

BILUES WWW.omahablues.com

Volume Twenty-Six, Number Six • June 2021







FREEDOM FESTIVAL

A CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH

Saturday, June 19th Free Festival Noon till 5:30 with BRUCE KATZ and JOHN PRIMER

Concert @ 7 pm with THE KEESHEA PRATT BAND

Tix and event details at omahafreedomfestival.com







TAB BENOIT

Whiskey Revue feat. Alastair Greene Thurs. June 10th @ 8 pm Slowdown, Omaha

THE BLUES SOCIETY OF OMAHA PRESENTS LEGENDARY THURSDAY BLUES MATINEES AND MORE.

The BSO is pleased to present the Save Our Stages Series of FREE shows in Omaha in June and July. The shows are noted as SOS shows in the schedule below.

Why Join the Blues Society of Omaha with Your Membership Donation?

The Blues Society of Omaha, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 1998. We are an all-volunteer organization with over 800 dues-paying members. BSO's mission is "Keepin' the Blues Alive". We are recognized as one of the top Blues Societies in the country. With the help of your tax-deductible donation we continue to promote blues music, blues musicians, and live music venues & events. Among our many projects and accomplishments are these:

- BSO promotes musicians and venues by maintaining a comprehensive live music calendar on our website, omahablues.com. BSO also
 distributes free monthly news flyers with calendars to numerous public gathering spots to inform the general community of live music
 shows in the area.
- BluesEd is a non-profit youth artist development program created and sponsored by Blues Society of Omaha. The BluesEd program
 began in 2001 to provide opportunities for young musicians to learn blues music in a series of workshops and to play with other
 students in a band format. Our BluesEd bands always are impressive and they have performed at some of the finest festivals & venues
 in and around Omaha.
- The Blues Society of Omaha has hosted an annual Nebraska Blues Challenge competition for local bands since 2011. All of the participating bands are showcased in judged public events as they compete for a package of prizes and the honor of representing BSO at the International Blues Challenge competition held in Memphis. All of the winning Nebraska bands have gone on to receive national attention and acclaim while making BSO proud!
- BSO produces and/or sponsors various music events throughout the year.
- BSO is a contributor to and supporter of Playing With Fire, a series of free outdoor concerts held each summer in Omaha since 2004.
- BSO provides support to The Zoo Bar, Lincoln's legendary and award-winning blues venue. BSO is a sponsor of the annual ZooFest music festival.
- In conjunction with Toy Drive for Pine Ridge, BSO hosts an annual toy drive and concert fundraiser for the children of Pine Ridge Reservation.
- · BSO regularly produces charitable events for musicians in need.

As a member and donor, you are entitled to great membership benefits:

- Free subscription to "Blues Notes", our monthly newsletter that will keep you abreast of blues events in the area, blues CD reviews, and
 other articles of interest to blues connoisseurs!
- · E-blasts with late-breaking blues news.
- Special pre-sale and discounted tickets to select events.
- · Discounts offered by generous local businesses.
- · Pride in belonging to a group dedicated to "Keepin' The Blues Alive"!

Please consider switching to the GREEN VERSION of Blues Notes. You will be saving the planet while saving BSO some expense. Contact Susan Keith at membership@omahablues.com to switch to e-mail delivery and get the scoop days before snail mail members!



BLUES ON THE RADIO:

Mondays Ipm-3pm on KIOS 91.5 "Blues in the Afternoon" with Mike Jacobs You can listen to the live stream at www.kios.org

Sundays 9am-Noon on KIWR 89.7 Rick Galusha's "PS Blues" Podcast now available on Spotify https://anchor.fm/pacific-street-blues-and-americana

Lincoln's KZUM Radio - Nebraska's only community radio, and you can listen to it on the web at KZUM.org.

Monday — 3:00-6:00pm "World Gone Wrong Blues"

Tuesday — 3:00-6:00pm "Group W Blues"

Wednesday – 3:00-6:00pm "Highway Blues" • 8:30-10:00pm "Radio Gumbo" Thursday – 3:00-5:00pm "Blue Water Mixtape"

Friday – 1:00-3:00pm "Women's Blues & Boogie" • 3:00-6:00pm "Hudson Blue" Saturday – 6:00-7:00am "Beale Street Caravan" • 7:00-8:00am "Juke in the Back" Sunday – 2:00-4:00pm "Back at the Chicken Shack"

Cajun Fest with GERARD DELAFOSE AND THE ZYDECO GATORS AND SPECIAL GUESTS THE SWAMPBOY BLUES BAND

Thursday, June 3rd @ 5:30 pm (\$15) • Stocks n Bonds, Omaha



CAJUN MENU ITEMS ARE PLANNED AND MARDI GRAS BEADS ARE WELCOME!

The Zydeco Gators was established by Gerard Delafose in 2007.

Gerard is a 3rd generation Zydeco Musician. He is the grandson of the late great John Delafose and the nephew of the legendary Geno Delafose.

Gerard has been playing the accordion for over 20 years. He first picked it up when he was only 8 years old. He grew up learning from the best, and will surely bring that legendary Zydeco sound that we all grew up loving!

"The band and I mix up our own fresh funky groove from double beats, straight beats, triple beats, waltz, bluesy and slow belly rubbing dancing sounds into the music we play. We also uphold a high standard of professional ethic, while knowing how to entertain even the toughest of crowds!"

From the Artist's website.

Check ouf B.J. Huchiemann's column Hoodoo Blues monthly in the Omaha READER for info on upcoming shows and other news in the roots-blues music scene. Look for B.J.'s byline under the Music tab at thereader.com

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SPECIAL

Down Under Lounge Karlene Adamson-Harper

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What's New with BluesEd?

MUSIC MENTORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

When BluesEd began discussing potential next steps after taking a year off due to the pandemic, we surveyed our musicians and their families. Many expressed their concern that music students needed to remain active and engaged in the pursuit of their passion, just like the area sports teams who found a way to participate despite the challenges faced by Covid-19. As a result, the Leadership Team created a hybrid season to safely meet the needs of our musicians and loyal fans. Following CDC guidelines was pretty straightforward but one thing was critical if we were going to find a way to kick-start the program after a year hiatus from rehearsals, workshops and gigs. We would have to lean heavily on our clinicians to get the bands "performance ready". The decision to focus on clinics and not accept any gigs until June 1st was pretty easy since Education is in our name!

Our musicians thrive on the wisdom of professionals who can offer guidance, different perspectives and most importantly, point out areas that need improvement. It is very difficult to ask for help when you don't know what/how to fix something, and this applies to students brand new to our program or returning after being part of BluesEd for many seasons. Our clinicians help the musicians achieve their full potential by discovering their hidden strengths and building on them. Sometimes simple changes have a high impact. Our clinicians have two important elements in mind at

every rehearsal. Encouragement and Empowerment. They are effective at motivating the musicians to learn and grow while inspiring them to succeed by offering challenges along the way. By reminding them they are not alone and that everyone is invested in their success, the students are able to use the experience of working with professional musicians to improve themselves on and off the stage.

We have several BluesEd alumni that are helping out at clinics this season in addition to our five clinicians: Hector Anchondo, Craig Balderston, Carlos Figueroa, Bucky McCann and Glen Smith. We are extremely fortunate that each of these incredibly talented, multi-instrument professional musicians are dedicated to sharing their love for performing Blues music with our young musicians. Please follow us on Facebook to see highlights from the clinics and workshops all season long. To book one of our bands for an event, visit our website to fill out the Request A Performance (RAP) form or select the Audition tab if anyone you know is interested in becoming part of our award-winning program!

Pamela and Michael Klein, Directors

MATT COX AND THE MARAUDERS CD Release Shows



Friday, June 11th at 8 pm · Slowdown Friday, July 9th @ 5 pm · Zoo Bar Saturday, July 31st · Maha Festival

The Jewell Presents

KELLEY HUNT

with her Touring Band
Saturday June 12th

Saturday, June 12th 6:30 and 9 pm shows (\$20)



"...Hunt delivers her socially charged lyrics with a voice that's part powerful gospel yearning and part bawdy soul shouter..."

The Onion, Denver CO

"Blues, R&B and gospel singer-songwriter and showstopping boogie piano player." Omaha Reader

JOHNNY RAWLS

Wednesday, June 16 @ 6:30 pm (Save Omaha Stages Free Show!) • Omaha Lounge • 666 N. 114th Street, Omaha



The Blues Society of Omaha and our Save Omaha Stages Concert Series is proud to present one of this year's BMA Soul Blues Male Artist of the Year nominees, Johnny Rawls, for a FREE show at The Omaha Lounge!

Johnny Rawls is a soul blues legend. In fact, the term "soul blues" was invented to describe his music. With a career spanning more than

50 years, he's done it all. He's an internationally recognized recording artist, music producer, and songwriter who tours extensively throughout North America and overseas.

The Blues Music Awards, Blues Blast Awards, Living Blues Awards, and the W. C. Handy Awards have all acknowledged Johnny with multiple awards and nominations, including Soul Blues Album of the Year and Soul Blues Artist of the Year. Living Blues Magazine described him as a "soulblues renaissance man" when he was featured on the cover in 2002. Johnny is honored to be mentioned on two markers along the Mississippi Blues Trail – one in Hattiesburg, MS marking the Hi-Hat Club, and another in Rocklin ME marking the migration of blues from Mississippi to Maine.

The Blues Music Awards (and its predecessor, the W.C. Handy Awards) frequently recognize Johnny's work. To date, ten of Johnny's albums have been nominated for Soul Blues Album of the Year, with "I'm Still Around" winning in 2019 and "Ace of Spades" winning in 2010. Johnny has been nominated for Soul Blues Male Artist eleven times, and received one nomination for Song of the Year. Roots Music Report declared Johnny's 2017 release, "Waiting for the Train," one of the top 50 blues albums of the year. Johnny also has multiple nominations/awards from Blues Blast Magazine and Living Blues Magazine.

With his 2018 release, "I'm Still Around," Johnny returned to his roots in Mississippi Soul Blues. All the songs on this album were written and arranged by Johnny, and reflect his favorite subjects – falling in and out of love, making love, and enjoying and being thankful for life. Johnny is extremely proud to have won the Soul

Blues Album of the year at the 2019 BMAs for this release.

A true "road warrior," Johnny tours extensively throughout the US, and internationally, playing approximately 200 dates every year. He's performed at major blues festivals, including the Chicago Blues Festival and the Waterfront Blues Festival multiple times. Whether he's playing in a small intimate club or at a large blues festival, Johnny always delivers a high-energy show to the delight of audiences everywhere.

From the Artist's website.

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Wine, Blues, Beer and HOT AIR BALLOON IS CONTROLLAR

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NINJA PHUNK

+JAM SESSION TO CLOSE OUT THE NIGHT!

GATES AT 4PM MUSIC AT 5:30

SOARING WINGS VINEYARD & BREWING

JUNE 5, 2021

\$30 Tickets. \$20 Ages 12-20 Ages 11 and under are FREE!

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ETIX.COM

17111 5 138th Street, Springfield, Nebraska / www.SoaringWingsWine.com Social distancing and safety precautions are in place. See website for details.

BRUCE KATZ

BSO Presents at The Jewell • Thursday, June 17th (6 and 9 pm shows \$15) Friday, June 18th @ 5 pm (\$10) • Zoo Bar, Lincoln



This man is as good as it gets. One of the greatest keyboard artists I've ever heard.

John Hammond

Katz cooks up a brilliant marriage of blues, jazz, gospel and soul.

Bill Milkowski, Jazz Times

Bruce Katz is a five time (2008, 2009, 2010, 2015, 2018) Nominee for the Blues Music Award (W.C. Handy Award) for "Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year", selected by the Blues Foundation of Memphis, TN.

Katz is a legendary keyboardist (Hammond B3 and Piano) who has released 11 albums as a leader and has appeared on over 75 other CDs with the likes of John Hammond, Delbert McClinton, Ronnie Earl, Little Milton, Butch Trucks, Duke Robillard, David "Fathead" Newman, and many, many others.

He has also had a strong musical connection with the Allman Brothers Band, and was a member of Gregg Allman's band for six years (2007–2013), Jamoe's Jasssz Band (2010–2015), Butch Trucks' Freight Train Band and Les Brers (2015–2017). Bruce also occasionally toured with the Allman Brothers as well.

While Blues is a very important part of his music, Bruce's

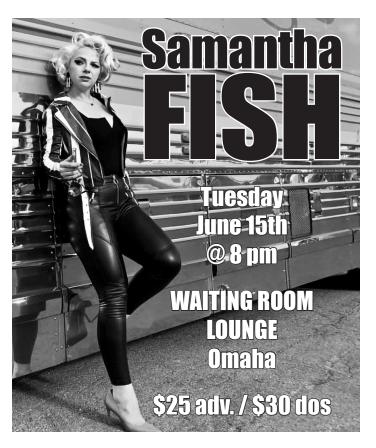
music has more angles and influences, occupying a unique space where blues, "soul-jazz", jam-band rock, and all aspects of Americana Music collide into a style of original music all his own. He is equally comfortable playing Hammond B-3 Organ and Piano.

Bruce has been leading the Bruce Katz Band for twenty-five years. Bruce toured and recorded with Ronnie Earl, Delbert McClinton Band, Jaimoe's Jasssz Band, John Hammond, and many other legendary artists as well. He was a member of the Gregg Allman Band from 2007–2013.

Bruce was also an Associate Professor at the Berklee College of Music for fourteen years (1996–2010), teaching Harmony, Hammond organ labs, Blues History and Private Instruction.

As a performer, Bruce has been an in-demand sideman as well as leading his own band. He has played and recorded with many of the leading names in blues and roots music, appearing on over 70 albums with artists such as Ronnie Earl, John Hammond, Delbert McClinton, Gregg Allman, Duke Robillard, Joe Louis Walker, Little Milton, Maria Muldaur, Jimmy Witherspoon, Paul Rishell, Mighty Sam McClain, Debbie Davies, David "Fathead" Newman and many others.

From the Artist's website.





HECTOR ANCHONDO BAND AND KRIS LAGER BAND SAVE OMAHA STAGES FREE SHOW!

BLUES NIGHT presented by the BLUES SOCIETY OF OMAHA

Thursday, June 24th, Slowdown, 729 N. 14th St. Omaha

Blues Night Presented by Blues Society of Omaha as part of our Save Omaha Stages Series.

Open at 4pm.

Hector Anchondo Band at 4:30pm in the Beer Garden. Kris Lager Band after the game (Approximately 9pm) in the Beer Garden.

No cover charge all Series long! Join us in our huge outdoor beer garden for cold drinks, food vendors, great tunes, and the time of your life! Amazing lineup of free live music and DJ's on our outdoor stage June 18-26. Inside the air conditioned Main Room we'll have all the baseball games on our 20 foot HD screen, with live music on select nights. Check theslowdown.com for a full schedule.

Join us for this show and beyond...it's college baseball time again in North Downtown as the College World Series returns! The time of your life awaits!

KRIS LAGER BAND

For most of Kris Lager's life he has been a traveling musician, a troubadour, who has spent two decades on the road honing his craft and message.

Not only is he one of the funkiest and fiercest blues guitar players you'll ever witness with a uniquely expressive

and heartfelt voice. He also crafts uplifting, interactive, and spiritual tunes with a 'Celebrate Life Mantra' that is woven throughout his entire performance.

Kris is a Lincoln, Nebraska native and a family man who has built a reputation for refusing to play by industry rules or pander for awards and accolades. He is truly a one of a kind performer who hits the stage with an intense purpose of uplifting and engaging audiences while delivering his flavorful gumbo of rhythms and melodies.

HECTOR ANCHONDO BAND

For Héctor Anchondo, the third time really became the charmed one. Anchondo entered the 2020 International Blues Challenge in the solo/duo category and came away with the top prize: winning the solo/duo category. He also took home the Memphis Cigar Box Guitar Award for best guitarist in the solo/duo competition, where he performed representing the Blues Society of Omaha. It was Anchondo's third year performing at the IBC as the BSO's artist. In 2015 the Héctor Anchondo Band made the semifinals (from about 250 artists down to 50 semifinalists) and in 2016 the Héctor Anchondo Band went all the way to the finals, playing in the top eight bands chosen by judges from the week of performances.

From Slowdown's website.

Blues in June & July

[Tue Jun 01]

Nebraska Jazz Orchestra @ Sheldon Sculpture Garden in Downtown Lincoln (7:00 pm) (Sheldon Sculpture Garden)

[Wed Jun 02]

Magick K Acoustic Singer Songwriters (7:00 pm) (The Jewell) Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

IThu Jun 031

Gerard Delafose and the Zydeco Gators @ Stocks n Bonds (6:00 pm) (Stocks n Bonds)

Phillips, Hawkins, Towne Trio at The Jewell – 7pm show (7:00 pm) (The Jewell) Adam Larson Trio at The Jewell – 9pm show (9:00 pm) (The Jewell)

[Fri Jun 04]

Evan Bartels @ The Zoo Bar (5:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

Alexis Arai y Su Grupo Latino at The Jewell (6:30 pm) (The Jewell)

Sweet Tea Music @ Havana Garage (8:00 pm) (Havana Garage)

[Sat Jun 05]

Rhythm Collective – Taste Of Omaha @ Elmwood Park (3:30 pm) (Taste of Omaha at Elmwood Park)

Soaring Wings Vineyard & Brewing – 17th Annual Blues, Beer, and Hot Air Balloon Festival (5:30 pm) (Soaring Wings Winery)

Ancient Greek Gods @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

Juke Butter Funky Soulful Jazz Trio at The Jewell (6:30 pm) (The Jewell)

The Rex Granite Band featuring Sarah Benck / The Grace Giebler Project @ Reverb Lounge (7:00 pm) (Reverb Lounge)

Hector Anchondo featuring BluesEd bands Blue Sunday, Us and Them, and Vertigo @ The B. Bar (7:00 pm) (The B Bar)

Tim Budig & Shawn Holt @ Joslyn Castle as part of Castlepalooza (7:00 pm) (Joslyn Castle)

Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)

[Sun Jun 06]

Us and Them Blues Band @ Taste of Omaha (1:30 pm) (Taste of Omaha at Elmwood Park)

Swampboy Blues Band @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

[Tue Jun 08]

Reverend Horton Heat & Dale Watson @ The Zoo Bar (6:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar) Blue House with the Rent to Own Horns @ Sheldon Sculpture Garden in Downtown Lincoln (7:00 pm) (Sheldon Sculpture Garden)

[Wed Jun 09]

Andrew Janak Trio with Mitch Towne & David Hawkins at The Jewell (7:00 pm) (The Jewell)

Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

Reverend Horton Heat & Dale Watson @ Barnato (8:00 pm) (Barnato)

[Thu Jun 10]

Michael "Gooch" Gurciullo Quartet at The Jewell (7:00 pm) (The Jewell)

Ninja Phunk's Open Jam @ The B. Bar (7:00 pm) (The B Bar)

Tab Benoit Whiskey Bayou Review @ Slowdown (8:00 pm) (Slowdown)

[Fri Jun 11]

Sailing in Soup @ Breezy Hills Winery (Minden, IA) (4:00 pm) (Breezy Hills Winery) Gabe with Pants @ The Zoo Bar (5:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

Bobby Messano @ The B. Bar (5:30 pm) (The B Bar)

Stan & The Chain Gang at The Jewell (6:30 pm) (The Jewell)

Matt Cox & the Marauders (Album Release) @ Slowdown (8:00 pm) (Slowdown) Swampboy Blues Band w/Justin Shelton @ Bellevue Berry & Pumpkin Ranch (8:00 pm) (Bellevue Berry Farm)

23rd Vibration @ The Zoo Bar (9:30 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

[Sat Jun 12]

Union County Strings @ the Malvern, Iowa Concert Series (6:00 pm) (Malvern City Park)

Kelley Hunt at The Jewell (6:30 pm) (The Jewell)

Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)

[Tue Jun 15]

Mitch Towne and Nebraska Band (Juke Butter) @ Sheldon Sculpture Garden in Downtown Lincoln (7:00 pm) (Sheldon Sculpture Garden) Samantha Fish & The Waiting Room (8:00 pm) (The Waiting Room Lounge)

[Wed Jun 16]

Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal and Sneezy (6:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar) Johnny Rawls @ The Omaha Lounge – Save Omaha Stages FREE Show Presented by the Blues Society of Omaha (6:30 pm) (The Omaha Lounge) Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

[Thu Jun 17]

The BSO Presents The Bruce Katz Band at The Jewell (6:00 pm) (The Jewell) Singer-Songwriter Showcase at Holland Center Outdoors (6:30 pm) (Holland Center Outdoors)

[Fri Jun 18]

Bruce Katz @ The Zoo Bar (5:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

The Lao Tizer Quintet Featuring Eric Marienthal at The Jewell (6:30 pm) (The Jewell)

The Rex Granite Band featuring Sarah Benck @ "Downtown Live" in Sioux City (7:00 pm) (Sioux City Public Museum)

Sweet Tea Music @ Havana Garage (8:00 pm) (Havana Garage)

[Sat Jun 19]

Keesha Pratt, John Primer, Bruce Katz & more @ Omaha Freedom Festival – Juneteenth Celebration at Malcolm X Memorial Foundation Amphitheater (12:00 pm) (Malcolm X Memorial Foundation Amphitheater)

The Bel Airs @ the Malvern, Iowa Concert Series (6:00 pm) (Malvern City Park) Swampboy Blues Band @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

Big Wade & Black Swan Theory, A Juneteenth Celebration at The Jewell (6:30 pm) (The Jewell)

Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)

[Sun Jun 20]

Andy Frasco & The U.N. @ Barnato (8:00 am) (Barnato)

Tue Jun 22

Darryl White Ensemble @ Sheldon Sculpture Garden in Downtown Lincoln (7:00 pm) (Sheldon Sculpture Garden)

[Wed Jun 23]

Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

[Thu Jun 24]

Kris Lager Band & Hector Anchondo Band @ Slowdown (Beer Garden) (5:30 pm) (Slowdown)

Ninja Phunk's Open Jam @ The B. Bar (7:00 pm) (The B Bar)

Jason Moran and The Bandwagon at the Holland Center Outdoors (7:30 pm) (The Holland Center Outdoors)

[Fri Jun 25]

Wags and the Recess Players @ The Zoo Bar (5:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)
Sailing in Soup at Ozone (6:30 pm) (The Ozone Lounge)
Daddy Mac & the Flak @ The Dam Bar (7:00 pm) (The Dam Grill & Bar Outdoor Stage)

[Sat Jun 26]

Zydeco Festival with the Prairie Gators on Farnam Street Patio (4:00 pm) (Turner Park at Midtown Crossing)

Sailing In Soup @ the Malvern, Iowa Concert Series (6:00 pm) (Malvern City Park) David Diaz Project @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

Gospel Music Series Presents Ananias Montague & The Fellowship Band at The Jewell (6:30 pm) (The Jewell)

Rhythm Collective – Outdoors Caribbean Night @ The Holland Center (7:00 pm) (The Holland Center Outdoors)

Music For The City @ The Dam Bar featuring Indigenous, Levi Platero Band & Little Joe McCarthy (solo) (7:00 pm) (The Dam Grill & Bar Outdoor Stage)

Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)

Blue House with the Rent To Own Horns @ Copacabana (9:00 pm) (Copa Cabana)

Blues in June & July

[Sun Jun 27]

Swampboy Blues Band @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

[Tue Jun 29]

Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal @ Sheldon Sculpture Garden in Downtown Lincoln (7:00 pm) (Sheldon Sculpture Garden)

[Wed Jun 30]

Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

Blue House and the Rent to Own Horns @ Barnato (8:00 pm) (Barnato)

[Thu Jul 01]

Cody Grinder and the Playboy Scouts (6:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

The Mezcal Brothers @ The Dam Bar (7:00 pm) (The Dam Grill & Bar Outdoor Stage)

[Fri Jul 02]

Saturday in the Park – Pop/Indie Artist, AJR Headlining Friday Night FREE Festival (5:00 pm) (Grandview Park)

[Sat Jul 03]

Saturday in the Park – John Fogerty Headlining Saturday FREE Festival (2:00 pm) (Grandview Park)

Swampboy Blues Band @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

Touch of Grey @ the Malvern, Iowa Concert Series (6:00 pm) (Malvern City Park) Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)

[Wed Jul 07]

Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

Thu Jul 081

Bonehart Flanigan @ The Zoo Bar (6:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

Ninja Phunk's Open Jam @ The B. Bar (7:00 pm) (The B Bar)

Sammy Figueroa Latin Jazz Ensemble at Jazz on the Green (7:30 pm) (Jazz on the Green – Midtown Crossing)

Steve Earle & The Dukes @ The Waiting Room (8:00 pm) (The Waiting Room Lounge)

Aaron Kamm and the One Drops @ The Zoo Bar (9:30 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

[Fri Jul 09]

Matt Cox Band @ The Zoo Bar (5:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

Vinyl Hampdin at Holland Center Outdoors (7:00 pm) (Holland Center Outdoors)

[Sat Jul 10]

Oreo Meatwagon @ the Malvern, Iowa Concert Series (6:00 pm) (Malvern City Park) Dustin Arbuckle, Matt Woods, and Matt Cox @ Rathskeller Bier Haus – Save Omaha Stages FREE Show Presented by the Blues Society of Omaha (6:00 pm) (Rathskeller Bier House)

Three Dog Night at the Holland Center Outdoors (7:00 pm) (Holland Center Outdoors)

Jocelyn & Chris @ Barnato (8:00 pm) (Barnato)

Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm) Swampboy Blues Band @ Philly Sports Bar & Grill (9:00 pm) (Philly Sports Bar & Grill)

[Sun Jul 11]

Swampboy Blues Band @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

[Wed Jul 14]

Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

[Thu Jul 15]

Vincent Herring & The Celebration of Life Ensemble at Jazz on the Green (7:30 pm) (Jazz on the Green – Midtown Crossing)

[Fri Jul 16]

Kris Lager Band @ The Zoo Bar (9:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

[Sat Jul 17]

Ancient Greek Gods @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

Chad Lee Duo @ the Malvern, Iowa Concert Series (6:00 pm) (Malvern City Park) Yabba Griffiths with Traxx @ The Zoo Bar (6:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)

Swampboy Blues Band @ Slattery Vintage Estates - Cajunfest! (7:00 pm) (SlatteryVintage Estates)

Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)

[Wed Jul 21]

Alastair Greene @ The Zoo Bar (6:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar) Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

[Thu Jul 22]

Ninja Phunk's Open Jam @ The B. Bar (7:00 pm) (The B Bar)

Curley Taylor & Zydeco Trouble at Jazz on the Green (7:30 pm) (Jazz on the Green – Midtown Crossing)

[Fri Jul 23]

Sailing in Soup @ Fala's Treasures & Coffee House (and Beer) (7:00 pm) (Fala's Treasures and Coffee Shop)

[Sat Jul 24]

Dustin Arbuckle & The Damnations in Malvern, IA (6:00 pm) ()

Swampboy Blues Band @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

Music For The City @ The Dam Bar featuring Annika Chambers & Friends, Heather Newman Band & Hector Anchondo (solo) (7:00 pm) (The Dam Grill & Bar Outdoor Stage)

Southern Avenue @ Holland Center Outdoors (7:00 pm) (The Holland Center Outdoors)

Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)

[Sun Jul 25]

Devon & Lisa Fulton @ Heron Bay (4:00 pm) (Heron Bay)

[Wed Jul 28]

Chris Duarte @ The Zoo Bar (6:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar) Gunnar Guenette @ Tavern On Q (7:00 pm) (Tavern on Q)

Thu Jul 291

Curtis Stigers at Jazz on the Green (7:30 pm) (Jazz on the Green – Midtown Crossing)

[Fri Jul 30]

Wags and the Recess Players @ The Zoo Bar (5:00 pm) (The Zoo Bar)
Michelle Eva Bleu & B. Baldwin @ The Hop Yard (6:00 pm) (The Hop Yard)
Swampboy Blues Band @ Soaring Wings Vineyard and Brewing (7:00 pm) (Soaring Wings Winery)

(Sat Jul 31)

Into The Gray @ the Malvern, Iowa Concert Series (6:00 pm) (Malvern City Park) David Diaz Project @ Heron Bay (6:00 pm) (Heron Bay)
Uptown Saturday Nights > With the Terry Parker Quartet – The Omaha Lounge (8:30 pm)













BSO LEADERSHIP TEAM QUARTERLY MEETING

On Saturday, May 8th the BSO Leadership Team held their quarterly meeting via Zoom. The following topics were discussed.

- · Membership Status
- · Membership Drive Shows
- · Financial Review
- · BlueseEd Updates
- Summer Events Volunteer Positions
- · BSO Website Update

MEZCAL BROTHERS WITH BLUE SUNDAY Album Release Party for Shakin' Dog!

Thursday, July 2st @ 6 pm - Free Show • Dam Bar, 151 Freedom Road, Omaha

Reminiscent of a Blasters album, "Shakin Dog" includes some of the blistering rockabilly expected from the Mezcals, and is their first album in 14 years.

2016 inductees to The Nebraska Music Hall of Fame, The Mezcal Brothers have been performing their original blend of Rockabilly, Roots Rock and Country music since 1998. All members call Lincoln Nebraska their home, which has recently been labeled as a music city by its mayor. With no shortage of music venues and talented bands, it is no wonder The Mezcal Brothers continue to strive in this particular environment.

Influenced by the sounds of early Rock & Roll, The Mezcal Brothers have spread their doctrine throughout the continental U.S. and parts of Europe through tireless touring and their highly praised recordings. Sharing the stage with many of Rockabilly's greatest stars, some of which include, Wanda Jackson, Ronnie Dawson, The Blasters, Lee Rocker, The Paladins, The Reverend Horton Heat, Big Sandy, and guitar heroes like Link Wray, Dick Dale and Los Strait Jackets, all



of which have praised the highly entertaining and energetic Mezcal performance.

The Mezcal Brothers have released 4 full length albums all of which received 5 star reviews from various music publications including Black Cat Rockabilly (Europe) Hot Rod Magazine (U.S.) and Goldmine Magazine which labeled the Mezcals as one of the top Rockabilly bands in the country.

The Mezcal Brothers music has its roots in the 1950's with the emergence of Rock & Roll. It is this earlier form of

Rock & Roll, called Rockabilly, that drives the Mezcal sound. Artist like the young Elvis Presley, the flamboyant Little Richard, the irreverent Jerry Lee Lewis, plus the influential writing styles of Johnny Cash, Buddy Holly and Eddie Cochran, have all contributed to The Mezcals true Americana sound. Along with their original compositions and highly energized stage performance, The Mezcals bring a new vision to a classic tradition.

From the Lincoln Journal Star



In The Market For Blues is a GO! We are thrilled to announce our 2021 festival date of Saturday, August 7th for In The Market For Blues!

It's Time... Time to take care of our musicians... Time to enjoy live music again... Time to patronize our local music venues...

Time to take care of our own and have a good time!

Tickets will be available soon and we hope you make plans to join us for 14 hours of music at 14 venues in Downtown Omaha and the Old Market district on Saturday, August 7, 2021.



Friday, June 4th @ 5 pm Evan Bartels

Tuesday, June 8th @ 6 pm Reverend Horton (solo) and Dale Watson (solo)

Wednesday, June 16th @ 6 pm Josh Hoyer & Soul Colossal and Sneezy

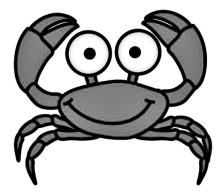
Friday, June 18th @ 5 pm Bruce Katz Band

Friday, June 25th @ 5 pm Wags and the Recess Players

Thursday, July 1st @ 6 pm Cody Grinder and the Playboy Scouts

See zoobar.com for a full schedule





FIRST TUESDAY FUNDRAISER

with the Crabby Blues Band featuring Bucky McCann Tuesday, June 1st from 6 to 9 pm Shucks, 119th and Pacific, Omaha 13% of revenue donated to local Omaha Charity Angels Among Us





BSO PRESIDENT MARK GRUBBS WHIRLWIND TOUR

Dear BSOers.

As I read the morning paper announcing Blake Shelton and Garth Brooks tours, I realize how lucky we are as Blues fans.

Shelton and Brooks tickets will be quite pricey I would guess, probably in the \$200 to \$300 range if you want to get anywhere close, at least close enough to see an outline of the artist.

Think about our weekly shows where we get three hours of entertainment for an average cost of \$15. We get to hear the music we love, get to interact with the artist, get to buy them drinks, get to buy autographed merchandise, and get to take pictures with them. That's a lot of "gets" for \$5 dollars an hour. Consider all of that for a "meet and greet" with either of the two

upcoming country artists. It would probably cost another \$100 or more, if it happens at all. Most of those artists simply just don't have the time to mingle with their fans.

Blues musicians interact with fans for a living. They usually are multi-tasking as the merch person selling and the van driver helping load equipment in and out. They are band leaders, technicians, tour managers and financial people all in one package. Then figure in the amount of time spent traveling in a van and sleeping in motels away from family and loved ones. Hard way to make a dollar...hopefully you will consider this before hesitating to go to a blues show because of the cost of tickets.

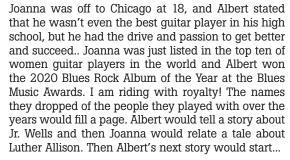
I recently had one of the best adventures of my life. Mike Zito called and asked if I would have any time to chauffeur a couple of guest artists from his Big Band tour. He needed transportation for Joanna Connor and Albert Castiglia from Omaha to Knuckleheads in Kansas City, and then to St. Louis on Saturday for a Chuck Berry tribute show. I deliberated all of ten seconds before replying "Hell Yes!".

The morning after a great show at Stocks and Bonds, I met Zito's band and my passengers at their hotel at 11:00 AM and off we went. Three people and luggage, two guitars and two amps made for a full vehicle. Joanna settled in back with Albert in front, riding shotgun. Rolling down I-29 toward K.C., the stories began to flow almost immediately. They both were originally from New York, with Joanna moving to Massachusetts at an early age and Albert to Florida



when he was around twelve. They may have left New York, but the accents didn't leave them. It was fun for this Iowa boy to just drive and listen.

They each told of their desire to get better and hone their craft.



Preparing for the trip I selected several CD's I thought they would enjoy. I loaded up the cartridge with six of my picks and we rolled into K.C. three hours later barely having heard any music. It was all stories from the stage and road and life. I reloaded the cartridge

for the trip to St. Louis, starting off with one of my favorites-Neil Young Live From Massy Hall 1971. We pulled into St. Louis and I realized we didn't even turn the stereo on. We just talked and laughed and listened. It was fantastic.

Both shows were off the charts. Nick Schnebelen sat in for a few songs at Knuckleheads along with another sax player. I thought the band sounded great at Stocks and Bonds but they really started grooving in K.C.

The final night of my mini tour was the Chuck Berry Tribute at the Pageant Theater in St. Louis. They held a memorial service and monster jam here for Chuck when he passed in 2017. They brought out the 30 foot banner displayed then for Mike Zito's tribute show. Huge stage, great sound and lots more guests. Zito's first guitar instructor and a couple of hot guitar players from Zito's past, a great-nephew of Chuck Berry played trombone and Chuck's grandson, Charlie Berry III played guitar and even threw in a nice duck walk. All in all, it was a phenomenal three days. I did find out what Tom Petty meant with the song "The Waiting Is The Hardest Part". You drive like mad to the gig and wait to get your room. Then you hurry to the venue and wait to get set up and sound check. Then you either go back to the motel or hang at the club and wait to play. The three hours they are on stage seem to blur by in three minutes and then you wait to tear down and load out and be on to the next destination to do it all over. All for the love of music.

To sum it all up, a roadtrip I will never forget. I saw the band in Lincoln, Omaha, Kansas City and St. Louis, but the highlight for me was riding with Joanna and Albert. I am fortunate to be able to meet a lot of performers but this was a perfect way to get to know these two guitar greats on a personal level. Mike Zito asked me to do a favor for him but I think I received one instead.

Thanks to Mike Zito and his wonderful bunch of musicians, and to Joanna and Albert for giving me the weekend of a lifetime!

Mark Grubbs, BSO President









Bluesman James Harman died on May 23, 2021 at the age of 74 from the effects of esophageal cancer. Harman performed as a blues harmonica player and singer. With his Icehouse Blues Band he played alongside Big Joe Turner, John Lee Hooker, Freddie King, Muddy Waters, Albert King, B. B. King, T-Bone Walker, Lowell Fulsom, Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson, Johnny "Guitar" Watson and Albert Collins. With his James Harman Band he lined up with Phil Alvin and Bill Bateman, Gene Taylor, and Kid Ramos and Hollywood Fats. In 2015 the Bonetime album earned him five 2016 Blues Music Award nominations. James was and still is a great inspiration to blues harp players and singers around the world. We are particularly grateful for his contribution to contemporary blues music and may he rest in peace.



Jazz on the Green will be live and in person this year after being online-only in 2020.

The popular summer concert series will run from July 8-29 at its usual home, Turner Park in Midtown Crossing near 31st and Farnam Streets. Concerts start at 7:30 with a preshow at 6:30. Omaha Performing Arts is the presenter.

THE LINEUP:

July 22: BSO Presents Alastair Greene

July 8: Sammy Figueroa, a Grammy Award-nominated percussionist who specializes in Latin jazz. He has played with legends such as Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins and Mariah Carey. The opening act will be local band Alexis Arai y Su Grupo Latino.

July 15: Vincent Herring and the Celebration of Life Ensemble. Herring is a virtuoso saxophonist who got his start touring Europe and the United States with Lionel Hampton in the early 1980s. He also has worked with Freddie Hubbard and Dizzy Gillespie, among others. The University of Nebraska at Omaha Jazz Combo will open.

July 22: Curley Taylor and Zydeco Trouble. Taylor and his band, from Creole country in Louisiana, plays zydeco that's tinged with old-school rhythm and blues and Southern soul. No opener has been announced.

July 29: Curtis Stigers, a singer, songwriter and saxophonist. He won an Emmy Award nomination for co-writing and singing the theme song to "Sons of Anarchy" and has written music with Carole King and Barry Mann. The opener is the local Shawn Bell Quartet.

















The Festival's mission is to: **EDUCATE, EMPOWER & ENTERTAIN**

the Omaha, Nebraska community about North Omaha culture while bringing awareness to local, social and business resources.

Saturday, June 19, 2021 12pm-12am Malcolm X Memorial Foundation Outside Amphitheater 3448 Evans Street, Omaha

> Parade 10 am to Noon Festival Noon to 5:30 pm Concert 7 pm to Midnight

The Blues Society of Omaha is honored to sponsor some of our favorite artists at the Omaha Freedom Festival including the Bruce Katz Band @ 2:15 and John Primer Band @ 3 pm at the FREE family-friendly festival in the afternoon and the Keeshea Pratt Band, 2018 IBC winner from Houston, TX at the evening concert.

Tickets for both the afternoon FREE festival and the evening concert event are available at eventbrite.com.

Event info at omahafreedomfestival.com

BSO BAND DIRECTORY

Band	Contact	Phone # / Email
COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa The Clean & Easy Band	Jerry Potter	712-309-5996
HASTINGS	•	
	Byron Starr	
KEARNEY		
	Kate Fly	308-627-3021 / kathryn1981@gmail.com
LINCOLN		
	Caleb Whisenhunt	
The Blues Project	Lary Lehman	
		402-416-3846 / josh@joshhoyer.com / booking@joshhoyer.com
· ·	Tilli Dudig	
OMAHA		402 240 2272 // 0442 // 1
		402-672-7300 / backalley@cox.net / www.backalleyomaha.com
	_	
		Kleindirectors@bluesed.com
Chuck Brown and the Basement Devils	Chuck Brown	
		402-871-4770 / buckymccann72@yahoo.com
		r
e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e		
The Matt Gagne Blues Experience	Matt Gagne	
		402-599-9255
		thbear57@cox.net
Swamphov Blues Band	Susan mome Tim Koehn	
		816-678-8360 / vintagevideography@gmail.com
TABOR, Iowa		
	Rick Hillyard	712-420-1232
•	•	



a FREE music series held on the Dam Bar stage at Omaha's Miller's Landing

MFTC is an effort to make up for a lost year of live music.

Enjoy three bands each night in a relaxed, intimate atmosphere on the banks of the Missouri River.

Headliners Indigenous, Annika Chambers and Friends, Patrick Sweany plus 6 other top artists will be performing, and maybe a couple of wandering minstrels as well.

There will be food and beverages for purchase at the Dam Bar and acres of FREE PARKING too!

Come join us. It's music that's going to Make the Blueshounds Howl!

*Interpolation of the Company of the Compa

Saturday June 26th • Band Times TBA
INDIGENOUS • LEVI PLATERO BAND
LITTLE JOE MCCARTHY (SOLO)

Saturday May 29, 6:30pm & 9:00pm Shows **Hector Anchondo Band Returns** Home for this Special Concert

> Thursday June 3, 7pm Show Phillips | Hawkins | Towne Trio

> Thursday June 3, 9pm Show Adam Larson Trio featuring John Kizilarmut and Ben Leifer

Friday June 4, 6:30pm & 9:00pm Shows **Latin Music Series Presents:** Alexis Arai y Su Grupo Latino

Saturday June 5, 6:30pm & 9:00pm Shows Juke Butter, funky soulful Jazz

Thursday June 10, 7:00pm Show MICHAEL "GOOCH" GURCIULLO returns home for a special concert

Friday June 11, 6:30pm & 9:00pm Shows Stan & The Chain Gang are back!





City

Phone

Saturday June 12, 6:30pm & 9:00pm Shows Kelley Hunt, Roots/Blues/Americana Singer Songwriter with her touring band

Thursday June 17, 6:00-9:00pm Show - 2 sets **Blues Society of Omaha Presents** The Bruce Katz Band

Friday June 18, 6:30pm & 9pm Shows (rescheduled from April 2020)

The Lao Tizer Quintet featuring Eric Marienthal

Saturday June 19, 6:30pm & 9:00pm Shows Big Wade and Black Swan Theory, A Juneteenth Celebration

Saturday June 26, 6:30pm & 9:00pm Shows **Gospel Music Series presents** Ananias Montague & the Fellowship Band

> See jewellomaha.com for event info and tickets

//// //lember

- Monthly newsletter
- Special events, parties
- 10% off your bill on Mondays at **BAILEY'S BREAKFAST & LUNCH,** 1259 S. 120th Street (next door to Bronco's), Omaha, with your current BSO Donation Card
- Special pre-sale and discounted tickets to selected BSO events

...and more

Blues Notes Advertising Rates

Ad Size	Member Rate	Non-Member Rate
Bus. Card	\$20	\$30
1/4 page	\$65	\$100
1/2 page	\$110	\$175
Full page	\$190	\$325

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APPLICATION

Join and donate online at www.omahablues.com or mail this form to: Blues Society of Omaha, Inc.

P.O. Box 241698 Omaha, NE 68124

Zip

☐ If this membership is a gift, please check here and also write your own name, address. and phone # on the reverse side. BSO gladly will notify the recipient of your gift.

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- have considered an additional donation so that BSO is able to use more funds for better purposes in the cause to promote blues music
- BSO would welcome any additional donation you might care to make towards our ongoing piects including the BluedEd youth program, Nebraska Blues Challenge band competitions, website upgrades, events, and many more

Thank you for your tax deductible donations. Your generous support will help Keep the Blues Alive !!!

A Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Corporation

Keepin' the Blues Alive!

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