

the second time the band has represented the Canada South Blues Society in the



IBC Youth Showcase. The 2018 IBC was highlighted by Steven Van Zandt judging their showcase performance. In March 2018, the band was presented with the Chicago Music Award for Most Talented Teens.

## The Piano Matt Quintet

LONG ISLAND  
BLUES SOCIETY

The Piano Matt Quintet is the Long Island Blues Society's Youth Showcase representative, featuring Matthew Lifford on piano, Angel Holmes



on drums, Dylan Jones on trombone, Noah Albarracin on bass, and Victoria Bartunek on baritone saxophone. The band came together when Matt and some of his friends from the Newfield High School Jazz band (in Selden, Long Island, New York) collaborated to put together a few blues and boogie-woogie songs for their high school's coffeehouse show. All members of the Piano Matt Quintet are currently 17 years old, high school seniors, and looking forward to college.

## The Schoolers Band

CROATIAN BLUES FORCES

This group of young musicians is composed of pupils of the Poprock School of



Sisak and participants of the International Blues Camp, which is unique in Europe by its content because it is held in the "heart" of the Lonjsko polje Nature Park, Eco Ethno Village Strug. Band members include Damjan Labus Milojevic on drums, Leo Banić on drums, Karlo Ki on guitar, Mijo Pušeljic on solo guitar, Jan Wolk on bass guitar, Martin Kosovec on vocals, Jakov Bjelac on vocals, Lucia Trtanj on accompaniment vocals, and Ema Martinić on accompanied vocals.

## Us & Them Blues Band

BLUES SOCIETY OF OMAHA

Us and Them Blues Band's infectious show emphasizes the traditional blues values of soul, groove, funk, and improvisation. As part of the highly competitive Omaha



Blues Society's BluesEd program in Nebraska, they have regularly opened for international and national touring groups. This is their second

time performing at the IBC Youth Showcase. Members range in age from 12 to 18 and include Grace Giebler and Harrison Tarr on vocals, Luke Wagner on drums, Logan Hawkins and J.J. Stiles on guitar, Aedan Leahy on keys, Josie Jennum on bass, Tyler Savoie and Macy Klein on sax, and Quin Sexton on trumpet.

## Veronica Lewis

GRANITE STATE  
BLUES SOCIETY

Veronica Lewis is an exciting, emerging talent in the blues world. Debuting at the 2018 Rhythm & Roots Festival as



"The Future of Roots Performer," this young piano player and singer brings her style of blues and boogie-woogie into the future with exuberance and originality. Veronica performs solo, showcasing her piano chops and vocals in the style of her idols; Katie Webster, Otis Spann, Pinetop Perkins, and Jerry Lee Lewis. Veronica writes juke joint style songs filled with "humor, imagery, and the true language of the blues. Her piano playing has the power of a summer thunderstorm in the Delta" (Town Common 2018). Veronica, 15, is a New England native and four-time Granite State Blues Challenge winner.

## Calgary Blues Music Association

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The Consulate General of Canada and The International Blues Challenge proudly present a Panel on trends & opportunities in the blues music industry

Please join us at the **Blues Hall of Fame** on **Wednesday, January 23rd**, from **2-3pm!**  
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