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EIGHTH ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL BLUES FESTIVAL WELCOMES KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD ON JULY 27th AT THE NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM

This year's Congressional Blues Festival, one of DC's premiere annual events, will feature guitar virtuoso Kenny Wayne Shepherd. A prodigy from an early age, Kenny is probably best known for his hit song "Blue on Black" which was #1 on the Rock Charts for 17 consecutive weeks. He has sold millions of albums and is committed to honoring the Blues music legends that helped inspire him.

Now in its eighth year, the Congressional Blues Festival strives to keep the great American tradition of The Blues alive by raising money and awareness to celebrate and assist those who helped create it. "It's truly inspiring and humbling how much support this event has gained over the last 8 years," said festival founder Ryan Costello. "While celebrating American Roots Music, we are supporting artists who have dedicated their lives to The Blues - a great example of how music can bring people together for a great cause." Over the last eight years, the Congressional Blues Festival has raised over \$1.3 million to support this mission. This year's recipient charity is the Blues Foundation from Memphis, TN.

The festival will return to the National Building Museum in Washington, DC on Wednesday, July 27th. "There is no better place than our nation's capitol to hold a celebration of the origins of something uniquely American - blues and roots music," said Costello. Washington, DC-based Sol & Funk Root will be joining the festival once again, along with Arkansas native Michael "Iron Man" Burks, Atlanta's Mudcat and Christylez Bacon, another local DC act. The festival also promises to feature special guests.

As in past years, the Congressional host committee will be made up of Representatives and Senators from all over the country and from both sides of the aisle. This year's committee is co-chaired by Congressman Joe Crowley (D-NY) and Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN).

Tickets for this year's festival sold out months in advance. However, by joining the waitlist you may be one of lucky people to get any last minute tickets that become available. For more information visit the official festival website at www.congressionalbluesfestival.org/.

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