



## For Immediate Release: March 1, 2019

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### The 2019 Best of the Blues Awards (“BB Awards”) April 28 at Northwest Music Hall

EVERETT, WA., March 1, 2019 - The Washington Blues Society’s annual Best of the Blues Awards, presented in partnership with the Anacortes Brewery, return to Everett’s Northwest Music Hall, Sunday, April 28. The 2019 “BB Awards” honor musicians, artists, events and venues nominated by blues society members in 32 award categories. The show features performances by select nominees and recognizes new inductees into the Washington Blues Society Hall of Fame. It will also serve as a celebration for the Society’s 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Nominees once again represent the very best blues performers from throughout the Pacific Northwest. The field represents the work of several successful fan campaigns, high visibility acts, new sensations and long-established favorites. All deserve recognition for their steadfast determination and accomplishments.

2018 Award Winners, the Stacy Jones Band, lead again with ten nominations including Best Blues Band. Seattle mainstay Red House and BC-based first-time nominee Harpdog Brown & the Uptown Blues Band, round out the Best Blues Band category. Inland Empire Blues Society Hall of Fame vocalist Tiphony Dames joins 2019 International Blues Challenge candidate Sheri Roberts-Greimes and at least 12 more Women of the Blues nominated in 17 categories, proving this is no boys club. Look for reunions from Seattle’s storied musical past when new members are inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame. The Fat James Band, The Slamhound Hunters, and Jr. Cadillac are nominated in the band category.

The Washington Blues Society is proud to welcome back the Anacortes Brewery as our title sponsor for the 2019 BB Awards show. We’re also happy for the continued partnership with fellow non-profit Snohomish County Music Project, which administers the Northwest Music Hall.

Held **Sunday, April 28**, Northwest Music Hall, 1402 Southeast Everett Mall Way, Everett, WA 98208

Doors open **2:30 p.m.** with a **3 p.m.** show time. After party directly following the show from **7-9 p.m.** Advance tickets available (where?) \$25 for Washington Blues Society members, \$30 non-members and \$20 for seniors, Youth 15 and under \$15. General Admission Tickets \$30 available at door. VIP Seating \$300.00 A table for six in the front-of-the-house table including complimentary hors d’oeuvres. Concessions include Craft Beer from Anacortes Brewery and mouth-watering eats by Mike Schacht BBQ.

Washington Blues Society is an all-volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, preserving and advancing the culture of blues and roots music in Washington State and is affiliated with the Blues Foundation ([blues.org](http://blues.org)) in Memphis, Tennessee. More at [wabluessociety.org](http://wabluessociety.org)

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MARK DUFRESNE MALE VOCALIST AWARD Joel Astley Sean Denton Eric Rice	BLUES PIANO/KEYBOARD Michael Baxter Jesse Weston Jimmy Holden	WASHINGTON BLUES RECORDING John Maxwell "Even Good Dogs Get the Blues" Brian Butler "Butler's Blues" Michele D'Amour & The Love Dealers "Wiggle Room"	LIFETIME ACHEIVEMENT AWARD Michael Baxter Rod Cook Mark DuFresne
BLUES FEMALE VOCALIST Sheri Roberts Greimes Annie Eastwood Tiphony Dames Stacy Jones	ACOUSTIC BLUES GUITAR Rod Cook Nick Vigarino John Maxwell	BLUES CLUB Madison Ave Pub Highway 99 Blues Club Collector's Choice Restaurant & Lounge	WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY HALL OF FAME (INDIVIDUAL) Raven Humphres Michael Baxter Steve Bailey Lissa Ramaglia
ELECTRIC BLUES GUITAR Eric Rice CD Woodbury Jeff Menteer Dave Miller	BLUES INSTRUMENTALIST - OTHER Jon Perry (violin) Mike Marinig (flute) Leanne Trevalyan (rub board)	BLUES WRITER Rick J Bowen Malcolm Kennedy Eric Steiner Amy Sassenberg	BEST NON-FESTIVAL BLUES EVENT Jones Family Christmas Issaquah Gas Station Blues Snohomish Blues Invasion Polly O'Keary Blues Jam 4 Nicaragua
SLIDE BLUES GUITAR Eric Rice Billy Stapleton Jeff Menteer Nick Vigarino	NEW BLUES BAND Chicken Hawk Hot Mess Lori Hardman Band	BLUES PHOTO IMAGE Lori Hardman Bluesletter cover Dec 2018 by Dario Impini Alan Edwards Bluesletter cover Feb 2019 by Denise Hathaway Spring Sunbanks Bluesletter Collection by Paul Brown	BEST REGIONAL BLUES FESTIVAL Mt Baker Winthrop Sunbanks
BLUES BASS Lissa Ramaglia Paul Quilty Scotty Harris Patrick McDanel	BLUES BAND Stacy Jones Band Red House Harpdog Brown & the Uptown Blues Band	BLUES GRAPHIC IMAGE Michele D'Amour & The Love Dealers "Wiggle Room" CD cover by Tim Sutherland 28 Years of Blues Salmon Bay Eagles poster by 42hil Chestnut Mt Baker Poster by Steve Perringer	BEST COMMUNITY BLUES FESTIVAL Ebey Island Freedom Fest Poverty Bay Blues & Brews North Bend Blues Walk
CHRIS LEIGHTON BLUES DRUMMER AWARD Rick J Bowen Tommy Cook Robin Crane	LITTLE BILL & THE BLUE NOTES TRADITIONAL BLUES ACT Brain Lee & The Orbiters Madison Avenue Blues Review Eric Madis & Blue Madness	BLUES DJ Johnny Horn Robin Kay Clancy Dunigan John Kessler Leslie Fleury	OPEN BLUES JAM Madison Ave Pub Unbound Blues Jam Peabo's Peace & Love Jam Sunday with Tommy Cook, Eric Rice & Scotty Harris 192 Brewing Blues Jam with The Groove Tramps
BLUES HORN Lonnie Williams Mike Marinig Ron Hendee Brandon Hailey Nick Elguezabal	SOLO/DUO BLUES ACT Hot Mess Sheri Roberts Greimes Rod Cook	KEEPING THE BLUES ALIVE AWARD	WASHINGTON BLUES SOCIETY HALL OF FAME (BAND)
PAUL GREEN BLUES HARMONICA AWARD Mitch Pumpian Willow Stone	BLUES PERFORMER Stacy Jones Polly O'Keary Joel Astley Joel Astley Patti Allen		
	BLUES SONGWRITER Stacy Jones		

Joel Astley

Michele D'Amour  
Polly O'Keary

Ed Maloney  
Malcolm Kennedy  
Amy Sassenberg

Fat James Band  
Jr. Cadillac  
The Slamhound Hunters