



The Kentuckiana Blues Society
PO Box 755
Louisville, KY 40201-0755

Summer 2017

RE: Kentuckiana Blues Society
2017 Annual Blues Challenge
Underwritten by Four Roses Bourbon

To Whom It May Concern:

Greetings! The Kentuckiana Blues Society will be presenting the 2017 Band Challenge at Stevie Ray's Blues Bar on Sunday, September 10 and the 2017 Solo/Duo Challenge at a location yet to be determined on Sunday, September 17. (If we do not have enough applicants to hold two separate competitions, both band and solo/duo contests will be held at Stevie Ray's on September 10, 2017) The 2017 Youth Representative and Best Self-Produced CD will be decided by the KBS board from all entries submitted. Because our society is an affiliate member of the Blues Foundation, the winner of these events will receive an automatic berth in the International Blues Challenge (IBC) held in Memphis January 16-20, 2018.

This challenge is a regional event, and we encourage any blues act to compete. Interested groups will need to send a photo, a demo CD (non-returnable) or MP3 links, a \$25.00 entry fee (made payable to the Kentuckiana Blues Society), and an application by the deadline to:

KBS Blues Challenge
Kentuckiana Blues Society
PO Box 755
Louisville, KY 40201-0755

The entry deadline for the band and solo/duo challenges is August 31, 2017. The deadline for the youth challenge is September 1, 2017 and the entry fee is waived.

To be eligible, the band or act cannot have ever been on a final Handy Awards Ballot nor won the KBS Contest the previous year. Note that the Kentuckiana Blues Society follows the eligibility requirements of the Blues Foundation with the additional requirement that all band and solo/duo contestants must be 21 years old or over by the date of the challenge and the act must reside and/or play regularly in the Kentuckiana area (Kentucky and Southern Indiana). (See the Blues Foundation's web site at <http://www.blues.org> for details). We will also accept CD's for the Best Self-Produced CD category (no entry fee required). The deadline for the CD contest is October 1, 2017.

Each group will be allotted 20-30 minutes to play and will be judged on blues content, vocal talent, instrument talent, originality and stage presence. The playing order of the acts will be determined by blind draw the day of the challenge. The winner of the band category will receive \$1,500, the winner of the Solo/Duo category will receive \$750 and the winner of the Youth category will receive \$250 in prize money. The winners of the band and solo/duo challenges will also receive recording time at a local studio and receive a berth to the IBC in 2018. Youth winner will be eligible for a spot in the 2018 IBC Youth Showcase and the CD challenge winner will represent the KBS in the 2018 IBC Best Self-Produced CD challenge.

Attached is an application form or you can find them on-line at kbsblues.org. If you have any questions or need additional information, I can be reached at prez@kbsblues.org or (502) 593-7824

Sincerely,

Mark Sneed, President
Kentuckiana Blues Society

"To preserve, promote and perpetuate the blues tradition"

The Kentuckiana Blues Society is an Affiliate of

