

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Jersey Shore Jazz and Blues Foundation
Schedules International Blues Challenge Benefit

Lance and Debbie's Wonder Bar, located opposite Convention Hall on Ocean Avenue in Asbury Park, will host a roomful of blues on Sunday, January 30 to support the Jersey Shore Jazz and Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge benefit. The Killer Blues Band, JSJBF's band entry, and Jpat, the solo/duo entry, will be joined by Hot Monkey Love, The Holy Goats, and The Chuck Lambert Band. Suggested donations are \$15 for JSJBF members and \$20 for all others.

The Killer Blues Band and Jpat will be competing in the 21st Annual International Blues Challenge, taking place in Memphis from February 3-5 and sponsored by the Blues Foundation, a Memphis-based organization that brings together 107 blues societies from around the world. IBC sessions include conferences on the blues and performances by artists competing in the challenge in many of the clubs on Beale Street. The bands are judged in five categories: talent, blues content, originality, showmanship and overall impression. In order to compete at the IBC in Memphis for the title of "Best Unsigned Blues Band," bands must be sponsored by a chartered Blues Foundation blues society such as the Jersey Shore Jazz and Blues Foundation and must win the society's preliminary contest. The winner of the IBC competition receives prizes including cash, studio recording time and appearances at major blues festivals throughout North America.

"One of the Jersey Shore Jazz and Blues Foundation's main fundraising efforts is to give local blues performers the opportunity to compete in this prestigious competition," said Dennis Eschbach, president of JSJBF. The performers were selected at the Foundation's annual Battle of the Bands last November. Terraplane Blues Band's "Jubilee Stomp" is JSJBF's submission for best self-produced CD.

The Killer Blues Band attribute its unique sound to the pairing of an electric violin in the hands of leader Perry Leandro and Jeff Kiseli's Hammond-style organ. Mike Antol rounds out the trio on drums. Singer/songwriter Jpat plays guitar, mandolin and harmonica and is a mainstay of the "New Asbury Park" scene, performing as a solo artist, ensemble member and performance artist throughout the U.S. and Europe.

Performances for the IBC benefit will take place at the Wonder Bar from 2 pm until 8 pm. Admission includes buffet catered by Lou Lou's Kitchen Help. For more information on this event or other JSJBF activities, contact 732.933.0541 or visit www.jsjbf.org.

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