

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE BLUES

OCTOBER 5 MONDAY & 6 TUESDAY, 2015 | DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY | CLEVELAND MS

BLUES BRUNCH

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 9:30-10:50 a.m.

Panel Discussion with the Mississippi Blues Commission

Moderator: Dr. William Ferris
Introductions: Dr. Rolando Herts

10:30: Special Proclamation: B.B. King –
Mississippi's Secretary of State of the Blues

MUSICIANS

James "Super Chikan" Johnson

James "Super Chikan" Johnson is the recipient of the Mississippi's Governor Award Excellence in the Arts and the recipient of the prestigious Artist Fellowship from the Mississippi Arts Commission. His critically acclaimed debut album, **Blues Come Home to Roost**, earned him awards for Best Blues Album and Best Debut Album from the 1998 **Living Blues** Magazine Awards.

Bobby Rush

Bobby Rush is a **GRAMMY Award** nominee and the winner of multiple Blues Music Awards including Soul Blues Album of the Year, Acoustic Album of the Year and Soul Blues Male Artist of the Year. He has recorded over 100 albums in his more than 60-year career and continues to perform over 200 shows a year from Mississippi to Japan.

MS BLUES COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES

Bob Arentson

Bob Arentson is an attorney with the law firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz in Jackson. He obtained his undergraduate degree from Mississippi State University and his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Mississippi.

Wanda Clark

Wanda Clark is the project coordinator for the Mississippi Blues Trail and the Mississippi Country Music Trail. She received a B.A. in psychology from Mississippi College and has served as Creative Director of Hammons and Associates Advertising in Greenwood for several decades.

Mary Margaret Miller

Mary Margaret Miller is the Bureau Manager for Creative Economy & Culture at Visit Mississippi, the state's tourism office. She holds an M.A. in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi.

J. Kempf Poole

J. Kempf Poole, RN, FACE is the Chairman of the Mississippi Blues Commission and resident of Madison. He is employed at the Mississippi Baptist Health System as Vice President of Clinical and Ambulatory Services and is a board member with the Central Mississippi Boys & Girls Club.

Edgar E. Smith

Dr. Edgar E. Smith is Professor Emeritus of biochemistry and molecular biology at UMMC. He is a Trustee of Tougaloo College and former Acting President. Both he and his wife, Inez, are 1955 graduates of Tougaloo. He is a former member of the board of directors of the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center.

BLUES

Panel discussion organized by the International Delta Blues Project
in partnership with the Mississippi Delta Heritage Area and the
Mississippi Blues Commission. www.deltastate.edu/blues

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