





Photo by Glenn Kaupert



Blues Camp International - Columbia College Chicago



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

July 9, 2023

Dear Friends:

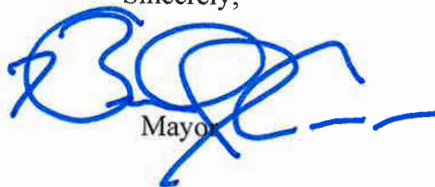
As Mayor, and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I welcome all those gathered for the Fernando Jones' 14th Annual International Blues Camp presented by the Blues Kids Foundation.

Fernando Jones founded Blues Kids America in 1989 with the goal of preserving, performing, and promoting the art of the blues. In 2010, Fernando Jones launched Blues Camp to honor blues tradition while also passing the art along to the next generation through education, performance opportunities, and mentorships. Through their work, Blues Kids America is contributing to the future of the blues while upholding the contributions of the past.

This year's Camp will bring together young people from around the world between the ages of 12 and 18 to learn from and perform with world renowned instructors. Through a full schedule of classes and workshops, students will learn the social and historic importance of the blues, the importance of critical thinking and collaboration, learn to read music, improvise, and play by ear, and learn to perform with confidence. The camp ends with a live stage performance by the Blues Kids for friends, family, and the general public. I commend Fernando Jones and the Blues Kids Foundation for their ongoing commitment to young musicians and the blues.

I hope you have an enjoyable event. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,



Mayo

Photo by Fernando Jones



Blues Camp New York City - LaGuardia High School



Blues Angel,

It has been a dream of mine since childhood, over five decades ago, to have a centrally located place where student musicians could come play and perform the Blues in a nurturing, organized, professional environment. Fast-forwarding to adulthood, the dream has come to fruition.

I'd like to invite you to join our team and establish a formal strategic partnership between your organization and mine (Blues Camp International, the *Fernando Jones* brand, and Blues Kids Foundation — a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit registered charity). Visit FernandoJones.com and BluesKids.com for more information.

With you as an international/strategic partner, we can:

- Promote and champion Diversity and Equitable Inclusion.
- Establish free *Blues Camps* and workshops for adults and children.
- Create new STEAM opportunities in underserved communities.

Fernando Jones | 773-841-5262

Photo by Fernando Jones



Blues Camp Mississippi · B.B. King Museum and Interpretive Center



Why support Blues Kids Foundation?

In 1989, I founded **Blues Kids of America** in Chicago, and created **Blues Kids Foundation**, an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization, in 2009. Our mission is to preserve, perform and promote the Blues among America's youth, parents and educators — *establishing free Blues Camps across the world*. We focus on Social & Emotional Learning, Literacy, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) and *Music as a Second Language*. Thanks for making us your charity of choice.

Though Blues is the root of American music, unlike Jazz and Classical music education programs, respectfully, there are fewer funding sources, resources, and endowments setup for nonprofits such as ours. And because of support from people just like you we are at the vanguard, internationally, of Blues pedagogy.

Supporting **Blues Kids Foundation** will help us provide Social & Emotional Learning enrichment and blended learning opportunities for underserved music loving children. For example, for the child who may not have access to a “structured” music appreciation or band program — that’s the void we fill.

Your support helps sustain current programs such as our Blues Camp(s), music workshops and professional development sessions for educators, parents/guardians, and community members. We don’t discriminate on the basis of race, religion, skill or gender identity.

— Fernando Jones

Photo by Glenn Kaupert



Blues Camp Chicago · Columbia College Chicago



Blues Camp North Carolina · Winston-Salem State University

Photo by Fernando Jones

Global Impact

Fernando Jones' Blues Camp International has been presented in performing arts centers and on college campuses, HBCUs and PWIs, in North America, Asia, Europe and the Caribbean. Blues Camp is free! Each participant receives a tuition waiver scholarship. The technology and resources invested in each of them has a value range of \$1,500 to \$2,500. All vocalists and instrumentalists are welcome. This program is designed to give *the Blues Kid* a cultural enrichment and intercultural music opportunity in an organic, nurturing environment with like-minded others. Blues Kids Foundation uses the Kennedy Center ArtsEdge Standards.

Goals

- Introduce the Blues to new youth audiences, globally.
- Provide public performance opportunities for the Blues Kids.
- Teach Blues Kids the art of playing and singing songs by ear.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Use critical thinking skills while collaborating with others.
- Use proper dynamics to ensure appropriate volume levels for vocalists and songs.
- Communicate using cross-generational/regional “musician” language.
- Critique and self-evaluate performances and provide feedback to others.
- Apply practical skills learned in class in a culminating public performance space.

Core Instructors

All Year: Fernando Jones, Felton Crews, Patrick McFowler and Jackie Scott.

Summer: Thomas Navarro, Margaret Murphy Webb, and Brandon Taylor Sides.

Photo by Fernando Jones



Blues Camp Day Chicago



Traditional Blues Camp Days at-a-glance.

3 to 5-Day Blues Camp (Week)

Monday to Friday (Tentative Schedule)

8:00AM - Welcome to Campus

Blues Kids Morning Jam Session

8:05AM - Healthy Morning Snacks

8:30AM - Morning Assembly / Roll Call

8:45AM - Ensemble Sessions Start

11:00AM - Ensemble Sessions End

11:10AM - Lunch

11:30AM - Dismissal

Friday (Tentative Schedule)

Culminating Activity and Blues Kids Fundraiser

5:30PM - Soundcheck

6:30PM - Donor Reception | Meet & Greet

7:30PM - Blues Kids of America Concert

9:00PM - The End

2-Day Blues Camp

Friday (Tentative Schedule)

5:30PM - Reception | Meet & Greet

7:00PM to 8:30PM - Ensemble Sessions

8:45PM - Dismissal

Saturday (Tentative Schedule)

9:00AM - Welcome to Campus

9:05AM - Healthy Morning Snacks

Blues Camp Morning Jam Session

9:30AM - Morning Assembly / Roll Call

9:50AM to 12:20PM - Ensemble Sessions

12:25PM - Lunch

12:50PM - Dismissal

6:30PM - Reception | Meet & Greet

7:30PM - Fernando Jones & My Band! Concert

8:00PM - Blues Kids of America Concert

Photo by Fernando Jones



Blues Camp Mississippi · B.B. King Museum and Interpretive Center



Photo by Glenn Kaupert

Mary Barnes Donnelley Family Foundation

To All of the Blues Camp Family,

Fifteen years ago, I met Fernando at the Chicago Blues Fest with his Columbia College Chicago Blues Ensemble. After the set we spoke, and he shared his vision about a free Blues Camp. Here we are twelve years later and what a ride it has been. Countless kids have participated in Blues Camps from coast to coast and various locations around the world, but *Chi-Town* is the flagship and has been growing strong. *Fourteen years of Blues!*

Every year, at the end of Blues Camp, on the final performance day, I'm reminded how lucky I am to have a part in this event. When I watch the young performers, my eyes water and the hair on my skin stands at alert. Pure joy as each group lays it out for all of our enjoyment. I always say it's my favorite day of the year. To Fernando and all his teachers, to the parents and all the students — let's keep this rolling.

— *Reuben*

Photo by Jeanette Fyke



Blues Camp California · Fender Center for the Performing Arts



FERNANDO JONES | THE ART OF PLAYING + SINGING THE BLUES BY

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[FernandoJones.com/MasterClass](https://fernandojones.com/masterclass)



Allstate

Fernando Jones'
Blues Camp History

- 2010 1. Columbia College Chicago
2011 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
2. Huston-Tillotson University (Austin, TX)
3. Fender Center for the Performing Arts (Corona, CA)
4. Columbia College Chicago
- 2012 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
5. Huston-Tillotson University (Austin, TX)
6. Fender Center for the Performing Arts (Corona, CA)
7. Lahora High School (Anaheim, CA)
8. Columbia College Chicago
- 2013 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
9. Galveston College (Galveston, TX)
10. Fender Center for the Performing Arts (Corona, CA)
11. University of California - Irvine
12. McPhail Center for Music (Minneapolis, MN)
13. Columbia College Chicago
- 2014 14. The American Theatre (Hampton, VA)
Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
15. Fender Center for the Performing Arts (Corona, CA)
16. California State University, Los Angeles
17. Columbia College Chicago
18. The American Theatre (Hampton, VA)
19. Miami Dade College
- 2015 20. The Premises Music Studios, (London, England)
Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
21. Corona Civic Center (Corona, CA)
22. California State University, Los Angeles
23. Tennessee State University (Nashville, TN)
24. Columbia College Chicago
25. The American Theatre (Hampton, VA)
26. Miami Dade College
27. The Premises Music Studios (London, England)
- 2016 28. Italy (Private Location)
Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
29. Corona Civic Center (Corona, CA)
30. Tennessee State University (Nashville, TN)
31. Columbia College Chicago
32. Tokyo School of Music and Dance (Tokyo, Japan)
33. The Premises Music Studios (London, England)
34. Havana, Cuba (Private Location)
- 2017 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
35. National Blues Hall of Fame (St. Louis, MO)
36. Tennessee State University (Nashville, TN)
37. Columbia College Chicago
38. Tokyo School of Music and Dance (Tokyo, Japan)
39. The Premises Music Studios (London, England)
- 2018 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
40. Los Angeles Unified School District
41. Kappa Kamp Paul Quinn College (Dallas, TX)
42. Tennessee State University (Nashville, TN)
43. Columbia College Chicago's Music Center
44. Chicago State University
45. Logan Center for the Arts
- 2019 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
46. The Music Center at Columbia College Chicago
47. KOP Mentoring Network (Palm Beach County, FL)
- 2020 Pandemic
48. Blues Camp Online from Chicago (Pandemic)
- 2021 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
49. Columbia College Chicago
50. Winston-Salem State University (Winston-Salem, NC)
51. KOP Mentoring Network (Palm Beach County, FL)
- 2022 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
52. B. B. King Museum and Interpretive Center (Indianola, MS)
53. Columbia College Chicago
54. Kappa Kamp Paul Quinn College (Dallas, TX)
55. Winston-Salem State University (Winston-Salem, NC)
56. KOP Mentoring Network (Palm Beach County, FL)
- 2023 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
57. Winston-Salem State University (Winston-Salem, NC)
58. B. B. King Museum and Interpretive Center (Indianola, MS)
59. Columbia College Chicago
60. LaGuardia H.S. of Music & Art & Performing Arts (New York, NY)
61. KOP Mentoring Network (Palm Beach County, FL)
- 2024 Blues Camp Kick-Off at the Chicago Blues Fest
62. American Jazz Museum (Kansas City, MO)
63. B. B. King Museum and Interpretive Center (Indianola, MS)
64. Columbia College Chicago
65. Winston-Salem State University (Winston-Salem, NC)
66. Kappa Kamp Paul Quinn College (Dallas, TX)
67. Governors State University (University Park, IL)
68. KOP Mentoring Network (Palm Beach County, FL)



Photo by LeVern Danley III



Blues Kids Foundation and Friends Present The 12th Annual Blues Kid of the Year Contest | 2024

Parents/Legal Guardians go to www.BluesKids.com/Contest for all instructions.

The *Blues Kid of the Year Contest* must be accompanied by a legal guardian to *Fernando Jones' 15th Annual Blues Camp International* at Columbia College Chicago Sunday, July 7 to Friday, July 12, 2024.

Eligibility: Contestants entering the *Blues Kid of the Year Contest* (BKOTY) must live in North America and be between the ages of eleven (11) and fifteen (15) by July 1st. Blues Kids who've attended Blues Camp before are ineligible. Proof of age may be requested at any time during the process. Contestants can enter under parental/legal guardian supervision only. They can sing and/or play an instrument(s) accompanied by one of the backing tracks on the page. Be creative and have fun.

The winner gets transportation that may include either two (2) roundtrip plane tickets on Southwest Airlines (or a comparable airline) of a commercial passenger train or bus. The BKOTY will receive swag from D'Addario, Rotary Club Chicago, Jim Dunlop, Blues Camp and more. They will also get six (6) nights of lodging accommodations in a chain hotel across the street from Blues Camp.

2024 Deadline Dates: Submit entries between Thursday, February 1st and Sunday, June 23rd at 12P CST; The BKOTY will be announced on Monday, June 24th at 12P CST on our social media platforms.

Photo by Fernando Jones



Blues Camp Day Chicago

Photo by Fernando Jones



Blues Camp Palm Beach County, Florida



Photo by Glenn Kaupert

Blues Camp International · Columbia College Chicago

NOTES

Photo by Glenn Kaupert



Blues Camp International · Columbia College Chicago



Photo by Glenn Kaupert

Blues Camp International · Columbia College Chicago

NOTES



Photo by Glenn Kaupert



Photo by Fernando Jones

NOTES



Congratulations Blues Kids!

The D'Addario Foundation is a proud supporter of Fernando Jones and all of the Blues Kids Foundation initiatives supporting music education in Chicago. Congratulations on 35 years of Blues Kids of America, and 15 years of Blues Camp!

**D'Addario
Foundation**

Learn more at
daddariofoundation.org



2023 Blues Kid of the Year at Blues Camp Chicago

NOTES



Donate to Blues Kids Foundation.

The more you give, the healthier the Blues'll live.

Blues Kids Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization founded by Fernando Jones.

We establish free Blues Camps and workshops for children, parents and educators internationally.

(779) Blues Me | BluesKids.com | info@BluesKids.com | Photos by Glenn Kaupert, Fernando Jones and Jeannette Fyke

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Blues Kids Foundation Presents Fernando Jones' 15th Annual

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Blues Camp Education Partners

B.B. King Museum and Interpretive Center (MS) | Columbia College Chicago Chicago Multi-Cultural Dance Center | KOP Mentoring Network (FL) | Governors State University Winston-Salem State University (NC) | Tokyo School of Music and Dance (JP) Chicago Public Schools: Metcalfe, Hendricks, Esmond, Powell Paideia Academy, and Owen American Jazz Museum (MO) | Delta Arts Center (NC) | School of Rock (Oak Park, IL)

Blues Kids Foundation Friends

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BluesKids.com/Give

Thanks in advance for making us your charity of choice.

Give without remembering if our mission is in alignment with yours.

Four-Year International Partner • **\$250K**

Two-Year International Partner • **\$150K**

One-Year International Partner • **\$75K**

One-Year National Partner • **\$50K**

Partner of the Week • **\$7.5K**

Blues Kid of the Year Partner • **\$5K**

General Blues Camp Support • **\$2.5K**

Musical instruments, performance space, food + beverages, and transportation service donations are welcome.

Fernando Jones' Blues Camp International

(In-residence since 2010 at Columbia College Chicago's Music Center)

1014 S. Michigan Avenue | Chicago, IL 60605 | FernandoJones.com | BluesKids.com
(779) BluesMe | Info@BluesKids.com

Chicago Public School Vendor #41604 and #21794

Photos by Glenn Kaupert, LeVern Danley III and Fernando Jones