

*City of Bradenton*  
*Office of the Mayor*

**PROCLAMATION**

*By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Bradenton,  
I do hereby issue this proclamation honoring the*

**BRADENTON BLUES FESTIVAL**

**DECEMBER 2-4, 2016**

*WHEREAS, in Bradenton we love the blues  
From "The Thrill is Gone" to  
"Statesboro Blues"; and*

*WHEREAS, from Robert Johnson to B.B. King  
the blues COMPEL a soul to sing; and*

*WHEREAS, our humble burg is world-renowned  
for moving UP  
and getting DOWN; and*

*WHEREAS, "Sweet Home Chicago" may be fine,  
it's Sweet Home Bradenton's time to shine; and*

*WHEREAS, our Blues Fest is near at hand;  
the City proudly makes its stand  
to WELCOME all to sing the blues  
in hip attire and dancing shoes,*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Wayne H. Poston, Mayor of  
the City of Bradenton, Florida, do hereby proclaim:*

1. That this is the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bradenton Blues Festival to be successfully held in downtown Bradenton, which has become a major blues destination.
2. That last year the Bradenton Blues Festival was named as #1 blues festival in the United States.
3. That on November 4 & 5, the International Blues Foundation's Board of Directors, composed of 23 persons from Canada, Norway, and across the US, held their annual retreat in downtown Bradenton.
4. That blues attendees have come from all 50 states and from over 12 foreign countries and have energized the local economy.
5. That *Realize Bradenton*, the 2016 Nonprofit of the Year, is the force behind the Bradenton Blues Festival and that many local businesses and individuals, too numerous to mention, have contributed generously to its success.
6. That we offer our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for the combined efforts of all which have made the City of Bradenton GREAT.

*Wayne H. Poston  
Mayor  
November 16, 2016*