

Preferred Mutual

32nd Chenango Blues Fest

Norwich, N. Y. – (July 22, 2025) – The volunteers running the Chenango Blues Festival are busily taking care of the many final details involved in presenting the thirty second edition of the Chenango Blues Festival.

It's a labor of love for the more than one hundred people working on the event and it's the culmination of planning that began last October.

This year's festival features a stellar lineup of award-winning artists, headlined by four-time Grammy winning Los Lobos. They recently celebrated their 50th year together with nary a lineup change. This LA based band embodies the idea of American music by melting together blues, soul, folk, Tejano and rock and roll to create something entirely their own.

Appearing before Los Lobos on the infield stage is blues rocker Joanne Shaw Taylor. Joanne grew up in Solihull, England and was inspired to pick up guitar after hearing Stevie Ray Vaughan and Jimi Hendrix. She has won numerous British Blues Awards and her most recent recording features collaborations with Joe Bonamassa and Kenny Wayne Sheperd.

Also, on the infield stage is fast rising star D.K. Harrell from Ruston, Louisiana. His playing style evokes BB King and his impassioned live sets have quickly earned him fans around the world.

You shouldn't arrive late to the infield because the stage opens with Canada's own Kenny "Blues Boss" Wayne. Kenny recently won the Blues Music Award for Piano Player of the Year and he will be more than ably backed up on this show by the Duke Robillard Band.

The festival begins unofficially on Thursday, August 14th with a free show in Norwich's East Park before moving to the Chenango Fairgrounds on Friday, August 15th. Thursday's show is part of the NBT Summer Concert Series and has a special kick-off time of 6:00 P.M.

It's a double header with harmonica ace Brandon Santini opening up and Sue Foley closing. Sue has won four Blues Music Awards as Traditional Blues Female Artist of the Year and her set at last year's Chenango Blues Festival made a return imperative.

Friday at the fairgrounds is a triple header of returning favorites, and it's another free admission show. Opening up will be Misty Blues, fronted for twenty-five years by Gina Coleman. Their most recent release has had heavy rotation on XM radio and their last performance in Norwich was a hit.

Next up is Jimmy Hall, a Memphis native best known of his work leading Wet Willie. He has also served stints touring with Jeff Beck and the Allman Family Revival Tour serving as a vocalist and harmonica player.

Closing out the Friday show will be the Nick Moss Band. Nick won a Blues Music Award as Best Traditional Male Artist and his bandmate Dennis Gruenling has won a Blues Music Award for Best Harmonica Player so they make for an impressive one two punch of Chicago Blues.

The Chenango Blues Festival is a family friendly, all volunteer run event whose slogan is "By Fans, For Fans". There are excellent food and craft vendors on site and Saturday has a children's activity tent. Camping is a highlight with over one hundred RV sites close to the stages and plenty of room for tent camping as well. Tickets for the festival are available on the Chenango Blues Festival website www.chenangobluesfest.org If you order soon, you can still do so by mailing a check with a self-addressed stamped envelope to 5 South Broad Street in Norwich.

Organizers want to encourage everyone to buy a ticket and help spread the word so this nonprofit festival can continue. It only exists because of its many community supporters and its loyal fans. ➡