



## The Roots N Blues N BBQ Foundation

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### **Roots N Blues Foundation Raises Funds For Blues In The Schools**

COLUMBIA, MO- The Roots N Blues Foundation held multiple fundraisers during this year's Roots N Blues N BBQ Festival to raise awareness & funding for Blues In The Schools. At the end of the weekend, a combined \$13,246 was raised for the music education program.

Mid America Harley-Davidson hosted a raffle for a Harley-Davidson Street 500 motorcycle. All proceeds went to the Blues In The Schools program. Festival volunteer Devon Rule of Columbia won the Harley-Davidson motorcycle after his girlfriend Carol bought a single ticket. "All of us at Mid America Harley-Davidson are proud to be sponsors of such an awesome festival. We were able to raise over \$4,000 for the Blues In The Schools program with the Harley giveaway!" said Steve Tuschmidt Sr., president of Mid America Harley-Davidson.

The Roots N Blues Foundation raffled a Gibson guitar signed by the performing artists at the festival. The guitar was donated by Palen Music and raised \$3,150 for Blues In The Schools. Paul Stubie was the winner of the raffle and was presented with the guitar on stage at the festival on Sunday evening. "Everything we do at Palen Music Center is ultimately about enriching the lives of kids through music. We are honored to have the opportunity to partner with the Roots N Blues Festival and Blues In The Schools," said Nate White, store manager at Palen Music Center.

2015 was the second annual GuitarHenge, an installment of 12 eight-foot guitars created by Lisa Bartlett & the Roots N Blues Art Crew with paint donated by Sherwin Williams. Each guitar was sponsored for \$600. The sponsors this year are Landmark Bank, Mid America Harley-Davidson, Flat Branch Pub & Brewing, Columbia Career Center – Brook Harlan, Chris Slusher, Helen & Ben Wade, Dr. Bryan Foote, Woodruff Sweitzer, Kenny Greene & his Tai Chi Group, Lakota Coffee Co., and Epoch Health. Guitar Henge raised \$5,596 for Blues In The Schools.

The Blues In The Schools program had a stage at the Stephens Lake Amphitheater where 5 local schools performed. Grant Elementary, Benton Elementary, Oakland Middle School, Lange Middle School, and West Middle School performed at this year's event. 21 schools benefited from the Blues In The Schools program in fall 2015.

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