

FLORIDA'S ONLINE GUIDE TO LIVE JAZZ & BLUES

# Jackson Band



# NORMAN JAC

#### Third place finishers at the 2016 International Blues Challenge, the Norman

Jackson Band are making their first Florida appearances, including playing for the North Central Florida Blues Society at the High Dive in Gainesville. "To come in third at age 64, that's an honor to me," said Jackson. "I have been there with other musicians, great musicians, but with the band I have now, we play because we love it." They are truly an original and unique act that promises to play the finest, most genuine blues you'll ever hear, while transcending what a "band" does by thoroughly entertaining the audience. Norman's true and entertaining storytelling is paired with his young apprentice and saxophonist Rick Shortt's energy and showmanship.

Jackson was born in Canton, Ohio and raised in Detroit and the south side of Chicago. He was heavily influenced by his mother, who sang with famous gospel singers such as the Reverend James Cleveland. It was not abnormal for Norman to hear his mother singing in the kitchen with the great Sam Cooke. At a young age Norman began to play the guitar upside down because he is lefthanded. He was heavily influenced by the great bluesmen that played in the neighborhood or that stayed

in the motel

behind his home when they traveled through town. From B.B. King to Albert King, they all had a hand in shaping Jackson's unique style, making it clear that there ain't no groove like a Norman Jackson groove! Jackson has sung with the Chilites, George Clinton, and many famous blues, gospel and soul acts.

Norman has lived the blues and as he says, "By the time I'm done singing about me, you'll leave here feeling good!" Years of struggles with addiction and life's challenges penned

his long and winding journey. He is proudly sober for 10 years, and loves to spread the word to young people that they can reach their dreams by being sober and living for true happiness. Jackson is the true article that has become nearly extinct today. The magic of his voice, his thoughtful yet hilarious storytelling through song, and his powerful grooving guitar are unlike any you've ever heard.

The Band's followup to their 2015 release, Child Support and Alimony, was just released last month. The title of the new CD, It's The Drummer's Fault, is taken from a line Jackson has been repeating for a very long time.

Jackson began to apprentice his saxophonist, Rick Shortt, from the age of 12. Now





# KSON BAND

Wells and Rod Piazza. Rarely is a saxophone the lead instrument in a blues act, but Shortt holds that position with confidence as he solos playing behind his back, on his knees, or atop the highest obstacle in the room. Shortt's wild showmanship has earned him the moniker "The Madman of the Blues," and was one of the many reasons the band were the talk of the 2016 IBC. Shortt regards Jackson as his "Soul



Daddy" and the relationship between 'father and son,' as well as student and teacher, is plainly evident on stage.

Along with the rock-steady rhythm section

of St. Louis native Danny Williams and Detroiter Ron "The Boogie Man" Brown, the Norman Jackson Band will take you on a journey with stories from their lives on a road filled with laughter and showmanship laced with instrumental mastery

JULY 22 BARREL ROOM FT. MYERS JULY 23

JULY 23 HIGH DIVE GAINESVILLE

that will make everyone "Get Down and Get Happy"! The band promises to make you "Get Your Happy On" with their virtuoso musicianship and smile-inducing showmanship. They are a true blues band that harnesses their close bond with one another as fuel for the most energy-filled music experience you'll ever witness.

Simply put, if you can't have fun at a Norman Jackson Band concert, you should visit your doctor. More at thenormanjacksonband.com.





# **Tony DeSare**

Named a Rising Star Male Vocalist in *Downbeat* magazine, Tony DeSare has lived up to this distinction by winning critical and popular acclaim for his concert performances throughout North America and abroad. From jazz clubs to Carnegie Hall to Las Vegas, DeSare has brought his fresh take on old-school class around the globe. With three Top 10 Billboard jazz albums under his belt, DeSare has been featured on the *CBS Early Show*, NPR, *A Prairie Home Companion* and *The* 

JULY 20 CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SUMMER CONCERT SERIES CORAL GABLES

Today Show. Notwithstanding his critically acclaimed turns as a singer/pianist, DeSare is also an accomplished award-winning composer. In the 2013 USA Songwriting Contest, DeSare took first place for jazz and second place overall. On June 17, the Lifetime Movie Network

debuted its second film scored by DeSare: *Hush Little Baby*. His sound is romantic, swinging and sensual, but what sets DeSare apart is his ability to write original material that sounds fresh and contemporary, yet pays homage to the Great American Songbook. His compositions include a wide-range of romantic, funny, and soulful sounds that can be found on his top-selling recordings. DeSare releases new recordings, videos of standards and new originals every few weeks on his YouTube channel, iTunes and Spotify. His 2013 release, *PiANO*, resulted from over two years

of experimentation and recording exclusively on a Yamaha acoustic piano. Every sound on this album (other than Tony's voice) originated from somewhere in, on or under the piano. Since then, he has released three more CDs: a live set, a holiday album, and a studio CD. More at tonydesare.com.







# The Sunshine Jazz Organization, Inc.

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BLUES

JULY 22 BANK & BLUES DAYTONA BEACH

JULY 23 BRADFORDVILLE BLUES CLUB TALLAHASSEE

JULY 24 SEVILLE QUARTER PENSACOLA

# Mick Kolassa

"Michissippi Mick" Kolassa is a lifelong musician who is on the Board of Directors of the Blues Foundation, a non-profit, Memphis-based, internationally-recognized organization dedicated to preserving our blues

music history, celebrating recording and performance excellence, supporting blues education and ensuring the future of this uniquely American art form. Proceeds from Kolassa's albums support two Foundation programs: The HART Fund (for blues musicians and their families in financial need due to a broad range of health concerns) and Generation Blues (providing scholarships for young artists to study at reputable camps, seminars and workshops. With the Taylor Made Blues Band, Kolassa unites with three talented and respected blues artists: David Dunavent on lead guitar and backing vocals, John Allouise on bass and vocals and Joe Eagle on drums. The quartet delivers a combination of Kolassa's originals, cherished blues classics and some surprising blues "uncovers" of songs not traditionally thought of as blues. Kolassa's vocals easily adapt from a croon to a growl to fit each song. Following 2014 's Michissippi Mick, which received critical acclaim and significant airplay, Kolassa and producer Jeff Jensen reteamed for Ghosts of the Riverside with Mark Telasca. Three more albums with Telasca followed.





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## John Thomas

JULY 3, 10, 24 MUDVILLE MUSIC ROOM JACKSONVILLE

After completing his Master of Music degree, John Thomas entered the

U.S. Air Force Band program in 1978. He became a member of the Academy's Falconaires Jazz Ensemble, and joined the The U.S. Air Force Band in 1987. During his 11 years with the Band, Thomas held Co-Principal and Principal Alto Saxophone positions with The Concert Band, and performed on 22 major tours through all 50 states, Europe and Russia. He performed on more than 30 CDs and played more than 1,100 concerts, many with notable guest artists such as Henry Mancini, Ray Charles, The Four Freshman, Roy Clark, Roger Miller, Marie Osmond, James Earl Jones and The Four Tops. Thomas also performed regularly with the USAF Airmen of Note Jazz Ensemble, serving as their primary woodwind "sub." He also performed with

The USAF Ceremonial Band on numerous occasions, including performances at the White House. In 1998, Thomas relocated to Florida with his family and has been active ever since as a woodwind and jazz performer, teacher, clinician, and adjudicator. Students from his private studio were selected for Florida All-State Bands 26 times between 1999 and 2007. Thomas holds a current Florida Professional Teaching Certificate for Music K-12 and is a Certified Adjudicator for the Florida Bandmasters Association. He has been Director of Jazz Studies and Professor of Instrumental Music at Florida State College in Jacksonville since 2007. He's also owner of Thomas Woodwinds

in Jacksonville. He performs this month as part of the TBA Big Band, the First Coast's only regularly performing pro big band, consisting of professional musicians and educators from the Northeast Florida

area. More at thomaswoodwinds.com.





JULY 22 BRADFORDVILLE BLUES CLUB TALLAHASSEE

JULY 23 ACES LIVE MUSIC BRADENTON

## **Deb Callahan**

Philadelphia's blues and soul-drenched vocalist and songwriter Deb Callahan grew up in the Boston area but has been a mainstay on the mid-Atlantic music scene since the late '90s. She's been busily earning a reputation for writing creative blues, soul and roots-influenced original music and using her powerful, expressive voice to deliver exciting live shows. Upon the release of her 2002 debut CD *If the Blues Had Wings*,

Blues Revue magazine referred to her as the next Bonnie Raitt. 2005's The Blue Pearl was followed by 2008's Grace & Grit, on which all the vocal tracks were recorded live in the studio. The album's strong blues base incorporates gospel, soul, rock and jazz elements on thematically wide-ranging material. Her 2011 The World Café Live DVD showcases songs from all previous releases, along with a few choice covers, at a favorite Philly venue. Since 2010's Tell It Like It Is, Callahan became a mom, and the experience had a direct impact on her writing. The songs on Callahan's fifth and latest release, 2015's Sweet Soul, were written during an overall sweet and rich phase of life. The mood of this blues, soul, roots CD is upbeat, rockin', funky and fun and explores the themes of love and family with an honest and sometimes humorous view. It successfully rode the Living Blues magazine and Roots Music Report charts, was nominated for a Blues 411 Jimi Award, and led to a feature in Big City Blues magazine. More at debcallahanband.com.







125 SW 87 Avenue, Miami, FL 33174

"YEAH, WEU I THINK I'U GO DOWN IN GAINESVILLE,
JUST TO SEE AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE..."

"DEEP DOWN IN FLORIDA," BY MUDDY WATERS

"DEEP DOWN IN FLORIDA," BY MUDDY WATERS (MCKINLEY MORGANFIELD)



# The North Central Florida Blues Society proudly presents

# NORWAN JACKSON

July 23, 2017
High Dive
Gainesville
210 SW 2nd Avenue



Ranked the No. 3 blues band in the world at the 2016 IBC finals:

Doors 6:00pm Show 7:00pm

General Admission \$15 NCFBS Members \$8 Students w/ID \$5







www.ncfblues.org

# Spanish Harlem Orchestra

JULY 29 SALSA CONGRESS DEAUVILLE BEACH RESORT MIAMI

Two-time Grammy winning salsa and Latin jazz band Spanish Harlem

Orchestra (SHO) sets the standard for excellence for authentic, New York style, hard core salsa. With an unwavering respect for the music's rich history, 13 world-class musicians and vocalists come together to create an unparalleled musical experience. After two decades of session work, composing, arranging and producing, band leader *Oscar Hernández* was approached by producer Aaron Levinson in 2000 about the idea of assembling and recording a Latin jazz orchestra. The result was *Un Gran Dia en el Barrio*, the 2002 debut recording from Spanish Harlem Orchestra that scored a Grammy nomination for Best Salsa Album and a Latin Billboard Award for Salsa Album of the Year. Now in its 14th year, SHO is dedicated to the sounds of the barrio.

Their music is characterized by the raw, organic and vintage sound defined by the genre. They are on a mission to keep the musical legacy of salsa dura (hard salsa) alive and expand its audience. Grounded in the past, while focused on the future, they strive to keep the music relevant, while creating a unique and fresh approach. With four albums, and as many Grammy nominations, this powerhouse ensemble knows it's crucial to continually push themselves and raise the bar. They recently released their self-titled fifth album, featuring two of America's great jazz icons: Chick Corea and saxophonist Joe Lovano. More at spanishharlemorchestra.com.







BLUES

# Chris Thomas King

JULY 20 CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CORAL GABLES

Multi-talented Grammy Award-winning blues artist, producer, composer and actor Chris Thomas King's father, Tabby Thomas, was a well-respected blues musician and owner of the famed Baton Rouge blues club Tabby's Blues Box and Heritage Hall. King became the last major folk blues discovery of the 20th century when he was discovered in Louisiana in 1985. But King shocked the music world in the early '90s when he abandoned all pretenses of primitivism and embraced hip hop modernity and digital aesthetics. Moving to Europe in 1993, King went on to write and produced a series of groundbreaking recordings including 21st Century Blues and My Pain Your Pleasure, which boldly challenged the concept of "authenticity." Celebrated as an expatriate artist, yet alienated from his culture back home, King returned to New Orleans in 1996. As fate would have it, King was chosen by the Coen brothers to play the role of itinerant bluesman Tommy Johnson alongside George Clooney in the 2000 movie O Brother, Where Art Thou. King captivated audiences and silenced his critics. His followup album and tour, Down From The Mountain, inspired a new generation of musicians such as Hozier. Mumford & Sons, and the Lumineers, His songs "Hard Time Killing Floor Blues" and "John Law Burned Down the Liquor Sto,"" to name a few, have been covered by numerous artists including legend Buddy Guy. His two 2016 releases are the soundtrack to the documentary

film It's Better in Italian, and an EP

titled Les

Bleus Made in Louisiana.

More at chris

thomasking

.com.





JAZZ

# Jon Saxx Experience

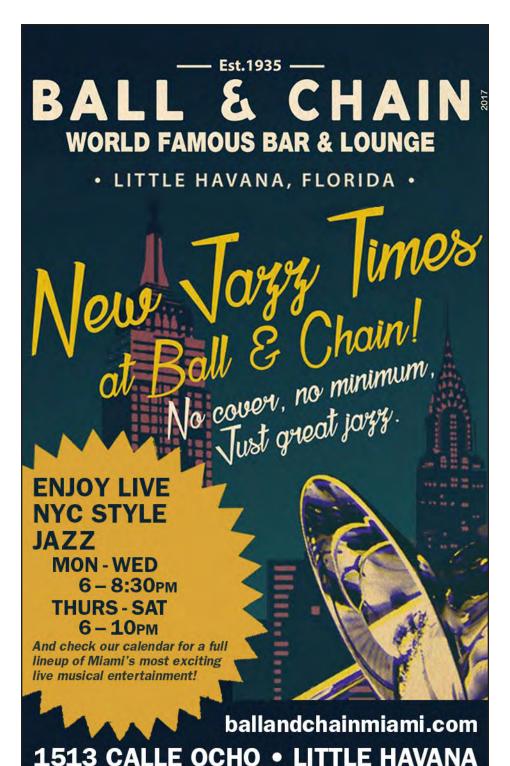
JULY 2 RIVERWALK JAZZ BRUNCH FORT LAUDERDALE Voted Best Local Jazz Artist in South Florida by Miami New Times in 2008, Jon Saxx has performed with Najee, Montell

Jordan, Howard Hewitt, and provides monthly National Anthem performances for the Miami Heat. Saxx's passion for music bloomed in his pre-teen ears when he heard the calming and harmonious sounds of the saxophone. Inspired by his saxophone teacher, John Wright, he developed his appreciation in college, becoming an avid listener and jazz connoisseur. Inspired by musicians such as Kenny G, Grover Washington Jr., and John Coltrane, Jon continued playing during college. He was accepted into Miami University in Ohio on an academic scholarship for manufacturing engineering. But he also played the saxophone for the Miami University Gospel Singers. After graduating with a degree in Manufacturing Engineering, Saxx was employed by Johnson & Johnson as a Medical Device Engineer for four years in Miami, Florida before the economy dealt him a pink slip. So the resilient Saxx established Jon Saxx Entertainment Group, along with his band Endless Possibilities. Saxx became the official saxophone player for the NBA's Miami Heat, and the group became the official house band for the NFL's Miami Dolphins. Looks like nothing but blue skies ahead

for Saxx, who has turned his focus to "going beyond the music" by "making music a reality" for himself and for the growing audience who enjoy the Jon Saxx Experience. The group's self-titled debut was released last year. More at jonsaxx.com.







DANIELLE NICOLE JULY 3 **FUNKY BISCUIT BOCA RATON** 

**BETTY FOX BAND** JULY 21 THE BOWERY WEST PALM BEACH

FROM A PHOTO BY SAVANNAH LAUREN

## Rockliscious

Introducing Rockliscious, a concert series dedicated to celebrating women in music and giving back to the community. The summer tour is in full swing with upcoming shows from national artists including **Danielle Nicole** (right) on July 3 at the Funky Biscuit in Boca Raton, and the **Betty Fox Band** (*left*) on July 21 at The Bowery LIVE in West Palm Beach. Plus they have a very talented line-up of local acoustic opening acts including Debbie

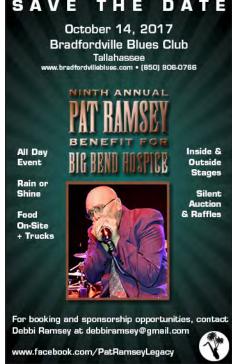
Tassone, Abby Owens, Cassie Ortiz and company founder Jodi Gaines. The series has gained incredible interest since its launch, and additional shows are scheduled for the Fall and Winter. Each show will include two acoustic opening acts and one headliner. Rockliscious has also partnered with Peace, Love and Music, a non-profit 501(3)(c), to fund a scholarship

that would provide at-risk youth with music education for one year and an instrument of her choice. Readers can help by attending events and donating directly, entering a raffle for a Daisy Rock Guitar, or by purchasing Rockliscious Shirts. Details are available online under the "Giving Back" tab of the website. Sponsors for the Summer Tour include Lagunitas Brewing Company, Daisy Rock Guitars, Marsh Amplifications, Wolfe Guitar

Lawrence U. Taube, Attorney at Law. You won't want to miss these talented ladies. More at Rockliscious.com.









#### BackRoom L

Wednesdays - PRO JAZZ JAM with The David Leon Quartet & special guests:

JULY 5 JULY 12 JULY 19 **Sherrine Mostin** Melinda Rose

John Yarling JULY 26 David Leon

Thursdays - Our PRO BLUES JAM

Fridays/Saturdays - GREAT LIVE MUSIC JULY 7 Julian Harris &

Keanu Yarima 10000 SW 56тн Street, Miami

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# HEIOI'S TALL CLUS

Cocoa Beach, Florida

#### JULY LINEUP

THURSDAYS SYBIL GAGE

FRIDAYS RON TEIXEIRA TRIO

SATURDAYS except 7/1 HELLA AYELET

SUNDAYS JAM SESSION



# **Brandon** Robertson

BARREL ROOM JAZZ BRUNCH W/JOE DELANEY THURSDAYS IN JULY BARREL ROOM FT. MYERS W/DAN MILLER QUARTET

Hailing from Tampa, Brandon Robertson began taking bass lesson in the fifth grade. Later that year, he was accepted into the Hillsborough County Elementary All-County Orchestra. During his high school years, Brandon

became interested in jazz, and in 2003 he received "Most Outstanding Soloist" in the San Francisco High School Jazz Competition. Robertson received his B.A. in Music Performance from Florida State, studying jazz and classical with bass professors Rodney Jordan and Melanie Punter, in 2009. During his time there, Robertson was involved in the FSU Philharmonic, University Symphony Orchestra, FSU Jazz Ensemble & Combo, FSU Salsa Florida, and the FSU Blues Lab. After graduating, Robertson became a member of the Florida-based Zach Bartholomew Trio, releasing his first album with them, Out of This Town, in 2012 to notable reviews. Aside from being an active musician, Robertson is also an advocate in Jazz Education. In the last five years, he has presented jazz clinics, workshops, and guest performances in schools throughout Florida, and taught at the Florida State University summer jazz camps for middle school and high school. Robertson received his Masters Degree in Jazz Studies from FSU last year, and he now serves as

Professor of Jazz Studies and Director of the FGCU Basketball Band at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers. He is currently a

member of the Dan Miller Quartet, and performs along the east coast with jazz, blues and pop acts. More at brandon robertsonmusic.com. JULY 4 BOSTON'S ON THE BEACH DELRAY BEACH

### **Brian Menendez**

Versatile drummer/percussionist Brian Menendez is fluent in a variety of settings including jazz, blues, country, world, classical

and pop. He has shared the stage with artists including Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Kenny Garrett, Bunky Green, Eddie Kirkland, Big Bill Morganfield, Matt "Guitar" Murphy, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, Mulgrew Miller, and Maria Schneider. Brian was the drummer for the Nouveaux Honkies from the end of '09 to mid-2013. He also leads The Brian Menendez Trio and is involved in many other projects. Recording credits include Keith Javors' "The Free Project," The Dali Lamas' "Ice Cream Man" and "Smiling' In a Row," and the University of North Florida Jazz Ensemble One's "And The Melody Still Lingers On" (a 2006 DownBeat Award Winner). Brian has a Bachelor of Music degree in Instrumental Performance with high honors from the prestigious University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA, where he was the first drummer to receive the Peter Nero Jazz Award and is also on the National Deans List. As an educator Brian has taught privately since 1998 and works with all ages and skill levels in the Stuart area. This very busy man (he's also an instructor at StarStruck Academy Theatre) currently performs with the Albert Castiglia Band and will be heard on Castiglia's next studio release, now in production. More at brianmenendez.com.







# REDWHITE & BLUE TUESDAYS SPECIAL EDITION

JULY 4th 2017

# BLUE TUESDAY ALL STARS



JOHN YARLING CAPT. REESE TOM REGIS ONE-NIGHT STAN WALDMAN

4:30PM





# ALBERT CASTIGLIA BAND

8:00PM

FREE EVENT

BostonsOnTheBeach.com/Event/July-4th-2017

40 S. OCEAN BLVD DELRAY BEACH, FL 33483



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# Sherrine Mostin

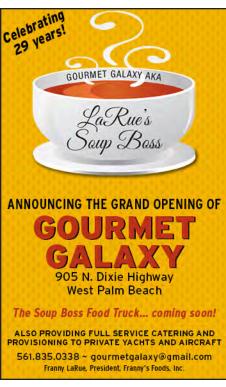
Born and raised on a small pear and walnut farm in Kelseyville, CA, Sherrine Mostin began

JULY 5 THE FISH HOUSE MIAMI

receiving piano lessons from her mother at the age of five, and she began singing in choir in the fifth grade. She participated in the Kelseyville High School music program, and upon graduation, Sherrine decided to continue her study of music at CSU Sacramento. In 2009 Sherrine graduated cum laude with her Bachelor's degree in Jazz Studies from Sacramento State University. She went on to pursue her Master's degree in Jazz Studies at CSU Long Beach, with a full scholarship and teaching assistantship, and graduated in 2011. Sherrine then moved to Florida where she completed a Doctoral degree in Studio Music and Jazz at the University of Miami. She is involved in the Guitars Over Guns Organization, a non-profit outreach program that promotes music and mentoring to at-risk youth in Miami. During her time as a young professional, Sherrine has had the opportunity to work with several notable musicians including Gloria Estefan, Fred Hersch, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Terence Blanchard, Karrin Allyson, New York Voices, Brian Lynch, Dave Douglas, Shelly Berg, Kate Reid, Gary Lindsay, and many others. She recently won 2015 DownBeat Student Music Awards in the categories of: Graduate Jazz Vocal Soloist, Graduate Large Vocal Ensemble (University of Miami), Graduate Small Ensemble (UM), and as the director of the







JULY 7 BLUE TAVERN TALLAHASSEE

#### Wes Lee

Of musician Wes Lee's nearly life-long expanse of generating music, he admits, "I didn't choose to play the blues, the blues chose me." His early start as a trombone player, following his dad's lead, established a strong stage presence. After years touring as Mr. Tone on guitar with the Blues Funk Revival (1997-2002), he segued from Mississippi to St. Louis. Three years later, Lee returned to Mississippi with a suitcase full of lyrics. Lee pulls from blues, soul, folk, funk, and even rockabilly and disco to create his blend of Americana music that he calls "traditional with a twist," just like his guitars. He combines fingerpicking and slide in a soulful blues style on his resonator guitars. Lee has self-produced eight CDs of WesLeeMusic, from 1998's Tone City Electric Blues through 2015's Jericho Road Show and aptly named Blue Roux, with a new one on the way. His song "Angel Eyes," written following the 9/11 tragedy, caught the attention of the American Cancer Society, who then commissioned him to write a survivor song, "The Dance." In 2017, he's already been an IBC solo finalist, and a Mississippi Music Awards and Pinebelt Awards solo nominee. "It's almost like a calling," Lee admits, "because there's nothing inside your head that would say, 'Yes, get on the road and do what you love' because that's not where the blues reside. Not in your head, but more like in your soul." More at wesleemusic.com.





# IN THE FLORIDA SUNSHINE ON THE BRADENTON RIVERWALK

TICKETS

\$35 General Admission/\$20 Student

\$50 Day-of at Festival Gate

\$30 Group (10+ tickets)

\$100 Front Stage Reserved Seat

\$50 Sunday Blues Brunch





Bradenton Blues Festival.org