Enter BLUSD International Blues Challenge by Sept 20

The IBC will be held in Memphis Jan. 21-25, 2014, bringing bands from the far corners of the globe to compete for widespread recognition. San Diego has done well at IBC in recent years, with Nathan James & Ben Hernandez, Aunt Kizzy'z Boyz, and Sue Palmer bringing home honors. When Zac Harmon won, he said it was like spending $100,000 on publicity. It’s now time for San Diego bands to start thinking about entering BLUSD’s regional competition.

The competition is scheduled for Sept. 28th at Humphrey's, Oct. 5th at Winston's and Oct. 12th at Humphrey's from 1-5pm each day.

Entry forms can be obtained by sending an email to info@blusd.org, with IBC in the subject line. Entry fees are discounted for BLUSD member bands. Don't delay, because all entries must be received by Sept. 20. The competition will be cancelled if fewer than 8 bands have entered by then. The winning band goes to Memphis and receives $900 per member to offset travel expenses. So let's do this thing! ~ BLUSD Prez Janine Harty

Voting ends Mon 9/16 for 2013 SDMA

If you haven’t done so already, please take a minute to cast your vote for your favorite Blues Nominee. Let’s show SDMA that the Blues community is a force to be reckoned with. Voting ends Monday, Sept. 16 at 5 pm (PST). www.sandiegomusicawards.com/nominees.cfm.

The 2013 San Diego Music Awards "Best Blues" Nominees are as follows: The Bayou Brothers, Bill Magee Blues Band, Chet & The Committee, Fuzzy, Michele Lundeen, Robin Henkel, Stoney B. Blues Band and Tomcat Courtney.

Nominees for "Best Blues Album: are as follows: Candye Kane - Coming Out Swingin', Charles Burton Blues Band - Sweet Potato Pie, Chess Wars - Peace, Johnny Vernazza - Lions & Thieves, Low Volts - Oh My Stars, Red Lotus Revue – Fourteen Stories, Sue Palmer & her Motel Swing Orchestra - Party Favorites, Whitney Shay - Soul Tonic. Album categories are judged by a committee only not by the public.

Best of luck to all of our Blues nominees.
BLUES LOVERS UNITED OF SAN DIEGO

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GigCalendar@BLUSD.org and/or post at www.BLUUSD.org
or use Google Calendar and “Invite” BLUSD

WEB MASTER
Position Open

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Deadlines for mid-monthly newsletter:
Articles/Events/Ads/Info should be submitted by the 5th to
editor@blusd.org in order to ensure inclusion.

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- OUR MISSION -
To preserve and promote awareness of the Blues, America’s first musical
art form. To entertain and educate the existing and growing audience and
be responsive to the music community’s needs by presenting and
supporting local and national Blues artists and culture.

BLUES LOVERS UNITED OF SAN DIEGO
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SEPT 28 1-5 pm
1ST ROUND OF IBC COMPETITION
HUMPHREY’S BACKSTAGE
Shelter Island Dr.

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Fans want to find BLUES!
It takes a village! Just do it!

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Live, interactive blues musical presentations available to share, inform
Contact: BITS@BLUSD.org
Janiva Magness on Ramona Mainstage

A
ward-winning blues and soul artist Janiva Magness, touring in support of her latest Alligator Records CD, *Stronger For It*, will perform at the Ramona Mainstage (626 Main St., Ramona), Friday, September 27, 2013. Doors open at 7 pm and tickets are $25.

A charismatic vocalist and songwriter known for her electrifying live shows, Magness is among the premier blues and R&B singers in the world today; her voice possesses an earthy, raw honesty born from her life experience. Magness recently won the 2013 Living Blues Readers' Award for Blues Artist Of The Year--Female and two 2013 Blues Music Awards: Contemporary Blues Female Artist Of The Year (her fourth win in this category) and Song Of The Year - “I Won't Cry” (by Janiva Magness and Dave Darling) from *Stronger For It*. She also won the 2009 Blues Music Award for B.B. King Entertainer Of The Year (she is only the second woman to ever win this award, Koko Taylor being the first). Through her passionate vocals and, for the first time, through her own original songs, Magness, with *Stronger For It*, delivers the most moving and intimate album of her career. Experience her live Sept 27.

Robert Cray comes to Poway Sept 20

With 5 Grammy Awards, 15 Grammy nominations, millions of record sales worldwide, and thousands of sold out performances, blues rock icon Robert Cray is considered one of the greatest guitarists of his generation. Rolling Stone Magazine credits Cray with reinventing the blues with his “distinct razor sharp guitar playing” and credits his 1986 breakthrough album, *Strong Persuader* with introducing a new generation of rock fans to the blues.

A consummate performer, Cray has written and played with blues luminaries ranging from Eric Clapton to Stevie Ray Vaughan, from Bonnie Raitt to John Lee Hooker. Recently inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame at the age of 57, he is one of the youngest living legends to receive the prestigious honor.

Showtime is 8 pm and tickets are as follows: Adults: $43; Youth (18 and under): Just $13 (with purchase of an adult ticket) and Seniors (62+): $37.

Find info at www.powayarts.org or 858-748-0505

10 Blues Acts at Adams Avenue Street Fair

The Adams Avenue Street Fair, Southern California's largest free two-day music festival, is located in the Normal Heights community of San Diego. The Street Fair offers fantastic entertainment for all-ages, all weekend.

The 2013 Adams Avenue Street Fair features more than 90 musical acts performing on seven stages on Adams Avenue. In addition to the exciting musical lineup, there will be beer gardens, a beer tasting area, giant carnival rides, and more than 300 food, arts and craft vendors selling their specialties throughout the street fair venue.

Blues related acts this year includes national touring artist Zac Harmon plus regional favorites Robin Henkel, Lady Star & Her Bustin’ Loose Blues Band, The Bayou Brothers, Lady Dottie & The Diamonds, Backwater Blues Band, Lafayette Blues Band, Chickenbone Slim & The Biscuits, Patrick Ellis & The BlueFrog Band and Red Lotus Revue.

The Adams Avenue Street Fair is presented by the Adams Avenue Business Association, a non-profit organization, whose mission is to promotes and increase commercial activity within the Adams Avenue Business District.

Let us know if you hear of a Blues-type Jam that is not listed here or if a listed Jam is no longer happening! Thanks! BLUSD
I n July, longtime local drum icon Ric Lee, who was also our illustrious BLUSD Blues Camp drum Instructor, arranged to bring the screening of the movie, The Wrecking Crew a film about the L.A. session musicians who played on all the hits in the sixties and early seventies (www.wreckingcrewfilm.com), to the Saville Theater. Ric also developed the Tedesco Music Scholarship fund, named after the director Denny Tedesco and his father Tommy Tedesco, one of the original session players. A portion of the proceeds made up the scholarship designed to help a deserving young student attend our Blues Camp. Guitarist/singer Leilani Kilgore, pictured at left, was the lucky recipient.

Many of you may know that Wyatt Lowe and family relocated right after our Blues Camp finale concert. This left a void in the Youngbloods band obviously as they had gigs coming right up. Leilani has her own band but stepped up to front the Youngbloods at the Baja Blues Fest and Hennessey’s Youth Jam.

The next Hennessey’s Youth Jam for artists under 25, will be October 5th from 2-5pm. Come down and show your support for all the young artists... The future of the blues!

Find the wonderful photos that Mary Margaret and David Lewis took during our 2013 Blues Camp. Find them here http://hummingbirdenterprises.smugmug.com.

Please note that we are always looking for donations for sponsoring young talent for our future Camps and events. Our BLUSD Blues Summer Camp is staffed by some of San Diego’s finest working Blues musicians, six of which just happened to end up 2013 San Diego Music Awards ”Best Blues” Nominees. Contact Janet at blusdbits@gmail.com.

Below is a terrific “thank you” letter that Leilani wrote to thank Denny Tedesco and BLUSD. Please take a few minutes to read what this promising young talent expressed.

Dear Mr. Denny Tedesco and Blues Lovers United of San Diego, My name is Leilani Kilgore and I was the scholarship recipient for this year’s San Diego blues camp. I want to thank everyone for the incredible opportunity and experience that I was given last week; the instructors I worked with are all insanely talented musicians and taught me things I’m not sure I would have learned anywhere else. Getting the chance to work with so many artists and creative minds is something I sincerely value, and something I always have and always will love doing.

The camp itself was admirably well organized. Janet Blair and her coworkers did a fantastic job of making sure our camp time was productive. On top of that, we as students were able to learn from blues masters such as Bill McGee, Robin Henkel, Stoney B and Wyatt Lowe; each of these guest inspired us and taught us valuable lessons about being musicians and expressing ourselves in our own unique ways. For example, I got to work with guitarist John January, an amazing musician, who taught me some tricks I know I’ll use for the rest of my life. Same goes for Fuzzy Rankins; I was invited to sit in with him for one or two songs down at Croce’s one night, and it was the first time I had seen or heard him play guitar. I had no idea I had been working all week with someone who played guitar like they had been plucking those six strings before they even learned to walk. It was an absolute honor to play blues with him, and he too taught me riffs and chords I’ll forever use.

Another phenomenal musician I had the pleasure of working with is Jimmy Woodard, one of the kindest and most patient guys I’ve ever met. I remember watching him working with the younger kids every morning, teaching them bar chords and strumming patterns and feeling nothing but respect. On top of that, he gave me the responsibility of playing turnarounds and opening/closing riffs to a few of the songs, and every time I made a mistake or missed a cue, he was right there to calmly reteach me my part and practice my timing with me. I really appreciated that. He also backed me up during my performance of Etta James’ “I’d Rather Go Blind”, and when I asked him if he wanted to solo, he responded with “I want YOU to solo. This is your song. Step up and go for it.” He was unbelievably supportive, and in fact turned out to be an old high school buddy of my father’s, so I hope to be working with him more in the future.

However, Mr. Rankins and Mr. Woodard are not the only instructors I want to thank; Michele Lundeen (one of the most talented vocalists I’ve met) worked with me and helped me establish my role as a performing vocalist. Ric Lee, an extraordinary drummer, also backed me up during “I’d Rather Go Blind”, and I couldn’t have asked for a better drummer. Not only that, but he helped his students learn how to compliment the songs in our set and read cues, as well as keep perfect timing. Watching these young kids become pro drummers by the end of the week was a lot of fun. On the day of the final performance, two of my friends and I decided to jam in between rehearsal and the actual performance, and these two young boys backed us up on the drums... their skill levels was mind-blowing. The bass instructor, Mr. Danny “Basscat” Perez, is a wonderful bassist; I may not be too familiar with bass, but even I could see the way that he incorporated chords and transitions was impressive. He helped a good friend of mine, Christian Kalaftat, become an incredible bassist and I know Christian was proud to work with him.

All in all, my time at the camp was an experience of a lifetime and would not have happened if it wasn’t for those of you who helped me get there. I cannot thank you enough for presenting me with such an honor and hope to make it up to you by using what I learned to help me excel at what I love doing and have dedicated myself to. I’m sincerely grateful for the time and funding put into the camp and the scholarship that got me there.

Thank you a hundred times over... Leilani Kilgore
BLUSD had a GREAT time at the SD Blues Fest. Thanks so much to our volunteers, who made it all possible, to those who joined or renewed their membership, signed up for our emails, made donations and purchased our merchandise! And thanks to Jay Sieleman and Priscilla Hernandez of the Blues Foundation, who shared our booth and were great company! They were there to promote the Raise the Roof campaign for the Blues Hall of Fame and they also sold some Blues Foundation merchandise. The photo at right is of BLUSD member Berkeley Loveless, the first person to buy one of our new tank tops! ~ Janine Harty

The following photos are from various photographers at the event. Find more on their personal sites and/or Facebook.

Chris James and Billy Boy Arnold  
(photo by Dan Chusid)

Dave Alvin  
(photo by Dan Chusid)

Eden Brent  
(photo by Marilyn Stringer)

Jody Williams & Ric Lee  
(photo by Mary Ann Haskell)

Matt & Nikki Hill  
(photo by Marilyn Stringer)

Enthusiastic crowd  
(photo by Mary Ann Haskell)

Charlie Musselwhite and producer Michael Kinsman wave goodbye at the end of a great night!  
(photo by Marilyn Stringer)
Q.E.D
Jim Allchin
Sandy Key Music LLC

Q.E.D. is an excellent example of contemporary blues gone wild. It is definitely one of the best CDs I have heard all year and I have heard many. Allchin jumps right in with some sweet boogie licks to introduce the first cut, “Stop and Go,” and when it shifts into high gear, his tone and phrasing are the kind of driving rock and blues that makes you instinctively start playing air-guitar.

A former Microsoft executive, Jim Allchin takes and makes the best of Seattle, bringing in some of the area’s finest musicians. Utilizing an amazing drummer, Ben Smith, talented keyboardist Brooke Lizotte, Dan Dean on bass and horns by New York Brass, Jim creates a fat sound rich in orchestration and tone.

“Trust Me” is a slow blues featuring Mycle Wastman’s stellar vocals, Jim’s searing and soaring guitar and big band horn arrangements to perfectly compliment the jazzy piano break. “Chime Blues” and “Thinking of You” are beautiful instrumentals with subtle, melodic guitar tones reminiscent of Eric Clapton. Another cranking tune is “Tried and True” with more blazing fretboard work and tones straight from a Larry Carlton album. Flipping the switch for a slow blues instrumental, “Drowning” allows Jim to channel a combination of Stevie Ray Vaughan and Santana. “Come On Home” and “No Way Out” borrow some familiar country and traditional Latin rhythms, respectively, to highlight Jim’s amazing guitar virtuosity.

This CD has it all: Thirteen songs that grab you right from the first lick, with a tight and talented band creating the most beautiful waves for Jim to musically surf – and he shreds. Jim can play fast, slow, jazz, ballads, blues and slide and with his strong vocals, he is the complete package. Q.E.D is a very fun CD and I highly recommend it. ~ Doyle Thomas

LIVE AT HERMOSA SALOON
Phil Gates
DCT Productions

Releasing a live performance CD can be a risky venture. It takes an experienced team of musicians, all zoned in on the songs and so comfortable with each other that their licks – whether structured or improvised - come off as a groove the audience wants to ride. We’ve all heard clumsy, wooden recordings that can result when there’s no safety net – no “take 2” to correct the mistakes.

Phil Gates and his band made no mistake in committing to a live album here. They’ve got it together, and they dish it out. Having worked as a sound engineer, record producer and session guitarist, in addition to heading up his own band, Gates has the expertise to make this live performance work.

The disk starts off with a bang on “Addicted to the Blues,” a track that cuts loose in a mellow way. You can’t sit still while you listen to “Away I Go.” With Phil demonstrating his mastery of many moods of the guitar, accompanying himself on vocals, the superb Morris Beeks on keyboards, Ron Battle on the bass, and Keith Williams on drums, they engage you in a smooth, groovy trip that is sometimes funky, sometimes Motown, and sometimes jazzy, as on “Get Around to Me,” the closing track.

Nine of the eleven songs were written by Gates. His intriguing lyrics have a lot to say. For example, he introduces “Take It Out” with his advice that “ain’t nothin’ new gonna happen til you take out the trash,” explaining that you’ve got to clear your mind, take out all that trash, let it go, to free up your life.

They do a great job on Junior Wells’ “Messin’ With the Kid,” and throw in a wild card interpretation of John Sebastian’s “Summer in the City” for a taste of rock nostalgia. Live At The Hermosa Saloon and the audience loved it. ~ DM

(by Marilyn Stringer)
We encourage our members to volunteer. Get right in there, roll up your sleeves and start spreading the (blues) news with us! We need volunteers for our BLUSD “Festival Team,” Regional IBC Team,” “Membership Party Team,” “Newsletter Team,” and “Blues In The Schools Team.” For detailed info see our many volunteer team opportunities at http://blusd.org/volunteer/

If you are already a member, either fill out the Volunteer Form at http://blusd.org/membership/or give us a call at (619) 630-9416. If you’re not yet a member or need to renew, just follow the steps at http://blusd.org/membership/ using PayPal’s secure credit card processing system ...THEN, fill out our Volunteer Form at http://blusd.org/membership/ and let us know how you can help out! Once you take the first step, our volunteer coordinator will contact you and see where your talents and availability will fit best. Thanks in advance for your interest!

Be a BLUSD Volunteer! Reap cool benefits!

W*You can renew online via PayPal at www.blusd.org OR return this form to us with your check payment
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If yes, name of Artist/Band: ______________________________ Band website: ____________________________________
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