



A 501 (c)(3) Nonprofit School of Music  
144 West Third Street (Suite 201), Williamsport, Pa 17701

Dear Parents and Students,

On Friday June 7<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding our 11th annual Blues- A- Thon... A two-day Blues Jam event to raise money for the Uptown Music Collective.

This annual event works like Relay for Life, where students pledge a number of hours that they will take part, and ask their family, friends, and others to sponsor them a certain amount per hour. As an example, I personally will usually participate between 10 and 12 hours each year. I ask people to give me \$1 an hour if I ask 20 people to support me, and they all agree, I raise \$200 for the school. This year, we have set a goal of raising \$5,000.00 for the Collective!

Students of all ages are welcome to participate, as are people outside the school but they MUST be registered. Participants receive instruction in playing the blues; get to jam along with their teachers and many musicians from the local music scene. The event will start on June 1st at 6 pm on Pine Street in Williamsport and end at 6 pm on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Midtown Landing Stage.

The 24-hour event will feature Chicago Blues Man and “Blues in the Schools” educator Fruteland Jackson, both as a performer, and as an instructor/mentor through much of the event. Students are also invited to sleep over at the Collective under the watchful eye of the staff and parent chaperones, with parents’ permission. There’s always a ton of food, lots of great music, and a great time will be had by all.

NEW this year, the UMC will be joining forces with the City of Williamsport and the Recreation Department as they present their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual StrEAT Food Festival on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> during our Blues-A-Thon activities. The StrEAT Food Festival celebrates the food truck phenomenon sweeping the nation and features the incredible talent of some of the region’s greatest food truck/trailer/cart chefs. The food trucks won’t start serving the public until 12pm on Saturday, but the UMC will be selling a limited number of “early bird” tickets. Early Bird tickets allow you access to the festival an hour earlier (11am) as well as a \$1 off coupon (good at any food vendor, which will also count as a vote for the “fan favorite” trophy), a t-shirt, and a souvenir cup. Proceeds from these ticket sales will go directly to the Collective. We will be sending an email out in the near future with the link to purchase tickets. Also, please note that starting at noon the StrEAT Food Festival is free to the public, tickets are only needed for early access to the food trucks at 11am.

The schedule is attached, as are all of the other forms you will need. We will also have copies available at the Collective. **WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US IN MAKING THIS BLUES- A- THON THE BEST ONE YET!**

Thanks,  
Dave

***P.S. If any student feels intimidated or not prepared to participate in Blues-A-Thon activities we will be holding warm up sessions before the Blues-A-Thon. These warm up sessions are open to any level of player that is in need of help. You are STRONGLY encouraged to attend. Please Check your email for the dates & times of upcoming warm up sessions and prep-jams!!***



## BLUES-A-THON 2019-Description and Rules

### What is the Blues-A-Thon?

The Blues-A-Thon is a fundraising event intended to raise money to support the Uptown Music Collective, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit school of music. All funds raised will go directly to the school's free programs including iOn Uptown, Tech Monkey, the free class and workshop initiative, and more. The fundraising goal for this annual event is \$5,000.

The Blues-A-Thon will take place at multiple locations during the two-day period on June 7th & 8th:

*6pm to 8pm - First Friday on Pine St. (420 Pine St. Williamsport, Pa) (Public)*

*8pm to 10pm – Pine Square Stage (343 Pine St. Williamsport, Pa) (Public)*

*10pm to 2am - The Michael Ross Event Center (144 West Third St. (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor) Williamsport, Pa)*

*2am to 7:00am – Sleep over at UMC*

*7:00am to 11am - The Michael Ross Event Center (144 West Third St. (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor) Williamsport, Pa)*

*11am to 6pm – The Mid-Town Landing (behind the Uptown Music Collective) during the StrEAT Food Truck Festival (Public)*

The public is welcome throughout the public hours of the event, and is encouraged to make donations to help the organization. The event will feature awarded blues educator and performing artist Fruteland Jackson, who will perform with and educate the participants at various times throughout the event thanks to the support of the Billtown Blues Association.

All participants must pledge a number of hours that they intend to participate\* and seek donations from individuals and companies for each hour pledged. **A minimum of \$25 in sponsor pledges is required for each participant.**

*\*Participation in the Blues-A-Thon event is defined as playing in jams as well as sitting in with bands as opportunities arise. Participation also includes participating in the offered master classes, helping with tech needs, and watching & learning from performances.*

### Rules of Participation

1. The number of hours each participant pledges to perform and what times they plan to participate must be turned into Brendan Mondell, [brendan@uptownmusic.org](mailto:brendan@uptownmusic.org) by June 5th.
2. Participants must turn in a completed registration form with a sponsor sheet and envelope with a minimum of \$25 in pledges by 8:00 pm on Wednesday, June 5th to participate.
3. The sponsor sheets must include the sponsors address so that they can be formally thanked (Print Clearly!)
4. All participants are expected to participate the hours pledged.
5. All participants will sign in and sign out of the event.
6. Participants **regardless of age** shall not be in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
7. Student participants will stay on the premises for the duration of their time at the event unless given permission to leave by a teacher or event coordinator.
8. Student participants will adhere to a 10pm curfew, meaning all must stay inside the building from 10pm to 9am
9. All students will follow any additional rules given by teachers or event coordinators during the duration of the event.
10. Separate sleeping accommodations for male and female students will be adhered to by all.

**PLEASE NOTE: If you plan on sleeping over, you must plan on participating in the late night jams and or early morning jams & master classes. You cannot not just show up to sleep over.**



### ABOUT FRUTELAND JACKSON

*"Forthright and intelligent,. Singer-guitarist Jackson has the style and improvisational instinct to carry on as one of the premier acoustic blues artists today."-DOWNBEAT MAGAZINE*

Electro-Fi recording artist Fruteland Jackson is a HistoryMaker ([www.thehistorymakers.com](http://www.thehistorymakers.com)).

He is an author, storyteller and oral historian, Fruteland grew up in Chicago. He is a three-time Blues Music Award Nominee and a recipient of the Blues Foundation's "Keeping the Blues Alive" award. Fruteland performs Americana; acoustic blues, folk traditional and singer-songwriter styles around the world. Fruteland Jackson created the award winning \*All About the Blues Series- Blues in the School Programs. His program motto is "Try, Trust and Triumph". Fruteland works to bring more music education in our schools.

Fruteland plays acoustic guitar with a focus on pre-war and post-war blues ranging from Robert Johnson, Big Bill Broonzy to Elizabeth Cotton, plus his personal interpretations. His study includes ragtime, Piedmont, Delta, and other styles. He studies mandolin, lap steel and the banjo, and has published an instructional book on Delta Blues for Beginners with Alfred Publishing.

Mr. Jackson will be presenting his "Blues 101" lessons as part of his masterclasses for this year's Blues-A-Thon. Blues 101 is a lecture /performance that covers the origins of blues music from its early beginnings, e.g. field hollers, work songs, etc. to its current popularity. Through song, lecture, and discussion, students learn the history of the Blues while hearing instrumental examples played on guitar or other instruments. Basic definitions of Blues music such as, "What is the Blues?" are reinforced throughout this course. This course is geared toward students of all ages and those being exposed to blues for the first time. The biographies of major players in the development of Blues music, e.g., W. C. Handy, Huddie "Lead Belly" Ledbetter and B. B. King, are introduced. This workshop includes an interactive singing workshop and a Q and A period.

For more information on Fruteland Jackson, visit [www.fruteland.com](http://www.fruteland.com)

## 2019 Uptown Music Collective Blues-A-Thon Schedule of Events

**\*\*\*PLEASE CIRCLE WHAT EVENTS YOU PLAN ON PARTICIPATING IN AND RETURN THIS SHEET WITH YOUR OTHER FORMS\*\*\***

Day/Time	Location	Event
Friday 6pm	First Friday (420 Pine St)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Blues Band
Friday 7pm	First Friday (420 Pine St)	Fruteland Jackson (Special Guest Artist)
Friday 8pm	Pine Square Stage (343 Pine St)	The River City Blues Band
Friday 9pm	Pine Square Stage (343 Pine St)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Blues Band
Friday 10pm	Uptown Music Collective (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor)	The Overnight Kick Off Jam hosted by Dave Brumbaugh *
Saturday 12am	Uptown Music Collective (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor)	The After Midnight Jam hosted by Gabe Stillman *
Saturday 2am	Uptown Music Collective (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor)	***Sleep Over!***
Saturday 7:00am	Uptown Music Collective (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor)	Up and At 'Em Jam hosted by Willi Ort *
Saturday 9:00am	Uptown Music Collective (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor)	Beginner Master Class w/ Fruteland Jackson *
Saturday 10am	Uptown Music Collective (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor)	Advanced Master Class w/ Fruteland Jackson *
Saturday 11am	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	Becky Blue Band StrEAT Food Fest Kick Off (Early Bird)
Saturday 12pm	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	Doug McMinn StrEAT Food Fest Kick Off (Public)
Saturday 12:30pm	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	Dave & Ben's UMC Student Jam *
Saturday 1:30pm	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	Stacia Abernatha and Noe Socha
Saturday 2pm	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	Dirty Mojo
Saturday 3pm	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	The Cadillac Cats
Saturday 4pm	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Blues Band
Saturday 5pm	Mid-Town Landing Stage (behind UMC)	Fruteland Jackson (Special Guest Artist)
		*= Student Performance Opportunity



# REGISTRATION FORM

## BLUES-A-THON 2019

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**Benefitting the Uptown Music Collective a 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit School of Music**

**What:** The 11th Annual Uptown Music Collective Blues-A-Thon

**When:** 6pm, June 7<sup>th</sup> through 6pm, June 8<sup>th</sup> 2019

**Where:** The Blues-A-Thon will take place at multiple locations during the two day period:

*6pm to 8pm - First Friday on Pine St. (420 Pine St. Williamsport, Pa) (Public)*

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Name _____	Emergency Contact _____
Address _____ _____	Emergency Contact Phone _____
Phone Number _____	(Circle One): <b>MALE</b> <b>FEMALE</b>
E-mail _____	Age _____
	Hours Pledged _____
	Amount Sponsored _____
	Amount Enclosed _____

I agree to allow the Uptown Music Collective to use my image in promotional materials.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if participant is under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## BLUES-A-THON SPONSOR SHEET (Please Print CLEARLY!)

Date Money Collected	Sponsor's Name, Address, and Phone Number	Flat Donation Amount	Dollars Pledged Per Hour	Hours Pledged	Amount Collected

STUDENTS NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUMENT(S) \_\_\_\_\_ HOURS OF PARTICIPATION PLEDGED \_\_\_\_\_

**Hours/Events I plan on participating in:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm a student at the Uptown Music Collective. We are having our annual Blues-A-Thon, a two-day Blues Jam fundraising event that helps support the school's free programs.

*Option #1 – You can give a flat donation to the school in cash, or a check made out to the Uptown Music Collective.*

*Option #2 – You can sponsor me for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour. I am pledging to take part for \_\_\_\_\_ hours in the Blues-A-Thon and that would be a total donation of \_\_\_\_\_.*

**Thank you for supporting the Uptown Music Collective, a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit School of Music.**