



HOTEL • CASINO • BINGO

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Big Blues Bender Brings Exceptional Music and Grammy Award Winning Artists to the Plaza Hotel & Casino

LAS VEGAS – Continuing to bring diverse music and entertainment experiences to downtown Las Vegas, the [Plaza Hotel & Casino](#) welcomes the 4th annual Big Blues Bender, one of the most talked about Blues events in the world, Sept. 7 - 10. The Big Blues Bender has quickly become a festival favorite among Blues fans and artists alike, offering an extraordinary mix of first class music and entertainment from top artists like Mavis Staples, Dr. John, Tab Benoit, Walter Trout, and many more.

This all-inclusive music experience delivers 18 hours of live music daily from the most talented and sought after Blues artists touring today on three indoor stages and the rooftop stage at the Pool at the Plaza. The full performance line up for the sold out event is at www.bigbluesbender.com. Media are invited to cover the performances. Highlights include:

- **Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 8 p.m., Bender With HART Party:** The annual star-studded Bender With HART Party is the official kick-off to the festival and will benefit the Handy Artists Relief Trust (HART Fund) <http://blues.org/hart-fund>.
- **Friday, Sept. 8 at 11 a.m., The F.A.C.E. of Women in Blues:** The Bender is the first Blues event anywhere in which women outnumber men in the attending audience. To celebrate this milestone, the Blues Bender will present The F.A.C.E. of Women in Blues 2017 panel led by Dr. Marie Trout and featuring four artists: the winner of the International Blues Challenge, Dawn Tyler Watson; singer, songwriter, and violinist Anne Harris; singer Teresa James; and Blues-Rock “force of nature” Sari Schorr.
- **Friday, Sept 8 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Sept 10 at noon, Private Movie Screening of Sidemen - Long Road To Glory:** Director Scott Rosenbaum will present a private screening and Q & A of his acclaimed documentary, Sidemen - Long Road To Glory. Sidemen is an intimate look at the incredible lives and legacies of Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf sidemen Pinetop Perkins, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, and Hubert Sumlin, three of the last direct links to the origins of the Blues. The film captures their trials and triumphs and includes some of their last interviews and final live performances together.
- **Sunday September 10 at 7:30 p.m., One for the Brothers - A Bender Dedication to the Allman Brothers Band, Featuring Southern Hospitality and Special Guests:** The passing of Butch Trucks and Gregg Allman has made Blues fans more committed to preserving the music that helped shape the genre. This tribute to the Allman Brothers Band will be led by Southern Hospitality with special guests Mike Zito, Jimmy Hall, Tab Benoit, Walter Trout, Anders Osborne, Davy Knowles, Chris Tofield, Johnny Sansone, Jason Ricci, The Bender Brass, Monster Mike Welch & Mike Ledbetter and more, just before the great Dr. John performs.

Media are invited to cover any of these performances. Please contact Amy Maier for media credentials and access at amy@ffwpr.com or at 702-904-0296.



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About the Plaza Hotel & Casino

Located in the heart of downtown Las Vegas, the Plaza Hotel & Casino combines a vintage Rat Pack attitude with modern styling and personal customer service for the ultimate Vegas experience. First opened in 1971 and built on the site of the original Las Vegas railroad depot, the Plaza has 1,003 renovated rooms and suites, a classic Vegas showroom, downtown's only bingo hall and 30,000 square feet of ballroom and meeting space. Guests enjoy a variety of dining options led by the Rat Pack-styled Oscar's steakhouse in the hotel's iconic glass dome overlooking Fremont Street Experience. Hundreds of slot machines, from the latest games to traditional coin machines, and nearly two dozen table games comprise an 80,000-square-foot casino floor, which is also home to downtown's largest race and sports book. A fully renovated rooftop pool and recreation deck, complete with private cabanas, hot tub, food truck, tennis court and dedicated Pickleball courts, provide guests with a variety of outdoor amenities. For more information visit www.plazahotelcasino.com.

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