS ..... 6-27

Living Legend: Bob Margolin ..... 30  
by Amy Brat

What's Cookin' ..... 36  
with Sugaray Rayford

Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail ..... 38  
by Richard Ledbetter

The Legacy of Club Ebony ..... 42

Jack Dappa Blues Heritage ..... 48  
Preservation Foundation  
by Lamont Jack Pearley

Five Alive ..... 55  
by Reverend Billy C. Wirtz

Plan Your Festival Calendar ..... 58

SINCE 2003  
**BLUES FESTIVAL**  
GUIDE 2026

IF YOU'RE LOOKING  
FOR A HUGE,  
CENTRALIZED  
LIST OF BLUES  
FESTIVALS,  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE

**www.BluesFestivalGuide.com**

Click on **CALENDAR** for dozens  
of Blues Events & Festivals in the  
U.S., Canada and Internationally,  
listed in date order.

If you are producing an event,  
you can also **SUBMIT** your details  
on our website for free!



# To Our Blues Family

Celebrating live music together in a shared space is a unique and special experience. That's why festivals are so important to many of us. Festivals give artists – from legends to emerging musicians – the opportunity to perform and share their craft, engaging with fans in real time. The tradition is kept alive and the genre continues to evolve.

Blues festivals honor the roots of the music and the communities that created it. Many events include tributes, historical presentations, workshops, and recognition of influential artists. Seeing live performances helps people understand the energy, storytelling, and musicianship that define the genre. Younger audiences are often introduced to the blues at festivals, and the tradition is passed on to new generations.

The *Blues Festival Guide* team strives to do its part in keeping the blues alive through its editorials and festival calendar, strengthening the connection to the blues for our readers. All that said, it takes quite a few people to gather,

curate, and present all this information about blues festivals every year. Our staff is small, but dedicated. Since our last issue, we have lost two important members of our team: Heather Penrod-Rudd and Goran Petko.

Heather wore many hats as our operations/administrative/database/distribution manager. Splitting her time between Baja California, MX, and Reno, NV, she worked for *Blues Festival Guide* for the last 11 years. Heather was a no-nonsense straight-shooter, but always had a positive outlook on life. We think of our dear friend whenever we see flamingos, which she loved, or a gal dressed in purple or tie-dye.

Goran, our webmaster and graphic designer, worked with us for the last 13 years out of Croatia. In addition to creating the look and vibe of the *Blues Festival Guide*, building ads, and acting as technology advisor, he maintained our robust and intricate website, managing multiple directories and databases. More than that, he became a close friend and travel companion who was always quick with a dry joke or a phone call in a time of need.

Their passings have left a hole in our team and in our hearts. This ongoing project of ours creates a shared space where we celebrate the music, swap stories, and keep our blues community strong. Heather and Goran were a core part of our little *Blues Festival Guide* family and will be deeply missed. We thought about them daily as we produced this year's magazine, wishing we could call on their guidance. This issue is lovingly dedicated to Heather and Goran.

Yours in the blues,  
Kaati, Irene, Michele & the rest of the BFG Crew



The New York State Blues Festival in Syracuse, NY, draws 20,000 music fans throughout the region and beyond with a diverse line-up of local, regional, and national acts. Photo courtesy of the New York State Blues Festival

# CACTUS

## Temple Of Blues II

### FEATURING CARMINE APPICE

VANILLA FUDGE, OZZY, CACTUS, JEFF BECK

ARTIE DILLON - CACTUS (GUITARIST, PERCUSSIONIST, SESSION PLAYER) • JAMES CAPUTO - CACTUS (BASS) • ED TERRY - CACTUS (VOCALS) • ERIC GALES - ERIC GALES BAND (BLUES-ROCK GUITAR VIRTUOSO) • BILLY SHEEHAN - MR. BIG, THE WINERY DOGS, DAVID LEE ROTH (BASS) • TY TABOR - KING'S X (GUITAR) • PAT TRAVERS - PAT TRAVERS BAND (GUITAR) • ALEX SKOLNICK - TESTAMENT, ALEX SKOLNICK TRIO (GUITAR) • RUDY SARZO - QUIET RIOT, OZZY OSBOURNE, WHITESNAKE (BASS) • RICHARD FORTUS - GUNS N' ROSES, THE DEAD DAISIES (GUITAR) • PHIL SOUSSAN - OZZY OSBOURNE, LAST IN LINE (BASS) • DUG PINNICK - KING'S X (BASS) • RON "BUMBLEFOOT" THAL - GUNS N' ROSES, SONS OF APOLLO (GUITAR) • JOE LYNN TURNER - RAINBOW, DEEP PURPLE, YNGWIE MALMSTEEN (VOCALS) • DEREK SHERINIAN - DREAM THEATER, SONS OF APOLLO, BLACK COUNTRY COMMUNION (KEYBOARDS) • TONY FRANKLIN - THE FIRM, BLUE MURDER (BASS) • STEVE MORSE - DEEP PURPLE, DIXIE DREGS, KANSAS (GUITAR) • JIMMY HASLIP - YELLOWJACKETS, TOMMY BOLIN BAND • MELANIE - FOLK ROCK LEGEND (VOCALS)

HUMBLE PIE - LIVE IN CINCINNATI 1983  
AVAILABLE ON CD/LP - CL07023

HUMBLE PIE - LIVE IN CINCINNATI 1983  
AVAILABLE ON CD/LP - CL07023

PAT TRAVERS - BLUES OUT IN HOUSTON  
AVAILABLE ON CD/LP - CL07313

Dead Groove  
Featuring Steve Morse & Lance Lopez  
DEAD GROOVE / TOMMY BOLIN - VOODOO CHILD (SLIGHT RETURN) / POST TOASTEE (RARE 2024 MIX)  
AVAILABLE ON RED 7" - CL07055

CLEOPATRA WWW.CLEOPATRARECORDS.COM find cleopatra records on:



# Featured Festivals

Festivals are listed here in alphabetical order with their page number.

On the following pages they appear in date order, so you can easily make your plans.

Dates are believed to be accurate at the time of publication. Refer to our festival calendar: [www.BluesFestivalGuide.com](http://www.BluesFestivalGuide.com) for updates/cancellations/postponements/reschedules.

### CHECK BEFORE YOU GO & HAVE A BLUESY TIME!

|                                                         |                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail Dedication .....       | 10                 |
| BAM Fest .....                                          | 14                 |
| Bayfront Blues Festival .....                           | 17                 |
| Big Easy Cruise .....                                   | Inside Front Cover |
| Blues From The Top Music Festival .....                 | 12                 |
| Blues on the Chippewa .....                             | 16                 |
| Blues Week At The Blue Front Cafe .....                 | 13                 |
| Catskills Crossroads Blues Camp .....                   | 18                 |
| Chenango Blues Festival .....                           | 19                 |
| Connecticut Rhythm & Blues .....                        | 25                 |
| Eureka Springs Blues Party .....                        | 8                  |
| Fargo Blues Festival .....                              | 15                 |
| Forgotten Music Fest .....                              | 25                 |
| Gator By The Bay .....                                  | 6                  |
| Germantown Schnitzelburg Blues Festival .....           | 10                 |
| Greeley Blues Jam .....                                 | 9                  |
| In the Market for Blues .....                           | 15                 |
| John Coltrane International Jazz & Blues Festival ..... | 20                 |
| King Biscuit Blues Festival .....                       | 24                 |
| Kitchener Blues Festival .....                          | 16                 |
| Lee Oskar Harmonicas Low Rider Summer .....             | 6                  |
| Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise .....                   | 26                 |
| Michael Arnone's Crawfish Festival .....                | 9                  |
| New York State Blues Festival .....                     | 11                 |
| North Central Florida Blues Festival .....              | 23                 |



*"A love story set to music" describes the dynamic duo of Chambers DesLauriers – fronted by singer, songwriter Annika Chambers and husband, guitarist, singer, songwriter Paul DesLauriers. Multi-award winners, their music embodies love, resilience, and the soul-stirring power of blues, rock, and soul, blending raw and authentic emotion with powerful storytelling. Here they are at the 2025 North Atlantic Blues Festival in Rockland, ME, creating their magic. Check them out at: [annikaandpaul.com](http://annikaandpaul.com). Photo by Laura Carbone*

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Red, White and Blues Festival .....  | 21 |
| Riverfront Blues Festival .....      | 17 |
| Roots and Blues Festival .....       | 20 |
| Sandy Beaches Cruise .....           | 27 |
| Son House Tribute Festival .....     | 8  |
| Stonebridge Wasaga Beach Blues ..... | 22 |
| Tater SuperBad Blues Festival .....  | 7  |
| Up the River Blues Fest .....        | 22 |
| Utah Blues Festival .....            | 12 |
| Women in Blues Showcase .....        | 7  |

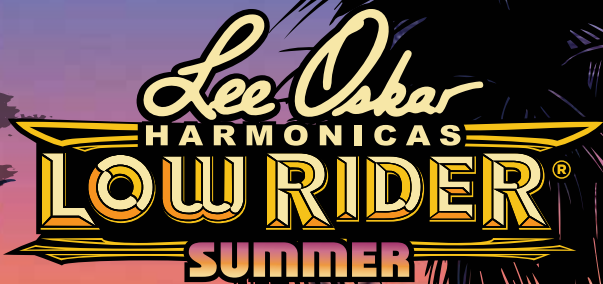
All Season

Lee Oskar Harmonicas

Various Festivals

PERFORMING AT A VENUE NEAR YOU!

TAJ MAHAL MELISSA ETHERIDGE KEB MO  
BOBBY RUSH KENNY NEAL JIMMY Z  
JOHN NEMETH KEVIN BURT KELLIE RUCKER  
KETCH SECOR MOSES CONCAS JOEL ASTLEY  
TEX NAKAMURA BILLY WATSON  
JIM MCLAUGHLIN MICHAEL "FATHEAD" EASTON  
LAURA REED BRIAN COLLINS DAVID ROTUNDO  
MARTIN CHEMES STACY JONES SOFIE REED  
DARRYL CARRIERE MIKE FUGAZZI LEE OSKAR.  
& MANY MORE!







AVAILABLE NOW!

May 7-10

Gator By The Bay

San Diego, CA

GATOR BY THE BAY!

ZYDECO, BLUES & CRAWFISH FESTIVAL

MAY 7-10, 2026 • SPANISH LANDING PARK, SAN DIEGO

JON CLEARY & THE ABSOLUTE MONSTER GENTLEMEN • CHUBBY CARRIER & THE BAYOU SWAMP BAND  
DUMPSTAPHUNK • GENO DELAFOSE & FRENCH ROCKIN' BOOGIE • PINE LEAF BOYS  
RICK ESTRIN & THE NIGHTCATS • JOHN NÉMETH WITH JOHNNY VERNAZZA • DEKE DICKERSON  
MITCH POLZAK • KIRK FLETCHER & ERIKA BAIER • THE 44'S WITH KID RAMOS • THE FARMERS  
SUE PALMER • WHITNEY SHAY WITH LAURA CHAVEZ • MERCEDES MOORE • THE SLEEPWALKERS • KIMMI BITTER  
GREGORY PAGE • ASH EASTON • EUPHORIA BRASS BAND • CHUNKY HUSTLE BRASS BAND AND MANY MORE!

100+ PERFORMANCES ON 7 STAGES 10,000 LBS OF CRAWFISH

MARDI GRAS PARADES • DANCE FLOORS  
COOKING DEMOS • KIDS AREA & MORE!



GATORBYTHEBAY.COM



May 17

Women in Blues Showcase

Gainesville, FL



THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA BLUES SOCIETY proudly presents

# WOMEN IN BLUES SHOWCASE

SUNDAY, MAY 17 • HEARTWOOD SOUNDSTAGE  
619 S. MAIN STREET, GAINESVILLE, FL • DOORS 2:00PM

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Featuring 10 incredible blueswomen from across the country!

Deb BERLINGER

Garnetta CROMWELL

Vange DURST

Doris "Lady D" FIELDS

Elizabeth HANGAN

Kiersi JOLI

Nella B

Cat RHODES

SHEBA The Mississippi Queen

Mary WASHINGTON BROOKS



City of Gainesville  
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

THIS EVENT IS FUNDED IN PART BY A GRANT FROM THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT. FUNDED IN PART BY VISIT GAINESVILLE, ALACHUA COUNTY.

Visit GAINESVILLE  
Alachua County, FL

May 23

Tater SuperBad

Clarksdale, MS

Remembering Mr. Tater/ Foster Wiley 03/29/47 - 09/10/10



2nd Annual

# Tater SuperBad

Blues Festival  
Clarksdale, Mississippi

May 23rd 2026





11 am - 6 pm



DONATION WILL BE MADE TO CLARKSDALE CARE STATION ( FOOD BANK)

\$5 Cover - Donations Appreciated.

**LINEUP:**

11am - RL SUPERBAD  
11:15 - John Rusky  
11:40 - Jed Sparks  
Noon - KonTraFusion  
1:00 - Super Chikan  
2:00 - Sean BAD Apple  
3:00 - Watermelon Slim  
4:00 - SUPERBAD KonTraFusion

W Guest : Bill Able  
4:45 - Bill Able & The Delta ShakeDown.

3rd Annual : 5/29/27.




May 28-30

Son House Tribute Festival

Clarksdale, MS



**Schedule**  
May 30

8PM Live performance by Jontavious Willis and Erin Harpe

The Holy Moly (218 3rd St.)  
\$25 Admission

## 2nd Son House Tribute Festival

Thursday May 28th - Saturday May 30th  
in Clarksdale, Mississippi

We have an incredible lineup featuring GRAMMY nominee Jontavious Willis as the headliner, alongside Blues Foundation nominee Erin Harpe and Cash's Juke Joint. Local legends Watermelon Slim and Deak Harp will also be performing, along with many other local artists.

The festival will include movies and a panel discussion.

This is a special event honoring local legend and Delta Blues Pioneer Son House, whose music lives on today.



Travelers Hotel Clarksdale

For more information & tickets, please visit [www.sonhousetributefestival.com](http://www.sonhousetributefestival.com)



May 28-31

Eureka Springs Blues Party

Eureka Springs, AR



MAY 28-31, 2026



DUMPSTAPHUNK | Orianthi | Eric Gates

ALLY VENABLE | CAROLYN WONDERLAND  
JOHNNY RAWLS | DOGA | SOUTHERN AVENUE  
BILLY JETER | JIMMY BRATCHER | BERRY PEELUP BAND | RORY PORTER  
KRIS LAGER | LEEAN & THE ROAD DOCTORS | LUCAS PARKER & JESSICA PAGE  
ORIO BLUE | P.D. OLSON | RAGNIEL FIELDS & THE BLUES THERAPY GROUP  
SCHOOL OF ROCK BAND | STEVE JONES | THE NEW SCHOOL BAND | THE PROCRUSTINIANS

PRESENTED BY BASIN PARK HOTEL AND THE CITY OF EUREKA SPRINGS  
[WWW.EUREKASPRINGSBLUESPARTY.COM](http://WWW.EUREKASPRINGSBLUESPARTY.COM)

## Eureka Springs Blues Party 2026

Four Days of Music, Energy, and Community

The best weekend of the year in Eureka Springs!  
4 electrifying days of live music and downtown energy  
in one of Arkansas' most iconic music destinations.

Stay at the Host Hotel : Basin Park Hotel  
12 Spring Street, Eureka Springs, AR  
Contact information 800-643-4972  
[Basin Park.com](http://BasinPark.com)

Follow us on socials @EurekaSpringsBluesParty

FOR LINEUP, TICKETS AND INFO VISIT [eurekaspringsbluesparty.com](http://eurekaspringsbluesparty.com)



May 29-31 Michael Arnone's Crawfish Festival Augusta, NJ

MICHAEL ARNONE'S

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL

**CRAWFISH FEST**

SINCE 1989

3 DAY LOUISIANA AND NEW ORLEANS STYLE  
MUSIC, FOOD AND CAMPING FESTIVAL

Samantha Fish  
Rebirth Brass Band  
Kenny Neal  
Cowboy Mouth  
Boneraama  
Rockin' Dopsie Jr  
& The Zydeco Twisters  
The Rumble featuring  
Chief Joseph Boudreaux Jr.  
Anthony Morgan's  
Inspirational Choir of Harlem

From Good Homes  
John Papa Gros  
Amanda Shaw  
& The Cute Guys  
Honey Island Swamp Band  
The Nth Power  
Joe Krown Trio +1 Papa Mali  
Johnny Sansone  
The Soul Project Nola  
Ocean Avenue Stompers  
Yarn

**MAY 29-31, 2026**

SUSSEX COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
AUGUSTA • NEW JERSEY

[crawfishfest.com](http://crawfishfest.com)

 Samantha Fish

 Kenny Neal







June 5-6 Greeley Blues Jam Greeley, CO

A Weekend of World-Class Blues & Community Celebration

•Family Friendly •2 Days of Music

**JUNE 5&6**

**ROBERT RANDOLPH**  
**DANIELLE NICOLE**  
TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS  
BLUES BEATLES • THE DELTA SONICS  
BEN PU & CREW • BOBBY C & THE O G'S • ROBERT WILSON BLUES BAND • BUZZ BROTHERS BAND

*Ain't Nothin' But a Party!* [GREELEYBLUESJAM.ORG](http://GREELEYBLUESJAM.ORG)

•Friday June 5th  
Downtown Greeley

•Saturday June 6th  
Island Grove Regional Park

**GREELEY, COLORADO**

**Greeley**

**BLUES JAM**

MUSIC FESTIVAL  
2026

ALL DAY  
Music!

CAMPING AVAILABLE

June 5-6 Germantown Schnitzelburg Blues Festival Louisville, KY

Co-Hosted by

 KENTUCKIANA  
BLUES  
SOCIETY

**Friday, June 5**  
**6:30 - 11:00 PM**

- Donovan Howard Trio
- The Sonny Moorman Group
- The Weavers
- Highway 31 Blues Band (inside Check's)

A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Camberwell Grief Sanctuary

**GERMANTOWN  
SCHNITZELBURG**



**BLUES FESTIVAL**

*Louisville, Kentucky*

More information on Facebook at  
[GermantownSchnitzelburgBluesFestival](https://www.facebook.com/GermantownSchnitzelburgBluesFestival)

Co-Hosted by

 **Check's**  
CAFE

**Saturday, June 6**  
**3:30 - 11:00 PM**

- Farm Cat
- Cat Campbell & The \$2 Pistols
- Holeshoot Blues
- Toni Green
- Highway 9 Blues Band
- Tailfin Cadillacs (inside Check's)

**Free Admission**

June 6 Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail Dedication Sherrill, AR

*Join Us In Celebrating*  
**GRAMMY AWARD WINNER**  
**BOBBY RUSH**

**JUNE 6, 2026 10-4 PM | SHERRILL, AR**

Historic Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail Marker Dedication & Community Celebration. Live Music, Food Trucks & Family Fun.



 ARKANSAS RIVER  
DELTA BLUES TRAIL

The **Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail** is dedicated to preserving the rich blues heritage of the region. Through music education and storytelling, we honor the musicians who helped shape the Blues genre and the American music industry.

Through permanent markers, QR-enabled digital storytelling, community events, and a future Trail app, the program transforms Arkansas's musical legacy into a dynamic cultural, educational, and economic asset for the region.

 **EARN MORE**

 An *Arkansas Originals* preservation and economic development project to advocate and educate about the people who influence and represent Arkansas culture, while building economy for communities.



## June 11-13

# New York State Blues Festival

**Syracuse, NY**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**2026**

**NEW YORK STATE  
BLUES FESTIVAL**

**JUNE 11, 12 & 13**

**GARY CLARK JR.  
GRACE BOWERS**

**EDDIE 9V · TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS  
VANESSA COLLIER · RICK ESTRIN & THE NIGHTCATS  
PIPER & THE HARD TIMES · RAY FULLER & THE BLUESROCKERS  
JW-JONES · MATT TARBELL PHIL PETROFF · ALL NIGHT BOOGIE BAND  
DAMDOG · BLUES IGNITION · COLIN ABERDEEN  
RAEWALD HOWLAND-BOLTON · SOLDEN SOUL REVUE · BUDDY MANLEY**

**CHEVY COURT - NYS FAIRGROUNDS - SYRACUSE, NY**

**June 12-13**

## Utah Blues Festival

## Salt Lake City, UT

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

# UTAH BLUES & FESTIVAL

TAB BENOIT

**TOMMY CASTRO AND THE PAINKILLERS**  
FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST DEANNA BOGART

DANIELLE NICOLE | VICTOR WAINWRIGHT & THE TRAIN  
DWAYNE DOPSIE & THE ZYDECO HELLRAISERS  
GYPSY BLUE REVUE WITH ANNE HARRIS & JP SOARS  
GHALIA VOLT | HARRELL 'YOUNG RELL' DAVENPORT  
ON TRACK MUSIC GUITAR SCHOOL  
MITCH WOODS - CLUB 88

## JUNE 12 & 13 2026

THE GALLIVAN CENTER, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

➡ UTAHBLUESFEST.ORG ⬅

## June 26-28

## Blues From The Top Music Festival Winter Park, CO



**2026**

*24<sup>th</sup> Annual*

# BLUES FROM THE TOP

**MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**June 26, 27 & 28**

**WINTER PARK, COLORADO**

**TICKETS & INFO**

[www.BLUESFROMTHETOP.ORG](http://www.BLUESFROMTHETOP.ORG)



**THE WOOD BROTHERS**

**KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD**

**LOS LOBOS**

**SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY**

DAMON FOWLER, J.P. SOARS,  
VICTOR WAINWRIGHT

**JIMMIE VAUGHAN**

AND THE TILT-A-WHIRL BAND

**AND MANY MORE**





COLORFUL. AUTHENTIC. UNIQUE.  
*Yazoo* IS JUST LIKE YOU.

HOME OF  
**BLUES WEEK AT THE BLUE FRONT CAFE**  
 FORMALLY KNOWN AS THE BENTONIA BLUES FESTIVAL  
**JUNE 18-20, 2026**




Visit *Yazoo*  
Delta County, Mississippi & Alabama, Benton

@ VisitYazoo






**THE BIRTHPLACE OF AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
 CROSSROADS, USA • CLARKSDALE, MS

ROUTE 61 ROUTE 49

**SATURDAY, JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>**  
 RELATED EVENTS JUNE 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>

A CELEBRATION COINCIDING WITH JUNETEENTH AND FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND  
 Check out all Ticketing & Lineup info @ [www.BAMFestMS.com](http://www.BAMFestMS.com)  
 Support The Rebuilding of Delta Blues Alley Cafe

Delta Blues Alley Cafe  
 852 Delta Ave,  
 Clarksdale, MS 36614

VISIT **CLARKSDALE**  
COAHOMA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI  
[VISITCLARKSDALE.COM](http://VISITCLARKSDALE.COM)

VISIT **MISSISSIPPI**





July 24-25      Fargo Blues Festival      Fargo, ND



**2026 FARGO BLUES FESTIVAL**  
NEUMAN OUTDOOR FIELD • FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
JULY 24-25      PRESENTED BY S CASINOS

**2 DAYS. 13 BANDS.  
ONE LOW PRICE**

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!  
[FARGOBLUES.COM](http://FARGOBLUES.COM)

**BOBBY RUSH**  
3X GRAMMY WINNER  
AS HEARD IN WINNERS

**LARRY McCRAY**

**THE CASH BOX KINGS**

**JOANNE SHAW TAYLOR**

FARGO BLUES FESTIVAL • 1515 15TH AVE N. • FARGO, ND • 218-287-7775

July 31-Aug 1      In the Market for Blues      Omaha, NE



BLUES SOCIETY OF OMAHA PRESENTS  
**IN THE MARKET FOR BLUES**      **VIP Available**      JULY 31 - AUGUST 1, 2026  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

**TEXAS HEADHUNTERS**  
IAN MOORE, JESSE DAYTON & JOHNNY MOELLER  
**HECTOR ANCHONDO, GARY HOEY**  
+30 MORE BLUES BANDS

EXCLUSIVE CONCERT FOR VIP & SPONSORS ON FRIDAY, JULY 31ST WITH  
**THE NICK MOSS BAND**

Experience a Blues Pub Crawl in Omaha's  
Historic Old Market, Capitol District and  
Downtown with over 30 bands at 10 clubs.  
Ticket & Hotel Information coming soon!  
at [www.OmahaBlues.com](http://www.OmahaBlues.com)

**OMAHA'S BLUES FEST**  
In The **MARKET For BLUES**  
JULY 31 - AUGUST 1, 2026

Aug 6-8      Blues on the Chippewa      Durand, WI



August 6th - 8th  
2026  
[bluesonthechippewa.com](http://bluesonthechippewa.com)

**BLUES ON THE CHIPPEWA**

Veteran's Memorial Park  
Downtown Durand, WI  
Free Admission

**Southern Avenue - Judith Hill**  
**The Stephen Hull Experience**

Moga Family Band - Davina & The Vagabonds - Big Mike and The R&B Kings  
Dylan Salfer Band - The Brotherhood (feat. Ken Valdez & Kevin Burt)  
Feed The Dog - Jhett Black - South Farwell - Jambalaya - JoJo Green - Twine  
GeminiDragon - Matthew Mwangi Band - Bambi Alexandra Band

Aug 6-9      Kitchener Blues Festival      Kitchener, ON



**KITCHENER BLUES FESTIVAL**  
PRESENTED BY TD

**KITCHENER  
BLUES FESTIVAL**  
August 6-9<sup>th</sup>

Canadian Blues  
Coast to Coast to Coast

[KITCHENERBLUESFESTIVAL.COM](http://KITCHENERBLUESFESTIVAL.COM)



17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL



# Riverfront Blues Festival

**AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup> LIBBY, MT**  
TIX AND INFO: [RIVERFRONTBLUESFESTIVAL.COM](http://RIVERFRONTBLUESFESTIVAL.COM)

CAMPING AVAILABLE!



KICKIN' BACK ON THE KOOTENAI RIVER



**Money Penny**  
**Stoney Curtiss**  
**Tony Holiday**  
**Chris O'Leary**  
**Kelly's Lot**



**Atomic Jive**  
**Alison Joy Williams**  
**Jay Snow and the Tone Keepers**  
**Two Slim and the Taildraggers**

AUGUST 14•15•16, 2026

37th Annual

[BAYFRONTBLUES.COM](http://BAYFRONTBLUES.COM)



FABULOUS THUNDERBIRDS • SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY  
CURLEY TAYLOR & ZYDECO TROUBLE  
MUD MORGANFIELD • MARK HUMMEL • ERIC JOHANSON  
JOHN PRIMER & THE REAL DEAL BLUES BAND  
GHALIA VOLT • PIPER & THE HARD TIMES  
REVEREND RAVEN & THE CHAINSMOKIN' ALTAR BOYS  
BRANDON SANTINI • KYLE ROWLAND • GABE STILLMAN  
JOHNNY RAWLS • PAUL BARRY BAND *with* BRUCE McCABE

MUSIC MASTERS COLLECTIVE PRESENTS



CATSKILLS CROSSROADS

# BLUES CAMP

LEARN • PLAY • CELEBRATE!

Co-Produced by Luther Dickinson and Joel Harrison

CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE • BOBBY RUSH

ERIC GALES • JON CLEARY

DUKE ROBILLARD • LUTHER DICKINSON

RUTHIE FOSTER • JONTAVIOUS WILLIS

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

SOUTHERN AVENUE

[CROSSROADSBLUESCAMP.ORG](http://CROSSROADSBLUESCAMP.ORG)

MASTER CLASSES • WORKSHOPS  
JAM SESSIONS • SUPERB LODGING  
EXCEPTIONAL DINING • PERFORMANCES  
100 ACRES OF NATURE

AUGUST 11-14, 2026

Full Moon Resort • Big Indian, New York







Chenango  
County  
Fairgrounds  
• Norwich,  
New York





BOOKER T. JONES

CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE & GA-20

THE RECORD COMPANY







\* CAROLYN WONDERLAND \* VANESSA COLLIER

JOHN PRIMER \* BLACKBURN BROTHERS \* BLUE AVENUE

LARRY MCCRAY

ROOMFUL OF BLUES

DUSTIN ARBUCKLE

AND THE DAMNATIONS

THURSDAY KICK-OFF WITH:

DESOTO TIGER'S

TESTIMONY

EAST PARK \* 6:00 PM

CHENANGOBLUESFEST.ORG

Aug 29

Roots & Blues Festival

Kennett Square, PA



ROOTS & BLUES  
FESTIVAL

Anson B. Nixon Park



Saturday,  
August 29

⌚ Gates Open at 11:00 AM

📍 Kennett Square, PA

“The Mushroom Capital of the World”

• What to Expect: •

- ✓ Family-Friendly Atmosphere
- ✓ Food & Beverage Vendors
- ✓ Local Artisan Vendors
- ✓ Musicians Merch Area

Stay tuned for artist reveal

405 N. Walnut Road  
Kennett Square, PA 13948  
The Mushroom Capital of the World







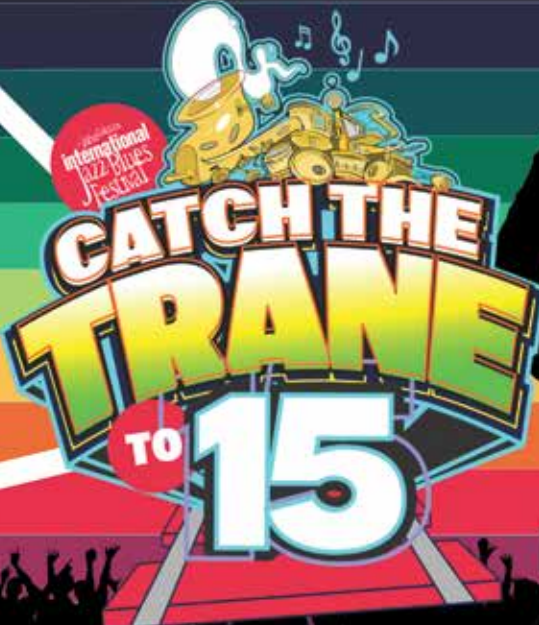
For more information, visit:

[www.ansonbnixonpark.org](http://www.ansonbnixonpark.org)

Sep 5-6

John Coltrane Int'l Jazz & Blues Festival

High Point, NC



THE JOHN COLTRANE  
international  
Jazz and Blues  
Festival

SEPT.  
5-6  
2026

COLTRANEJAZZFEST.COM

HIGH POINT, NC

Blues Festival Guide 20

21 Blues Festival Guide



\*\*\* Fredonia, New York \*\*\*  
**RED WHITE AND BLUES**  
 \*\*\* SINCE 1995 \*\*\*

**OUR 30th  
ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION  
TAKES OVER  
FREDONIA!**

**SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2026**

Saturday's headliner in Barker Commons is  
 multi-GRAMMY nominated blues aficionado  
**SHEMEKIA COPELAND!**



Ms. Copeland possesses one of the most instantly recognizable and deeply soulful roots music voice of our time. She is beloved and honored worldwide for the fearlessness, honesty and humor of her revelatory songs, and winning, engaging personality. The Chicago Tribune says, "Copeland is the greatest female blues vocalist working today."

Saturday's opening act is GROSH, featuring Grace Lougan voted Buffalo's "Best Blues Guitarist."

We'll feature 12+ venues over the weekend, starting on Friday at the Fredonia Memorial Post 59 American Legion and Fredonia Beaver Club

**FACEBOOK.COM/REDWHITEBLUESFREDONIA**  
**FESTIVALSFREDONIANY.ORG**



Sponsors include Fredonia Beaver Club, Southern Chautauqua FCU, DFT Communications and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr Foundation

**MUSIC - FOOD TRUCKS - CRAFT BEER - VENDORS**

**UP THE RIVER BLUES FEST**  
 Established 2024  
 OSSINING, NY

**SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026  
NOON TO 8PM**

**LOUIS ENGEL  
WATERFRONT PARK  
OSSINING, NY, 10562**

**FEATURING**  
 DOUG DEMING & THE JEWEL TONES  
 FELIX CABRERA  
 THE 3BS  
 JELLYBEAN JAKE & THE COCONUT HEADS  
 BIG FRANK & THE HEALERS

**WWW.UPTHERIVERBLUESFESTIVAL.COM**

SCAN FOR MORE INFO

THE UP THE RIVER BLUES FESTIVAL  
 FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF  
 B.B. KING'S CONCERT AT SING-SING  
 PRISON IN '72

**STONEBRIDGE WASAGA BEACH BLUES**  
 SEPT 18-20 2026

**ADVANCE TICKETS**  
 \$20 per day (\$25 at the gate)  
 \$50 for all 3 days

**MUDMEN**  
 THE LAST WALTZ - A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF THE BAND  
 LMT CONNECTION  
 MISS EMILY  
 DAVID GOGO  
 JIMI  
 THE TONEWHEELS  
 VINYL PARADISE  
 JOE MURPHY + THE WATER STREET BLUES BAND  
 THE MIKE MCCARTHY BAND  
 THUNDERSTRUCK - THE AC/DC EXPERIENCE  
 MIKE MCKENNA'S SIDEWINDER BLUES BAND  
 BIG MOTOR GASOLINE  
 FOG BLUES + BRASS BAND  
 PEARL - A JANIS JOPLIN EXPERIENCE  
 JAMES LEGERE BAND  
 EYES OF VIOLET - JUNIOR JAM  
 MACKENZIE BLUES BAND  
 MESSENJAH  
 93 NORTH

**STONEBRIDGE TOWN CENTRE**

**LiUNA! LOCAL 183**

**LOCATIONS NORTH**

**WASAGA**

**wasagabeachblues.com**

Performances subject to change without notice. E.&O.E. Children 12 and under free.

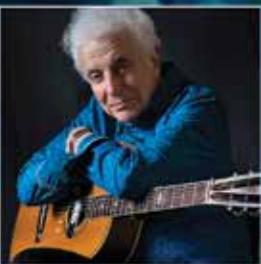




THE NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA BLUES SOCIETY  
AND HEARTWOOD SOUNDSTAGE  
*present the*  
**NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA  
BLUES FESTIVAL**  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 • HEARTWOOD SOUNDSTAGE**  
619 S. MAIN STREET, GAINESVILLE, FL • DOORS 2:00PM  
TICKETS \$50 • VIP AVAILABLE



**INDOOR STAGE**



Doug MacLeod



EG Kight

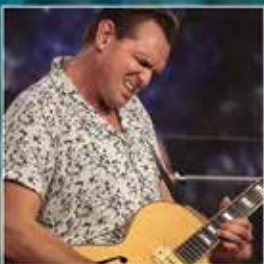


JW Gilmore



Dr. Jules' Cool Blues

**OUTDOOR STAGE**



Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones



Josh Miller Blues Revue



Sheba the Mississippi Queen



JC and the Backscratchers

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
**NCFblues.org • HeartwoodSoundstage.com**



THIS EVENT IS FUNDED IN PART BY A GRANT FROM THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT. FUNDED IN PART BY VISIT GAINESVILLE, ALACHUA COUNTY.



Alachua County, FL



**IT'S THE BISCUIT BABY  
NOTHIN' LIKE THE REAL THING**  
**OCTOBER 8-10, 2026  
HELENA, ARKANSAS**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8**  
PORT CITY BLUES BAND • EDEN BRENT  
LONNIE SHIELDS • SEAN "MACK" McDONALD

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9**  
BIT O' BLUES YOUTH PRESENTATION  
STERLING BILLINGSLEY • REBA RUSSELL  
RODD BLAND AND THE MEMBERS ONLY BAND  
HARMONICA KINGS SONNY BOY WILLIAMSON SALUTE FEATURING  
MARK HUMMEL. MAGIC DICK AND WALLACE COLEMAN  
PAUL THORN • CANDICE IVORY FEATURING BEN LEVIN

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10**  
BIT O' BLUES YOUTH PRESENTATION • BILLY JETER • DELTA DIVAS  
BOB CORRITORE REVUE FEATURING WILLIE BUCK. BOB STROGER.  
AND JIMI "PRIMETIME" SMITH • ANSON FUNDERBURGH AND THE ROCKETS  
FEATURING BIG JOE MAHER • BOBBY RUSH • JOHN PRIMER



**kingbiscuitfestival.com**



Oct 10-11      **Forgotten Music Fest**      Port St. Joe, FL



**8TH ANNUAL FORGOTTEN MUSIC FEST**  
OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2026  
GEORGE CORE PARK - PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

**SELWYN BIRCHWOOD – BRANDON SANTINI**  
**BLUE MOTHER TUPELO – BILLY THE KID & THE REGULATORS**  
**BRIDGET KELLY BAND – KING COTTON BAND**  
**COREY HALL & THE MISPLACED RAMBLERS – FINGA FAYA**

WWW.FORGOTTENMUSICFESTIVAL.COM

Nov 7      **Connecticut Rhythm & Blues**      New Britain, CT



**2026 NOV 07**  
TRINITY-ON MAIN  
69 Main St,  
New Britain, CT

**Connecticut Rhythm & Blues**  
The CTRB 4th Annual Concert  
PRESENTS  
**CHAMBERS DESLAURIERS**  
**TORONZO CANNON**  
**THE NAMEDROPPERS**

Raising money for  
Blues Education  
and Musicians  
Lifeline

**www.ctbluesfest.com**

Oct 31-Nov 7      **Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruises**      Jan-31-Feb 7



**Occasionally Imitated... Never Replicated!**

**Which Cruise Hits YOUR Groove?**

**LRBC #45 Mexican Riviera**  
Oct. 31 ~ Nov. 7, 2026  
San Diego to Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta & Mazatlan • Holland America Koningsdam

**TajMo: Taj Mahal & Keb' Mo' Band**  
Kenny Wayne Shepherd  
Booker T's Stax Revue  
The California Honeydrops • Ruthie Foster  
Paul Thorn • Tommy Castro & The Painkillers  
Ronnie Baker Brooks  
Devon Allman's Blues Summit  
feat. The Devon Allman Project, Larry McCray & Jimmy Hall  
Rick Estrin & The Nightcats • Vanessa Collier  
Sugaray Rayford • Curtis Salgado • Mr. Sipp  
Sue Foley (Band & Solo) • D.K. Harrell  
Chris Cain • Kid Andersen's Greaseland All-Stars  
John Primer & The Real Deal Blues Band  
Anthony Paule Soul Orchestra feat. Willy Jordan  
Dwayne Dopsie & The Zydeco Hellraisers • Terrie Odabi  
Hadden Sayers / BoomCHANK • Weary Ramblers

**PIANO BAR HOSTS:** Mitch Woods Club 88  
Rev. Billy C. Wirtz • Taryn Donath Duo  
Daryl Davis • Rob Rio • Daryl Coutts

**LATE NITE:** Mr. Sipp's Sugar Shack  
Chuk Barber's Soul Lounge

**SPECIAL GUESTS TBA!**

**LRBC #46 Eastern Caribbean**  
Jan. 31 ~ Feb. 7, 2027  
Ft. Lauderdale to Grand Turk, San Juan (P.R.) & Santo Domingo (D.R.) • Holland America Nieuw Statendam

**Taj Mahal & The Phantom Blues Band**  
Kenny Wayne Shepherd • Keb' Mo'  
Charlie Musselwhite & GA-20  
Christone "Kingfish" Ingram  
Tommy Castro & The Painkillers  
Ronnie Baker Brooks • Danielle Nicole  
Rick Estrin & The Nightcats • Southern Avenue  
Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials • Mr. Sipp  
Terrance Simien & The Zydeco Experience  
Mud Morganfield & His Allstar Band  
Albert Cummings • The Boneshakers  
D.K. Harrell • Ally Venable Band (6-piece)  
Angelique Francis • The Phantom Blues Band  
Kid Andersen's Greaseland All-Stars • GA-20  
Hudspeth & Taylor • Studebaker John Duo  
Derrick Dove & The Peacekeepers

**PIANO BAR HOSTS:** Mitch Woods Club 88  
Rev. Billy C. Wirtz • Daryl Davis • Eden Brent  
Travis Colby • Marcella Simien

**LATE NITE:** Chuk Barber's Soul Lounge  
**SPECIAL GUEST:** David Julia & more TBA!

**BluesCruise.com (816) 753-7979**  
The World's ORIGINAL Fully Chartered Blues Cruise!

Scan Me @legendarybluescruise @legendaryrhythmb bluescruise



# JANUARY 9-16, 2027

## FT. LAUDERDALE COZUMEL • COSTA MAYA

— Holland America Line *Eurodam* —

Keb' Mo'

JJ Grey & Mofro

St. Paul & The Broken Bones

The California Honeydrops

The Band of Heathens

Paul Thorn

Marc Broussard

Shinyribs

Mike Zito

Lee Roy Parnell

Carolyn Wonderland

Jimmy Hall

Wayne Toups

Jim Quick & Coastline

Teresa James & The Rhythm Tramps

Gary Nicholson

Seth Walker

Yates McKendree

Big Joe Maher

The McCrary Sisters

Seth James

Red Young

Etta Britt

USE CODE  
**BLUESGUIDE**  
FOR SPECIAL SAVINGS!

And Many More!

844-97-SANDY (72639)

StarVista LIVE Artists and ports subject to change

# RUSTY ENDS & HILLBILLY HOODOO

Authentic American Roots • Guaranteed Dance Floor Magic

"I get uncomfortable when people don't dance. I just feel like I'm doing something wrong if I can't get them up on the dance floor."  
- Rusty Ends

## THE STORY

Rusty Ends has spent 60+ years perfecting the art of getting crowds moving. Rusty Ends and HillBilly HooDoo create a sound "rich and layered as well-aged bourbon" — a powerhouse rhythm section that swings, stomps, and smolders beneath Rusty's masterful guitar storytelling. His guitar doesn't just play notes; it weeps, struts, confesses, and occasionally kicks the door open. His voice is a chameleon: one moment the smokey velvet of Dr. John, the next the unbridled energy of Leon Russell.

## WHY FESTIVALS BOOK RUSTY

**WHY FESTIVALS BOOK RUSTY**

- Proven Crowd Engagement — Dance floors fill fast
- Broad Audience Appeal — Blues, Soul, Americana, Rockabilly and Roots fans
- Authentic & Seasoned — 60+ years of real-deal roadhouse experience
- Reliable & Professional — Consistent, high-impact performances
- Memorable Sets — The moments people talk about after the festival ends

**THE BAND**

- Rusty Ends — guitar, vocals
- Dave Zirnheld — bass
- Gene Wickliffe — drums

**BOOKING**

- Michael Frank - Earwig Music Company  
mfrank@earwigmusic.com
- 773-960-7064 RustyEndsMusic.com

**RECENT RELEASE**

Roadhouses, Juke Joints And Honky-Tonks (2025, Earwig Music)

- "Rusty Ends provides the electricity..." — *Americana Highways*
- "Music you don't just hear — you feel." — *McGill Media*
- "Greater honesty than most" — *Rocking Magpie*

**BOTTOM LINE**

If you want packed dance floors, authentic roots music, and a performance that lifts the entire crowd—book Rusty Ends & HillBilly HooDoo.



# Club EBONY

## HISTORY THAT'S ALIVE AND WELL

Very few clubs that saw the likes of Ray Charles, Count Basie, Bobby Bland, Little Milton, Albert King, James Brown, Ike Turner, Howlin' Wolf, and Tyrone Davis are still around, much less actively hosting new music acts. But since the late 1940s—except when it was recently undergoing renovation—Indianola's Club Ebony was the place to see these nationally-known performers. It's also the place where B.B. King played to standing-room-only crowds after his annual homecoming events.

In addition to live music and other entertainment, there are interpretive displays inside that are reminders of the glory days of the club. Now it's home to a vibrant music scene with events most Friday nights.

We welcome you to the Mississippi Delta, Club Ebony, and the B.B. King Museum, where you will leave with a deeper understanding of the people and the music that changed the world.



Club Ebony is owned and operated by the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center.

VISIT  
**Indianola**  
MISSISSIPPI  
INDIANOLA TOURISM COMMISSION



# Club EBONY

404 Hanna Avenue, Indianola, MS  
662-887-9539 • [bbkingmuseum.org](http://bbkingmuseum.org)

This ad is sponsored by the Indianola Tourism Commission through funds allocated from the Destination Marketing Organization Grant Program.

*Living Legend:*

# BOB MARGOLIN

By Amy Brat

Spend any time around the blues, and sooner or later the name Bob Margolin comes up – usually with a story attached. Maybe it's about a night onstage with Muddy Waters, or a memory tied to the era captured in *The Last Waltz*. However it comes up, the story is usually the same – Bob Margolin was there. Known to many as “Steady Rollin’ Bob Margolin,” that reputation didn’t come from hype – it was earned over decades of playing, learning, and living the music. And that’s what really sets him apart. He didn’t just study the blues or grow up listening to it – he lived it, played it, wrote about it, helped preserve it, and continues to pass it along.

### A Place in Blues History

Born in Brookline, MA, Margolin came to the blues from outside its geographic roots but quickly found his place within it. Inspired early on by Chuck Berry, he picked up the guitar at age 15, beginning a journey that would take him from learning records at home to standing on some of the most important stages in blues history.

When Margolin joined Muddy Waters’ band in 1973, he stepped into what many consider the most important blues band of all time. There were plenty of great blues artists, but Muddy’s group set the template for the sound, the lineup, the feel. It became the archetype of a modern electric blues band. It’s no accident that The Rolling Stones took their name from a Muddy Waters song.

Over the next several years, Margolin played shows across the country and around the world, helping bring that Chicago blues sound to audiences far beyond where it started. Along the way, he performed with artists who built their own careers on the blues, including the Stones, Eric Clapton, and later Stevie Ray Vaughan – a clear reminder of just how far that influence reached.

Margolin can also be seen performing in *The Last Waltz*, Martin Scorsese’s now-classic film of The Band’s farewell concert, which brought together an extraordinary group of musicians and remains one of the most iconic concert films ever made. During that same time, Muddy and Margolin performed at a White House event hosted by President Jimmy



Carter, a moment that showed just how much recognition the blues was beginning to receive.

Margolin also played a key role in some of Muddy’s most celebrated later recordings. In 1975, the band recorded the GRAMMY award-winning *Muddy Waters Woodstock Album*, Muddy’s final release for Chess Records, featuring guests like Paul Butterfield along with Levon Helm and Garth Hudson of The Band. The following year, Margolin played on four albums Muddy recorded for Blue Sky Records, produced by Johnny Winter, and also appeared with Winter on *Nothin’ But the Blues*. When Sony later reissued the Blue Sky recordings, they brought Margolin in as a co-producer, adding another layer to his involvement in those landmark sessions. Three of those recordings went on to win GRAMMY Awards, helping reintroduce Muddy Waters – and the blues itself – to a new generation.

**Building His Own Recording Career**

After leaving Muddy Waters’ band, Margolin turned his attention to building something under his own name, and over time, he put together a catalog that really speaks for itself. In 1993, he signed with Alligator Records and released his third solo album, *Down in the Alley*, a record that helped establish him firmly as a solo artist. He continued to build on that foundation with albums like *Hold Me to It*, *In North Carolina*, *My Road*, and *This Guitar and Tonight*, all of which show a musician who knows the blues inside and out but isn’t stuck in the past.

Along the way, Margolin also took part in a Kennedy Center tribute to Muddy Waters in 1997, performing as part of the

event with artists including Buddy Guy, Koko Taylor, John Hiatt, G.E. Smith, and Peter Wolf – another reminder of the lasting impact of the music he helped carry forward.

Margolin’s playing has always been about feel – he’s not trying to overwhelm you, he’s telling a story – and his guitar lines are thoughtful and full of personality, with slide work that often sounds like another voice joining in. That approach has earned him multiple Blues Music Awards and the respect of fans and fellow musicians alike.

**More Than a Performer**

Margolin’s impact goes well beyond what he’s done on stage or in the studio. For more than two decades, he’s been a founding partner of the Vizztone Label Group, working alongside partners Richard Rosenblatt and Amy Brat to produce and promote music that keeps blues and roots traditions strong in a modern setting.

One standout project from Vizztone is the album *THANKS*, where Margolin celebrates 50 years since Muddy Waters first brought him into the band and set him on the path he still follows. On the album, he plays every track on the Gibson archtop guitar he used while performing alongside Muddy in *The Last Waltz*, tying his present-day work directly back to that historic moment.

In 2019, Margolin opened a new chapter in his career. Inspired by my suggestion and a recently restored 1930s Gibson L-00 guitar, he recorded an all-acoustic album of original songs titled *This Guitar and Tonight*, featuring guest spots from Bob Corritore and Jimmy Vivino. In 2020, the album earned Best Acoustic Blues Album honors from

both the Blues Music Awards and *Blues Blast Magazine*.

Margolin has also spent years writing about blues, including his own e-book and sharing stories, history, and firsthand experiences that give people a deeper understanding of where the music comes from. In one passage, he reflects on playing a festival in rural Mississippi and the feeling of connection to those who came before him:

“I felt the ghosts of Mississippi Blues musicians and tried to honor them by giving my soul to their Blues. Sadly, Willie King crossed over from player to ghost in March 2009. Calvin ‘Fuzz’ Jones passed in 2010. These people, that music, that place, that circle closing with poetic grace – I love Blues music so much for its sensuality, comfort, fun, and how it brings all kinds of people together. With hindsight to judge how playing Blues worked out for me, I’m really glad to have given myself and been taken completely.”

In that sense, he’s not just part of blues history – he’s one of the people helping tell it.



*The Bobs Of The Blues – (l to r) Bob Stroger, Bob Margolin, and Bob Corritore – jam together at Hopson’s Plantation in Clarksdale, MS, for the Pinetop Perkins Homecoming at the 2015 King Biscuit Blues Festival.*

**Supporting the Next Generation of Blues**

One of the most important parts of Margolin’s work has been helping younger musicians find their way into the blues. Through the Pinetop Perkins Foundation, he’s worked with players who are just discovering the music for the first time. The foundation, created to honor Pinetop Perkins, focuses on education, mentorship, and giving young artists real opportunities to play. For Margolin, that’s a natural extension of everything he’s done – blues has always been passed down person to person, and he’s making sure that continues.

**The Full Picture**

When you step back and look at it all, Bob Margolin’s career covers just about every angle of the blues. He’s been a guitarist, singer, songwriter, producer, writer, mentor, and record label partner – and he’s spent more than 50 years doing all of it with a deep respect for the music.

That kind of lifelong commitment doesn’t go unnoticed. In May 2026, that work was



*Blues greats collaborating at the Big Blues Bender in 2018 (l to r): J.P. Soars, Damon Fowler, Chris Tofield, Albert Castiglia, Mike Welch (behind), Bob Margolin, Johnny Sansone, Terrence Grayson, Victor Wainwright, Jimmy Carpenter (behind), and Pat Harrington.*





recognized with his induction into the Blues Hall of Fame, an honor presented by The Blues Foundation in Memphis, a city long considered one of the homes of the blues. The induction recognizes individuals who have made lasting contributions to the genre, and Margolin's half-century of work made him a natural choice. The induction reflects not just a long career, but a meaningful one, built on dedication to the music and a commitment to keeping it going for future generations.

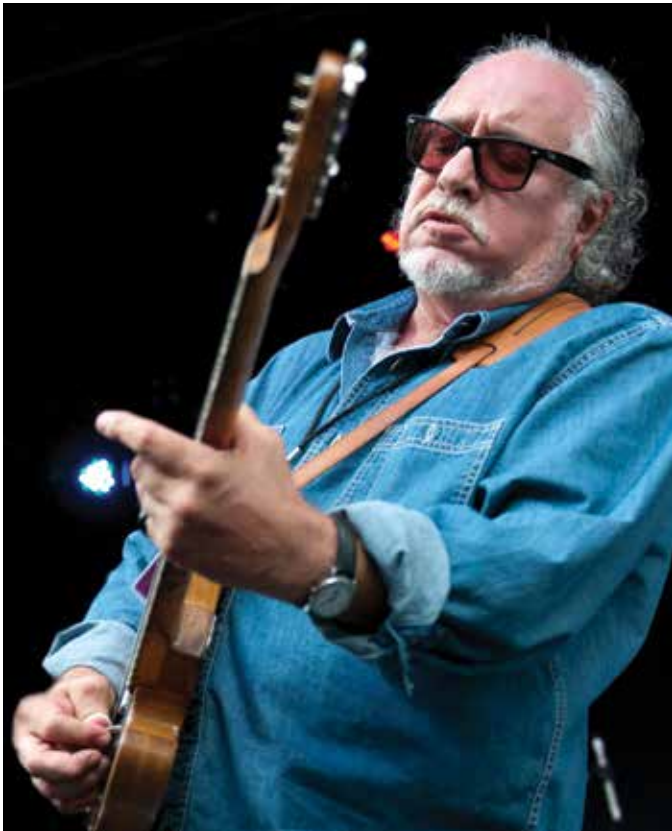
**The Legacy of a Living Legend**

There aren't many musicians who can say they've been this close to the heart of the blues for this long. Through his recordings, his writing, his work with Vizztone, and his dedication to mentoring younger artists, Bob Margolin has played a key role in keeping the music moving forward and growing. And that's really what defines his legacy – not just where he's been, but what he's helped keep going.

That's why Bob Margolin's name carries weight – people know exactly who he is and what he's done: a true living legend. 🎵

All photos by © Marilyn Stringer.

Amy Brat has served as director of BratGirlmedia and a partner in the VizzTone label group for the better part of the past two decades. She has also been a longtime publicity associate with Ruf Records and has had the honor of working with many major figures in every corner of the blues world.





**SOUL, ROCK & CONTEMPORARY BLUES**

Recipe for the Blues  
Serves up soulful storytelling,  
raw emotion,  
and timeless blues magic.

LadyAdrenaMusic.com





**BOOK TODAY**  
757.478.9634  
INFO@PRIMETIMEPROMOTIONS.COM





**2026 COLLECTION**  
ONE LABEL PUSHING THE BLUES & BEYOND



**GARRET T. WILLIE**  
BILL'S CAFE



**GABE STILLMAN**  
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



**MIKE ZITO**  
OUTSIDE DR. THE EASTSIDE



**JASON RICCI & THE BAD KIND**  
13 HOURS



**KELLI BAKER**  
MOTHER



**ALBERT CASTIGLIA**  
GRITS & GLORY



**KEVIN BURT**  
THIS TRIP



**THE BONESHAKERS**  
PULL UP THE ROOTS



**THE SHARPEEZ**  
AUTOMATIC MODE

**PRE ORDER NOW AVAILABLE VIA**  
**WWW.PROPERMUSIC.COM**





**TWELVE  
BARS;  
THREE CHORDS;  
ONE HOME.**

*Come to the  
land where blues began.*

**#1 Blues Alley Lane  
Clarksdale, MS 38614**

**662-627-6820**

**www.deltabluesmuseum.org**



# WHAT'S COOKIN'

*with*  
**Sugaray Rayford**



I got one of my favorite recipes to cook from my wife – carnitas. I didn't grow up eating carnitas in East Texas, but I've been making it for years now. It's easy to make and it makes people smile. It's good for that Southern hospitality, and one of the dishes I cook when we have people over. I think eating carnitas is good for your soul!

The blues is like this carnitas – there's a lot of crazy ingredients from years of tradition put together, and it makes beautiful smooth yet spicy, yet comforting, soul food. It might be Latino soul food, but I'm converting it to the blues soul food. Hope you dig it!

## **Sugaray's Carnitas**

### **Ingredients:**

4 lbs. boneless, skinless pork butt or shoulder  
3-4 tsp salt  
1 tsp pepper  
1 Tbsp dried oregano or Mexican oregano  
1 Tbsp ground cumin  
1 large yellow or white onion, cut into wedges  
8 cloves garlic, smashed  
2 limes, juiced  
2 large oranges juiced, or 3/4 cup natural orange juice  
3/4 cup Coke original (or Mexican Coke is ideal)  
2 bay leaves



### **Directions:**

- 1.** Rub the salt, pepper, oregano, and cumin over your pork butt or shoulder, and place in a crockpot.
- 2.** Add in your other ingredients and set the temperature to low.
- 3.** Let it cook low and slow for about 10 hours. You can do it faster, but I'm usually prepping for the next day.
- 4.** When it's done, the pork should be tender enough to shred. Remove from

slow cooker and let cool slightly. Then shred using two forks.

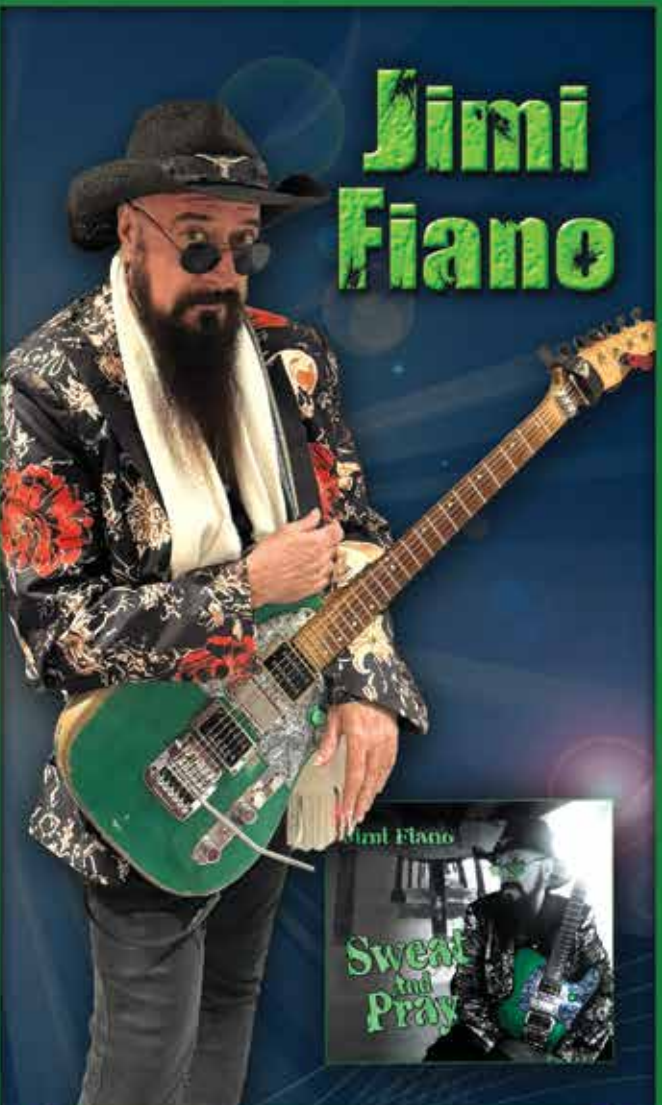
**5.** I usually pull some of the meat apart and lightly fry it with 1 Tbsp of oil in a cast-iron skillet to give it that crunchiness along with the sauce – this is optional!

**6.** Serve how you like... burritos, sandwiches, tacos, tostadas... The sky is the limit with this simple recipe! 🎵

*Photos by Pam Rayford.*

*Caron "Sugaray" Rayford is a GRAMMY-nominated soul-blues singer and songwriter. He has released six albums to date and was awarded the BMA Soul Blues Artist of the Year in both 2019 and 2020, as well as B.B. King Entertainer of the Year in 2020. His album In Too Deep won Soul Blues Album of the Year in 2023. Check him out: [sugarayrayford.com](http://sugarayrayford.com)*





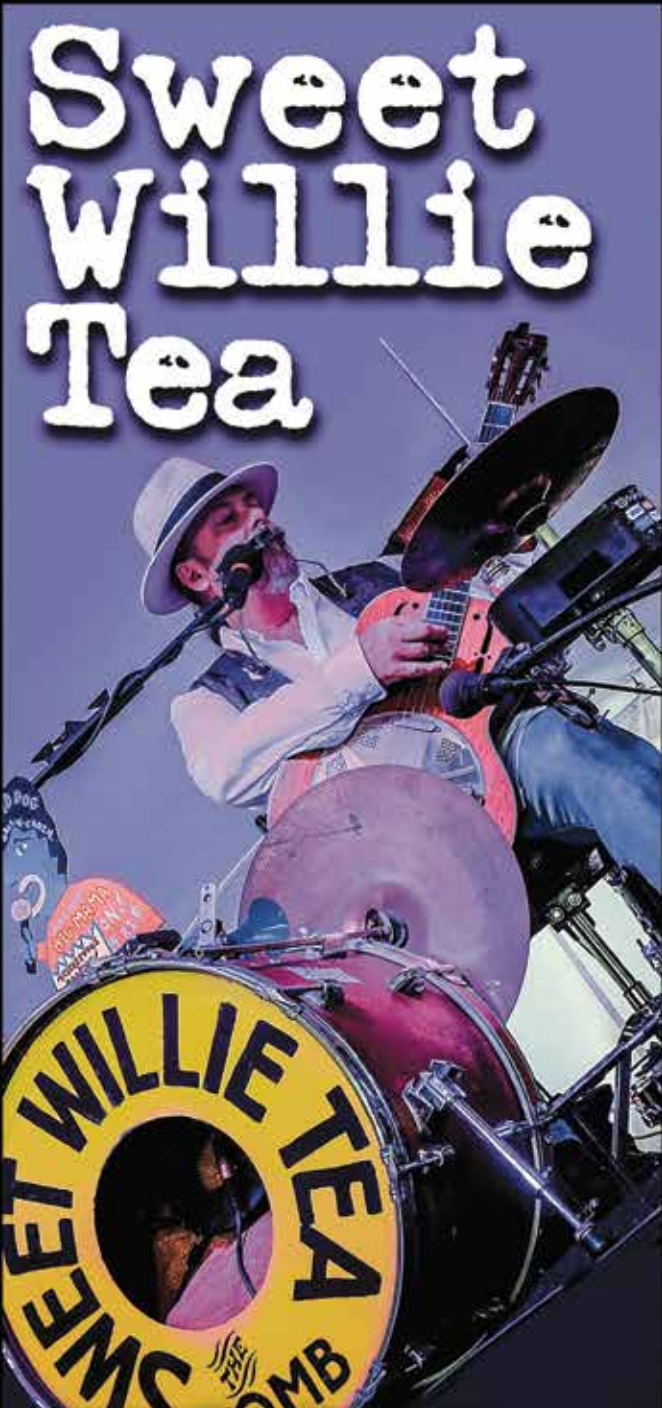
**Jimi Fiano**

**"Searing Blues-Rock Guitar from South Florida"**

YouTube, Apple Music, Spotify, Amazon Music, Pandora, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Deezer

**jimifiano.com**

**For BOOKINGS**  
**TC DAVIS: 615.495.8245**



**Sweet Willie Tea**

**A genuine, bona fide, one-of-a-kind, juke joint style, one-man-band!**

**810-762-5735**  
**SweetWillieTea.com**  
**Roots • Blues • Americana**



# ARKANSAS RIVER DELTA BLUES TRAIL

*By Richard Ledbetter*



**BOBBY RUSH**

Bobby Rush is recognized as one of the most celebrated blues musicians in America.

Raised in the Arkansas Delta, including time near Sherrill, Bobby Rush, born Emmett Ellis, Jr., was shaped by church music and regional blues traditions. He developed a style uniquely his own, blending blues, soul, and funk.

Over more than seventy years, Rush recorded more than two dozen albums and earned multiple Grammy Awards, including a 2023 Grammy for *All My Love*. Widely known as the "King of the Chitlin' Circuit," he was also inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame and received numerous lifetime achievement honors for his impact on American music.

His work carried the sound and spirit of the Arkansas Delta to audiences around the world and secured his place as one of the most influential voices in blues.

Arkansas native Bobby Rush is the first honoree on the Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail.

The Arkansas River Delta has always been more than farmland and small towns. It is a living corridor of American music history, where blues grew from Black community life, hard labor, faith, grit, and brilliance, and then traveled outward to shape rock, soul, R&B, and modern popular music.

Now, a new heritage initiative is working to make sure Arkansas's Delta blues pioneers are recognized where their stories began. **The Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail** is placing permanent historical markers and building public storytelling around musicians whose influence reaches far beyond the Arkansas River towns that raised them. The Trail is a program of Arkansas Originals, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, but the work itself is simple and direct – to honor the artists, document the legacy, and reconnect communities and visitors to the music.

### Honoring the First Six Trail Legends

The Trail's first set of honorees spans generations, styles, and the wide reach of Arkansas blues, from Delta roots to Chicago stages:

- **Bobby Rush (Emmett Ellis, Jr.)**, GRAMMY-winning showman and "King of the Chitlin' Circuit"
- **Big Bill Broonzy (Lee Conley Bradley)**, Delta-to-Chicago bridge and folk-blues ambassador
- **Ellis CeDell Davis**, distinctive slide innovator from Pine Bluff

- **Larry "Totsy" Davis**, electric blues songwriter of "Texas Flood"
- **James "Tail Dragger" Jones (James Yancey Jones)**, Chicago-style blues singer
- **"Queen Sylvia" Lee Burton**, among the first Black women to lead blues bands in the Delta





Trail Founder Billy Jeter performs original blues/roots compositions from his numerous long-play albums. Photo courtesy of Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail

### How the Idea Took Hold

The Trail's founder, Billy Jeter, is a native of Wabbaseka, AR, and is a prolific Delta roots and blues singer-songwriter with a catalog of original recordings. He traces the Trail's origin to a question that wouldn't leave him alone.

"I'd leave Little Rock and drive through Sherrill headed to my pecan orchard near Wabbaseka," Jeter said. "Passing through the remnants of the farming community, I kept thinking, 'Why isn't there some kind of sign saying this is Bobby Rush's childhood home?'"

"Going to Marvell and seeing all the wonderful things done to remember their native son, Levon Helm, and visiting Clarksdale with all the memorial signs for the blues players that came from there, I decided to get a sign recognizing Bobby. It was a significant way I could repay him for his help in making the blues heard worldwide."

That first thought quickly became a bigger mission. Jeter said that every time he played across the Delta, someone would walk up and name another Arkansas Delta blues figure who deserved recognition but didn't have it. The Trail became a way to turn those conversations into permanent acknowledgment, involving communities and educating future generations.



### Grassroots by Design

The Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail is intentionally grassroots, built through local partnerships, community fundraising, and music-centered gatherings. Early momentum has come through live events and collaborations with blues organizations and community groups, with the goal of pairing commemoration with performances, education, and cultural tourism that benefit the towns along the route.

Jeter put it plainly: "We're helping bring a lot of Jefferson, Lonoke, Pulaski, and Desha County talent, along with other lower Arkansas Delta blues players, to the attention of people who haven't before had exposure to it. We want this fabulous resource to be shared with the world."

### Creating the Ultimate Trail Experience

While other states and places have erected individual memorials, the Trail's mission is to create experiences, connecting a community corridor from the Little Rock area through the Arkansas River Delta, with honoree markers both for people and places. To raise the bar, the Trail will integrate QR-enabled storytelling for each marker. Visitors will be able to engage with audible and visual stories about the honoree's life, musical style, and impact. Community events and festivals will celebrate and boost many townships that may otherwise not be visited.

Jeter also sees the Trail as a "connector" in the larger blues map of the South, another route that helps listeners understand how the music moved, where it was played, and how communities along the way shaped the sound. To help with this vision, a future Trail app will be launched that makes the experience easy to explore for visitors and meaningful for locals.



Bobby Rush signs guitars to auction at Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail fundraisers. Photo courtesy of Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail

COREY HARRIS  
ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD HART  
GUY DAVIS

# Fight on!

TRUE BLUES VOL 2

**"The blues, in their hands, still breathes, still sweats, still testifies... A true traditional blues recording, an absolute masterpiece."**

—BLUES MATTERS

COREY HARRIS ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD HART GUY DAVIS

← Hear it Here

YELLOW DOG RECORDS

yellowdogrecords.com/trueblues

### What's Next

Public celebrations connected to the Trail's honorees are already appearing on the Trail calendar for 2026, including:

- **Bobby Rush Day of Celebration**  
in Sherrill, AR: June 6, 2026
- **Larry Totsy Davis Day of Celebration**  
in England, AR: July 11, 2026
- **"Queen" Sylvia Day of Celebration** (tied to Wabbaseka's Heritage Festival) in Wabbaseka, AR: September 5, 2026
- **Tail Dragger Day of Celebration**  
in Altheimer, AR: October 24, 2026

As additional markers are completed and more communities formally join the effort, the Trail expects to continue expanding its roster and its route, adding names that belong in the public record – artists whose music helped build America's soundtrack, but whose hometowns have rarely seen that legacy represented.

### Connecting Culture

The Trail's job is to bring these stories home, where they started. To help, Jeter knew he needed to start sharing the music with people, and did so through a playlist of the artists' music that anyone can access on Apple and Spotify, rightfully named "Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail." Listeners worldwide enjoy and regularly help add to the list.

Fundraisers, donations, and community support are key to the Trail's success, and are being actively scheduled and planned for each marker and its community. The musicians have done the hard work; now it's time they receive recognition for it. To support and partner, visit [arkansasriverdeltabluestrail.org](http://arkansasriverdeltabluestrail.org). 🎵

**Arkansas Originals** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports Arkansas creators, communities, and cultural organizations by helping them access funding, develop strong programs, and grow sustainably. Through technical assistance, partnerships, and place-based initiatives like the Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail, the organization works to preserve heritage while creating real economic opportunity across the state. Learn more at [www.arkansasoriginals.org](http://www.arkansasoriginals.org)

Author Richard Ledbetter is an avid gardener, photographer, cook, outdoorsman, historian, and music lover. His articles regularly appear in several regional publications. He has published two historical novels, *The Branch* and *The Vine and Witness Tree*; 1910, with a third, *Spanish Oaks*, nearing completion. Ledbetter has appeared in feature films, television, and numerous commercials. Following two decades as music director for the annual Fordyce on the Cotton Belt Festival, he continues to act in that capacity while assisting to book various bands for other events including Helena's King Biscuit Blues Festival.



**ALTERED FIVE  
BLUES BAND**  
HAMMER & CHISEL

**ALTERED FIVE  
BLUES BAND**  
HAMMER & CHISEL

**"A BAND AT THE ABSOLUTE  
PEAK OF THEIR POWERS"**  
—BLUES MAGAZINE

**ALSO AVAILABLE FROM BLIND PIG RECORDS**

**JAMMI BURNHAM**  
**JOVIN WEBB**  
**Sonny Gullage**  
**ALTERED FIVE  
BLUES BAND**

CDs, Vinyl, T-shirts & More  
BlindPigRecords.com

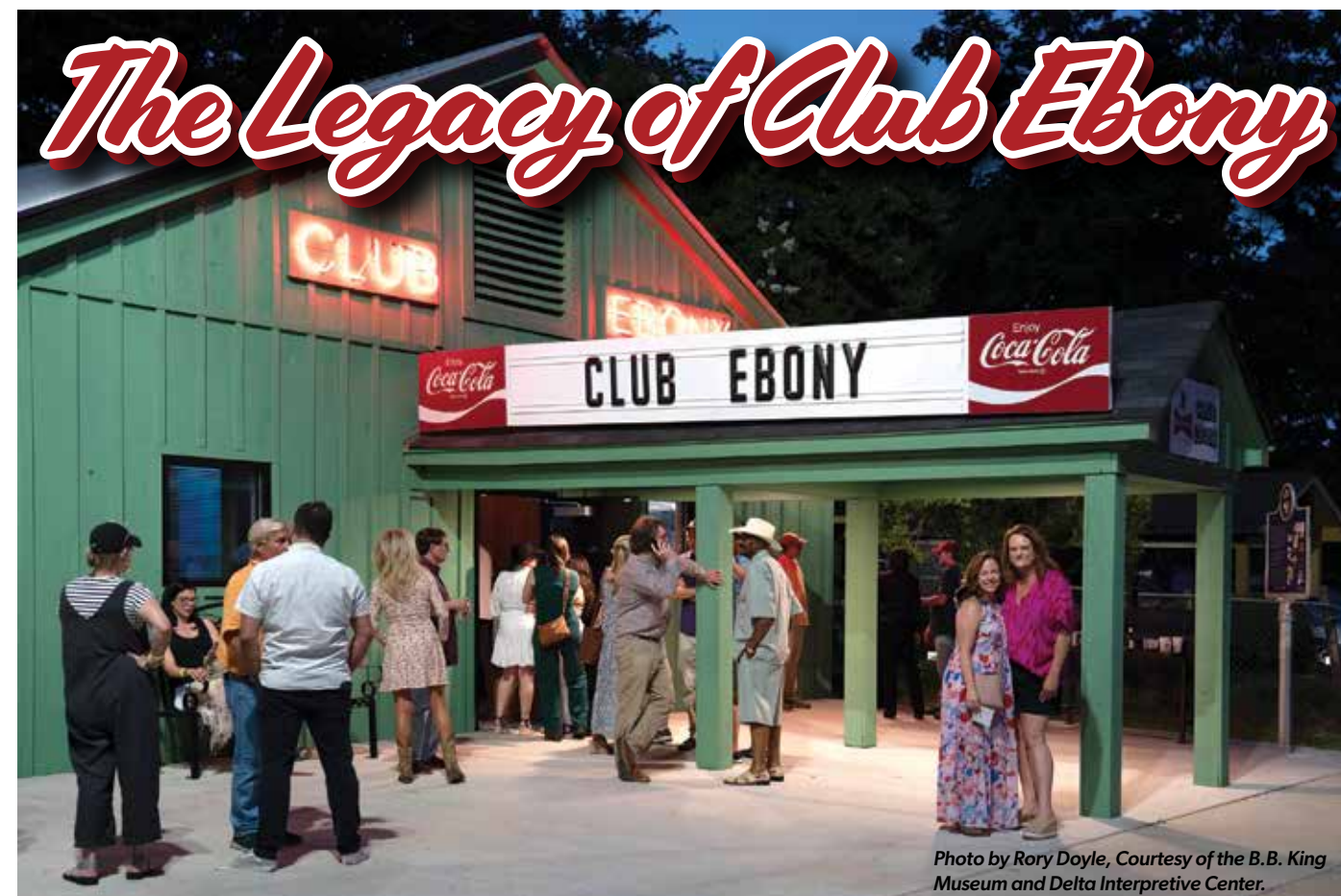
**Forty Below  
Records**

**GYPSY BLUE REVUE**

**JP SOARS** **ANNE HARRIS**

**OUT MAY 29**

**"...ALL IN ONE ROOM,  
PLAYING TOGETHER.  
WE WANTED IT TO SOUND  
LIKE WE DO LIVE..."**



Visionary entrepreneur John E. Jones was undeterred by the modest population of under 5,000 in Indianola, MS, during the late 1940s. His ambition to create a premier music destination led to the founding of Club Ebony, which quickly became one of the South's most prominent African American nightclubs. Established as a cornerstone of the Chitlin' Circuit – a network of venues that flourished during the big band era and prospered in the post-World War II years – Club Ebony opened its doors around 1948 after Jones and his wife, Josephine, acquired the property in November 1945. In his 1948 memoir, Jones described the club as "the South's largest and finest nightclub." The name "Ebony" had historical significance, with the first Club Ebony debuting in Harlem in 1927.

Meanwhile, performing on the streets of Indianola in the 1940s, was a young Riley B. King – who would later become known as B.B. King. He discovered that while churchgoers appreciated his gospel songs, he earned more when playing the blues. After relocating to Memphis in the late 1940s, King juggled various jobs and performed in local clubs before starting his disc jockey career at WDIA in 1949.

Prior to establishing Club Ebony, Jones operated other venues in Indianola, including Jones' Night Spot on Church Street. In a 1967 interview, King reflected on his childhood memories of watching bands perform through the windows

of Jones' Night Spot. He noted that Jones "was really the guy that kept the Negro neighborhood alive by bringing in acts like Louis Jordan." He praised Jones' kindness, recalling how he often allowed patrons to enter without payment, letting them settle their debts when they could. Jones himself remarked that when he opened his first club, "there were no other clubs for Negroes in Indianola." King reiterated this sentiment, emphasizing Jones' role in sustaining the community through music. Under Jones and subsequent owners, Club Ebony hosted legendary artists including Ray Charles, Count Basie, Bobby Bland, and B.B. King, cementing its renowned reputation in the music scene.

Despite Jones' generosity and the high fees he paid to attract top blues and jazz talent, he faced financial difficulties with Club Ebony.



Club Ebony Founder Johnny Jones.





Johnny Jones and wife Josephine (together, right center) host a party at Club Ebony in the late 1940s.

After his passing in April 1950, his widow and son, John E. Jones Jr., continued to run the club under the ownership

of James B. "Jimmy" Lee, a white bootlegger from nearby Belzoni, MS, who had lent money to Jones.



Over the years, Club Ebony hosted legendary artists across the blues, rhythm and blues, Delta blues, soul, and soul blues genres.

In the mid-1950s, Ruby Edwards, who also owned the popular Ruby's Nite Spot in Leland, MS, took over Club Ebony and purchased it in 1958. During a return to his hometown to perform at Club Ebony in 1956, King met Ruby's daughter, Sue Carol Hall, and they married in 1958. (Although they later divorced, they remained close until King's passing in 2015.) Club Ebony became a staple in King's early career, and he often credited Indianola and the club with shaping his musical roots. His performances at Club Ebony persisted into the 21st century, solidifying its importance in his legacy.

For decades, Club Ebony showcased leading stars from the rhythm and blues genre, featuring Delta musicians who later became Chicago blues icons, such as Jimmy Reed, Muddy Waters, Little Milton, Albert King, Willie Clayton, and Sonny Boy Williamson II. In the aftermath of the civil rights movement, many top African



B.B. King performs at Club Ebony.

American artists gained access to a wider array of venues beyond the traditional Chitlin' Circuit. However, Club Ebony remained significant into the 2000s for artists in the soul blues/Southern soul genre, including hitmakers from the R&B charts of the 1950s through the early 1970s, such as Bobby "Blue" Bland, Tyrone Davis, Johnnie Taylor, Denise LaSalle, and Bobby Rush.

In 1974, Willie and Mary Shepard leased Club Ebony, eventually purchasing it in 1975. The venue continued its tradition of featuring top acts from the Chitlin' Circuit, hosting renowned performers like James Brown, Ike Turner, Syl Johnson, and Clarence Carter. Mary Shepard also showcased local talent, including David Lee Durham and the Ladies Choice Band. After B.B. King began returning for an annual free homecoming festival in the early 1980s, it became customary for him to conclude the festivities with a packed ticketed performance at Club Ebony. When Shepard retired in 2008, King acquired the club, preserving its cultural significance and the cherished space where, as he reminisced in his autobiography, "I found love back down in the Delta."

In 2012, King donated Club Ebony to the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center in Indianola, with the aim of preserving its history as an authentic music venue. The museum operated the club from then until 2020 and closed

due to the COVID epidemic. This closure was an opportunity to have needed renovations made, and by 2023, the venue reopened, revitalizing its storied legacy. The interior now features interpretive panels celebrating its rich history alongside photos of past iconic performers. The renovation balances the club's Chitlin' Circuit heritage with modern amenities, restoring the stage to its original position, and adding a sound booth for improved experiences for both artists and audiences. Exhibit panels in the B.B. King Museum provide further history of King's time in Memphis and around the world, coming full circle to his burial place there in Indianola on the grounds of the museum.

The grand reopening in June 2023 showcased artists who considered King a mentor and strong influence on their music and careers, including Tony Coleman's Silent Partners Band with Susan Tedeschi and many more. Today, Club Ebony stands as a vibrant venue, regularly hosting live music events and continuing its legacy as a cornerstone of the blues and jazz scene, solidifying its ongoing commitment to keeping the blues alive.

Events can be found by visiting their social media pages: Facebook: @historicclubebony, Instagram: @bbkingmuseum, or the website: [bbkingmuseum.org](http://bbkingmuseum.org) 🎵

All photos courtesy of the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center.



# Anthony Geraci

Two time Blues Music Award Winner  
Instrumentalist-Piano/Pinetop Perkins Piano Award  
19 personal BMA Nominations  
Grammy Nomination for *Super Harps I* (Telarc)  
Anthony has toured world wide for over 40 years with  
Ronnie Earl  
Sugar Ray and the Bluetones  
The Proven Ones  
The Boston Blues All-Stars

New Recording  
*Where Were You*  
Delmark Records  
September 2026

[www.anthonygeraciblue.com](http://www.anthonygeraciblue.com)  
[www.delmark.com](http://www.delmark.com)



## NEW ALBUM FALL 2026



Starring **Eden Brent**



Hailing from  
Laurel, MS -  
The heart of HGTV's  
"Home Town"

**Ra'Shad  
The Blues Kid**  
brings authentic  
Pinebelt Blues  
to life with  
his latest  
single,  
"Laurel"

Available on  
All Platforms

Born And Raised

More than just a song, it's a heartfelt tribute to  
the place that raised him, capturing the spirit,  
stories, and sound of his hometown.

Booking: [productionslapp@gmail.com](mailto:productionslapp@gmail.com)  
601-513-5821

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



**Roadhouse Blues  
Mean Street Funk  
Memphis Soul  
Rhythm & Blues**

**"The Queen  
of Steam" Michele  
LUNDEEN**

[michelelundeenbooking@outlook.com](mailto:michelelundeenbooking@outlook.com) • 619.403.3365  
[www.michelelundeen.com](http://www.michelelundeen.com)  
San Diego Music Awards 12x "Best Blues" Nominee • IBC "Best Self Produced CD" Final 4

## Pops Fletcher & The Hucksters Almost Live

Rarely do records start by effortlessly dropping you right in the middle  
of a groove, but *Almost Live*, the debut album from Pops Fletcher and  
The Hucksters, does just that and then doesn't let go.



Now available on all streaming and  
download sites and in all formats\*  
\*except 8-track

[popsfletcher.com](http://popsfletcher.com)  
[facebook.com/Pops-Fletcher](https://facebook.com/Pops-Fletcher)





# JOHN PRIMER & STEVE BELL



**REAL DEAL BLUES! BOOK THEM TODAY**  
**3X GRAMMY® NOMINATED, BLUES HALL OF FAME ARTIST**  
**Contact: Lisa Primer, Manager Email: LBeckerConsulting1@gmail.com**  
**Direct: 708-217-2715 Website: JOHNPRIMERBLUES.COM**

**Enter to Win**  
**\$100,000.00**  
**ULTIMATE**  
**MUSIC EXPERIENCE**  
**GIVEAWAY**



No Purchase Necessary – See Official Rules



Scan to enter

Rockinart.com



# HONORING African American Traditional Music & the Black Experience

**By Lamont Jack Pearley**

Jack Dappa Blues Heritage Preservation Foundation (JDBHPF) exists because some stories refuse to be left behind. In a cultural landscape where African American traditional music is often celebrated without fully honoring the people, places, and histories that shaped it, JDBHPF stands as a beacon of cultural preservation, historical research, and community awareness. Dedicated to the documentation, archiving, and celebration of African American Traditional Music and the Black Experience, the Foundation treats the blues not as a genre floating in isolation, but as a living record – an embodied testimony shaped by land, labor, memory, migration, and community survival.

Founded in 2011 and officially recognized as a 501(c)(3) Private Operating Foundation on December 14, 2016, JDBHPF was born from the vision of Lamont Jack Pearley and Denise Pearley, who recognized the urgent need to raise cultural and ethnic awareness of African American Traditional Music and its profound influence on American history. From its inception, the organization has been built with a clear understanding: Black American music has never been separate from American life. The sounds that emerged from plantations, praise houses, front porches, levee camps, juke joints, and city streets don't just convey melody, they express worldview. They carry strategies of endurance and the imprint of ancestral knowledge. JDBHPF's work is not simply preservation for preservation's

sake – it is conserving, documenting, and archiving tangible and intangible culture and traditions as cultural protection, narrative sovereignty, and a commitment to telling the story from inside the tradition, rather than from outside interpretations.

The Foundation's origin story is inseparable from Lamont Jack Pearley's personal journey as a descendant of the Great Migration and an artist whose life was dramatically altered by a return to the South in the mid-2000s. As an NYC-based bluesman, Pearley's relationship to the region was never abstract, but returning to Louisiana and Mississippi to bury close relatives shifted something deeper. In those regions, the land holds history in its soil – history that is audible if you



Artists on stage for the first annual Porter Parish Grainger Blues Festival in Bowling Green, KY, November 2025.





The Pearley Family with Trudy Lynn at the 2025 Jus' Blues Music Awards: (l to r) Samara Pearley, Lamont Pearley Jr., Trudy Lynn (Nola Blues Records artist), Denise Pearley, and Lamont Jack Pearley.

know how to listen. Denise, also a descendant of the Great Migration, understood Lamont's passion and vigor to grapple with and tackle these topics and ancestral memories. The urgency to raise cultural and ethnic awareness arrived as a lived recognition that the story of African American traditional music was being continuously mined, consumed, and re-packaged, while the folks of practice and connection to land, sound, and experience who birthed it were too often omitted or underrepresented.

Lamont Jack Pearley responded by turning toward the methods of ethnography, genealogy, and archival research – tools of the applied folklorists and ethnomusicologists – to trace lineages of culture, story, and practice. He began, as many tradition-bearers do, with family: with names, routes, memories, photographs, and oral histories. Yet the deeper he went, the clearer it became that his discoveries were not isolated. They echoed a broader truth shared by others who carried similar legacies. Inspired by what his own lineage revealed, Pearley began interviewing people outside his family who held parallel stories: African American blues musicians performing traditional styles, historians, documentarians, and the children of



Lamont Jack Pearley on stage at the Porter Parish Grainger Blues Festival.

Black music legends whose families often kept the most essential history in memory rather than in institutions.

Over the last 15 plus years, this work has resulted in an extensive collection of field interviews and cultural documentation. These interviews do more than record information – they hold voice, cadence, emotion, and the nuance of vernacular truth. They capture the ways Black communities remember themselves: through storytelling, humor, testimony, and the unspoken knowledge that lives between sentences. For JDBHPF, the archive is not a storage space; it is a breathing home for community memory.

At the core of JDBHPF's research and educational work is its commitment to tracing the roots of what it defines as "Blues People (Black American) Tribal Music," a profound cultural expression shaped by Black American, Afro-Indigenous, and the melanated diaspora's shared histories, traditions, and lived experiences. This framing is intentional.

It pushes back against narratives that treat the blues as an invention detached from its people or reduced to a generic symbol of hardship. JDBHPF insists that the blues is a cultural system, a way of knowing, and a field of expression that holds Black agency at its center. To name it "Blues People Tribal Music" is to refuse erasure. It is to claim lineage and continuity and recognize that the blues is not a borrowed artifact of American culture, but a Black cultural inheritance with spiritual, historical, and ecological roots in the Americas.

One of the Foundation's defining features is its family-led stewardship. At the heart of JDBHPF is the unwavering dedication of the Pearley family. The board of directors is comprised of the family members who make the final operational decisions for the organization: Lamont Jack Pearley, Denise Pearley, Lamont Pearley Junior, and Samara N. Pearley. This structure is not simply administrative; it reflects a philosophy that cultural preservation and conservation are not only professional work, it is a generational responsibility. The Pearleys are not managing a detached project; they are ensuring that the Foundation remains rooted in authenticity, and accountable to the communities and traditions it serves. Every operational and creative

decision is guided by a deep sense of purpose: to honor the past without exploiting it, and to lay groundwork for future generations to understand and embrace the enduring power of the blues.

This stewardship is expressed most visibly through the Foundation's unique initiatives and programs. Jack Dappa Blues Media Initiatives include public broadcasts, films, podcasts, and the seasonal *African American Folklorist* magazine that has become a complete ecosystem of archival memory and resources for community members. These platforms were created as vital spaces where community stories, scholarship, and folklore converge. These media initiatives are not promotional tools; they function as public archives and educational portals offering listeners, readers, and community researchers a richer, more inclusive understanding of Black heritage. In a world where digital content often flattens history into quick takes, JDBHPF's media work insists on depth. It creates space for context, lineage, and complexity. It allows the blues to be heard in its fullness: as art, history, community narrative, and as breathing cultural practice.

JDBHPF's mission is articulated as a pledge of stewardship rooted in respect, integrity, and purpose. That pledge shows up in real time through its public programs, like the Porter Parish Grainger Blues Festival of Bowling Green – gathering the community around traditional music, memory, and cultural education – and through its media work on the new "We The Blues People Radio" (WBPR) Station Network, which keeps these stories and songs circulating through broadcasts, interviews, and Blues People testimony.

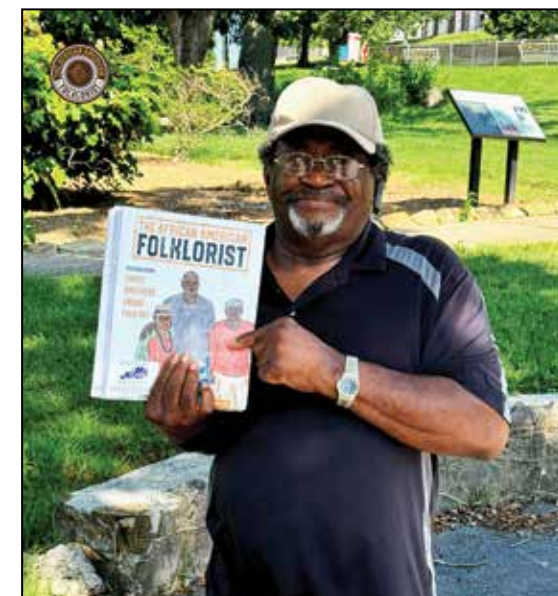
Pearley's work has also received recognition that underscores the Foundation's unique blend of practice and scholarship. His documentation efforts and public-facing cultural work earned him induction into the New York Blues Hall of Fame as Great Blues Historian and TV/Radio Producer (2017) and Great Blues Artist (2018). His storytelling and journalism work has also been recognized through the Hearst Audio Competition (Hearst Journalism Awards Program, February



2022), and his writing has reached broad audiences, including being named among the Top 10 Most Popular Articles of the Year for "The Historical Roots of Blues Music" (*Black Perspective* – AAIHS, December 2018). Yet the deeper significance of these honors lies in what they represent: a model of cultural preservation led by someone who is not only studying the tradition, but living it, performing it, carrying it, and returning it to community with care.

Ultimately, Jack Dappa Blues Heritage Preservation Foundation is more than an organization. It is a commitment to keeping truth intact. It is an insistence that the blues cannot be separated from the Blues People, and that African American traditional music must be understood as a breathing heritage rooted in history, sonics, land, and communal memory. With each program, performance, interview, broadcast, and publication, the Pearley family continues to honor the past

while laying groundwork for future generations. Their work ensures that the stories behind the songs remain visible, the voices within the tradition remain central, and the cultural legacy of African American traditional music is preserved and conserved, not a relic, but a breathing inheritance. In this way, JDBHPF stands as both archive and advocacy; protecting the past, serving the present, and preparing the future to receive the blues as it truly is – a testimony, a tradition, and a people's enduring voice. This is the work Lamont Jack Pearley has been developing called, "Blues Ecology." To learn more, visit: [jackdappabluesradio.tv](http://jackdappabluesradio.tv) 🎵



Featured in the May 2025 issue of The African American Folklorist magazine, Willie Rascoe is considered one of the fathers of Kentucky Folk art.

All photos courtesy of the Jack Dappa Blues Heritage Preservation Foundation.



Enter to Win

\$100,000.00

ULTIMATE

MUSIC EXPERIENCE

GIVEAWAY



PRIVATE AIRFARE



LIMO SERVICE



LUXURY HOTEL



\$25,000 CASH

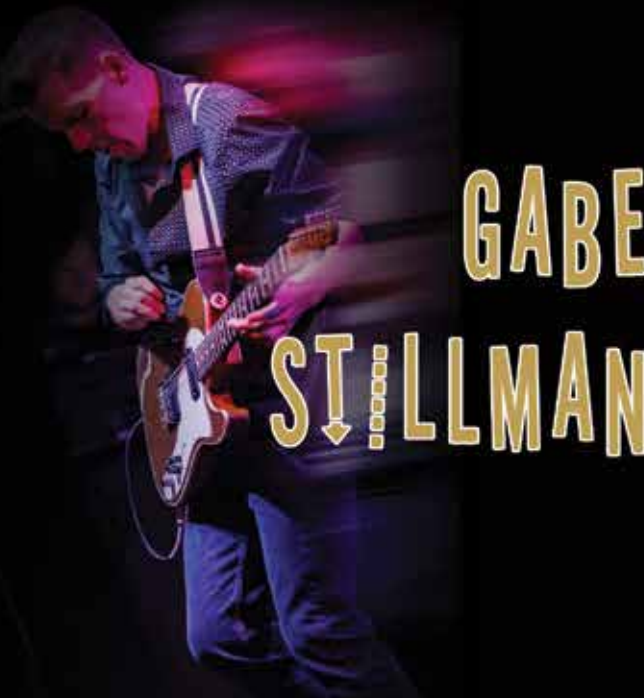


Scan to enter

No Purchase Necessary

See Official Rules

Rockinart.com



GABE STILLMAN

The New Album



GABE STILLMAN  
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Out Now!




For Bookings

bhutchison@atomicmusicgroup.com

WWW.GABESTILLMAN.COM







DELTA WIRES

Rockin' Big Band Blues!

Headlining...

June 26 - 28, 2026



MONTONE ITALY BLUES FESTIVAL

JUNE 26-28, 2026

Perched high in the Umbrian hills, Montone offers intimate medieval streets and scenic squares which become natural concert venues, giving visitors an unforgettable experience.

"carried by brilliant brass and the virtuosity of a top-notch harp playing leader, it's the kind of revelation that the most jaded aficionados can only realize once every 20 years"

Patrick Dallongeville, Presto! Magazine, France

"You guys are incredible! What a tight band! What energy!"

Kathleen Lawton, Crazy 'Bout the Blues, KCSM-FM, San Mateo CA .

montonebluesfestival.com

deltawires.com

THE GABE STILLMAN

APOSTOLI FLOYD

FOR BOOKING EMAIL

APOSTOLI@APOSTOLIFLOYD.COM

NEW SONG "COLD RAIN" LISTEN NOW

NEW ALBUM AUGUST 13TH



PSYCHEDELIC SOUL - PUNK ROCK BLUES - ROCK 'N' ROLL

TEXT

305-793-8583

Blues Festival Guide 52

53 Blues Festival Guide





Amplifying artists.  
Honoring roots.  
Blues at heart.

**NOLA BLUE RECORDS**

[www.nolabluerecords.com](http://www.nolabluerecords.com)  
[@nolabluerecords](#) [nolablue.bandcamp.com](#)

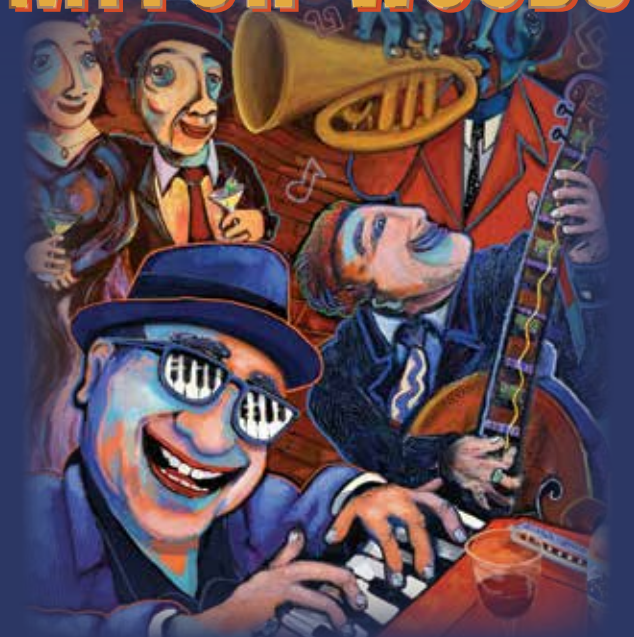
More heart, more reach, and more mojo in every note.



**MOMOJO RECORDS**

[www.momojorecords.com](http://www.momojorecords.com)  
[@momoyo.records](#) [momoyo-records.bandcamp.com](#)

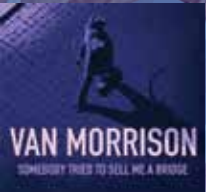
# MITCH WOODS



Woods' music reflects his passion for the roots of American music. With his powerful piano solos, and vibrant live shows, multi-BMA-nominee Mitch Woods continues to be a driving force in keeping the spirit of classic American music alive.

**Mitch will excite, entertain, and electrify the crowd !**

The Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise | New Orleans Jazz Fest | Rio Das Ostras Blues & Jazz Fest | North Atlantic Blues Festival | Montreal Jazz Festival | Porretta Soul Festival | Umbria Jazz Festival | Notodden Blues Festival | Byron Bay Blues Festival | Telluride Blues & Brews | Utah Blues Fest



Mitch is fresh off his tour with Van Morrison! Hear him on Van's new album.

**NOW BOOKING**  
[info@mitchwoods.com](mailto:info@mitchwoods.com)  
[www.mitchwoods.com](http://www.mitchwoods.com)





## «TWO TRAINS» DAVE KEYES

“Every release from this NYC pianist is a treat. . . His Kansas City style infused Boogie Woogie is both a throwback and validation of the piano as an equal to any instrument in the Blues World.”  
- *LIVING BLUES*

“Two Trains is well worth seeking out as each of the ten songs offers a different flavor that makes this musical tasting just delicious.”  
- *SOUTHLAND BLUES E- WEEKLY*

**GET YOUR COPY!**  
[Ink.to/TwoTrains](http://Ink.to/TwoTrains)



[www.davekeyes.com](http://www.davekeyes.com) [www.momojorecords.com](http://www.momojorecords.com)



Supporting live music  
Keeping it local  
North Jersey Blues Society  
Established 2022



## POLLY O'KEARY AND THE RHYTHM METHOD

We do the damn thing!



“One of the most creative songwriters in the blues, one of the most underrated performers and songwriters in the blues world today.”  
-Graham Clarke

“This lady has virtuosity oozing out of every pore and so do her fellow musicians in the Rhythm Method.”  
-Tom Walker, Blues Matters

“A power blues trio in the finest sense of the term-guitarist David Miller is a revelation.”  
-Chameleon Fire

[www.pollyokeary.com](http://www.pollyokeary.com) Booking: 206 384-0234

INTREPID ARTISTS INTERNATIONAL • WEST TALENT GROUP

## DERRICK DOVE THE PEACEKEEPERS

2026 IBC 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE WINNERS  
2026 IBC BEST GUITARIST



[WWW.DERRICKDOVE.COM](http://WWW.DERRICKDOVE.COM)

[f](#) [i](#) [🎵](#) [Spotify](#)

Gilded Leaf Productions

Booking • Fan Emails • Newsletters • Social Media • Press

We don't book shows, we build careers.



Erin Harpe & Countryman Jim - Front Porch Blues



[gildedleafproductions.com](http://gildedleafproductions.com)

Full service support for Americana & root artists.





*“... And now ladies and gentlemen, it is star time... Here he is, the hardest working man in show business... Mr. Dynamite, the amazing Mr. Please Please himself, the star of the show, James Brown and the Famous Flames.”*

*“Ladies and gentlemen, we’d like to introduce the star of our show, the young man you’ve all been waiting for, Mr. Soul... Let’s all get together and welcome into the stand with a great big hand, how ‘bout it for Sam Cooke! How ‘bout it!? How ‘bout it!?”*

*“Ladies and gentlemen, the star of our show... How ‘bout a big round of applause for Miss Etta James!”*

*“Jerry Lee Lewis!!” (Followed by Lewis growling like an animal in to the mic before breaking into “Mean Woman Blues.”)*

*“Thank you very much ladies and gentleman! And now, with pride and pleasure, I bring to you – that dynamic gentleman of the blues, Mr. B.B. King!”*

## ★ ★ Star Time ★ ★

Jerry Lee hits those first notes on “Mean Woman Blues,” James Brown breaks into “I’ll Go Crazy,” B.B. coaxes those first pleas from the strings of his guitar “Lucille,” Etta James snarls her way cat-like into “Something’s Got a Hold on Me,” Sam Cooke exhorts his followers to “Don’t fight it, we gonna feel it,” and the screams of the audience pull you thru the portal – you are no longer a bystander.

Live albums capture those “lightning in a bottle” moments that studio albums just can’t grab. When I first began this article, I didn’t realize all five albums I mention were recorded between 1962 and 1964. They range from October 1962 to November 1964 – amazing music that is still considered the gold standard over sixty years later. It all began on a warm October night in 1962 at the world-famous Apollo Theater in New York City. ★ ★

### October 24, 1962 — James Brown and the Famous Flames *Live At the Apollo Vol. 1* King K-826

Night after night, 300 gigs a year on the Chitlin’ Circuit, the young man from Barnwell, SC, had played virtually every place with a wall socket. His band was almost laughable they were so tight. James was determined to capture the raw power of his live show on vinyl. Unfortunately, Sid Nathan, the notorious tightwad owner of the King Label, disagreed and would not pay for it.

“No” was a word not often heard around James Brown back then, so he ponied up his own cash and crossed his manicured fingers. The result would change the course of Black music.

*Live at the Apollo* is one of the most amazing half hours ever recorded. The intro by Fats Gonder is the Gettysburg Address of soul. James hits the stage and then the best band in the business goes to work. James is phenomenal, but the band is right there with him. The great *Rolling Stone* critic Robert Christgau describes it as “...living testament of a chitlin circuit, now defunct. The band is clean as a silk suit, and how the women love this rough singer’s tender lover-in-song act. There is no music anywhere quite like the perfectly timed and articulated female fan-screches that punctuate the 10-minute ‘Lost Someone.’”

*Rolling Stone* ranked it number 25 on the 500 Greatest Albums of All Time. It sold like wildfire. This gem stayed on the Billboard Top Pop Albums chart for 66 weeks, peaking at #2. Stores in the Southeast were forced to order it by the case because it sold so fast. DJs often played side one in its entirety, pausing only to insert commercials, and then play the other entire side. Volume 1 is not the high-quality recording – there are numerous rough edits – but it still stands as the cornerstone of Black music by a Black artist for a Black audience, and all that followed.

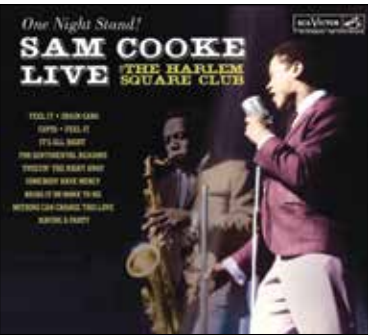
Other artists and record companies began paying attention...

### January 12, 1963 — Sam Cooke *One Night Stand: Live at the Harlem Square Club* RCA 5181

Sam Cooke was riding a tidal wave of popularity. The former gospel superstar just couldn’t miss; his records were all sailing right to the top of the pop charts. His phrasing and perfect pitch ushered in a mix of sanctified and blues that would become known as soul music. Sam recorded a couple of live albums. One of them was *Live at the Copa*, which played to the Supper Club (white) audience and showed that Sam was able to sing pop as well as soul. This second album

was recorded at the Harlem Square Club in Miami, FL. If you played the Square, you had it made. Somewhere around the middle of “Chain Gang” you are no longer in a club; you’re in church and under the spell of Reverend Cooke and the King Curtis Band. Many of the songs on here had been released as singles already. “Chain Gang,” “Twistin’ the Night Away,” and “Bring It On Home To Me” had cracked the pop charts.

However, these versions push everything up to another level. You smell the Dixie Peach pomade and sweat as the band locks in behind him; Cooke is in control and the room belongs to him. There is an intimate feel to this show that sets it apart from many of the others. When the audience sings along on the closing number, “Having a Party,” it’s simply magic, both in its innocence and Sam’s incredible voice. Rebert H. Harris, founder of the Soul Stirrers gospel group,

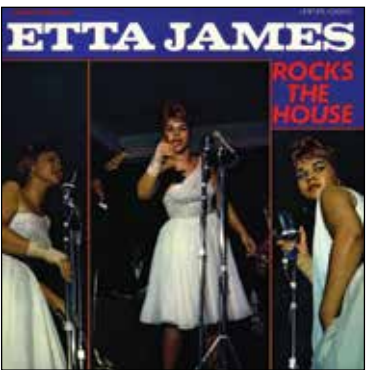


once said that Sam Cooke had the greatest voice he’d ever heard. After 37 minutes of this album, you’ll agree. For some strange reason or due to simple error, this classic sat on the shelf in an RCA Victor warehouse ‘til it was discovered in 1985 by A&R executive Gregg Geller. Upon its belated release, the album received five-star drooling reviews by every single writer that heard it. Ironically, less than a year after the recording, on December 11, 1964, Cooke would die from a gunshot wound in a botched robbery attempt.

### September 28, 1963 — Etta James *Etta James Rocks The House* Argo 4032

A short year after Brown’s show at the Apollo, 25-year-old Etta James steps on stage at the New Era Club in Nashville, TN.

After announcing to the band “Lord my feets are killin’ me,” she dives into “Something’s Got a Hold on Me” and owns



the small room for the next 35 minutes. Of all the shows in this article, this one truly captures the feeling of a night on the Chitlin’ Circuit. The band is loose and having a good time, the audience shouts its enthusiasm from the very first notes, and the presence of alcohol is noticeable. Etta herself sounds pretty high (she is), isn’t afraid to get pretty raw, and the crowd adores her. By the end of the show, she’s on fire,



exhorting the congregation like a tent show preacher, and staying in fourth gear till the very last.

April 5, 1964 — Jerry Lee Lewis  
*Live at the Star Club*  
Hamburg, Germany  
Phillips 1456L

*Live at the Star Club* is often described as a musical “crime scene.” It is perhaps the most unhinged portrait of what rock and roll was really like at one time. It’s dangerous, crude, and relentless. When you hear this amphetamine-soaked carnage, you’ll realize what the preachers were screaming about. However, every critic that ever rated an album gave it five



big stars. There aren’t too many live albums that come close, and certainly none better than this one. When the MC introduces Jerry Lee in his thick German accent, Jimmy Swaggert’s cousin walks on stage and he doesn’t even say hello, he just snarls into the microphone. Ten minutes later, his pickup band, The Nashville Teens, are pounding a stripper beat for his version of “Money,” and Jerry Lee Lewis is on the offensive and real pissed off after being recently kicked out of England for inter-family marriage.

Tonight, the Wildman of Ferriday decides to show the young Fräuleins and visiting servicemen what the Holy Ghost sounds like when washed down with 1000 mg of German Dexedrine. He covers all his hits, offering heart-stopping boogie-woogie and repurposed gospel bass lines on “Hound Dog,” “Good Golly Miss Molly,” and ten more tunes for the next 37 minutes. Play this one somewhere you can turn it up loud. Bathe yourself in Satan’s hot tub party. This may not be pure blues, but it is pure 24-karat, hellfire, cousin dating, second base on the first date, blue-eyed R&B at its off-the-deep-end, most unapologetic, and undiluted best. Jerry Lee would continue touring up until 2022, terrorizing pianos and entertaining audiences right until the very end. His style remained the same, everything from blues to gospel to hillbilly, and always rooted in the Black piano styles he heard as a teenager at Haney’s Big House... and nobody ever did it any better.

Meanwhile, back on the Chitlin’ Circuit, Black consumers had begun to replace classic blues and rhythm and blues with soul music. Artists like Sam Cooke, James Brown, and Solomon Burke virtually pulled out the rug from underneath old school artists like Muddy Waters and B.B. King. It was nothing personal, it’s just what they were playing on Nashville’s clear-channel powerhouse WLAC, and what the

teenagers wanted to hear. However, two short years after Brown’s *Live at the Apollo*, B.B. King would prove that the blues still mattered with his own live album.

November 21, 1964 — B.B. King  
*Live At The Regal*  
ABCS-509

B.B. King still had a large following, especially in Chicago, where so many of his fellow Mississippians had landed during the Great Migration. He still had a large following within the community, and the response of his audience on this album is right up there with the Apollo crowd. However, this time they are screaming just as loud for his guitar “Lucille” as they are for B.B. He sings of everyday life and trying to make it in post-war Chicago. His band is flawless. They’ve obviously been playing with him for some time and know every hit, every accent. With Sonny Freeman on drums and Duke Jethro on



piano, B.B. would have this band play with him for years and years. The audience adores him; this is their music.

In another four years, white America would discover B.B. King, and the man from Indianola would become the ambassador of the blues, enjoying well-deserved worldwide

fame right up until his death at the age of 90 in 2015. *Live At The Regal* stands as a great album – a prime example of blues in its perfect one-to-one form and one of B.B.’s personal favorites.

Five Alive

It all came from the church. Every artist from Elvis to B.B. King to Jerry Lee to Etta would stress the importance of the Black church as the foundation of everything that follows. Listen to these live albums and the debt is hand-clappingly obvious. The rhythms, the grooves, and most importantly, that immediate connection – the music starts out secular, but becomes sacred very shortly. The singer testifies, the believer responds. Even Jerry Lee brings the Germans as close as they’ll get to a tent revival.

One last thought: This is all very intense music. It requires focused listening – turn off that cell phone, find a quiet place, turn out the lights, and travel back through the portal. Be careful, you may get stuck there for a while. 🎸

Rev. Billy C. Wirtz lives in Ocala, FL, with his wife Linda, 12 cats and a horse. Get in touch at [revbilly88@aol.com](mailto:revbilly88@aol.com) or [facebook.com/revbilly88](https://facebook.com/revbilly88). Check him out on [Patreon](https://patreon.com/revbillycwirtz) at [patreon.com/revbillycwirtz](https://patreon.com/revbillycwirtz)

PLAN YOUR BLUES  
FESTIVAL CALENDAR

Grab a pen and circle the festivals you want to attend this season.  
INFORMATION BELIEVED TO BE CORRECT BUT NOT GUARANTEED. CHECK BEFORE YOU GO!

| DATE           | FESTIVAL NAME                                | CITY/STATE/COUNTRY                       |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Jan 3-24       | January Blues Festival                       | London, United Kingdom                   |
| Jan 11-18      | Sandy Beaches Cruise                         | Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, USA             |
| Jan 13-17      | International Blues Challenge                | Memphis, Tennessee, USA                  |
| Jan 15-17      | New Orleans Cigar Box Guitar Festival        | New Orleans, Louisiana, USA              |
| Jan 15         | Gilgamesh Blues Festival                     | Torino, Italy                            |
| Jan 15 - Feb 5 | Blues Caravan 2026 Europe                    | Various Cities, Germany                  |
| Jan 18-25      | Big Easy Cruise                              | Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, USA             |
| Jan 22-25      | Tequila Rock 'n Blues Explosions Fest Mexico | Zihuatanejo & Ixtapa & Troncones, Mexico |
| Jan 23-25      | Clarksdale Film & Music Festival             | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA             |
| Jan 24-31      | Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise              | Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, USA             |
| Jan 30         | Dwayne Dopsie & the Zydeco Hellraisers       | Houston, Texas, USA                      |
| Jan 31         | Blues Rock Revival                           | Lake Worth, Florida, USA                 |
| Jan 31         | Lehigh River Blues Jam                       | Allentown, Pennsylvania, USA             |
| Feb 6-15       | Fort Mose Jazz & Blues Series                | St. Augustine, Florida, USA              |
| Feb 7          | Cincinnati Winter Blues Experience VII       | Cincinnati, Ohio, USA                    |
| Feb 13-14      | Winter Blues Fest                            | Des Moines, Iowa, USA                    |
| Feb 14         | Baton Rouge Mardi Gras Festival              | Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA              |
| Feb 19 - Mar 5 | Blues Caravan 2026 US Tour                   | Various Cities, USA                      |
| Feb 21         | Mardi Gras and Silent Auction                | Reno, Nevada, USA                        |
| Feb 27 - Mar 1 | Lancaster Roots and Blues                    | Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA             |
| Feb 27 - Mar 1 | St Kilda Blues Festival                      | St Kilda, Victoria, Australia            |
| Feb 27-28      | Poulsbo Blues and Jazz Festival              | Poulsbo, Washington, USA                 |
| Feb 27 - Mar 1 | Lancaster Roots and Blues                    | Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA             |
| Feb 27 - Mar 1 | Aurora Winter Blues Festival                 | Aurora, Ontario, Canada                  |
| Feb 28 - Mar 1 | Vero Beach Blues Festival                    | Vero Beach, Florida, USA                 |
| Feb 28         | Pigz in Z Hills BBQ & Blues Festival         | Zephyrhills, Florida, USA                |
| Feb 28 - Mar 1 | Clearwater Sea-Blues Festival                | Clearwater, Florida, USA                 |
| Mar 5-7        | Mid-Winter Blues Festival                    | Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada             |
| Mar 6          | North Mississippi Allstars                   | Houston, Texas, USA                      |
| Mar 8          | Women in Blues                               | West Milford, New Jersey, USA            |
| Mar 8          | Honey Bee and Wine Festival                  | Oxford, Florida, USA                     |
| Mar 13-14      | Foley BBQ & Blues Cook-Off                   | Foley, Alabama, USA                      |
| Mar 13-14      | Blues Café                                   | Rothschild, Wisconsin, USA               |
| Mar 13-15      | Walla Walla Guitar Festival                  | Walla Walla, Washington, USA             |
| Mar 14         | Loreto International Blues Festival          | Loreto, Baja California, Mexico          |
| Mar 14         | Superstition Blues & Brews Art Festival      | Apache Junction, Arizona, USA            |
| Mar 15         | Blues & Brews Series: The Mad Slap Tones     | Montclair, New Jersey, USA               |
| Mar 15         | Upland Hills Blues Festival                  | Upland, California, USA                  |



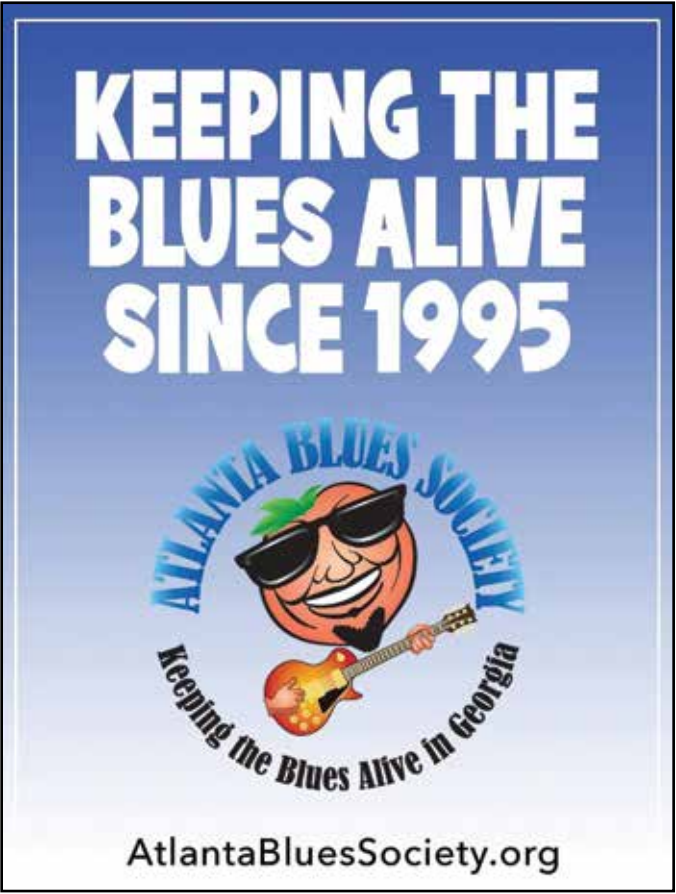
| DATE           | FESTIVAL NAME                                              | CITY/STATE/COUNTRY                      |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Mar 20-22      | Blues Bash at the Ranch                                    | Bradenton, Florida, USA                 |
| Mar 20-21      | River City Blues Festival                                  | Marietta, Ohio, USA                     |
| Mar 21         | Wiregrass Blues Festival                                   | Dothan, Alabama, USA                    |
| Mar 21-22      | Woodystock Blues Festival                                  | Lake Havasu City, Arizona, USA          |
| Mar 22         | Down Home Blues Party                                      | Baltimore, Maryland, USA                |
| Mar 25-29      | Keeping the Blues Alive At Sea XI                          | Miami, Florida, USA                     |
| Mar 28         | Inverness International Blues Festival                     | Inverness, United Kingdom               |
| Mar 30         | Canadian Blues Music Awards                                | Toronto, Ontario, Canada                |
| Apr 2-5        | Byron Bay Bluesfest                                        | Byron Bay - New South Wales, Australia  |
| Apr 4          | Spring Harp Fest                                           | La Mesa, California, USA                |
| Apr 8-12       | Juke Joint Festival                                        | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |
| Apr 10-11      | Maitland Jazz & Blues Festival                             | Maitland, Florida, USA                  |
| Apr 10-12      | Springing The Blues Festival                               | Jacksonville Beach, Florida, USA        |
| Apr 10-12      | Tampa Bay Blues Festival                                   | St. Petersburg, Florida, USA            |
| Apr 11         | Garnet & Black Spring Fest                                 | Columbia, South Carolina, USA           |
| Apr 12         | Cat Head Mini Blues Fest                                   | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |
| Apr 16-18      | European Blues Challenge                                   | Katowice, Poland                        |
| Apr 17-18      | Baton Rouge Blues Festival                                 | Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA             |
| Apr 18         | Mauldin Blues & Jazz Festival                              | Mauldin, South Carolina, USA            |
| Apr 18         | Blues Fest Concert                                         | Columbia, Pennsylvania, USA             |
| Apr 18         | Lowcountry Cajun Festival                                  | Charleston, South Carolina, USA         |
| Apr 18         | Playing with Fire Free Summer Concerts                     | Omaha, Nebraska, USA                    |
| Apr 18-25      | Fordyce On The Cotton Belt                                 | Fordyce, Arkansas, USA                  |
| Apr 19         | Blues & Brews Series: The Chris Raabe Band                 | Montclair, New Jersey, USA              |
| Apr 19         | Blues By the Sea                                           | Kiawah Island, South Carolina, USA      |
| Apr 19         | Treasure Coast Blues Society Rich Griffith Memorial Picnic | Stuart, Florida, USA                    |
| Apr 23-26      | Orkney Blues Festival                                      | Stromness, Orkney Islands, Scotland, UK |
| Apr 23 - May 3 | New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival                     | New Orleans, Louisiana, USA             |
| Apr 24         | Delta Wires at The Nashville Social Club                   | Carson City, Nevada, USA                |
| Apr 25         | Bob Sykes BBQ & Blues Festival                             | Bessemer, Alabama, USA                  |
| Apr 25-26      | Austin Blues Festival                                      | Austin, Texas, USA                      |
| Apr 26         | Eddie 9V at Sunrise Theater                                | Southern Pines, North Carolina, USA     |
| May 1-3        | Kimbrough Cotton Patch Soul Blues Festival                 | Holly Springs, Mississippi, USA         |
| May 1-3        | Fort Bragg Blues Festival                                  | Fort Bragg, California, USA             |
| May 2          | NJBS Local Blues Competition                               | Garwood, New Jersey, USA                |
| May 2-3        | Bayfront Blues & Fine Arts Festival                        | Galveston, Texas, USA                   |
| May 7-10       | Gator By The Bay Festival                                  | San Diego, California, USA              |
| May 9          | Clarksdale Caravan Music Festival                          | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |
| May 16         | Women In Blues                                             | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |
| May 17         | North Central Florida Women in Blues Showcase              | Gainesville, Florida, USA               |
| May 17         | Blues & Brews Series: Dean Shot & His Solid Senders        | Montclair, New Jersey, USA              |
| May 22-23      | Ground Zero Blues Club                                     | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |
| May 23-24      | Baton Rouge Soul Food Festival                             | Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA             |
| May 23         | Tater SuperBad Blues Festival                              | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |
| May 23         | Westsylvania Jazz & Blues Festival                         | Indiana, Pennsylvania, USA              |
| May 23-24      | Silver City Blues Festival                                 | Silver City, New Mexico, USA            |
| May 23-24      | Exit 56 Blues Fest                                         | Brownsville, Tennessee, USA             |
| May 24         | Bad Apple Blues Festival                                   | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |
| May 28-30      | Son House Tribute Festival                                 | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA            |

| DATE       | FESTIVAL NAME                                         | CITY/STATE/COUNTRY              |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| May 28-31  | Eureka Springs Blues Party                            | Eureka Springs, Arkansas, USA   |
| May 29-31  | Michael Arnone's Crawfish Fest                        | Augusta, New Jersey, USA        |
| May 29-30  | Ojai Blues Fest                                       | Ojai, California, USA           |
| May 30     | Between the Lakes Blues Festival                      | Morristown, Tennessee, USA      |
| May 30     | Dust Bowl Blues Bash                                  | Norman, Oklahoma, USA           |
| June 4-7   | Chicago Blues Festival                                | Chicago, Illinois, USA          |
| June 5-6   | Germantown Schnitzelburg Blues Festival               | Louisville, Kentucky, USA       |
| June 5-6   | Greeley Blues Jam Music Festival                      | Greeley, Colorado, USA          |
| June 6     | Kentucky Blues Music Festival                         | Mt Vernon, Kentucky, USA        |
| June 6     | Burnside Music Festival                               | Ripley, Mississippi, USA        |
| June 6     | Arkansas River Delta Blues Trail Dedication           | Sherrill, Arkansas, USA         |
| June 6     | New York State Blues Festival                         | Syracuse, New York, USA         |
| June 13-14 | KC Blues & BBQ Festival                               | Kansas City, Missouri, USA      |
| June 13    | East Village Blues Festival                           | San Diego, California, USA      |
| June 13    | Blues, Brews & Barbecue                               | Allentown, Pennsylvania, USA    |
| June 13    | Stomp The Blues Festival                              | Springfield, Missouri, USA      |
| June 13    | Columbia Pike Blues Fest                              | Arlington, Virginia, USA        |
| June 14-20 | Silver Spring Blues Festival                          | Silver Spring, Maryland, USA    |
| June 17-20 | WC Handy Blues & Barbecue Festival                    | Henderson, Kentucky, USA        |
| June 18-20 | Blues Week At The Blue Front Cafe (formerly Bentonia) | Bentonia, Mississippi, USA      |
| June 19-21 | Diggle Blues Festival                                 | Diggle, Greater Manchester, UK  |
| June 19-20 | Gorge Blues and Brews Festival                        | Stevenson, Washington, USA      |
| June 19-20 | Eldorado BBQ, Brews and Blues Festival                | Reno, Nevada, USA               |
| June 19-21 | BAM Fest - Birthplace of American Music Festival      | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA    |
| June 20-21 | Franklin Blues and Barbecue Festival                  | Franklin, Pennsylvania, USA     |
| June 20    | Edgewater Music Festival                              | Edgewater, Colorado, USA        |
| June 25-27 | Torrita Blues Festival                                | Torrita di Siena, Italy         |
| June 26-28 | Blues From The Top Music Festival                     | Winter Park, Colorado, USA      |
| June 26-27 | North Mississippi Hill Country Picnic                 | Waterford, Mississippi, USA     |
| June 27-28 | Fountain Blues & Brews Festival                       | San Jose, California, USA       |
| July 7-13  | Good Time Blues Fest                                  | Guglionest, Italy               |
| July 8-12  | Tremblant International Blues Festival                | Mont-Tremblant, Canada          |
| July 9-11  | Cahors Blues Festival                                 | Cahors, France                  |
| July 9-12  | Greenwood Blues Cruise & Festival of Discovery        | Greenwood, South Carolina, USA  |
| July 9-11  | Briggs Farm Blues Festival                            | Briggsville, Pennsylvania, USA  |
| July 10-11 | Historic River Valley Blues Festival                  | St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, USA |
| July 10-12 | Deadwood Blues Festival                               | Deadwood, South Dakota, USA     |
| July 11-12 | North Atlantic Blues Festival                         | Rockland, Maine, USA            |
| July 11    | Bryan Lee Memorial Blues Festival                     | Two Rivers, Wisconsin, USA      |
| July 11    | Grassroots Blues Festival                             | Duck Hill, Mississippi, USA     |
| July 13-17 | Augusta Heritage Blues Week                           | Elkins, West Virginia, USA      |
| July 15-19 | Upton Blues Festival                                  | Upton Upon Severn, UK           |
| July 16-19 | Sementblues                                           | Kjøpsvik, Norway                |
| July 17-18 | Festival La Isla del Blues                            | Cádiz, Spain                    |
| July 17-19 | Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival                      | Winthrop, Washington, USA       |
| July 18    | Appalachian Blues Festival                            | Huntington, West Virginia, USA  |
| July 18    | Kent Blues Fest                                       | Kent, Ohio, USA                 |
| July 18    | New Glarus Blues, Brews, & Food Trucks                | New Glarus, Wisconsin, USA      |
| July 18    | Firefighters Blues Festival                           | Mishawaka, Indiana, USA         |
| July 22-25 | Narcao Blues                                          | Narcao (SU), Italy              |



| DATE            | FESTIVAL NAME                                     | CITY/STATE/COUNTRY                    |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| July 23-26      | Great South Bay Music Festival                    | Patchogue, Long Island, New York, USA |
| July 23-26      | Echuca-Moama Winter Blues Festival                | Echuca, Victoria, Australia           |
| July 24-25      | Canal Winchester Blues and Rib Fest               | Canal Winchester, Ohio, USA           |
| July 24 - Aug 2 | Birmingham Jazz & Blues Festival                  | Birmingham, United Kingdom            |
| July 24-25      | Fargo Blues Festival                              | Fargo, North Dakota, USA              |
| July 30 - Aug 2 | Calgary International Blues Festival              | Calgary, Alberta, Canada              |
| July 31 - Aug 2 | Notodden Blues Festival                           | Notodden, Norway                      |
| July 31 - Aug 1 | In the Market for Blues                           | Omaha, Nebraska, USA                  |
| July 31 - Aug 2 | Big Sky Blues Festival                            | Noxon, Montana, USA                   |
| July 31 - Aug 1 | Lebanon Blues Festival                            | Lebanon, Ohio, USA                    |
| Aug 1-2         | Erie Blues & Jazz Festival                        | Erie, Pennsylvania, USA               |
| Aug 5-9         | Donnacona Blues Festival                          | Donnacona, Quebec, Canada             |
| Aug 6-9         | Kitchener Blues Festival                          | Kitchener, Ontario, Canada            |
| Aug 6-8         | Blues On The Chippewa                             | Durand, Wisconsin, USA                |
| Aug 6-9         | Nanaimo Blues Festival                            | Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada     |
| Aug 7-9         | Heritage Music Blues Fest                         | Wheeling, West Virginia, USA          |
| Aug 7-8         | Port Sanilac Blues Festival                       | Port Sanilac, Michigan, USA           |
| Aug 7-9         | Sunflower River Blues and Gospel Festival         | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA          |
| Aug 7-8         | Riverfront Blues Festival                         | Libby, Montana, USA                   |
| Aug 11-14       | Catskills Crossroads Blues Camp                   | Big Indian, New York, USA             |
| Aug 12-15       | Playing with Fire Free Summer Concerts            | Omaha, Nebraska, USA                  |
| Aug 14-16       | Downtown Tacoma Blues Festival                    | Tacoma, Washington, USA               |
| Aug 14-16       | Blues At The Arch Festival                        | St Louis, Missouri, USA               |
| Aug 14-16       | Bayfront Blues Festival                           | Duluth, Minnesota, USA                |
| Aug 14-16       | White Mountain Boogie N' Blues Festival           | Thornton, New Hampshire, USA          |
| Aug 15-16       | Willow Springs Blues Fest                         | Willow Springs, Illinois, USA         |
| Aug 20-22       | Chenango Blues Festival                           | Norwich, New York, New York, USA      |
| Aug 20-22       | Durango Blues Train                               | Durango, Colorado, USA                |
| Aug 21-22       | Big Bull Falls Blues Fest                         | Wausau, Wisconsin, USA                |
| Aug 21-22       | Madison's BBQ Party                               | Madison, Indiana, USA                 |
| Aug 21-22       | Blues In The Ballpark                             | Thunder Bay, ON Canada                |
| Aug 27-29       | Southern Indiana Blues Fest                       | Bean Blossom, Indiana, USA            |
| Aug 28-29       | G.O.A.T Picnic                                    | Coldwater, Mississippi, USA           |
| Aug 28-30       | Edgewater Music Fest Chicago                      | Chicago, Illinois, USA                |
| Aug 29          | Crossroads Blues Festival at Lyrn Park            | Rockford, Illinois, USA               |
| Aug 29          | Buddy Guy Blues Festival                          | Houston, Texas, USA                   |
| Aug 29          | Anson B Nixon Park Roots and Blues Festival       | Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, USA     |
| Sept 4-5        | Peoria Blues & Heritage Music Festival            | Peoria, Illinois, USA                 |
| Sept 5          | Red's Old Timers Blues Festival                   | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA          |
| Sept 5-6        | John Coltrane International Jazz & Blues Festival | High Point, North Carolina, USA       |
| Sept 10-13      | Big Blues Bender                                  | Las Vegas, Nevada, USA                |
| Sept 11-12      | Red, White, & Blues Festival                      | Fredonia, New York, USA               |
| Sept 11-13      | Tim Hortons Southside Shuffle Blues and Jazz      | Port Credit, Mississauga, ON, Canada  |
| Sept 11-12      | Red, White and Blues Festival                     | Fredonia, New York, USA               |
| Sept 12         | Up the River Blues Festival                       | Ossining, New York, USA               |
| Sept 18-20      | Stonebridge Wasaga Beach Blues                    | Wasaga Beach, Canada                  |
| Sept 18-20      | Telluride Blues & Brews Festival                  | Telluride, Colorado, USA              |
| Sept 19         | Blue Ridge Blues & BBQ Festival                   | Blue Ridge, Georgia, USA              |
| Sept 19         | North Central Florida Blues Festival              | Gainesville, Florida, USA             |
| Sept 19-20      | Windy City Blues Fest                             | Lyons, Illinois, USA                  |

| DATE           | FESTIVAL NAME                                   | CITY/STATE/COUNTRY                   |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sept 25-26     | Big Steam Blues & Roots Music Festival          | Hot Springs, Arkansas, USA           |
| Sept 25-26     | Mighty Roots Music Festival                     | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Sept 25-27     | Black Mountain Blues Festival                   | Black Mountain, North Carolina, USA  |
| Sept 25-27     | Monterey Jazz Festival                          | Monterey, California, USA            |
| Sept 26        | Jessie Mae Hemphill Hill Country Blues Festival | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 2-4        | Callander Jazz & Blues Festival                 | Callender, Scotland, UK              |
| Oct 2-3        | Blues Heaven Festival                           | Frederikshavn, Denmark               |
| Oct 3          | North Bend Blues Walk                           | Downtown North Bend, Washington, USA |
| Oct 8-10       | King Biscuit Blues Festival                     | Helena, Arkansas, USA                |
| Oct 9-11       | Pinetop Perkins Homecoming                      | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 9-10       | Garvin Gate Blues Festival                      | Louisville, Kentucky, USA            |
| Oct 10         | Hopson Pumpkin Pickin Festival                  | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 10         | Bukka White Blues Festival                      | Aberdeen, Mississippi, USA           |
| Oct 10-11      | Forgotten Music Festival                        | Port St Joe, Florida, USA            |
| Oct 11         | Cat Head Mini Blues Fest                        | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 15-17      | Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival   | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 17         | Crossroads Blues Festival                       | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 29 - Nov 1 | Hambone Festival & Related Events               | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 31         | Cruzn The Crossroads Car & Truck Show           | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |
| Oct 31 - Nov 7 | Legendary Rhythm & Blues Cruise                 | San Diego, California, USA           |
| Nov 7          | Blues Stage @ SC Pecan Music & Food Festival    | Florence, South Carolina, USA        |
| Nov 7          | Connecticut Rhythm & Blues                      | New Britain, Connecticut, USA        |
| Dec 31         | Clarksdale's New Years Weekend                  | Clarksdale, Mississippi, USA         |





# God's Juke Joint

Where the Blues Tell the Truth.

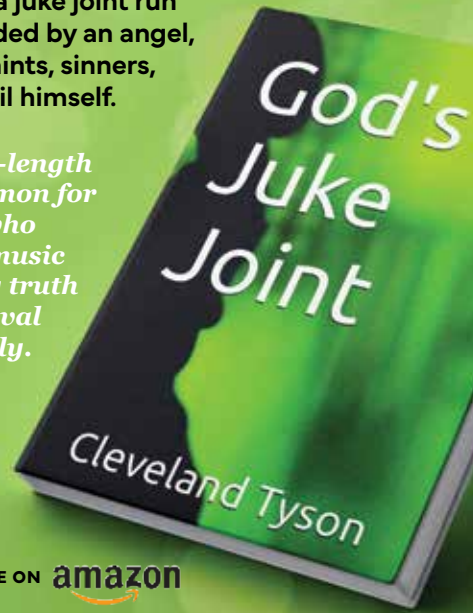
A lyrical, blues-infused meditation on Black history • music • faith • survival.

Step inside a juke joint run by God, tended by an angel, visited by saints, sinners, and the Devil himself.

*A novella-length blues sermon for anyone who believes music can carry truth and survival can be holy.*



NOW AVAILABLE ON **amazon**



NEW ALBUM  
COMING IN  
**2026**

WITH  
**VIZZTONE**  
LABEL GROUP

**HECTOR ANCHONDO**

FOR BOOKING  
SOLO OR BAND FOR  
2026 & 2027  
HECTORANCHONDO@GMAIL.COM

MAGNETO GUITARS ARTIST

**BUDDY REED**

60 Years of Music

More Coming Soon!

**BLUES LEGEND**

WWW.BUDDYREEDBLUES.COM

**TOKYO TRAMPS**

www.tokyotramps.com  
tokyotramps@hotmail.com 617-775-0750

f X i YouTube

**Live Music Art**

POSTERS • ADS • LOGOS • FLYERS • SOCIAL MEDIA

Specializing in Graphic Design  
For the Music Industry

livemusicart.com 530.277.6509 info@livemusicart.com

**Charlotte Blues Society**

Dedicated to the promotion & preservation of the American Blues tradition

CHARLOTTE  
Blues SOCIETY

Serving the greater Charlotte North Carolina area

THE BLUES FOUNDATION  
AFFILIATED BLUES SOCIETY

CLTBluesSociety@gmail.com

**THE BLUES FOUNDATION**

421 South Main Street  
Memphis, TN 38103

Sunday-Monday: Closed  
Tuesday-Saturday: 10 AM-5 PM

"The Blues Foundation preserves blues heritage, celebrates blues recording and performance, expands worldwide awareness of the blues, and ensures the future of the uniquely American art form."

Become a member of The Blues Foundation by visiting [www.blues.org](http://www.blues.org)

**ELIZA NEALS**

"... unleashes a fiery blend of Blues-rock swagger & soulful grit." SiriusXM Bluesville 2025

"a Queen of Blues-rock"  
Blues Rock Review

10 Years of Post modern Blues born in DETROIT!

**E-H RECORDS**

(646) 522-0285

13th ALBUM  
THUNDER IN THE HOUSE

**OUT NOW**

**WEARY RAMBLERS**

Award-winning  
Songwriting Duo  
with Tight Harmonies  
and Great Storytelling

www.wearyramblers.com

**Buddy Shute**

Now booking!

"Buddy Shute carries forward the true blues traditions he learned growing up in Memphis a block from Sun Studios, something that comes through loud and clear."  
Blues Blast Magazine

New Release!

Headin' Back to Memphis  
Buddy Shute

**buddyshute.com**

**BILLY JETER**

Musician & Storyteller  
From Wabbaseka, Arkansas

www.billyjeter.com  
billyjeterjr@gmail.com  
FB and IG @billyjetermusic  
Bluesky @billyjeter.bsky.social

Also on Apple and Spotify