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GENERATION BLUES



The Blues Foundation's Generation Blues program awarded nearly \$18,000 in 34 scholarships to young musicians in 2018. Here are comments from several recipients.

Easton Wagner, 15
BLUES ROOTS AND BEYOND

My blues camp, Blues Roots and Beyond, taught me a lot about building my guitar solos and how to bring more intensity, energy, and attitude to my playing - we called it "intenergitude". In this camp we also studied blues players and how to incorporate some of their techniques into our playing. Together we studied Stevie Ray Vaughn, Freddie King, B.B King, and Hound Dog Taylor. Every night we had solo assignments to study a blues musician that played our instrument. I studied Freddie King, Jimmie Hendrix, Gary Clark Jr., and my personal favorite, Danny Gatton. We put together

songs to play as a band, and performed selections from B.B King, Louis Jordan, and Muddy Waters. Altogether the camp made me a better musician, and I wanted to thank The Blues Foundation for the opportunity!

Jack Meyer, 14
ROBBEN FORD'S TRAVELING DOJO GUITAR CAMP

I recently attended Robben Ford's Traveling Dojo Guitar Camp, and it was a great experience. Each day of the camp I attended three sessions of learning, two of which were instructed by one of three very talented guitarists: Rick Wheeler, Jeff McErlain, and Robben Ford, and the other was instructed by one of these guitarists

as well as drummer Hari Gangleberger and bassist Kip Reed. During these sessions we were taught many essential concepts related to the styles of both blues and jazz, such as the significance of triads, the importance of knowing the name of every note on the fretboard, and the various purposes for multiple scales and chord shapes, such as the half-step whole-step scale, which Robben Ford famously uses in his soloing.

My favorite part of the camp was the faculty concert and sit-in which happened every evening. In this event, the band, which consisted of all the instructors, played multiple songs showcasing their amazing playing abilities. After that, each student got an opportunity to play a song of their choice in the band. During my song, I was given the opportunity to solo for 24 bars, which was a very fun experience!

I would like to thank The Blues Foundation for this scholarship as this camp was truly a life-changing event for me.



Robben Ford and Jack Meyer