

Memphis Blues Society local 2023 Best Self-Produced CD Competition Entry Instructions

The Memphis Blues Society is now soliciting entrants for its local 2023 "Best Self-Produced CD" competition. Entrants must send the Memphis Blues Society **6 quantity** of their self-produced CD for ranking by an independent panel of judges SELECTED BY THE Memphis Blues Society Board of Directors. CDs will not be returned the entrant. The winning CD will advance to represent the Memphis Blues Society in the 2024 International Blues Challenge, January 2024.

What is the Best Self-Produced CD Award?

The Blues Foundation established an award for the Best Self-Produced CD, given out at the International Blues Challenge, as part of our mission to celebrate blues recording and to ensure the future of this uniquely American art form and to recognize excellence in independent Blues recordings. Entries for the Best Self-Produced CD are permitted by Blues Foundation Affiliated Blues Societies only.

Best Self-Produced CD Competition Official Entry Rules:

- Only CDs released between November 1, 2022 and October 31, 2023 are eligible for consideration as the 2024 Best Self-Produced CD.
- The entry deadline for Best Self-Produced CD entries to be received by the Memphis Blues Society is: Tuesday October 10, 2023.
- Compilations shall not be eligible for this competition.
- Singles shall not be eligible for this competition.
- A performer who has previously been nominated for a Blues Music Award (formerly the W.C. Handy Blues Award) shall not be eligible for this competition.
- A CD issued in the name of an otherwise eligible performer which also includes the contributions of a Blues Music Award nominee may be ineligible, depending on the extent of the contribution. Please contact The Blues Foundation directly to confirm eligibility.
- A CD on a record label that has been previously nominated for a Blues Music Award (formerly the W.C. Handy Blues Award) shall not be eligible for this competition.

CD Judging Criteria:

Judges will evaluate each submitted CD on the following characteristics. The criteria considered is also listed in order of importance.

- (1) Blues Content\
- (2) Musical Performance
- (3) Audio Quality and Production Value of the Recording
- (4) Professionalism and Visual Appearance of Cover Art and Design\
- (5) Credits and Liner Note Information.

How to Submit:

1. Entrants must send the Memphis Blues Society **6 copies** of their self-produced CD.
2. Enclose a business card or written list that includes complete mailing address, contact name, phone number and email address.
3. **Submissions MUST be received by The Memphis Blues Society NO LATER THAN Tuesday October 10, 2023 at the following address:**
Memphis Blues Society Best Self-Produced CD, 1910 Madison Ave., #627, Memphis, TN 38104.

The Memphis Blues Society will pay the Best Self-Produced CD winner for (4) quantity CDs that are required to be shipped to the Blues Foundation for their national selection judging panel during the 2024 International Blues Challenge in January 2024.