



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

Spring 2025

**RE: Kentuckiana Blues Society  
2025 Annual Blues Challenge**

To Whom It May Concern:

Greetings! The Kentuckiana Blues Society will be presenting the 2025 Band and Solo/Duo Challenges at Stevie Ray's Blues Bar on Sunday, September 7, 2025. The 2025 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 13 – January 17, 2026.

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

Via USPS to:   KBS Blues Challenge  
                  PO Box 755  
                  Louisville KY 40201-0755

Or payment may be made on-line and  
all information sent electronically.  
Visit our web site for details.

All checks should be made payable to Kentuckiana Blues Society

The entry deadline for all challenges is Monday, August 15, 2025. Entry fees for the Youth and Best Self-Produced CD Challenges are waived.

To be eligible, the act or individual must never have received a Blues Music Award nomination and may enter the IBC a maximum of three (3) times after which they are ineligible. The act may not participate in the IBC in three consecutive years, so cannot have won the KBS Challenge the previous two (2) years or three (3) times total. 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 of age 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).

Each group will be allotted 20-30 minutes to play (depending on number of entrants) 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 \$1,000, the winner of the Solo/Duo category will receive \$500. The winners of the Band and Solo/Duo challenges will also receive recording time at a local studio as well as a berth to the IBC in 2025. The Youth winner will be eligible for a spot in the 2026 IBC Youth Showcase and be given \$250 to help cover expenses. The CD Challenge winner will represent the KBS in the 2026 IBC Best Self-Produced CD Challenge. In addition, the band and solo/duo winners will be hired to perform at the 2025 KBS Birthday celebration to be held in November 2025, unless that event is cancelled.

**NOTE** the awarding of cash prizes is contingent on the IBC Challenge being held. In the event the IBC challenge is not held in 2026, acts will still be proclaimed as the 2026 winners.

Attached is an application form or you can find them on-line at [kbsblues.org](https://kbsblues.org). If you have any questions or need additional information, I can be reached at [prez@kbsblues.org](mailto:prez@kbsblues.org).

Sincerely,

Natalie Carter, President  
Kentuckiana Blues Society

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**"To preserve, promote and perpetuate the blues tradition"**

**The Kentuckiana Blues Society is an Affiliate of**

