

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **GLENDALE ANNOUNCES BLUES HEADLINERS FOR 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL APRIL 17-18**

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – The 27<sup>th</sup> annual Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival will feature national touring blues performers in Historic Downtown Glendale on April 17-18.

Headlining the blues stage on Saturday is Southern blues-rocker Tinsley Ellis, whose latest album “Speak No Evil,” showcases his monumental guitar work and intensely powerful vocals, letting his songs and guitar do the talking.

Picking up the guitar at age eight, Ellis was influenced by blues-based artists The Yardbirds, The Animals, Cream and The Rolling Stones, and such blues legends as B.B. King. Ellis has released 11 albums and performed in all 50 states, as well as Canada, Europe, Australia and South America. He has shared the stage with major blues artists including Stevie Ray Vaughn, Otis Rush, Willie Dixon, Son Seals, Koko Taylor, Albert Collins and many others.

Sunday’s blues headliner will be Rick Estrin and The Nightcats, whose sound swings the blues with a harmonica-driven, rocking, guitar-fueled rave-up. Singer/harmonica player/songwriter Rick Estrin ranks among the very best harp players in the blues world, and the Associated Press called his harp playing, “endlessly impressive.”

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## **Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival**

### **Add 1/1/1**

Further accolades include the Blues Revue's declaration: "Estrin sits on one of the finest blues catalogs of any band on the planet." Their performance will include well-known, well-loved songs from Estrin's massive catalog and introduce plenty of new material along the way.

Other blues acts rounding out the lineup include The Sugar Thieves, Big Pete Pearson, Cold Shott and the Hurricane Horns, Jimmy Peyton's Midnite Blues and many other popular local blues artists.

The Sugar Thieves are one of the Valley's brightest up-and-coming bands. They won the Arizona Blues Competition two years in a row (in 2008 and 2009), and were voted Best Blues Band in the state by the Phoenix Blues Society. They were finalists in last years' International Blues Challenge in Memphis Tennessee, where they were voted one of the top ten unsigned blues bands in the world.

The Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival is not just about music, as the event will also feature craft artisans, and delicious food and beverages, including wine tasting by Kokopelli Winery.

The event will run noon to 10 p.m. on Saturday, April 17 and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 18. Admission and parking are free. Parking is located throughout the downtown area, including handicapped parking. Historic Downtown Glendale is located at 58th and Glendale avenues.

Sponsors for the event include KTVK Channel 3, The Arizona Republic, KOOL, KMLE, JAMZ, Kokopelli Winery, Sedona Pines, Pacific Monarch Resorts, Marriott's Springhill Suites and Residence Inn and Snapple.

The Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival is produced by Glendale's Office of Special Events. For more information, call the city of Glendale special event hotline at 623-930-2299 or visit

[www.glendaleaz.com/events](http://www.glendaleaz.com/events).

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