

12PM - 10PM FREE AND OPEN TO PUBLIC

DOWNTOWN ALLENTOWN

SAT. JULY 31



# SHEMEKIA COPELAND

"SHEMEKIA COPELAND IS A POWERHOUSE, A SUPERSTAR  
...SHE CAN DO NO WRONG" ~ ROLLING STONE

### 17 MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

BRUCE KATZ BAND | LONNIE SHIELDS

CRAIG THATCHER BAND WITH MIKE GULDIN

DAVE KELLER BAND | MIKEY JUNIOR

CLARENCE SPADY | THE BC COMBO | + MORE

# KING SOLOMON HICKS

2021 BEST EMERGING ARTIST  
~ 42ND BLUES MUSIC AWARDS

MADE POSSIBLE  
IN  
LEHIGH VALLEY



# SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCES

## AIR PRODUCTS STAGE

1:00-2:15

THE BC COMBO

3:30-5:00

CRAIG THATCHER BAND  
WITH MIKE GULDIN

6:45-8:15

KING SOLOMON HICKS

8:30-10:00

SHEMEKIA COPELAND

## FEGLEY'S BIERGARTEN STAGE

12:00-1:00

STEVE JOHNSON

2:00-3:00

OCTAVIA

4:30-6:00

BOBBY SOUL

## BRÜ DADDY'S STAGE

1:00-2:30

MISSISSIPPI PIG FARMERS

2:45-4:15

JP WILLIAMS &  
EKAT PEREYRA DUO

4:30-5:45

PENTLEY HOLMES

6:15-7:30

TAVERN TAN

## BLENDED STAGE

12:00-1:00

NORMAN TAYLOR

2:15-3:30

LONNIE SHIELDS

5:00-6:30

BRUCE KATZ BAND

## BELL HALL STAGE

1:00-2:00

MIKEY JUNIOR

3:00-4:30

DAVE KELLER BAND

6:00-7:15

CLARENCE SPADY

5 STAGES OF MUSIC | AMAZING BBQ | 3 BEER TENTS

DOWNTOWNALLENTOWN.COM

#BLUES2021

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SCAN ME





#BLUES2021

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# Allentown

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### PRESENTING SPONSOR



### PLATINUM



### SILVER



### BRONZE



### STAGE SPONSOR





# UPCOMING EVENTS



**OPENING WEEKEND**

**10.23** WOLF PACK

**10.24** PENGUINS

**PHANTOMSHOCKEY.COM**

**AUG 16**

THE ORIGINAL

**HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS**

**SPREAD GAME**

\*\*\* TOUR \*\*\*



**Disney ON ICE**

**MICKEY'S SEARCH PARTY**



**MONSTER JAM**

**PPL CENTER**

**AUG 27 - 29**



**The Doobie Brothers**

**50th Anniversary Tour**

WITH SPECIAL GUEST  
**THE DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29 PPL CENTER**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT PPLCENTER.COM



AN EVENING WITH

**michael bublé**

**SEPTEMBER 9**



# ROCK THE WALK

LIVE ON THE *Arts Walk*

## LIVE MUSIC

FOOD | POP-UP VENDORS

EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

4-9PM | POCKET PARK

[experienceallentown.com](http://experienceallentown.com) | [#experienceallentown](https://twitter.com/experienceallentown)

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Capital BLUE 

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**\$10**

2 TOUR TIMES

■ 5:30PM

■ 6:30PM

THIRD THURSDAY

**Arts CRAWL**  
DOWNTOWN ALLENTOWN

**EVERY THIRD THURSDAY**  
TAKE A BOOZY TOUR OF DOWNTOWN'S PUBLIC ART

**2 STOPS**  
**BRÜ DADDY'S & TACOS Y TEQUILA**  
DRINK AND FOOD SAMPLES INCLUDED

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## Shemekia Copeland



Downtown Allentown is proud to present the “Queen of the Blues”, Shemekia Copeland as the main headliner for 13th annual Allentown’s Blues, Brews & Barbecue festival! The Harlem native, daughter of Texas blues guitarist Johnny Copeland, Shemekia began her career at an early age and gave her first public performance at the Cotton Club when she was about 10 years old. Shemekia started to establish her name on the blues circuit when she toured as his opening act for her father when she was around 18. Shemekia is an Alligator Records recording artist since 1998 and worked with Dr. John and Steve Cropper who each produced one of her albums.

Shemekia has sung with Eric Clapton, Bonnie Raitt, Keith Richards, Carlos Santana, James Cotton and many others. She opened for The Rolling Stones and performed with B.B. King, Mick Jagger, Buddy Guy, Trombone Shorty, Gary Clark, Jr, and at the White House for President and First Lady Obama. She has received many accolades, including the Blues Music Award for Contemporary Blues Female Artist in 2016, Billboard Top Blues Album in 2015. Her latest album, America’s Child, won both the ‘Album of the Year’ and ‘Contemporary Album of the Year’ titles at the 40th Blues Music Awards in 2019.

[shemkiacopeland.com](http://shemkiacopeland.com)



## King Solomon Hicks

King Solomon Hicks, the 26-year-old guitar phenom from Harlem, New York is an American guitarist, songwriter, and composer, who is fast becoming a household name. Hicks won the 2021 Blues Music Awards for Best Emerging Artist for his latest CD release, Harlem on Provogue Records.

Hicks made his Allentown debut at the 2019 Blues Fest and returns this year as a headlining artist. He has been invested in music from a very young age and started playing guitar at 6 years old. His father and mother always played music at home and would take him to local nightspots to hear music such as Lennox Lounge, Saint Nick’s, and the Cotton Club. Hicks witnessed performances that made a significant impact on his ambitions as a musician and he says, “When you’re around good musicians, it gives you that spark ‘I want to do what you do. I want to hold my own.” It also helped shape who he was as a player, stating “Being around those types of musicians also taught me to not be the fastest guitar player. I wanted to be the one who knew the most riffs and drew on a lot of knowledge so I could play anything, and with anyone.”

[kingsolomonhicks.com](http://kingsolomonhicks.com)



## Bruce Katz Band

The Bruce Katz Band is an original, exciting group of musicians that combine Blues, “soul-jazz”, and New Orleans inspired roots music. Based in Woodstock, NY, Bruce Katz occupies a unique space where blues and the many aspects of Americana music collide into a style of original music all his own. The band has a trademark sound, blending the B3 organ and guitar in unique and inventive ways. Bruce Katz is a legendary keyboardist who has released 10 CDs as a leader and has appeared on nearly 70 other CDs with the likes of John Hammond, Delbert McClinton, Ronnie Earl, Butch Trucks, and many others.

He was a member of Gregg Allman's band for six years (2007-2013). He is a seven-time BMA nominee for the "Pinetop Perkins Piano Player of the Year" award, and was nominated by Living Blues Magazine for "Outstanding Musician (Keyboard)" award in 2015 and 2019. He won the 2019 BMA for "Best Acoustic Album" for "Journeys to the Heart of the Blues", recorded with Joe Louis Walker and Giles Robson and was nominated for "Acoustic Album" award for "Solo Ride", his solo piano CD.  
[brucekatzband.com](http://brucekatzband.com)

## Lonnie Shields

Lonnie Shields is truly one of the finest of the next generation of the blues. He cut his teeth performing with The Jelly Roll Kings. His recording career has led him through many studios from Memphis and Clarksdale to tours all over the world. This Delta born guitarist, singer and songwriter's style is just the opposite of his demeanor. Lonnie comes across as a mild-mannered southern gentleman with a laid-back nature. On stage, he is transformed into an extraordinary entertainer moving to his music and feeding off the energy of the audience. His music is deeply rooted in gospel, soul and R&B while his sound, like his soul is never too far from the home of the blues.

Lonnie was the first Delta artist that Rooster blues picked up after moving to Clarksdale, Mississippi in 1987. In the years following his release of "Portrait" Lonnie's hard work has paid off in a fine compilation of music and a reputation of a man with the heart and soul of the Blues.

[lonnieshields.com](http://lonnieshields.com)



## Dave Keller

Dave Keller is a two-time Blues Music Award (BMA) nominated soul/ blues singer, guitarist, and songwriter. His new album, You Get What You Give: Duets reached #6 on the Living Blues radio chart and features some of the finest singers in the roots music world. AXS.com named Keller one of "The Best 13 Blues Singers", and he has been featured in USA Today's notable songs of the week. Elmore magazine calls Keller, "A magnificent soul singer, his luxuriant voice rising flawlessly to every occasion." And U.S standard bearer Living Blues calls Keller's music "moving and powerful confirms his rightful place in the soul universe. Steve Cropper-like riffs and soaring vocals songwriter genius... straight-to-the-heart soul."  
[davekeller.com](http://davekeller.com)



## Craig Thatcher Band

With both worldwide recognition and a slew of Lehigh Valley Music Awards, the Craig Thatcher Band has a well-earned reputation for blending classic rock and blues standards with impressive original tunes, all with a joy of playing that's up front and bold. He has worked with and/or opened for many great artists including: Simone, Buddy Guy, Derek Trucks, John Mayall, Jimmie Vaughan, Duke Robillard, John Hammond, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Johnny Lang, and many other international artists. Craig together with his band and friends also present tributes to Jimi Hendrix, George Harrison, The Allman Brothers Band, and Cream.

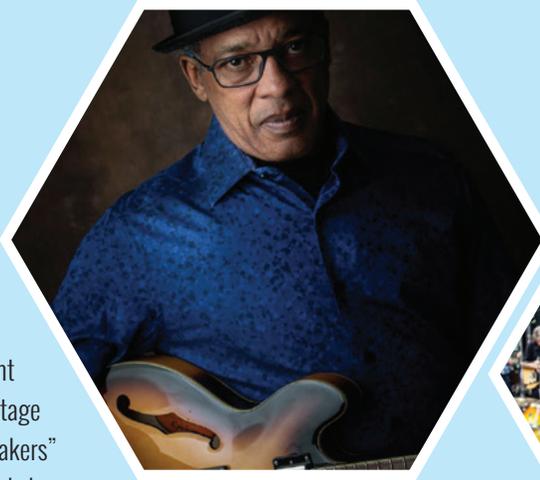
Craig is also half of a very exciting and popular duo with violinist Nyke Van Wyk. Together they play often in the Lehigh Valley as well as group tours to Ireland, Scotland and Italy.

[craigthatcher.com](http://craigthatcher.com)

## Clarence Spady

Clarence Spady is thoroughly motivated when it comes to his career. By any standard, Clarence embarked on his musical odyssey at an uncommonly tender age. Born in Paterson, New Jersey, Spady began playing guitar when he was only five years old due to encouragement from his father and his Uncle Fletchey. For his stage debut, he played Tommy Tucker's "Hi-Heel Sneakers" with the band at the local Elks Club, for a special close to the evening's show. The dawn of the '90s brought a return to his roots, and he put together the West Third Street Blues Band in the unlikely town of Scranton, Pennsylvania, the place he still calls home to this day. The success of Nature of the Beast helped influence his nomination for a 1997 W.C. Handy Award for Best New Blues Artist. His sophomore release, Just Between Us, garnered a 2009 Blues Music Award nomination for Soul Blues Album of the year. Spady doesn't record nearly often enough, but the luxuriously downbeat and altogether cathartic "Surrender" confirms that when he does, he's a truly gripping presence."

[clarencespady.com](http://clarencespady.com)



## Mikey Junior

What is the future of the blues and who will lead the charge? Well, for blues fans in the Northeast United States, that question is routinely answered every night Mikey Junior hits the stage. His infectious personality and absolute command of his medium leave little doubt the blues is in good hands. Self-taught from his impressive collection of blues vinyl, Mikey was a full-time musician before he even graduated high school. By the time he was in his early twenties, seasoned players were taking notice and it wasn't long before one blues society after another scrambled to get him to their stage.



Before long, Mikey was a staple of the summer blues circuit on the East Coast. So, it came as no surprise that his newest release found its way into the eclectic and youthful roster of the VizzTone Label Group.

[mikeyjunior.com](http://mikeyjunior.com)



## The BC Combo

The BC Combo has been bringing their wealth of experience and passion to Blues, Jazz, Swing, Folk, R&B, Soul and more for over 30 years. Their interpretation of Americana is expressed through their self-penned songs about truth, soul, love, peace and harmony. The BC Combo is among the Lehigh Valley's well-respected groups and have been honored since 1999 by the Lehigh Valley Music Awards as individuals, band, veterans, life-time achievement, for their recordings and community involvement in addition to being distinguished finalist at the International Blues Competition in Memphis.

[thebccombo.com](http://thebccombo.com)



## JP Williams & Ekat Pereyra

Singer-songwriter JP Williams was born in NYC. He creates music based on his love of blues, folk, rock, jazz and soul music. His lyrics are fashioned from hard times, great joys, memories of people in his life, and the experiences he has lived. Part storyteller, part troubadour, his music often leads him to unexpected places and situations. Russian-born Ekat Pereyra came to the USA as a teen-ager with a stunning set of vocal talents and musical abilities. Audiences are enamored by her powerful delivery, dynamic vocals, and captivating performances on stages large and small.

JP Williams and Ekat perform with a talented, revolving crew of musicians who come together under the banner of the JP Williams Blues Band.

[jp-williams.com](http://jp-williams.com)

## Pentley Holmes

New Jersey native, Pentley Holmes is truly that rare artist whose work achieves both technical and emotional brilliance. A self-taught guitarist and vocalist, Pentley is as well rounded musically as they come. His background in creative writing allows him to unite his musical talent with an authentic expression of what it means to be alive. He sings passionately and uses his instrument as the ultimate medium to express himself applying it into a soup of contemporary blues and rock, soul and pop that resonate flavors concocted with points to say and purpose to move. Throughout the years, he has been gaining notoriety by touring regionally and nationally from coast to coast performing in bars, theatres, festivals, and concert halls with a live performance that is compelling, heartfelt, and not to be missed.

[pentleyholmes.com](http://pentleyholmes.com)



## Octavia Blues

Suzuki Music USA and Godin Guitars endorsed Octavia is noted as one of the few women performing soulful harmonica, strong vocals and guitar in her original music. Bringing influences of Etta James with whom Octavia toured, highlights of her rich history include having played harmonica with Stevie Wonder, The Allman Brothers, The Neville Brothers as well as having opened for B.B. King, Taj Mahal, Mavis Staples, and Dr. John. With eight albums to her credit signed CD's are available today or uploads are available at [OctaviaBlues.com](http://OctaviaBlues.com) music.

[octaviablues.com](http://octaviablues.com)



## Tavern Tan

Named for the sort of complexion you get from the neon nightly beer lights, Tavern Tan play what we call "Live American Music". Formed in 2004, this is a sound that used to be standard in taverns, pubs, bars,

juke joints, dancehalls, and the local dive in every town and city in America...the sound of eclectic, original bluesy roots music and rock n' roll. Anything with a little grit n' soul to it.

[taverntan.com](http://taverntan.com)



## Mississippi Pig Farmers

Led by Glenn "Wass" Wasserman, Mississippi Pig Farmers are about roots music, classic rock, southern rock and the blues. Generally a four-piece band with two smokin' guitar players

bringing you the best of The Allman Brothers Band,

Marshall Tucker, Dickey Betts, Gov't Mule, Albert King and so much more.

[mississippipigfarmers.com](http://mississippipigfarmers.com)



# #BLUES2021

## Steve Johnson

If you think you have seen it all, you are in for a delightful surprise. Steve Johnson is a high energy, exciting solo performer with a huge song list and plenty of personality. With a focus on fun, Steve is guaranteed to put on a great show!

[facebook.com/stephen.p.johnson.50](https://www.facebook.com/stephen.p.johnson.50)



## Bobby Soul

Bobby Soul is a true old and new style blues band covering Chicago, Texas and Mississippi style blues. They play everything from Muddy waters to Stevie Ray Vaughn originals.

[facebook.com/roadrunnerim](https://www.facebook.com/roadrunnerim)

## Norman Taylor

Norman Taylor is a singer/songwriter/acoustic blues performer from the South Jersey/Philadelphia area. His style is entrenched in the country blues of people like Robert Johnson and Skip James, and contemporary acoustic blues men like Keb Mo, Eric Bibb and Guy Davis. Norman also draws influence from country, 70s rock, soul, gospel, and a variety of musical forms. Norman's Blue Soul CD on Soul Stew Records was nominated for best acoustic blues album for 2014. His label mates include The Billy Thompson Band, Warner Williams, Jay Summerour, Eric Selby, Mary Hott, Rob Gillette, Abigail Palmer Group and Bob Eike.

[normansblues.com](https://www.normansblues.com)



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