

**CRITERIA FOR THE
2017 BILTOWN BLUES CHALLENGE AUDITIONS**

1. All performers in both the band and solo/duo competition must be present to sign in at the Genetti Hotel no later than 3:00 pm the day of the competition.. Upon signing in there will be a meeting with all participating artists.
2. All participating acts can not advertise/promote any information pertaining to competing in the BBA auditions through any/all social media before receiving the acceptance package in the mail.
3. A Billtown Blues Committee Member will oversee the loading of the handicapped elevator to avoid overloading and damage, if use is permitted. If not, equipment will be transported using the kitchen ramp.
4. Only band members with equipment/instruments are to use the handicap elevator. All band guests please use Main Ballroom Entrance.
5. “Due to limited seating everyone except performing musicians must pay the admission fee and should report to the admission table upon arrival.”
6. All performers are fully responsible for their own equipment. **The BBA will not be held responsible or liable.**
7. The only compensation for ALL participating musicians at this event is a ticket to the 28th Annual Billtown Blues Festival.
8. Each solo/duo act will perform a 20 minute set with a 5 minute change over.
9. Each band will perform a 25 minute set with a 10 minute change over.
10. All performances will be judged in the categories of blues content, talent, vocals, originality and stage presence in accordance with IBC rules. (www.blues.org)
11. All performers must bring their own instruments.
12. There will be a universal drum kit set up for all to use. Drummers are welcome to bring their own kick pedal, cymbals, snare and throne.
13. The BBA will provide backline for bass rig and drums only. **(drummers please refer to line #12)**
14. Piano/organ and guitar amps will **NOT** be provided.
15. **Guitarists: Guitar amps are to be 15-20 watt amps!**
16. A stage plot and input list must be received by Tom & Lori Butler no later than **Friday, February 24, 2017** at hoboblues@wildblue.net.
17. We will not except changes to the stage plot and input list after **Friday, March 10, 2017**.
18. All performers must be present during the counting of the votes.
19. The winner of the band competition will perform on the main stage at the 28th Annual Billtown Blues Festival.
20. The winner of the solo/duo competition will perform in the acoustic tent at the 28th Annual Billtown Blues Festival.
21. **The winner of the band and solo/duo will be eligible to compete in the International Blues Competition (IBC) in Memphis, TN in January 2018 and are required to write about their IBC experience for the Billtown Blue Notes Newsletter Spring Issue. Please refer to www.billtownblues.org, NEWSLETTER page, for the deadline.**
22. **All Audition concert performers are not eligible to vote and will not receive a ballot.**