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## Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival announces The Big Easy Blues Bash – Beat the February Blues!

Orangeville, January 3, 2019 - The Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival announced their very popular annual fundraising event, **The Big Easy Blues Bash**, will take place **on Saturday, February 9, 2019** at the Best Western PLUS Orangeville Inn & Suites.

The Festival is excited to be presenting multi Juno and Maple Blues Award winner, the **Jack de Keyzer Band**. Much celebrated, de Keyzer has been nominated for a Juno award (Blues Album) on five occasions and won the Juno twice in 2003 & 2010. He has also won seven Maple Blues Awards, (Canada's national blues awards), first place in the International Songwriting Competition & CBC's Great Canadian Blues Award from a poll of radio listeners.

One of Canada's most awarded and in demand blues guitarists, Jack has released ten CD's and a DVD. An exciting live performer, soulful vocalist & world class song writer, de Keyzer performs an average of 150 shows per year and has brought audiences to their feet at many major Jazz & Blues Festivals including the Montreal Jazz Fest, Blues Sur Seine (France) The Ottawa Blues Festival & Puerto Blues, (Mexico) and the Orangeville Blues & Jazz Festival. Opening for Jack will be the popular R&B sounds of Orangeville's favorites, **Soul Collective**.

The theme for this year's event will be based on a night in The Big Easy. The Big Easy is a nickname for New Orleans and this year's event will be a Mardi-Gras themed celebration. The format for this year's event will feature great live music, décor and food in keeping with the spirit of the Big Easy. "This year's event will be a great opportunity for people to dress creatively with a Mardi-Gras feel with their best beads and be prepared to break-out their favourite dancing shoes" said Michelle Wilson, Event Chair and Festival Board Member.

The evening will feature an outstanding silent auction of memorable and unique items. Also included this year will be a special mid-evening New Orleans style snack buffet. Doors will open at 6:30PM and event will begin at 7PM.

Tickets are \$50 (tax included) in advance and are on sale at BookLore, the TD Bank branches in Orangeville or online at [orangevillebluesandjazz.ca](http://orangevillebluesandjazz.ca). A VIP table for 10 people may be reserved by contacting the Festival office at [marketing@orangevillebluesandjazz.ca](mailto:marketing@orangevillebluesandjazz.ca). Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$55 on the day of the event if available. All ticket prices include HST.

This venue for this event is generously sponsored by Best Western PLUS Orangeville Inn & Suites.

All proceeds from this event are in support of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival taking place from May 31 to June 2, 2018. For further information, please visit [www.orangevillebluesandjazz.ca](http://www.orangevillebluesandjazz.ca)



**Jack de Keyzer**