

All the news about the blues, blues artists and blues events

MAPLE BLUES NEWS



April 2025

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PHOTO BY NORA CANFIELD

Crystal Shawanda celebrates the release of 'Sing Pretty Blues' at Lula Lounge on Thursday, April 10

Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne
Fife & Drum
Reviews

Loose Blues News
Top Blues
Live Blues

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Official Announcement: Maple Blues News Goes Fully Digital

The Toronto Blues Society is committed to both financial responsibility and environmental sustainability. As part of this commitment, we have made the decision to transition the Maple Blues Newsletter to an entirely digital format, now rebranded as Maple Blues News.

Going digital allows us to reduce our environmental footprint while ensuring that we can continue delivering high-quality blues news and updates in a fiscally responsible way. This change was carefully considered and approved by the Toronto Blues Society Board, recognizing the importance of adapting to a more sustainable future.

Maple Blues News will continue to bring you the latest in the Canadian blues community, with the same great content now more accessible than ever.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we take this step forward together.

Toronto Blues Society

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, April 6 1-5pm TBS Office, 910 Queen St W. Suite B04 Open house/
garage sale (TBS is moving out of our office and everything must go)

Thursday, April 10 7pm Crystal Shawanda CD Release Lula Lounge, 1585
Dundas St W, Toronto. \$25 advance (more at the door). TBS Members Get \$7 off

Friday, June 6 TBS 40th Anniversary Party,
Long Branch Social House - More info to follow

March 2026 Maple Blues Awards



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Blues Boss

Quebec City bluesologist (and guitar picker) Pierre Jobin shares his impressions of Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne at the Grand Theatre in Quebec, June 8, 2024

"Blues From Chicago To Paris, an amazing show, a warm encounter!"

I had the great pleasure, last night June 8th, 2024 to attend a performance by Kenny Blues Boss Wayne, and had the privilege of meeting one of the great blues and boogie-woogie pianists of our time. He performed with skill and aplomb at the Octave Crémazie room of the Grand Théâtre de Québec. He was masterfully supported by Montreal's Ben Racine Band, a quintet, guitar, bass, drums, baritone saxophone and tenor saxophone who did an impeccable job in intelligent, energetic and heartfelt playing with this pianist who is, now, a living legend of blues, nothing less!

Mr Wayne demonstrates great energy, feeling and magic fingers that make him a blues-style artist who sits at the top of the genre with grace and elegance.

Duke Robillard, highly acclaimed guitarist and producer, greatly appreciated by Muddy Waters wrote about him: *"Kenny Blues Boss Wayne, beside being a monster piano player and all around great guy, is a very imaginative songwriter and soulful singer who captures the essence of old school blues and boogie while simultaneously sounding totally fresh and contemporary... I think you will feel the joy in the music which is 100% Kenny Blues Boss Wayne. Enjoy!"*

Blues is the *"facts of life"* according to Willie Dixon, who I consider the genius of Chicago Blues, Blues can be described as an integrated mixture of talent, feeling and experience! To me, this music of performance represents, also, a combination of human warmth blended with simplicity, respect and love of the audience. Kenny Blues Boss Wayne generously meets all of these criteria!

B.B. King, "The Chairman of the Board" and the most charismatic bluesman I've ever met, once, told me - we were sitting at the back of his tour bus parked at the same Grand Théâtre de Québec - he told me those simple 7 words,



Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne will channel Ray Charles in Lance Anderson's tribute, Genius + Soul- The Music of Ray Charles on April 5 at the Aurora Town Square Performance Hall in Aurora (7:30 pm Show Start). The programme also features Gene Hardy on saxophone, Kevan McKenzie on percussion and our own Quisha Wint.

"Most of them are from the heart " which I believe, according to all likelihood and the topic, then, discussed, that it was about his friends bluesmen and blueswomen! Those few words, from this great bluesman touched and moved me so deeply that I wrote them in golden letters on the wall!

Kenny Wayne, this seasoned bluesman, well versed in the different styles of blues & associated music, has, for a long while, paid his dues as the Blues Boss and he is part of this beautiful great Blues brotherhood with a capital "B", the one that never dies!

About this nickname, he told me with simplicity and humor that Amos Milburn, the pianist and singer renowned for blues and rhythm n' blues of the 40s-50s, had released an album under the title *The Return Of "The Blues Boss"*. This was in 1963. This influential pianist and boogie-woogie singer had, among other things, influenced his idol Fats Domino. Mr Milburn, having passed away in 1980, Kenny Wayne, confident and witty had the brilliant idea to later pick up this title that has been left vacant since the death of his hero! No one ever said anything about that, he told me. He added that there was a DJ who had the same nickname but he let me know that the guy didn't care about it, due to the fact that he was not a musician! So, it went like butter in the frying pan! As a matter of fact, I really

like and am fond of these tasty, funny, unusual, even juicy stories from these bluesmen with an inexhaustible verve of storytelling and a great sense of humor!

Talent, generosity, warmth and simplicity contributes to granting this pianist and accomplished performer a strong credibility and solid recognition. He is a master of performing arts, very generous and competent in cooperating with musicians and very warm with the audience that he invites and encourages to participate! All these qualities have just been celebrated in Memphis, TN where he won the 2024 Blues Music Award-winning Blues Instrumentalist – Piano, Pinetop Perkins Piano Player. This is one of the great, if not, the greatest honour that a dedicated blues practitioner can receive while alive!

Hats off Mr Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne, I'm a fan and hopefully a friend in the Blues! Thank you for coming!

See you next time!

Pierre "Goly" Jobin

P.S. Thanks to Brian Slack of Zeb Productions for greatly facilitating the contact with the artist. This is very helpful and appreciated!

- Pierre Jobin

Fife & Drum

TBS member John Mulligan has been fascinated by the "fife & drum" sounds that were a branch of the big blues tree and shares with us his discovery of that genre.

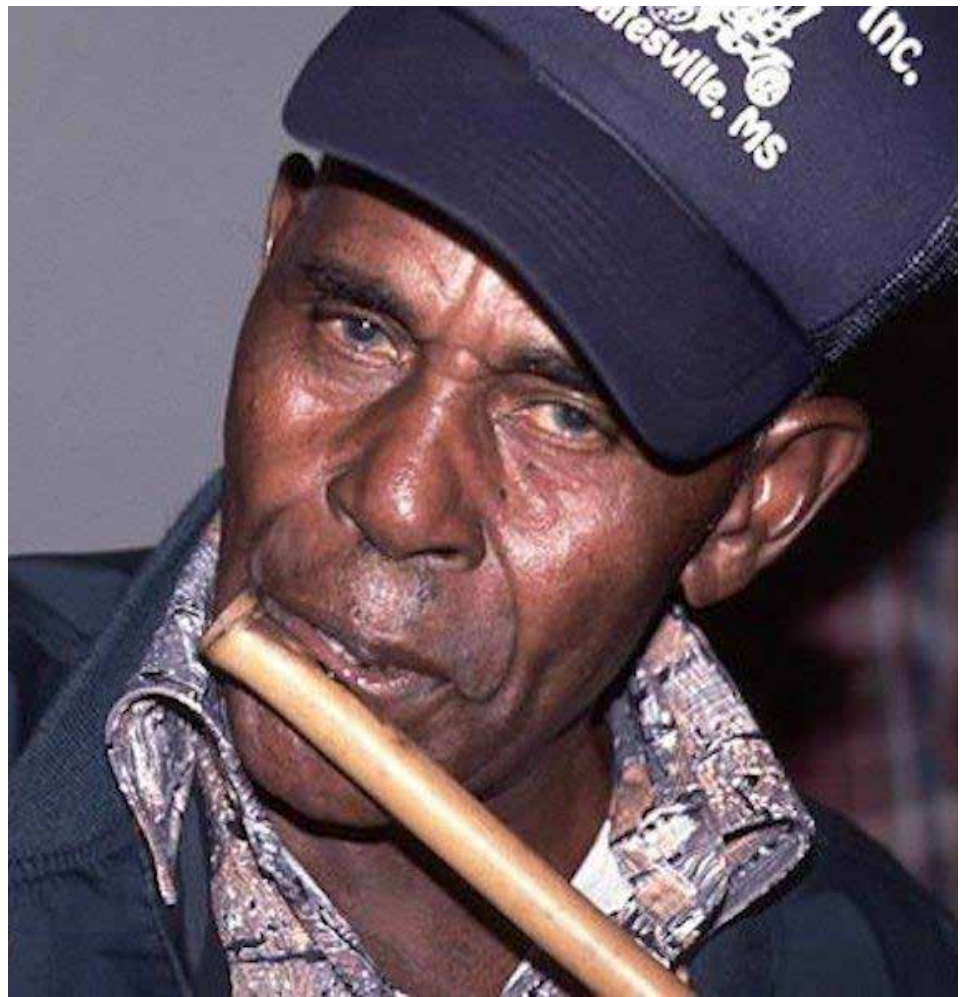
"I grew up viewing this music as something unique to the state of Mississippi so you can imagine my shock to discover that this was actually a ubiquitous form of black music particularly in the period of Reconstruction. It lasted longer in the state of Mississippi than anywhere else." ([History is Lunch: John M. Shaw, "The South's Black Fife and Drum Tradition."](#))

It's a quiet Mississippi afternoon in the hill country. Then you hear the drums. They're far off but getting closer. Then you hear the fife playing high-pitched simple melodies. The drums are louder, almost drowning out the high, plaintive singing of the fife. Then you see the truck, with three men sitting in the back. They're dressed like farmers on their day off, which is what they are. Their clothes look good and they wear straw pork-pie hats. One is playing the bass drum, one is playing a snare drum, and one is playing a homemade fife, made from a kind of cane plant that grows on and around his property.

The truck pulls into a barnyard, and the men get out and start playing. Cars are parked by the barn, and some people are standing around. Some are cooking, and some are just standing in the shade drinking beer.

The musicians are playing and walking at a measured pace around the barnyard. The fife player is Otha Turner and the band is the Rising Star Fife and drum band. This is the annual Otha Turner goat roast and family reunion. It's a big event in the hill country, and neighbors from miles around will attend. A small group of men surround the band and they dance to the music. The beats are strong and the men are limber dancers. They seem to be improvising their dances. The musicians encourage them.

Turner tells the man with the camera that the song they just played is a good "leading song." It's a good song to start the festivities



Otha Turner, keeping the "fife and drum" tradition alive

with. "How far can people hear it?" asks the cameraman. Turner answers as he often does in a flurry of emphatic speech. "They can hear it for a mile or two, or three or four mile." The sound can travel even further when the truck goes along the tops of the hills. "People will come around when they hear that," he explains. "It means something good is happening at Otha's place, they'll come and see about it."

That something special is the Labor Day Picnic at Otha Turner's farm. There will be music, food, and general partying. The Rising Stars Fife and Drum Band will be featured. They like to play blues and church songs. It's an annual tradition and it represents the tail end of the Black fife and drum bands. After the Civil War, they were everywhere throughout the South, causing musicologist John M. Shaw, in his video "The South's Black Fife and Drum Tradition," to call the music "ubiquitous."

Shaw goes on to say what years fife and drum bands disappeared from their communities. They disappear because of a lack of opportunity and interest. At first, after the Civil War, the bands provided an

alternative to insurance. The bands played at funerals and parades. They made sure you had a good crowd at your funeral because belonging to the club meant you had to be supportive and go to the funerals.

Eventually, people got tired of it. Young people think it's old-fashioned, and the tradition dies out. The fife and drum bands are relegated to playing at picnics and family reunions. As so many things do, the bands fade away. According to Shaw, the drum bands, as they were often called, lasted into the 1980s.

Then a miracle happened. One of Turner's grandchildren, a young girl about 7 years old wanted to learn to play the fife, just like her granddaddy. So he gave her one. Later he would teach her how to make her own. The girl's name was Sharde Thomas, and she took to the fife music like a real musician. She struggled to get better, and she played with the band. When she was 12, her grandfather passed away and she took leadership of the band. She played gigs that Otha was scheduled to play when he died. This included playing on bluesman Corey Harris' album, *Mississippi to Mali*. She also played festival dates. She

started playing with Luther Dickinson and his North Mississippi All-Stars. This was a natural step as Dickinson had always attended Otha Turner's Labor Day picnics. He would sit in with Turner, playing electric slide guitar, creating fluid harmonies behind the cane flute music.

Sharde is carrying on Otha's tradition and taking it into the future. Her band plays at festivals and concerts all around the world. The picnic has transformed into a concert occasion with a proper stage and sound facilities. Sharde's music finds her looking back to her grandfather's tradition and keeping that alive. Her own music can sound surprisingly modern but still based on the old beats, and her handmade cane flute carries the melodies and harmonies out of the past and into the future. She is creating a new vocabulary for the old music in her songs. This is how traditions survive.

There was a time when the New Orleans style of Black marching bands had all but died out. Then the Dirty Dozen Brass Band caught on, and now the format is wildly popular and there are new brass bands all over the place. I guess you could call it a movement. History is honored and a future is created.

Maybe the same thing can happen with the Black Fife and Drum bands.

Notes:

There are videos on YouTube about Otha Turner and his picnics on his farm in the hill country of North Mississippi. The description given in the first paragraphs of this article is drawn from an amalgamation of those videos. They can be accessed by searching for Otha Turner on the Lomax Film Collection website.

Living Blues Magazine of November 2024 (I got my issue in late January, due to the Canadian mail strike) carried a 10-page article about Otha's (or Otha's) granddaughter, Sharde Thomas. The article is called *Sharde Thomas-Mallory, The Evolution of Fife and Drum*. I highly recommend it.

I'm researching whether Black Fife and Drum music made its way into Ontario with Freedom Seekers. Fort George, in Niagara-On-The-Lake, Ontario, has a Black Fife and Drum Corps, but their style is martial and they don't play the more social music of the non-military bands. I'll report on this as I gather more information.

- John Mulligan



The Pride of Winnipeg, Big Dave McLean will be taking home the JUNO Award for Blues Album of the Year for his latest album on Cordova Bay, This Old Life, recorded in just four days at The Ganaraska Recording Company in Cobourg, Ontario, co-produced by Steve Marriner and Jimmy Bowskill. Congratulations to the all the other nominees, David Gogo, Sue Foley, Blue Moon Marquee and Samantha King and The Midnight Outfit..



This month's recommended listening by Brad Wheeler, music writer for the Globe and Mail
Twitter: @bwheelerglobe

Bobby Rush and Kenny Wayne Shepherd *Young Fashioned Ways*
Thirty Tigers

***Crystal Shawanda** *Sing Pretty Blues* New Sun Records

Johnny Iguana *At Delmark* Delmark

Songhoy Blues *Heritage* Transgressive

Various artists *The Lost Recordings: The Original American Folk Blues Festival 1962 & 1963* ACT

***Kenny (Blues Boss) Wayne** *Ooh Yeah!* Stony Plain

Robbie Basho *Snow Beneath the Belly of a White Swan* Tompkins Square

Ally Venable *Money & Power* Ruf

Family *Southern Avenue* Alligator

***Ollee Owens** *Nowhere to Hide* Independent

Sean Chambers *Live From Daryl's House* Club Quarto Valley

John Mayall *Second Generation: Live Magic 1968-1993* Madfish

Tony Holiday *Keep Your Head Up* Forty Below

Eric Johanson *Live in Mississippi* Ruf

Various artists *Treasures Untold: A Modern 78 RPM Reader* Tompkins Square

ZZ Ward *Liberation* Dirty Shine/Sun

Janiva Magness *Back For Me* Blue Élan

***David Vest and Terry Robb** *CrissCross* Cordova Bay

Jerron Paxton *Things Done Changed* Smithsonian Folkways

***Colin James** *Chasing The Sun* Stony Plain

Larkin Poe *Bloom* Tricki-Woo

* = Canadian



Escarpment Anniversary: As the TBS celebrates our 40th year, we offer a big congratulations to our neighbours, and Canada's newest Blues Society, the Hamilton-based Escarpment Blues Society, celebrating their first-year anniversary with a big show on Tuesday, May 27th at the Ancaster Memorial Theater. The concert will feature Chuck Jackson, Steve Strongman, Sandra Bouza, Selena Evangeline, Ira Walker, Spencer McKenzie and the EBS Allstars. <https://escarpmentbluessociety.ca>

Mighty Ducks Moving On: On March 22 The Mighty Duck Blues Band wrapped their residency at Coco Bar (formerly Jo Blos Rock & Wok) their 3rd home base since forming the band in 2006. Undeterred, the band plays on with two important single shows on their calendar. Sat. May 10th, Andrew Kempa's 62nd Birthday Boogaloo, Stonewall's, Hamilton with special guest Bill Durst and Fri. June 6th as part of The Toronto Blues Society's 40th Anniversary, Long Branch Social House, Etobicoke. Gary Kendall writes, "Nothing Lasts Forever (Especially In The Music Business)... The venues provided us with the opportunity to grow as a band and present a stellar lineup of special guests. For this we are grateful. We're also keeping the door open for consideration if another residency offer should on present.

Suzie Vinnick tour update: TBS board member and the hardest-working, fastest-driving roots music artist is doing a different kind of tour, different for this part of the country. The Home Routes organization,



The Hogtown All-Stars were formed almost by accident in 2013 as a unit to keep Downchild members busy during the winter hiatus while bandleader Donnie Walsh was "gone fishing." A Stony Plain Records deal in 2021 led to their Hogwild release in 2022. The Downchild Farewell Tour is now history with Chuck Jackson, Gary Kendall, Pat Carey, Teddy Leonard, Jim Casson, Tyler Yarema and Howard Moore ramping up HTA performance activity. Their first show of 2025 is at Toronto's Redwood Theatre on Bad Thursday, April 17th. Numerous festival and concert appearances are beginning to fill up the HTA calendar.

founded by Mitch Podolak, was/is a godsend to folk & roots artists because they provided a tour of house concerts in far-flung parts of Canada where artists could reach a new audience and a most appreciative audience. This is the first time Home Roots has promoted a tour in Ontario and Suzie is the perfect performer for these intimate house concerts. She will be playing tunes from her latest album, Fall Back Home, in living rooms in Ontario from Petrolia to Pickering in early April. Many shows are sold out but you can check for tix at www.homeroutes.ca

Southside Shuffle Murder Mystery Night! Flip Flop and Die: The Demise of the Shuffle King: Shuffle founder Chuck Jackson promises an unforgettable night of fun, intrigue, and a delicious buffet dinner,

all in support of the Southside Shuffle held at Clarke Memorial Hall in Port Credit! On Saturday, April 26th, audience members will be treated to an immersive experience filled with laughs and surprises. Enjoy dinner, collect evidence, and get ready to crack the case! The evening concludes with the thrilling reveal of the murderer and prizes awarded to those who solved the mystery. <https://simpli.events/e/southsideshufflemurdermystery>.

Passing and near-passing: Ted Hawkins was everybody's drummer but could immediately switch to front-man mode singing and playing a stand-up cocktail drum. His commitment and work ethic showed until his last day, as he had multiple shows scheduled before ending up in hospital where he passed away. Dying in yer boots, as they say. A beloved regular in the Toronto scene, and Hamilton born, see Billboard Canada's full obituary article in which many local Blues musicians retell their history with Ted and share how much he meant so many. Teddy Hawkins died on March 22 of a heart attack, at 69. <http://ca.billboard.com/fyi/obituary-teddy-hawkins>.

Also last month, R&B legend George Olliver, who is recovering from a recent stroke, had mistakenly been reported as "passed away" online, until his wife posted that he was alive and still with us, counteracting the flooding of Facebook condolences and memories. George is currently recovering, and in the outpouring of well wishes we are certainly reminded of his reach as a treasured artist and pioneer of the "Toronto sound" going all the way back to Mandala, of his captivating voice, and splits on stage in entertaining the Blues & Soul scene. Wishing George a speedy recovery.

SHAWN KELLERMAN BAND

The Back Alley Bar & Grill
St. Thomas, ON

Sun, Apr 27
Show: 2:00 PM

Adv: \$30.00
Doors: \$35.00

wsg Ian Andrews Band

WWW.TICKETSCENE.CA/EVENTS/49434/

ALBUM REVIEWS



Vaneese Thomas *Stories In Blue* Overton Music

Vaneese Thomas is quite a singer! Her soul is deep, authentic and rooted.

Born in Memphis, TN, she is the daughter of the legendary Rufus Thomas, whose career spanned half a century and who was a major figure at Stax Records. She is also the younger sister of Carla Thomas, the Queen of Memphis Soul and of the highly respected keyboardist Marvell Thomas (R.I.P.). Since her debut in 1987, she has some ten albums to her name. Her preferred musical styles are R&B, gospel, blues, and jazz, from which she cultivates her very personal, soul-stirring style.

"Stories In Blue" is an opus of seven pieces exuding soul and dedication. She composed four of those and contributed to the other three. It seems relevant to me to mention here that, highly appreciated on the international music scene as a singer, she is also an active composer, producer, and actress. She has collaborated musically with a plethora of great artists such as Luciano Pavarotti, Sting, Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Celine Dion, Eric Clapton, and Bruce Springsteen, to name a few.

Her recent release, on the brand-new Memphis label Overton Music, opens with "Do Y'all" for "Do Y'all know where the blues come from?" With her ancestors in mind, the mistreated African slaves who injected soul and sound into the blues and inspired her life and career, she sings this vibrant, beautiful and irrepressible story in a R&B groove not to be missed. The following song, "When You Were My Man," is a post-mortem reflection on a broken love relationship, one of the central themes of blues and soul. The rather light and swinging tone serve as a distanced position from the difficult event, while remaining just as convincing. In "Wandering," a ballad with deep blues and solid lyrical flights, Vaneese really stirs the emotions and soul of the listener by singing empathetically a song about the situation of a very lonely person who suffers deeply from that condition...

From my point of view, it ties in with a central theme of the 21st century's blues, the solitude of individuals, the lot of many in this post-modern blues world...

The song "1917" is a musical and historical return to the period of World War I. Paradoxically, jazz was played everywhere in clubs and juke joints; it was a precursor context to the "Roaring Twenties" from 1920 to 1929. It was also, especially, the year of birth of her father Rufus Thomas, who left his mark on the evolution of black music, on it's shaping and transformative influence. "The Last Thing On My Mind" is another ballad, another story of lost love, a twist of fate that

leaves deep and painful traces. "7 Miles From Home," a walking blues enhanced with expressive acoustic slide guitar, is inspired by a poem, a personal story of one of her acquaintances. It is also the classic story of returning home after the ups and downs, the vagaries of life. In the wake of the previous piece, the last song, "End of the Road," is an a cappella with hand clapping and supportive choir. It completes the album on a hopeful note, namely, that at the end of the road we could be relieved and freed.

This album, which is only twenty-three minutes long, is fine quality!

- Pierre Jobin



CBC Radio (National)
Saturday Night Blues, w/ Holger Petersen
Saturday at 6:05pm + online at CBC Music
Listen on demand [HERE](#)



JAZZ-FM 91.1 (Toronto)
Bluz FM, w/ Danny Marks
Saturday 8:00 pm-midnight
Listen link at <https://jazzfm91.streamb.online/JAZZFM91-CJRT-FM-3681370880/stream-popup>



CIUT 89.5 FM - U of T (Toronto)
Calling All Blues, w/rotating hosts Sugar Brown, Brooke Blackburn, and Blues Doctor Julie (Saturday 12:00 Noon)
A to Z Blues, w/ Screamin' Red (Tuesday 8:00-9:00pm)
Listen link at <https://ciut.fm/>



CKWR 98.5 FM (Kitchener)
Old Chicago Blues, w/ Willy A.
Saturday 12:30pm - 2:00pm
Listen link www.ckwr.com



CJLX 91.3 FM - Loyalist College (Belleville)
Saturday Night Blues Review, w/ George Vaughan
Saturday 6-7pm
Listen at <https://91x.fm/>

WBFO 88.7FM (Buffalo)
The Blues on WBFO
Saturdays 7-11pm w/ Pat Fedballe
Sundays 7pm-Midnight w/ Tommy 'Z'
Listen at <https://www.wbfo.org/show/the-blues-on-wbfo>

CKCU 93.1FM - Carleton University (Ottawa)
Black and Blues, w/ John Tackaberry
Sunday 9-11pm
Listen at <https://cod.ckcufm.com/programs/38/info.html>

CFRU 93.3 FM - University of Guelph
Blues Around The Block, w/ Mac Dee
Monday 7-9:00 pm
Listen at <https://www.cfru.ca>

CKAR Hunter's Bay 88.7 FM (Muskoka)
Big Beat Bar-B-Cue Radio Show, w/ Matt Allen
Tuesday Midnight - 2:00am
Sundays 10am to 12 Noon
Listen at <https://muskokaradio.com/show/bigbeatbar-b-cue>

INDI 1015 FM (formerly Mohawk College station, Hamilton)
Blues Source Canada, w/ Ken Wallis (Tuesdays, 4-5pm)
Blues Source International (Tuesdays, 5-6pm)
Listen link at <https://indi1015.ca/>



- BSC re-airs Thursday at 8, Friday at 10pm, Saturday at 7.30pm, and Monday at 6am
- BSI airs Friday at 6pm/Saturday 2pm/ Monday 4am ET

CFMU 99.3 FM - McMaster Campus (Hamilton)
Swear to tell the truth, w/ Chris M. Compton
Tuesday 10am
Listen at <https://cfmu.ca/shows/31-swear-to-tell-the-truth>



CANOE FM 100.9 FM (Haliburton)
Buckside Blues Cruise w/ Rich Anton
Tuesday 7-9pm
<https://canoe.fm/listen/ways-to-listen>

CFBU 103.7 FM - Brock University (St. Catharines)
Eclectic Blues, w/ Deborah Cartmer
Tuesday 7-9 pm
Listen at <https://www.cfbu.ca/>

COUNTYFM 99.3 (Picton)
Sideroads, w/ Ben Parkin and Greg Hinde
Tuesday 8-10pm
Listen at <https://993countymf.ca/show/sideroads/>

CFMU 99.3 FM - McMaster Campus (Hamilton)
Breakfast of Champions, w/ Paul Panchezak
Thursday 10am
Listen at <https://cfmu.ca/>

CFFF 92.7 FM (Peterborough)
Blues Themes, delivered by "The Milkman" Blake Frazer
Thursday 9-10:30pm
Listen at <http://www.trentradio.ca/>



Ici Musique 90.3 FM (National)
Le Blues du terrien, with François Lemay
Friday 8pm (replay Thurs 10pm)
Listen at <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/ohdio/musique/emissions/6005/lebluesduterrien>

ATC Blues
At The Crossroads w/ Brant Zwicker
Also syndicated on stations across the continent
Listen at <https://www.atcblues.ca/listen-now>

CKRL 89.1 (Quebec City)
Rue d'Auteuil, w/ Jacques Dulac
Friday 8 - 10pm
Live on the web on: <https://www.ckrl.qc.ca>

CKUT FM 90.3 (Montreal)
Cha Cha Cha In Blue w/John Detcheverry
Sundays 9-11pm <http://www.ckut.ca>

BLUES FESTIVAL GUIDE

April

Saguenay Jazz & Blues Festival | April 23-26 | Chicoutimi, QC
Hornby Island Blues Workshop | May 5-10 | Hornby Island BC

May

Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival | May 30-June 1 | Downtown Orangeville, ON

June

Pender Harbour Blues Festival | June 6-8 | Pender Harbour, BC
Stratford Blues & Ribfest | June 21-23 | Stratford, ON
Toronto Jazz Festival | June 20-28 | Toronto, ON
Vancouver Jazz Festival | June 21-30 | Vancouver BC
Montreal Jazz Festival | June 26-July 5 | Montreal QC

July

Ottawa Bluesfest | July 10-20 | LeBreton Flats, Ottawa, ON
Mariposa Folk Festival | July 4-6 | Orillia, ON
Edmundston Jazz and Blues Festival | July 4-5 | Edmundston NB
Tremblant International Blues Festival | July 9-13 | Mont-Tremblant, QC
Beaches International Jazz Festival | July 4-28 | Toronto, ON
Lighthouse Blues Festival | July 11-13 | Kincardine ON
Au son du Moulin / Blues & Gin | July 19-21 | Gentilly, QC
Salmon Arm Roots & Blues | July 25-27 | Salmon Arm BC
Festival BLUES D'LA BAIE Petit-Rocher | July 25-28 | Petit-Rocher, NB
Fort Langley Jazz Fest | July 25 | Fort Langley, BC
Calgary Blues Festival | July 31 – Aug 3 | Calgary AB

August

Donnacona Blues Festival | Aug 6-10 | Donnacona QC
TD Kitchener Blues Festival | Aug 7-10 | Kitchener, ON
Live from the Rock Folk Festival | Aug 9-11 | Red Rock, ON
Nanaimo Blues Festival | Aug 7-10 | Nanaimo BC
Markham Jazz Festival | Aug 15-17 | Markham, ON
Chenango Blues Festival | Aug 15-16 | Norwich, New York
All Blues Day | Aug 16 | Morrisburg, ON

September

Southside Shuffle Blues & Jazz Festival | Sept 5-7 | Port Credit, ON
Belleville Downtown Blues Festival | Sept 6-7 | Belleville, ON
Harvest Music Festival | Sept 9-14 | Fredricton, NB
Wasaga Beach Blues Festival | Sept 12-14 | Wasaga Beach, ON
Belmont Village Festival | Sept 12-13 | Kitchener, ON

October

Canal bank Shuffle Blues Festival | Oct 17-20 | Thorold, ON

Blues and Summer Music Festivals

compiled by Georgina Lynn Boucher

There seems to be fewer and fewer Blues festivals each summer in Canada, but some are still going strong: long-standing, beloved festivals like the ones in Orangeville, Kitchener and Port Credit in Ontario. They also can be found across our great country from coast to coast: Mont Tremblant & Donnacona in Quebec, Calgary in Alberta, Petit-Rocher in New Brunswick and Salmon Arm in B.C., just to name a few. The Toronto Blues Society will continue to post their annual listing of all Summer Blues festivals, updates and new listings on its website and in our Maple Blues Newsletter. But there are also Blues nights and/or Blues artists appearing at some festivals that are not labeled as Blues. The Jazz festivals for example. So here are a few to keep in mind. Possibly for a one night or a weekend visit.

The Homegrown Live Music Festival- May 3rd, 2025, Kingston, Ontario

In its 17th year, this Kingston Ontario festival is a one-day event, and it is unique. With a \$10 wristband you will have access to a smorgasbord of local music and musicians in nearly every genre of music from Classical Choral to Folk, Ambient Electronic to Jazz, Indie to Psychedelic, Celtic to Rock etc. and of course Blues. Sadly, Kingston has closed the curtain for its annual Blues festival, but the Kingston Blues Society is alive and well. They will be holding an all-day Blues event at the historic RCHA club which is downtown and along the waterfront. They will be featuring eight of their best local Blues bands from 3pm to 11pm with a jam to close the night. The headliner is Jeff Dunn & the Hellhound Trail Blues Band who will also be performing at the Ottawa Blues Festival this summer. Downtown is the place to be if you want to check out other shows and musical choices. Most venues are within a 20-minute walk and the day will feature around 140 performances. Kingston, home of the Tragically Hip and Dan Akroyd is rich in local talent. This festival is a real opportunity to feast on the eclectic nature of music but best of all, your ten dollars will help support a remarkable community venture: The Joe Chithalen Musical Instrument Lending Library. This library was created to give honor to musician Joe Chithalen who died in 1999 while on tour with The Mahones. Known locally as Joe's Music Mill, the library has over 1000 musical instruments that can be borrowed for free by anyone who lives in the Kingston area. All proceeds/instrument donations generated from the HomeGrown

festival will be donated to the library. And yes, you can go visit the library to have a look and you should. Not only is it a unique free resource but it is a true reflection of a community who loves and supports music. Visit the HomeGrown Live Music Festival site and for Blues: the Kingston Blues Society webpage. The complete line-up for the entire day will soon be available.

The Ottawa Jazz Festival-June 20th-29th, 2025

This great festival is not without its Blues night, and this year is no exception. On Wednesday June 25th, look for Ottawa's legendary Tony D (from the Juno award winning band Monkey Junk) opening for Blues sensation Gary Clark Jr. (7:30 and 9pm) A 15% price discount is available for all CAA members.

The Ottawa Blues Festival - July 10-July 20th, 2025

The running joke in Ottawa is that there are no Blues at the Ottawa Blues Festival and with Shania Twain, Def Leppard and Green Day as headliners, they may be right. But Blues is still at the core of this festival, and it can still be found at this historic event but usually at smaller stages. Look for Hamilton's Andre Bisson, the Durham County Poets, Toronto's Garnetta Cromwell and DaGroovmasters, Kingston's Hellbound Trail, International artists Annika Chambers and Paul DesLauriers, PEI's Joce Reyome and Ottawa's Blues guitar extraordinaire JW Jones. And then, for icing on the cake we have the Texas Horns, TJ Wheeler, Christone "Kingfish" Ingram and last but certainly not least, the great Sue Foley. Check out the Blues in the Schools Showcase where young Canadian Blues talent is presented. And although technically not Blues, if your schedule allows, do not miss Ottawa's 12-piece Soul band "The Commotions." They rarely perform outside of Ottawa, and they are a treat not to be missed.

Toronto Jazz Festival – June 22nd to June 30th, 20205

Besides the ticketed shows that are in different locations throughout Toronto there is a great free festival centrally located in the downtown Yorkville area. On June

22, at the TD Village Stage at 8:30pm the fabulous Blackburn Brothers are the opening headliners for this free concert series. Also, on the 22nd, Juno award winner Kellylee Evans will be the headliner on the TD Mainstage beginning at 8:45pm. On June 25th and 27th, Charlotte McAfee-Brunner (Trombone Charlotte) will be wowning the crowd as part of the "in the street" festival series. And don't forget to support the Toronto Blues Society by attending an annual Blues event dear to its heart: the TBS Talent Search Final which is on June 30th at 4:30pm at the TD Village Stage. Also look for the U of T and York University Gospel choirs on Sunday June 30th at the TD Main Stage. All free.

We are so fortunate to have our Canadian summers enriched by music festivals. Although they may not feature only Blues, they often include Blues artists. Many of the festivals have yet to post their line-up but here are a few suggestions for free top-drawer eclectic music festivals.

Hamilton has two huge festivals that are well worth the drive, or a go train trip. And both are free. One is the Festival of Friends in Gage Park in August. This is an oldie, beginning in 1976 and continuing to this day. The other is Hamilton's outdoor Arts and Music Festival; "Supercrawl." This year is their 15th anniversary and is scheduled for September 12-September 14th. One year I rented an AirBnB in the downtown area for four days. That gave me enough time to explore the city and attend the festival. It was wonderful! I perused the Art Gallery, the Farmers Market, the second-hand and locally owned retail stores and the vinyl record shops. Hamiltonians will be the first to tell you that this festival offers three dazzling days of live music, art displays, fashion, theater, artisans, and great food choices. Lots of stuff for kids too. No line-up announcement yet but it is usually diverse and can include Blues. Check out the Hamilton Blues Lovers website, the Escarpment Blues Society page, the two festivals websites and do not bypass the blueshamilton.blogspot.com or visit or "friend" Hamilton B. Lous on Face Book. He is a goldmine of information on the Hamilton music scene.

At the other end of the country, the 33rd Annual Roots and Blues Festival in Salmon Arm has announced a great lineup including Los Lobos, Burton Cummings, Colin James, Bywater Call, Jackie Venson, Lloyd Spiegel, Selwyn Birchwood, Steve Marriner & Local Electric and much more.

Beyond the main stage, festival-goers will have the chance to experience an eclectic mix of artists and music—from Africa and Scandinavia to string bands, banjo pickers, blues bands, funk bands and so much more, including Indigenous artists on the Pluk'w Place stage. <https://rootsandblues.ca>

Summer is waiting in the wings and yet it will fly by before we know it. Go out. Enjoy every minute. Respect this beautiful country. Support local and live Canadian music and small businesses. And don't forget to share a toast, a toast with the Blues.



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The Toronto Blues Society Cultural Statement

The Toronto Blues Society wishes to acknowledge and thank the first creators of the blues who gave us all this beautiful music that we enjoy today.

African American musicians, singers, and songwriters created and used this music to sustain them through pain and hardship throughout their quest for freedom and equal rights.

The Toronto Blues Society is a Registered Charity

Make a donation beyond membership and merchandise, and get your charitable tax receipt in time for this year! (Charitable # 87487 7509 RR0001). You will be helping to support events like the annual Women's Blues Revue, The Blues in the Schools program, numerous workshops and career development activities for the musician community as well as the Maple Blues Awards and the Blues Summit conference, the most important blues industry gathering in Canada that occurs every other year. Networking events within this conference allow for industry discussion alongside artist discovery through the showcase program.



Tuesday, April 1

Julian Fauth 6:30 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto
Johnny O and James Anthony 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Timothy's Pub, 344 Browns Line, Etobicoke, 416-201-9515

Steve Strongman & Colin Lapsley w/ guest Shane Guse (CCMA award winning Fiddle Player) 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm, Coach and Lantern, 384 Wilson St E., Ancaster, 905-304-7822
Quality Building Supplies 9:00 pm, Cameron House, 408 Queen St W, Toronto

Wednesday, April 2

Rob Hiemstra & Friends 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, Epochal Imp, 123 Danforth Avenue, Toronto
Harry Manx 8:00 pm, Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, 140 Charlotte St, Peterborough

Action Sound Band 9:00 pm, Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000

Thursday, April 3

Mike Daley and Eric Schenkman 6:00 pm, Castro's Lounge, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, (416) 699-8272
Sil Simone Band 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Harbour St. Fish Bar, 10 Keith Ave., Collingwood, 705-293-3474
Harry Manx 7:00 pm, Princess Cinema, 6 Princess St W, Waterloo
Jenie Thai 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm, Bluebird Bar, 2072 Dundas W., Toronto

Friday, April 4

Fraser/Daley 5:30 pm, Castro's Lounge, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, (416) 699-8272
Dinner and a Song: Jenie Thai 5:30 pm, Olde Stone Cottage Pub, 3750 Kingston Rd., Scarborough, \$60
Harry Manx 7:00 pm, Playhouse Cinema, 177 Sherman Avenue N, Hamilton, \$52
Ken Yoshioka & Julian Fauth 9:00 pm, Rod Gun & Barbers, 2877 Dundas st west., Toronto, PWYC

Zeke Pippin 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto
Jesse Karwat & The Coin Collection 9:00 pm to 11:30 pm, Poetry Jazz Cafe, 1078 Queen St. W, Toronto, Jesse Karwat & The Coin Collection (Manny DeGrandis & Marco Stormelli)
Mike Sedgewick's Friday Night Blues Jam 9:30 pm, Black Swan Tavern, 154 Danforth, Toronto

Saturday, April 5

The Coachmen w/ guest Josh Miller 1:00 pm, Coach and Lantern, 384 Wilson St E., Ancaster, 905-304-7822
Garnetta's Sweet Saturday Open Jam 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Corktown Pub, 175 Young St, Hamilton
Doctor Nick and the Rollercoasters 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Rex Jazz and Blues Bar, 194 Queen St W., Toronto
Blues at the Regency w/ guest Rob Quail 2:30 pm, Regency 76 – The Original Sports Bar, 8068 Mountain Rd, Niagara Falls, 905-354-2340
C.C.Ryder & the Thank-You Band 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Simcoe Restobar and Lounge, 926 Simcoe Street N., Oshawa, (905) 435-1111, with special guest Mike McKenna
Genius+Soul = The Music of Ray Charles w/Kenny "Blues Boss"
Wayne 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm, Aurora Cultural Centre, 89 Mosley St., Aurora, \$38
Grant Lyle – Roots & Blues 9:00 pm, The Duchess Of Markham, 53 Main Street Markham N, Markham, (905) 294-3181 Free
Julian Fauth & Ken Yoshioka 9:00 pm, The Capitol Bar, 973 King st east, Hamilton, PWYC

Sunday, April 6

Broke Fuse one-man blues band 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Common Good Beer Co., 475 Ellesmere Rd., Scarborough, 416-639-6579
Jimmy's Juke Joint – Jim Casson w/ Virgil Scott & Brigham Phillips 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Iggy's Pub & Grub, 115 Hwy 20 E., Fonthill, 905-892-6667

Danny Marks 3:00 pm, Smokeshow BBQ and Brew, 744 Mt Pleasant Rd, Toronto, 416-901-7469
Little Magic Sam 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Rivoli (Pool Hall), 332 Queen Street W, No Cover
Chuck Jackson 4:30 pm, Roc'n Docs, 105 Lakeshore Rd. E., Mississauga, (905) 891-1754
Paul Reddick Band 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Rex Jazz and Blues Bar, 194 Queen St W., Toronto
Jerome Tucker Band 7:00 pm, Linsmore Tavern, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130

Tuesday, April 8

Julian Fauth 6:30 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto
Harry Manx 8:00 pm, Heartwood Concert Hall, 939 2nd Ave E, Owen Sound, \$45
Quality Building Supplies 9:00 pm, Cameron House, 408 Queen St W, Toronto

Wednesday, April 9

Rob Hiemstra & Friends 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, Epochal Imp, 123 Danforth Avenue, Toronto
Camilo Restrepo 7:00 pm, Ganaraska Brewing Company, 33 Mill St S, Port Hope, ON, 905-885-9029
Harry Manx 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Hugh's Room Live, 296 Broadview, Toronto
The Don River Blues Band 8:30 pm to 11:30 pm, Function Bar, 2291 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON, 416-440-4007
Paul Reddick Band 9:00 pm, Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000
Julian Fauth & Ken Yoshioka 11:30 pm, Drom Taberna, 458 Queen St. W, Toronto, PWYC

Thursday, April 10

Mike Daley and Mark Thackway 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Castro's Lounge, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, (416) 699-8272

April 17th, 2025

Grand Thursday

GRAND RIVER BLUES SOCIETY EST. 2003

Jimmy Bowskill & Jesse O'Brien
 Wayne DeAdder
 Gary Craig
 with Special Guest
Harrison Kennedy

Doors 7pm Show 8pm
 \$25 advance \$30 at the door. \$5 rebate for Blues Society Members
 Tickets Available at: ticketscene, Polish Hall, The Brantford Music Centre,
 Polish Hall, 154 Pearl St. Brantford ON.
www.grandriverblues.org

Printed by:

Go to www.torontobluesociety.com/events to submit your GTA Blues Events to be included here as well as the TBS website and our weekly "Where it's At" e-blast.

As the MapleBlues goes all-digital starting with the March 2025 issue, we want to remind the blues community that it is our mission to spread the word on new releases. We invite all blues influencers and aficionados to send us reviews for new releases by Canadian blues artists (CDs, and EPs). If it has been previously published please advise so we can give credit.

Jesse Karwat & The Coin Collection
8:30 pm to 11:30 pm, Poetry Jazz
Cafe, 1078 Queen St. W, Toronto,
Jesse Karwat & The Coin Collection
(Manny DeGrandis & Graham Shaw)
Greene and Bleus Band 9:00 pm,
Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina
Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000

Friday, April 11

Songs and Stories Unplugged:
Steve Strongman & Rob Szabo w/
guest Sydney Jones 8:00 pm, Room
47, 47 King St N, Waterloo
Zeke Pippin 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm,
Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth
Ave., Toronto
Mike Sedgewick's Friday Night
Blues Jam 9:30 pm, Black Swan
Tavern, 154 Danforth, Toronto
Fraser Melvin Band 10:00 pm,
Cameron House, 408 Queen St W,

Saturday, April 12

The Coachmen w/ guest Darran
Poole 1:00 pm, Coach and Lantern,
384 Wilson St E., Ancaster, 905-304-
7822
Blue Room 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, The
Local, 396 Roncesvalles, Toronto,
Saturday Matinee
Jay Douglas & Band: Play It Loud
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Redwood
Theatre, 1300 Gerrard St. E, Toronto
Tix www.theredwoodtheatre.com \$40
Angelique Francis 8:00 pm to 11:00
pm, Hugh's Room Live, 296 Broad-
view, Toronto
VOODOO Pawn Shop 8:00 pm to
11:30 pm, East End Pub & Grill, 1400
Bayly St #3, Pickering, (905)
837-1810, No Cover
Fraser Melvin Band 9:00 pm,
Noonan's Irish Pub, 141 Danforth Ave,
Toronto ON, 416 778 1804
Glenn Marais & The Mojo Train 9:30
pm, Function Bar, 2291 Yonge Street,
Toronto, ON, 416-440-4007

Sunday, April 13

Jimmy's Juke Joint – Jim Casson
w/ Lance Anderson & The Ham-
mond Organ 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm,
Iggy's Pub & Grub, 115 Hwy 20 E.,
Fonthill, 905-892-6667
Luke & The Apostles 4:00 pm to 7:00
pm, Black Swan Tavern, 154 Danforth,
Toronto
Chuck Jackson 4:30 pm, Roc'n
Docs, 105 Lakeshore Rd. E.,
Mississauga, (905) 891-1754
Paul Reddick Band 5:30 pm to 7:30
pm, Rex Jazz and Blues Bar, 194
Queen St W., Toronto
Blue Standard – Raoul Bhaneja &
Jesse Whiteley 6:00 pm, The
Starlight Restaurant, 64 Wellington
St., Stratford
Rocky Verweel and Queen City
Blues 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Smoke-
show BBQ and Brew, 744 Mt Pleasant
Rd, Toronto, 416-901-7469,

The Legendary Castaways 7:00 pm,
Linsmore Tavern, 1298 Danforth Ave,
Toronto, 416-466-5130
Richard Henderson & Co. Blues
7:00 pm, Smokeshow BBQ and Brew,
744 Mt Pleasant Rd, Toronto,
416-901-7469

Tuesday, April 15

Julian Fauth 6:30 pm, Sauce on
Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto
Johnny O and James Anthony 7:00
pm to 11:00 pm, Timothy's Pub, 344
Browns Line, Etobicoke, 416-201-
9515
Quality Building Supplies 9:00 pm,
Cameron House, 408 Queen St W,
Toronto

Wednesday, April 16

Rob Hiemstra & Friends 1:00 pm to
2:30 pm, Epochal Imp, 123 Danforth
Avenue, Toronto
Action Sound Band 9:00 pm,
Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina
Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000

Thursday, April 17

Trombone Charlotte 8:00 pm to
10:00 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376
Danforth Ave., Toronto
GRBS presents: Jimmy Bowskill &
Jesse O'Brien, w/ special guest
Harrison Kennedy 8:00 pm to 11:00
pm, Polish Hall Brantford, 154 Pearl
St., Brantford, 519-753-0414, GRBS
presents their 3rd annual Grand
Thursday, featuring Jimmy Bowskill &
Jesse O'Brien, w/ special guest
Harrison Kennedy, and Gary Craig
and Wayne DeAdder, \$25
The Hogtown Allstars 8:00 pm to
11:30 pm, Redwood Theatre, 1300
Gerrard St. E, Toronto, \$40.00
Grant Lyle & Brotherhood 9:00 pm,
Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina
Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000, Get
Yer Blues On! with Grant Lyle &
Brotherhood. C'mon out for a night of
Rockin' Blues!, FREE

Friday, April 18

Fraser/Daley 5:30 pm, Castro's
Lounge, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto,
(416) 699-8272
Zeke Pippin 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm,
Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth
Ave., Toronto
Mike Sedgewick's Friday Night
Blues Jam 9:30 pm, Black Swan
Tavern, 154 Danforth, Toronto

Saturday, April 19

The Coachmen w/ guest Mike
Branton 1:00 pm, Coach and Lantern,
384 Wilson St E., Ancaster, 905-304-
7822



Colin Linden is heading out on tour (he calls it his "Ride On" tour) and he'll be slipping out of Nashville and making his way up to his old stompin grounds. He plays a show on Saturday, May 3 at the the Busholme in Erin, a blues-friendly venue in cottage country (they also bring in tribute acts but "you do what you gotta do"). Young guitar-slinger Spencer McKenzie will be opening for him. Bywater Call play the Busholme the following Saturday, May 10. And he'll be back at the Blues Holler in Uxbridge in August. Check Colin's website for more Ontario dates

Alfie Smith 3:00 pm, Nickel Brook
Brewing Co., 3426 Mainway,
Burlington
Paul Reddick 6:00 pm, Cameron
House, 408 Queen St W, Toronto
House Concert – show and buffet
w/ Meghan Parnell & Dave Barnes
(of Bywater Call) 7:00 pm, Treasure-
MollysMusic@gmail.com, Mimico,
Toronto, 416 251 3878, Show and
buffet, BYOB - please etransfer to
treasuremollysmusic@gmail.com no
later than 4 days before event. For
details email, or call: (416) 251-3878,
\$50
Brooks & Bowskill 8:00 pm to 11:30
pm, Busholme Inn, 156 Main St, Erin,
519-315-0315 Ticket info: <https://www.thebusholme.ca>

Swingin' Blackjacks 9:00 pm,
Noonan's Irish Pub, 141 Danforth Ave,
Toronto ON, 416 778 1804
Steve Hill 9:00 pm, Cameron House
(backroom), 408 Queen St W,
Toronto, (416) 703-0811
The Charter Blues Band 9:00 pm,
Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina
Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000

Sunday, April 20

Jimmy's Juke Joint – Jim Casson
w/ Dwayne LaForme & Gary Kendall
2:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Iggy's Pub &
Grub, 115 Hwy 20 E., Fonthill,
905-892-6667

Concerts of Note

**Genius+Soul = The Music of Ray Charles w/Kenny "Blues
Boss" Wayne | Aurora Cultural Centre | Aurora | April 5**
Harry Manx | Hugh's Room Live | Toronto | April 9
Angelique Francis | Hugh's Room Live | Toronto | April 12
Anthony Gomes with Voodoo Pawn Shop opening |
Goodwood Community Centre | Goodwood | May 17
Angelique Francis + Jay Bleus | Aurora Cultural Centre |
Aurora | June 7
Sue Foley | Aurora Cultural Centre | Aurora | June 21
Colin Linden & The Rotting Matadors | Blues Holler |
Uxbridge | August 16



Quebec blues star **Steve Hill** has always been challenged breaking into the Toronto Blues scene. He even wrote a song about it. It all started when, as a complete unknown, he was nominated for a Maple Blues Award and when he got here he saw that he was listed with the "Best Female Vocalist" nominees. He was not amused. His last date in Toronto (at El Mocambo?) was cancelled for whatever reason and before that he had a whole tour cancelled after a car wreck in LA. Well, he's baaack! A guy who sells out concert halls in Quebec is playing the intimate back room at the Cameron House on Saturday April 19. Come early for Paul Reddick at 6 in the front room!



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Everyone is welcome to just
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goodbye to the office

Ken Yoshioka & Julian Fauth 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Shacklands Brewing, 100 Symes Rd #101, Toronto, 416-763-2424, PWYC

Jay Blues Trio 2:00 pm, Rex Jazz and Blues Bar, 194 Queen St W., Toronto

Little Magic Sam 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Rivoli (Pool Hall), 332 Queen Street W, Toronto, The Little Magic Sam Band brings their electric energy to the historic Rivoli pool lounge. No Cover

Chuck Jackson 4:30 pm, Roc'n Docs, 105 Lakeshore Rd. E., Mississauga, (905) 891-1754

Paul Reddick Band 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Rex Jazz and Blues Bar, 194 Queen St W., Toronto

Mike Sedgewick's Blues Revue 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Linsmore Tavern, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130

Tuesday, April 22

Julian Fauth 6:30 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto

Melvin Davis 9:00 pm to 11:30 pm, The Local, 396 Roncesvalles, Toronto, PWYC

Quality Building Supplies 9:00 pm, Cameron House, 408 Queen St W, Toronto

Wednesday, April 23

Rob Hiemstra & Friends 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, Epochal Imp, 123 Danforth Avenue, Toronto

Johnny Max & Mitch Lewis 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, The Beacon – Wasaga, 146 45th St N, Wasaga Beach, (705) 429-4433, Johnny Max & guitarist Mitch Lewis join The Freakin at The Beacon band & Virgil Scott, free
Action Sound Band 9:00 pm, Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000

Thursday, April 24

Mike Daley & Tim Bovaconti 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Castro's Lounge, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, (416) 699-8272

Little Magic Sam 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Harbour St. Fish Bar, 10 Keith Ave., Collingwood, 705-293-3474

Colin Linden 8:00 pm, Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, 140 Charlotte St, Peterborough

Rob Hiemstra & Friends 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm, The Sauce, 1376 Danforth Avenue, Toronto

Friday, April 25

Jack de Keyzer 7:30 pm, Town Hall Theatre, 302 Queen St., Port Perry, 905-985-8181, \$40

Zeke Pippin 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto

Mike Sedgewick's Friday Night Blues Jam 9:30 pm, Black Swan Tavern, 154 Danforth, Toronto

Saturday, April 26

Garnetta Cromwell & DaGroovmasters @ The Lodge 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Erie # 149 Masonic Lodge, Port Dover ON, 425 Main Street, Port Dover, Ontario, 519-427-8649

Melvin Davis 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Inter Steer Tavern, 357 Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto, 416-588-8054, Saturday Session with host Bill Heffernan, PWYC

Southside Shuffle Murder Mystery: Flip Flop & Die! 5:30 pm to 11:00 pm, Clarke Memorial Hall, Lakeshore Rd. W, Mississauga, Flip Flop and Die: The Demise of the Shuffle King Chuck Jackson promises an unforgettable evening of fun, mystery, laughter, and a delicious buffet dinner in support of the Southside Shuffle Blues & Jazz Festival. Enjoy dinner, collect evidence, and get ready to crack the case!, \$90

Reverend Freddie Vendetta 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Cube Coffee Bar Twd, 301 Victoria Street North, Tweed, 613-478-2292, No Cover

Glenn Marais * Special Presentation 7:30 pm, Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Ave. W., Toronto, 416.789.7011, Promo Code: DEE5 = \$5 OFF | <https://magneticproducts.ticketspice.com/glenn-marais-event>, \$29.00

Jack de Keyzer 8:00 pm, John Saunders Centre, 80 Sandford Fleming Dr, Collingwood

Sunday, April 27

Jimmy's Juke Joint – Jim Casson w/ The Johnny Max Band 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm, Iggy's Pub & Grub, 115 Hwy 20 E., Fonthill, 905-892-6667

Shawn Kellerman Band wsg Ian Andrews Band 2:00 pm, The Back Alley Bar & Grill, 18 Princess Ave., St. Thomas, ON, (519) 207-3555, <https://www.ticketscene.ca/events/49434/>, \$30.00

Swingin' Blackjacks 3:00 pm, Smokeshow BBQ and Brew, 744 Mt Pleasant Rd, Toronto, 416-901-7469

Chuck Jackson 4:30 pm, Roc'n Docs, 105 Lakeshore Rd. E., Mississauga, (905) 891-1754

Donnie Meeker 5:00 pm, Timothy's Pub, 344 Browns Line, Etobicoke, 416-201-9515

Paul Reddick Band 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Rex Jazz and Blues Bar, 194 Queen St W., Toronto

The Frank Cosentino Band 7:00 pm, Linsmore Tavern, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130

Ken Yoshioka 9:00 pm, Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000, Blues jam, PWYC

Tuesday, April 29

Julian Fauth 6:30 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto
Johnny O and James Anthony 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Timothy's Pub, 344 Browns Line, Etobicoke, 416-201-9515

Quality Building Supplies 9:00 pm, Cameron House, 408 Queen St W, Toronto

Wednesday, April 30

Rob Hiemstra & Friends 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, Epochal Imp, 123 Danforth Avenue, Toronto

Krewe de Bleu 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, La Rev, 2848 Dundas St W., Toronto, 647-748-1376

Action Sound Band 9:00 pm, Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000

Friday, May 2

Fraser/Daley 5:30 pm, Castro's Lounge, 2116 Queen St E, Toronto, (416) 699-8272

Melwood Cutlery Live in Concert 8:00 pm, Kensington Sound, 170 Baldwin Street, Toronto, 647-542-6860, tix at www.melwoodcutlery.ca \$35.00

Zeke Pippin 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto

Mike Sedgewick's Friday Night Blues Jam 9:30 pm, Black Swan Tavern, 154 Danforth, Toronto

Saturday, May 3

Garnetta's Sweet Saturday Open Jam 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Corktown Pub, 175 Young St, Hamilton

Melwood Cutlery Live in Concert 8:00 pm, Kensington Sound, 170 Baldwin Street, Toronto, 647-542-6860, tix at www.melwoodcutlery.ca \$35.00

FOG Blues & Brass Band 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Harbour St. Fish Bar, 10 Keith Ave., Collingwood, 705-293-3474

Colin Linden w/ Spencer Mackenzie 8:00 pm, Busholme Inn, 156 Main St, Erin, 519-315-0315 Ticket info: <https://www.thebusholme.ca>, \$40

Sunday, May 4

Broke Fuse one-man blues band 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Common Good Beer Co., 475 Ellesmere Rd., Scarborough, 416-639-6579

Danny Marks 3:00 pm, Smokeshow BBQ and Brew, 744 Mt Pleasant Rd, Toronto, 416-901-7469

Little Magic Sam 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Rivoli (Pool Hall), 332 Queen Street W, Toronto, No Cover

Jerome Tucker Band 7:00 pm, Linsmore Tavern, 1298 Danforth Ave, Toronto, 416-466-5130

Tuesday, May 6

Julian Fauth 6:30 pm, Sauce on Danforth, 1376 Danforth Ave., Toronto

Quality Building Supplies 9:00 pm, Cameron House, 408 Queen St W, Toronto

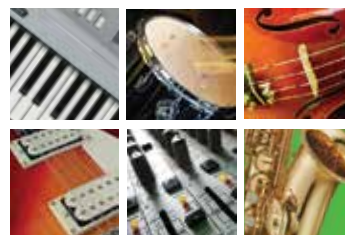
Wednesday, May 7

Rob Hiemstra & Friends 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm, Epochal Imp, 123 Danforth Avenue, Toronto

Action Sound Band 9:00 pm, Grossman's Tavern, 377 Spadina Ave., Toronto, (416) 977-7000

Friday, May 9

VOODOO Pawn Shop 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Old Flame Brewing Co. Port Perry, 135 Perry Street, Port Perry, (289) 485-2739, No Cover
The Johnny Max Band w Shawn Kellerman 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, Simcoe Street Theatre, 65 Simcoe St., Collingwood, The Johnny Max Band & Shawn Kellerman join forces for a night of Blues, Roots & Soul, \$40



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