

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA BLUES SOCIETY 2024 REGIONAL IBC

Artist Invitation

SWFBS Regional IBC, (International Blues Challenge)

All Blues Musicians,

The Largest Gathering of Blues Musicians in The World? We are inviting you to compete for a shot at the, “**International Blues Challenge**” in Memphis TN., which represents the worldwide search for blues bands and solo/duo blues performers ready for the international stage, and are just needing that next big break. The Memphis IBC will be taking place on Beale Street, with over 20 clubs hosting the challengers and fans. In addition to featuring these final rounds of the prestigious blues music competition, the IBC event week will offer seminars, showcases, master classes, film screenings, networking events, book signings, and receptions for blues societies, fans, and professionals.

Each year more than 200 acts from around the world gather on Beale Street to compete during the International Blues Challenge. Some previous notable artists are; **Diunna Greenleaf** and her backing band, Blue Mercy, won the competition in 2005. In 2006, the **Joey Gilmore Band** won the Best Band prize. The winners in 2008 were **Trampled Under Foot**. The 2010 winner of the top Solo/Duo prize was **Matt Andersen. Grady Champion** and his band won the Best Band title at the 26th International Blues Challenge in 2010. Just to name a few ... If that's not enough to garner your interest how about, **The IBC over the years also includes,** Fiona Boyes, Eden Brent, Michael Burks, Tommy Castro, Sean Costello, Albert Cummings, Zac Harmon, Homemade Jamz Blues Band, Watermelon Slim, Super Chikan, Susan Tedeschi, and more ...

YOUR INVITED TO ENTER

The 2024 Southwest Florida Blues Society, Regional IBC:

This could be, “Your Road to Memphis”.

Date: Sunday, August 25th. 2024

Performance Time, (Customarily): between 1:00-6:00 PM

(Judges Orientation will begin at 12:00 noon).

Location:

Mango Rita's Rhythm House

16440 S Tamiami Trail #11 Fort

Myers, FL 33908

The Regional IBC will be Independently Judged and Structured as close as we can, to what you'll experience in Memphis.

Tentative Categories:

- Youth Showcase
- Sol/Duo
- Band

With Less Than, two (2) entries per category, could result in a change of the number of acts that get registered for the Memphis IBC. (Example), One act in the Solo/Duo category could result in them being included with the bands score cards, where only one (1) winner would be advancing to Memphis. The opposite is also true, with only one band entry (however unlikely), could end-up with their scores compared against multiple Solo/Duo acts, with only one (1) IBC entry going to Memphis. The IBCs are designed to be a competition, not an entry by default.

For 2024 we have decided to add more to the cash payout (travel monies), we will not host/ or organize any fundraisers after the 2024 Regional IBC. All Artists are encouraged to conduct their own fundraisers prior to Memphis. Let the SWFBS know when and where, so we can help promote them.

**** Important; complete payout information can be found on the Regional IBC Registration Form.**

We look forward to your registration, and remember space will be limited, register early to secure your spot. We will do our best to hold slots for, the first 2 Youth Showcase Acts, the first 3 Solo/Duo Acts, and the first 3 Bands.

Good Luck!

Jerry Tolliver, Vice President
Southwest Florida Blues Society,
Board of Directors <https://SWFBS.org>
email: jerry@SWFBS.org