POINTS WEST VIRTUAL BLUES SHOWDOWN

With the uncertainty the COVID19 pandemic has presented all of us, the Washington Blues Society in partnership with the Cascade Blues Association, South Sound Blues Association, Inland Empire Blues Society, White Rock Blues Society, Fraser Valley Blues Society, Victoria Blues Society, Edmonton Blues Society, Boise Blues Society, Flathead Blues Society have decided to hold a Virtual Blues Showdown!

This event is open to all bands and solo/duos from the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana and the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta. We are requiring membership in one of the above Blues Societies listed above, which will be verified with each society through their leadership team.

In the spirit of the Blues Foundation’s International Blues Challenge we will follow their rules. All acts will have to select either a band or a solo/duo entry, you can not enter both.

The videos must be shot with a single static camera view from center stage house view (The Judges Perspective), with no editing or special effects, and must be a continuous video with no stops and starts. Videos should be a minimum of 23 minutes, if short of this time metric acts will have one (1) point deducted from their score. Videos should be a maximum of 25 minutes in length, if over this metric there will be one (1) point deducted for each ten seconds over the time limit. The time period starts with the first sound! This includes any introductions or other vocal opening. And ends with the last sound! This includes any closing remarks. Opening or closing remarks are not penalties and should be worked into your set. A big part of stage management and set planning.

This is a “Blues” challenge and music should be from this genre. We recognize the definition of “Blues” is wide and this will be taken into consideration with all sets. We highly encourage original compositions; however, covers are okay. All covers need to be introduced before starting them and include the songwriter, year released, and if needed who made it a hit.

All entries must be received by the Washington Blues Society by June 15th, 2021 via email at [president@wablues.org](mailto:president@wablues.org), or snail mail at Washington Blues Society, PO Box 70604, Seattle, WA 98127. There will be an entry fee of $15.00 USD, which will be used for production expenses of producing this event. All videos must be received by July 1st, 2021.

We are compiling a number of prizes, and other opportunities for all whom enter this event! So far, we have secured a Harmonica Award sponsored by Lee Oskar Harmonicas, to be awarded to best harmonica player from all entrants. Working on Guitar Award to be awarded to best guitar player from all entrants. We have secured 20 hours of studio recording time, and are working on expanding this for both bands and solo/duos. We have secured paid gigs at Sunbanks Music Festival and are in discussions of multiple other festival events. As we add more, we will be posting them online at our website [www.wablues.org](http://www.wablues.org), and our Facebook page; Washington Blues Society. All of this information and additional items will also be shared with our partners to share on their pages and websites.

Judging will be conducted as per the Blues Foundation’s guidelines and this information can be found at ([www.blues.org/ibc/scoring.php](http://www.blues.org/ibc/scoring.php)). Judges will be from outside of the Greater Pacific Northwest and will have connections with the Blues Foundation. Questions send to ([president@wablues.org](mailto:president@wablues.org)) or (vicepres@wablues.org)