

DELTA STATE
UNIVERSITY ▲

INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
ON THE DIVES

OCTOBER 5 & 6, 2015

GREETINGS
FROM
DELTA STATE
PRESIDENT
WILLIAM N.
LAFORGE

Welcome to Delta State University — in the heart of the Mississippi Delta region — which features a rich heritage of culture and music.

Delta State proudly provides a superb college education and environment for its students. We offer a wide array of educational, cultural, and athletic activities. Our university plays a key role in the leadership and development of the Mississippi Delta and of the State of Mississippi through a variety of partnerships with businesses, local governments, and community organizations.

We are a university of champions — in the classroom with talented faculty who focus on student instruction and mentoring; through award-winning degree programs in business, arts and sciences, nursing, and education; with unique, cutting-edge programs such as aviation, geospatial studies, and the Delta Music Institute; in intercollegiate athletics where we proudly boast national and conference championships in many sports; and, with a full package of extracurricular activities and a college experience that help prepare our students for careers in an ever-changing, global economy.

Delta State University's annual International Conference on the Blues consists of two days of intense academic and scholarly activity, and includes a variety of musical performances to ensure authenticity and a direct connection to the demographics surrounding the "Home of the Delta Blues." The conference program includes academic papers and presentations, solicited from young and emerging scholars, and Blues performances to add appeal for all audiences.

Delta State University's International Conference on the Blues is a key component of the International Delta Blues Project, which also includes the development of a blues studies curriculum and the creation of a Blues Leadership Business Incubator, which will align with GRAMMY Museum Mississippi, opening in 2016.

Delta State University's vision of becoming the academic center for the blues — where scholars, musicians, industry gurus, historians, demographers, and tourists come to the "Blues Mecca" — is gaining traction.

We hope you will engage in as many of the program events as possible. This is your conference, and it is our hope that you find it meaningful. Enjoy the conference!

Very best regards,



William N. LaForge
President

WELCOME TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE BLUES

hosted by Delta State University

Please wear
your name
badge at all
events.

It will serve as
your ticket to
all conference
activities.

INTERNET ACCESS:

The Blues Conference
wireless network will be
available in the DMI, BPAC
and the H.L. Nowell Union.

WIRELESS NETWORK SSID:

BluesConference

REMEMBER to fill out our conference survey at the Verizon Information and Interactive Blues Engagement (VIIBE) Station, and we will give you a free souvenir show poster.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

DSU Switchboard: (662) 846-3000

University Police: (662) 846-4155

Bolgona Performing Arts Center: (662) 846-4625

Cleveland Taxi Service: (662) 719-7433

Mississippi Grounds: (662) 545-4528

FULL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

The International Conference on the Blues is funded in part by a grant from the Robert M. Hearin Foundation.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2015

PRE-CONFERENCE RECEPTION

4:00–6:00 pm | Dockery Farms

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and entertainment

Hosted by the International Blues Project and the Dockery Farms Foundation

PAPER SESSION: Virtual Presentations

11:00–11:50 am | DMI 202

Perm State University: Rivers of Music–Rivers of Culture

Faculty and students from Perm State will share the results of the blues and cultural roots project in the “Rivers of Music–Rivers of Culture” program.

Moderator: Dr. Beverly Moon

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2015

REGISTRATION

8:00 am–4:00 pm | DMI Lobby

The registration and CD/book tables will be open from 8:15–4:00. Musicians and writers are invited to bring items to sell.

LUNCH & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

12:00–1:45 pm | DMI Studio A

Dr. William Ferris: Give My Poor Heart Ease:

Voices of the Mississippi Blues

Dr. Ferris is Joel R. Williamson Eminent Professor of History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Catered by Sweets BBQ Kitchen

Introductions: Dr. Rolando Herts

OPENING SESSION

8:30–10:00 am | DMI Studio A

Meet and Mingle: Coffee and Pastries

Welcome Remarks

Greetings from university President William LaForge, Tim Colbert and Don Allan Mitchell, DSU Blues Curriculum Emily Havens and Rita George, GRAMMY Museum Mississippi
Moderator: Don Allan Mitchell

BREAK 1:45–2:00 pm

PAPER SESSION: Blues and Film

2:00–2:50 | DMI 201

Dr. Barry T. Bilderback: Oh Brother Where Art Thou: Crossroads and Junctions in the United States “Blue” Vernacular Music History

This paper presents a brief survey providing the debated historical points within the film’s depictions, rich in socio-musical portrayal, of blues and bluegrass.

PLENARY SESSION

10:00–10:50 am | DMI Studio A

A conversation with GRAMMY award winner Dom Flemons

Moderator: Don Allan Mitchell

Scott Barretta: Shake ‘em on Down: The Blues According to Fred McDowell

A 20 minute presentation on Barretta’s Mississippi Fred McDowell documentary

Moderator: Dr. Charles Westmoreland

PAPER SESSION: Cultural Identity

11:00–11:50 am | DMI 201

Dr. April Prince: “The Lure of the South”: Pondering the Southern Past in the Songs of Early Country Music and Blues Women

Female blues and country music singers in the early decades of the twentieth century worked within clear, demarcated boundaries of identity. Yet they also revealed a more nuanced story of the South and its struggle to establish and maintain a certain social hierarchy.

PAPER SESSION: Mississippi Sounds

2:00–2:50 pm | DMI 202

Dr. Bret Pimentel: Blues Flutes: Otha Turner and the Northern Mississippi Cane Fife Tradition

Blues fife and drum music has been widely mourned as a dying art form by scholars and aficionados, though some effort has been made in recent years to document and preserve performances by its few remaining practitioners.

Kimber Thomas: Black Characterization in the Southern Soul-Blues

An exploration of the fictionalized black men and women—Jody, Maintenance Men, Clean-Up Women, and Juke Joint Queens—who define the southern soul-blues aesthetic.

Moderator: Dr. Adam Potter

Dr. Mitsutoshi Inaba: A Preview of John Lee “Sonny Boy” Williamson: The Sound of Bronzeville

The paper introduces Inaba’s forthcoming book, a biography of John Lee “Sonny Boy” Williamson, aka Sonny Boy Williamson I, a highly influential harmonica player.

Moderator: Dr. Erik Richards

PAPER SESSION: The Music Business

3:00-3:50 pm | DMI 201

Mike Carr and Aurthur Calederon, Attorneys at Law: Avoiding the Legal Blues: Protecting Your Music from Others and (sometimes) Yourself

This presentation will explore legal trends affecting artists in the music industry, and provide aspiring musicians with the legal tools to understand their rights regarding their music.
Moderator: Dr. Douglas Mark

PAPER SESSION: Cultural Interactions

3:00-3:50 pm | DMI 202

Dr. Stephen F. Lorenz: Mississippi John Hurt, Skip James, and the D.C. Blues Mafia

The "rediscovery" of John Hurt and Skip James allowed many young whites to connect to black culture, but in 1963 country blues were an embarrassing throwback for many African-Americans marching on DC for their civil rights.

Dr. Ronald Pimentel: Ambivalence Toward Other Stakeholders: Blues About the Blues

There are many conflicts in blues music and the associated industry. This paper studies the basis of such conflicts, the resulting ambivalence for individuals, and what reconciliation is, or is not, being made.

Moderator: Dr. Bret Pimentel

DOM FLEMONS MASTER CLASS

4:00-5:00 pm | DMI Studio A

with students from the Department of Music and the DMI Coordinator: Tricia Walker

DINE AROUND TOWN 5:00-6:00 pm

Suggestions provided by the Cleveland/Bolivar Chamber of Commerce; reservations recommended.

MAIN PERFORMANCE: Dom Flemons

6:30-8:00 pm | DMI Studio A

**GRAMMY Winner Dom Flemons
The "American Songster"**

OPEN MIC/JAM SESSION

8:00-until | Mississippi Grounds

Visit Mississippi presents Blues in the Round

Join award-winning performing songwriters Dom Flemons, Tricia Walker, Dave Dunavent, and Travis Calvin for an intimate "in the round" acoustic event. A "pilgrim chair" will be open for invited conference guests to join in the music.
Coordinator: Tricia Walker

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015

REGISTRATION

9:00 am-2:00 pm | DMI Lobby

*The registration and CD/book tables will be open.
Musicians and writers are invited to bring items to sell.*

BLUES BRUNCH: PANEL DISCUSSION

9:30-10:50 am | DMI Studio A

Mississippi Blues Commission

Kempf Poole, Chair

Moderator: Dr. William Ferris

Introductions: Dr. Rolando Herts

Special Proclamation: B.B. King – Mississippi's Secretary of State of the Blues

MISSISSIPPI BLUES COMMISSION BOARD MEETING

11:00-11:30 am | Alumni House

By invitation only

LIGHTNIN' TALKS

11:00 am-12:00 pm | DMI Studio A

Featuring DSU student contest finalists

A lightning talk is a short, entertaining presentation on a single topic, designed for a general audience.

Moderator: Dr. Shelley Collins

LUNCH 12:15-1:30 pm (on your own)

PAPER SESSION: Poetry of the Blues

1:40-2:55 pm | DMI Studio A

Leila Rosen: Sterling Brown and the Spirit of the Blues

These poems show how a Howard University professor and son of a former slave, was influenced by the blues.

Poetry Reading: Sterling Plumpp and Alphonso Sanders

International blues poet and essayist Sterling Plumpp is currently writer-in-residence at Mississippi Valley State University. He will read his works in collaboration with Dr. Alphonso Sanders, woodwinds.

Moderator: Carolyn Ann Sledge

***PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR CONTINUATION OF SCHEDULE EVENTS.**



**PAPER SESSION: Other Genres:
The Influence of the Blues**

1:40-2:55 pm | DMI 201

**Dr. Erik Richards: The Representation of the Blues in
the Wind Band Repertoire**

*This lecture explores the manner in which wind band
composers have been influenced by the Blues, and how
that influence is displayed in their works.*

**Max Stehr: Blues Connotation: Ornette Coleman and
the Spirit of the Blues**

*An examination of the music of composer, saxophonist,
and improviser Ornette Coleman from a blues perspective.
Moderator: Dr. Karen Fosheim*

PAPER SESSION: Jazz and the Blues

1:40-2:55 pm | DMI 201

**Dr. Kelvin Whalen: Ma Rainey: A Columbus,
Georgia Native's Impact on the Development
of Blues and Early Jazz Musicians within the
Constructs of Artistic and Societal Paradigms
of the late 1920s and early 1930s**

*This paper will examine the unique and vital role of Ma
Rainey's music in the formation of blues and early jazz
styles set in motion post her retirement from the road and
during her residence in Columbus, Georgia.*

**Alan Shapiro: Duke Ellington and the Blues:
Tradition Honored and Transformed**

*Through Ellington's use of blues structures, harmonies
and melodies, or sonorities we associate with the blues—
wails, shrieks, growls, moans—we feel the blues tradition
imaginatively and beautifully transformed in his music.
Moderator: Dr. Brian Becker*

MISSISSIPPI BLUES TRAIL MARKER

UNVEILING: Gospel Music & the Blues

3:00-4:00 pm | 302 Ruby Street

Hosted by Kelli Carr, Tourism Director,
Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce

SOCIAL HOUR: Po' Monkey's

4:00-6:00 | Po' Monkey's Social Club

*Join us at one of the last original rural juke joints in the South.
Food available for purchase from Senator Willie Simmons'
food truck.*

**CONCERT: The Storytellers featuring
Bobby Rush and James "Super Chikan"
Johnson: Up Close and Personal**

7:00 pm | BPAC

Presented by The International Delta Blues Project
and the Bologna Performing Arts Center

**ADDRESSES FOR OFF-CAMPUS EVENTS
MISSISSIPPI GROUNDS**

219 South Court Street

Cleveland, MS 38732

PO' MONKEY'S SOCIAL CLUB

99 Po Monkey Road

Merigold, MS 38759

West on MS-8. Right onto Crosby Rd. Right onto Po' Monkey.

SITE OF TRAIL MARKER UNVEILING

302 Ruby Street

Cleveland, MS

PRESENTERS, PERFORMERS, & SPECIAL GUESTS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DR. WILLIAM R. FERRIS, a widely recognized leader in Southern studies, African American music, and folklore, is the Joel R. Williamson Eminent Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the senior associate director of UNC's Center for the Study of the American South. The former chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Ferris has conducted thousands of interviews with musicians ranging from the famous (B.B. King) to the unrecognized (Parchman Penitentiary inmates working in the fields). He has written or edited 10 books and created 15 documentary films. He co-edited the massive *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* (UNC Press, 1989), which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. His other books include: *Mule Trader: Ray Lum's Tales of Horses, Mules and Men* (1992), *Local Color* (1982, 1992), *Images of the South: Visits with Eudora Welty and Walker Evans* (1978), *Mississippi Black Folklore: A Research Bibliography and Discography* (1971) and *Blues from the Delta* (1970, 1978, 1988). His book *Give My Poor Heart Ease: Voices of the Mississippi Blues* (2009) was published by the University of North Carolina Press and has now been translated into French. His most recent book, *The Storied South: Voices of the Writers and Artists*, was published by the UNC Press in August last year. Bill Ferris' films include *Mississippi Blues* (1983), which was featured at the Cannes Film Festival. A native of Vicksburg, MS, Ferris was the founding director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. A graduate of Davidson College, he received a Ph.D. in folklore from the University of Pennsylvania.

GUEST ARTIST

DOM FLEMONS Dom Flemons is the "American Songster," pulling from traditions of old-time folk music to create new sounds. Having performed music professionally since 2005, he has played live for over one million people just within the past three years. As part of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, which he co-founded with Rhiannon Giddens and Justin Robinson, he has played at a variety of festivals spanning from the Newport Folk Festival to Bonnaroo, in addition to renowned venues such as the Grand Ole Opry. A multi-instrumentalist, Dom plays banjo, guitar, harmonica, fife, bones, bass drum, snare drum and quills, in addition to singing. He says that he incorporates his background in percussion to his banjo playing. Dom's banjo repertoire includes not only clawhammer but also tenor and three-finger styles of playing. He first picked up the instrument when he borrowed a five-string banjo from a friend who had removed the instrument's fifth string. As a founding member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, an African-American string band, Dom was able to explore his interest in bringing traditional music to new audiences. The band won a GRAMMY for its 2011 album *Genuine Negro Jig* and was nominated for its most recent album, *Leaving Eden*, in 2012.

In July 2014, Dom released his third solo record with Music Maker Relief Foundation, and his first since leaving the Carolina Chocolate Drops. *Prospect Hill* finds Flemons digging deeply into ragtime, Piedmont blues, spirituals, southern folk music, string band music, jug band music, fife and drum music, and ballad idioms with showmanship and humor, reinterpreting the music to suit 21st century audiences. He was featured on NPR's *Fresh Air with Terry Gross* and his new album has received praise from The Boston Globe, Paste Magazine, Living Blues Magazine, and more.

JAMES "SUPER CHIKAN" JOHNSON is a Blues Music Award winning musician, artist and guitar maker based in Clarksdale, MS. In 1997 "Super Chikan" released his debut album, *Blues Come Home to Roost*. Chikadelic was awarded the 2010 Blues Music Award for Traditional Blues Album. *Welcome To Sunny Bluesville*, Super Chikan's latest CD, was recorded at XM / Sirius Satellite Radio's state-of-the-art performance studio in Washington, DC. It features both Chikan's solo and with his band, The Fighting Cocks. "Super Chikan" has received the MS Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. Bobby Rush's latest two albums, 2014's GRAMMY nominated funk-infused *Decisions* and 2013's GRAMMY nominated and Blues Music Award winning album *Down in Louisiana* is the work of a funky fire-breathing legend.

At 80, GRAMMY nominated and Blues Music Award winning **BOBBY RUSH** still has an energy level that fits his name. He's a prolific songwriter and one of the most vital live performers in the blues, able to execute daredevil splits on stage while singing and playing harmonica and guitar. Those talents have earned him multiple Blues Music Awards including Soul Blues Album of the Year, Acoustic Album of the Year, and, almost perennially, Soul Blues Male Artist of the Year. After more than sixty years of recording and touring, Rush is still doing over 200 shows a year from Mississippi to Japan to California, and headlining major festivals and concerts for upwards of 20,000 people a night.

PRESENTERS

SCOTT BARRETTA is an instructor of sociology at the University of Mississippi, where his courses include Anthropology of Blues Culture. He is a writer and researcher for the Mississippi Blues Trail, the host of the Highway 61 radio program on Mississippi Public Broadcasting, and has a weekly music column in the Clarion Ledger. He is the former editor of *Living Blues*, published by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. He has also written for magazines including *Oxford American*, *MOJO*, and *SingOut!*, and was on the team that created the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center. Barretta is a coauthor of a recent 18-lesson blues curriculum published by the Mississippi Arts Commission, the editor of the book *Conscience of the Revival: The Writings of Israel "Izzy" Young*, and coauthor of the book *Mississippi: State of Blues*. He is currently working on a boxed set of the field recordings of Dr. William Ferris. Barretta will be teaching Sociology of the Blues for the DSU Blues Studies Program.

DR. BARRY T. BILDERBACK is an Associate Professor of Music History and Ethnomusicology with the Lionel Hampton School of Music, University of Idaho. Offering a Ghanaian-based study abroad course, his primary research area is Ghanaian music and culture. He has published articles in “Journal of Pan-African Studies,” “Making Connections: The Journal of Interdisciplinary Approaches to Cultural Diversity,” “Percussive Notes,” “Percussion Magazine,” and the “Journal of International Educator.”

ARTHUR CALDERON is an associate at Griffith & Carr, where he focuses on representing public sector clients, domestic and international business law, and intellectual property law. In addition to his practice, Arthur puts his interest in technology to use by keeping clients up-to-date with the latest issues involving digital data management, e-discovery, and social media. He also uses his prior nonprofit and managerial experiences to help clients launch new businesses, while avoiding common legal pitfalls.

MICHAEL CARR is a partner at Griffith & Carr in Cleveland, MS, where he specializes in criminal law, public sector defense, and professional liability. He has received several accolades for his public service work, including 2014 Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year as recognized by the Mississippi Bar Association. Michael is heavily involved in several professional organizations, including the Bolivar County Bar Association, and several committees within the Young Lawyers Division.

As Deputy Executive Director of the GRAMMY Museum in Los Angeles, **RITA GEORGE** oversees all of the daily operations of the museum and its staff of 35. Since assuming her position, George has led new business efforts and has managed the strategic planning and curatorial content development for over 50 exhibits and special off-site projects, including GRAMMY Museum Mississippi. In addition to overseeing all museum budgets and finances, she also provides direct support to the museum’s Board of Directors. George spent 12 years as part the original staff at The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio, where she ultimately served as Director of Visitor Services, Security and Operations. George graduated from the Ohio State University with a B.A. degree in Journalism.

EMILY HAVENS is the Executive Director of GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi. Emily was previously on the Board of Directors for the Cleveland Music Foundation. Emily comes to the museum from an 18-year career as an Executive with the Chickasaw Council Boy Scouts of America. She holds a Master of Science in Community Development Degree from Delta State University. She is a member of Cleveland Rotary Club, Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

DR. MITSUTOSHI INABA is from Hiroshima, Japan. He earned his Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from the University of Oregon. He is the author of award winning book “Willie Dixon: Preacher of the Blues” (2011, Rowman and Littlefield). He teaches courses on African American studies and music at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

CAMPUS MAP

TO PO' MONKEY'S



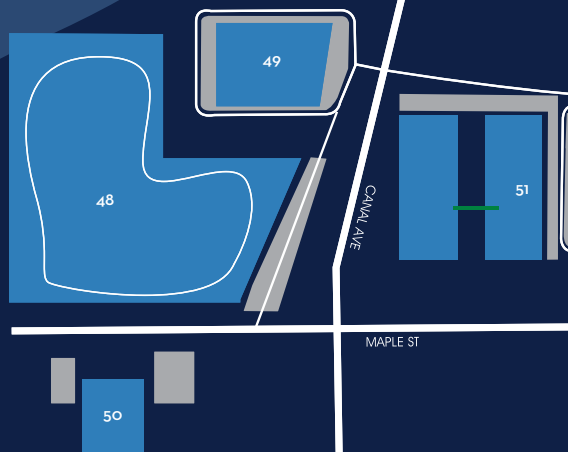
MAP LEGEND

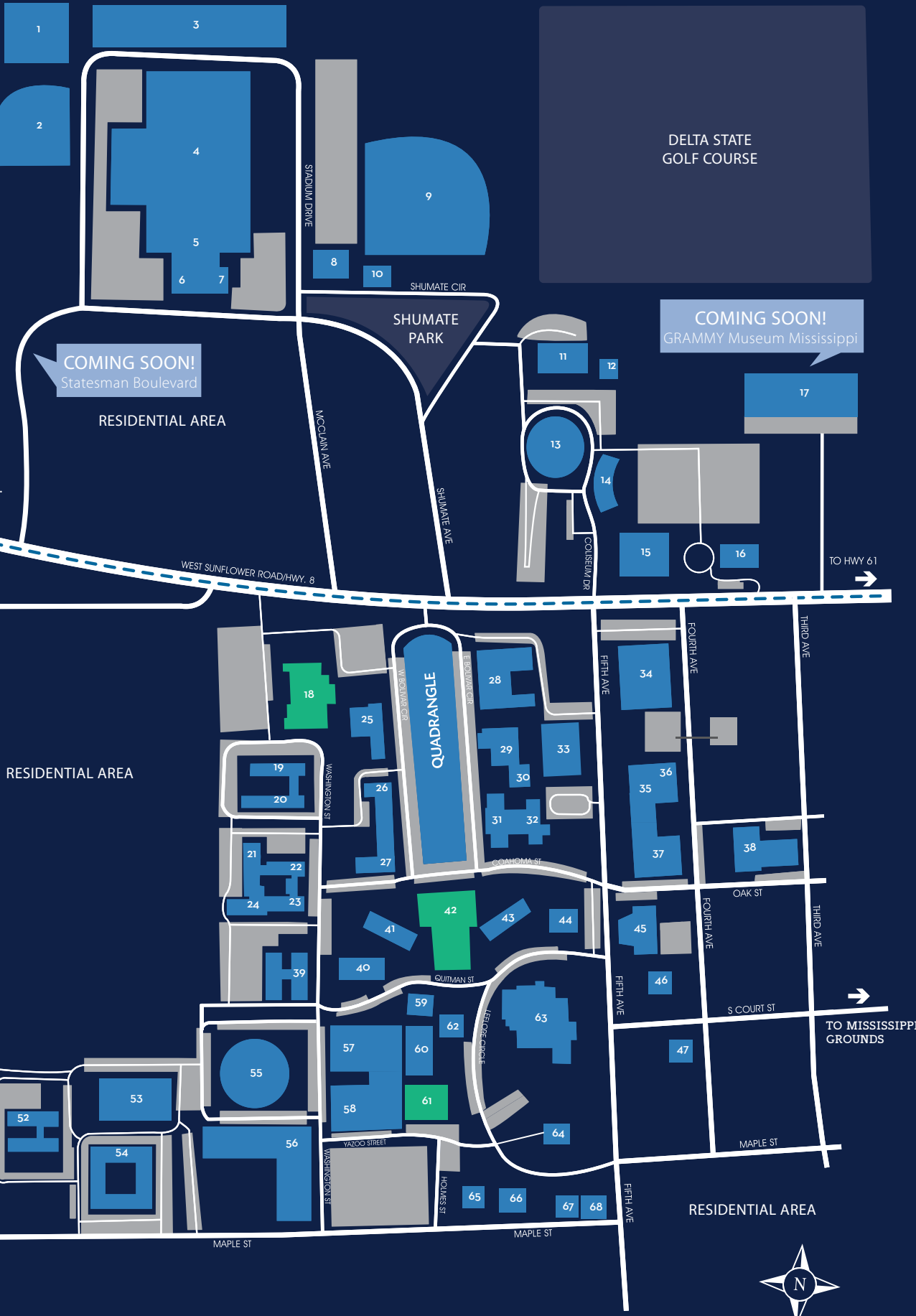
-  State Highway
-  City Street
-  Campus Street
-  Parking Area Thru-way
-  Campus Facility
-  Event Facility
-  Parking Area

CAMPUS FACILITIES

1. Soccer Field
2. Softball Field
3. Statesman Park
4. Travis E. Parker Field/Horace McCool Stadium - Football
5. Billy Dorgan, Jr. Student Performance Center
6. Chadwick-Dickson Intercollegiate Athletic Building
7. J.A. "Bud" Thigpen, Jr. Baseball Annex
8. Bryce Griffis Indoor Practice Facility
9. Dave "Boo" Ferriss Field - Baseball
10. Robert L. Crawford Center & Dave "Boo" Ferriss Museum
11. Tennis Courts
12. Darrell Foreman Golf Course
13. Walter Sillers Coliseum
14. Hugh L. White Hall
15. Kent Wyatt Hall
16. Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni-Foundation House
17. Grammy Museum Mississippi - Coming Soon
- 18. Bologna Performing Arts Center**
19. Harkins Residence Hall
20. Lawler Residence Hall
21. Hammett Residence Hall
22. Tatum Residence Hall
23. Cain Residence Hall
24. Fugler Residence Hall
25. William H. Zeigel Music Center
26. Thomas L. Bailey Hall
27. Hamilton-White Child Development Center
28. W.M. Kethley Hall
29. Fielding L. Wright Art Center
30. Holcombe-Norwood Hall
31. James W. Broom Hall
32. Kathryn Keener Hall
33. E.R. Jobe Hall
34. James M. Ewing Hall
35. Eleanor Boyd Walters Hall
36. Roy and Clara Belle Wiley Planetarium
37. R.L. Caylor/Jessie S. White Hall
38. Robert E. Smith School of Nursing
39. Brumby-Castle Residence Hall
40. O.W. Reily Student Health Center
41. Ward Hall
- 42. H.L. Nowell Union and Barnes & Noble Bookstore**
43. Cleveland Residence Hall
44. Charles W. Capps, Jr. Archives & Museum
45. Gibson-Gunn Commercial Aviation
46. Wesley Foundation
47. Baptist Student Center
48. Intramural Fields/Walking Trail
49. E.B. Hill Family Apartments
50. Hugh Cam Smith, Sr. Facilities Management
51. Faculty and Staff Apartments
52. New Men's Residence Hall
53. Tennis Courts
54. Court of Governors Residence Hall
55. Young-Mauldin Dinning Hall
56. Foundation Hall
57. Forest Earl Wyatt Center for Health, Physical Education and Recreation
58. Aquatics Center
59. Odealier J. Morgan Laundry
60. George B. Walker Natatorium
- 61. Henry L. Whitfield Hall - Delta Music Institute**
62. Lena Roberts Sillers Chapel
63. Roberts-LaForge Library
64. President's Home
65. Administrative Housing
66. Cassity Hall
67. Administrative Housing
68. Administrative Housing

TO CROSBY RD





DELTA STATE
GOLF COURSE

COMING SOON!
GRAMMY Museum Mississippi

COMING SOON!
Statesman Boulevard

SHUMATE
PARK

QUADRANGLE

RESIDENTIAL AREA



DR. STEPHEN F. LORENZ is a cultural historian with a PhD in American Studies from George Washington University. He enjoys writing on the conjunction of music and social movements, and has worked on digital preservation initiatives for the Smithsonian's Ralph Rinzler Archive of Folk Culture. He is currently a project advisor for the new DC Vernacular Music Archive at GWU, and helped organized "Hear in DC," the archive's opening exhibit and symposium on local folk, bluegrass, punk, and go-go music.

DR. BRET PIMENTEL joined the music faculty of Delta State University in 2009, where he teaches applied woodwinds and jazz courses. He is an active performer in a variety of musical styles, including classical music, jazz, blues, and rock. He has degrees in music performance from the University of Georgia, Indiana University and Brigham Young University. www.bretpimentel.com.

DR. RONALD PIMENTEL is the Faculty Director of the Professional Sales Program and a professor of marketing at Washington State University Vancouver. His research has two basic streams. One is pedagogical and relates to the program that he directs. The other is based on consumer behavior. He has published book chapters and articles in various journals. He has enjoyed playing blues on the bass for about 44 years.

International blues poet and essayist **STERLING DOMINIC PLUMPP** has authored 16 books including *Half Black, Half Blacker, Black Rituals, Blues: The Story Always Untold, Blues Narratives, Clinton, Hornman, and Velvet BeBop Kente Cloth. Home/Bass* received the 2014 American Book Award. Plumpp is Professor Emeritus at the University of Illinois at Chicago where he taught in the African American Studies and English departments. Professor Plumpp is the writer-in-residence at Mississippi Valley State University.

DR. APRIL L. PRINCE joined the Loyola University New Orleans musicology faculty in 2012 as a lecturer. Her research interests, presented at both regional and national forums, focus on 19th-century German pianism, virtuosity, gender studies, and 20th-century country and blues of the American South. At Loyola, Prince teaches courses across the general curriculum. Her classes focus on music in a variety of cultural contexts—the American South, popular music, and music outside the Western tradition.

DR. ERIK RICHARDS is the Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Music at DSU. He directs the DSU Wind Ensemble and Marching Band, teaches coursework in instrumental music education and conducting, and administers the DSU band program. He has presented research around the country and is active as a clinician, judge, and guest conductor. Dr. Richards is an artist/clinician for Jupiter Band Instruments, Inc.

LEILA ROSEN taught English, including AP English Literature and Composition, in NYC high schools for 29 years. She has presented workshops about the success of the Aesthetic

Realism Teaching Method at education conferences in many states, speaking about poetry, drama, satire, and grammar. She is a co-author of the book *Aesthetic Realism and the Answer to Racism*, published by Orange Angle Press.

DR. ALPHONSO SANDERS is Chair of Fine Arts and Director of the BB King Recording Studio at Mississippi Valley State University. He received music degrees from MVSU, Valdosta State, and the University of Mississippi. He has performed at the Netherlands North Sea, Montreux, and Mobile jazz festivals and the Lucerne Switzerland Blues Festival. As a Fulbright Scholar, he studied in China.

ALAN SHAPIRO is a jazz pianist, singer, choral director, and music educator in New York City. Co-author of “Kaleidoscope of Cultures: A Celebration of Multicultural Research and Practice” and “Teaching Music in the Urban Classroom,” he has presented in the Aesthetic Realism Teaching Method and has lectured on jazz and blues, as well as classical music and opera. Mr. Shapiro is a performer and arranger with the Aesthetic Realism Theatre Company.

Originally from Birmingham, **MAX STEHR** is a bassist, pianist and composer with a BM in jazz performance and an MM in jazz arranging from William Paterson University of New Jersey. Max has performed in Europe, Japan, India and Kenya, and has played at the Montreux Jazz Festival and Jazz á Vienne. He is pursuing a DMA in jazz performance as a Hixson-Lied fellow at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

KIMBER THOMAS is a native of Jackson, Mississippi. She received her bachelor’s degree in English from Alcorn State University and her master’s degree in Afro-American Studies from UCLA. She is currently a second-year American Studies doctoral student at UNC-Chapel Hill. Her research interests include southern black material culture, folklore, and oral history.

DR. KELVIN WHALEN is Director of Jazz Studies, Assistant Professor of Music at Columbus State University (GA). He has performed throughout the U.S. and Canada as the jazz trumpet chair of The Glenn Miller Orchestra and held a jazz trumpet chair in the GRAMMY-nominated University of North Texas One O’Clock Lab Band. He has presented at Ithaca College, the Eastman School of Music, the University of North Texas, and the International Trumpet Guild.

DR. SVETLANA POLYAKOVA is Associate Professor in the Department of English Language and Intercultural Communication of Perm State University Russia. She completed her PhD in Cognitive Linguistics at Perm State. She teaches English at the Faculty of Law: Legal English (ESP), Intercultural professional communication, and English for International Human Rights. She is Deputy Dean for international relations and projects for educational, cultural and academic communication with the American and European Universities.

DELTA DRIVES

INTER NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE BLUES PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Shelley Collins (*Co-Chair*) is Associate Professor of Music at Delta State University, where she teaches flute, music history, and the history of rock. She has served as Secretary of the National Flute Association and as President of the Mid-South, Seattle, and Colorado flute associations. A native of Montana, she received the DMA in Flute Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a MM in Flute Performance from Arizona State University. www.shelleycollins.com.

Don Allan Mitchell (*Co-Chair*) is Interim Chair and Associate Professor of English in the Division of Languages and Literature at DSU and is Immediate Past President of the DSU Faculty Senate. He holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Mississippi and a BA from the University of Virginia. From 2002 to 2005, he was the host of *Highway 61* on Mississippi Public Broadcasting. He teaches the literature of the blues at DSU and is co-coordinator of the Blues Studies curriculum.

For the past nine years, **Lee Aylward** has been Program Associate for Education and Community Outreach in the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at DSU. She has a BA from Mississippi University for Women in Library Science with a minor in English, and a MS from Mississippi State University in Education with an emphasis on Library Science and Education. She has done additional work at Delta State University for certification in Reading.

A 1984 Delta State alum, **Robin Boyles** serves as the Director of the Office of Institutional Grants. In this role, she works closely with faculty and staff in securing external funding for education, research, scholarship, and service projects. She coordinated the proposal to the Robert M. Hearin Foundation to secure the funding for the International Conference on the Blues, and to the U. S. Department of State, that has made it possible for faculty and students from Perm State University to attend.

Kelli Carr is the Tourism Director at the Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce. She represents Cleveland on the Mississippi Tourism Association's Board of Directors and serves as Secretary of the Mississippi Delta Tourism Association. She is a graduate of Delta State University.

Tim Colbert is co-coordinator of the Blues Studies curriculum. He is chair of the DSU Health, Physical Education, & Recreation Faculty. He holds a BS and MS from Mississippi State University.

Dr. Rolando Herts is the Director of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning at DSU. Dr. Herts' research interests include university-community partnerships and engagement, community-based tourism planning, place promotion/marketing, and community and regional development. He holds a PhD in planning and public policy from Rutgers University, a MA in social science from The University of Chicago, and a BA in English from Morehouse College.

Jennifer Farish, Coordinator of Communications and Marketing, graduated from the University of Mississippi in 2001, with degrees in English and Journalism. She joined the Delta State University Communications office in 2015, following nearly a decade as part of the communications team at Ole Miss.

Heather Miller received her BS in Business Administration in 2003 and her MBA in 2009 from Delta State. Since 2007, she has worked at The Delta Center for Culture and Learning as an Administrative Assistant and is currently Program Associate for Projects. She teaches marketing in the College of Business adjunct. She is married to Marc Miller and they have a 2-year-old son named Cole.

Tricia Walker (Director, DMI) earned a BME from DSU and a MM from Mississippi College. As a staff writer for Word Music and PolyGram music, she had songs recorded by Faith Hill, Patty Loveless, Kathy Troccoli and Allison Krauss, who won a GRAMMY® for her version of, "Looking In The Eyes Of Love," co-written by Ms. Walker. She worked as a vocalist and instrumentalist with award-winning artists Shania Twain and Paul Overstreet. www.bigfrontporch.com



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ARAMARK

Kelli Carr, *Tourism Director, Cleveland/Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce*

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THE LUTHER BROWN PRIZE

THE LUTHER BROWN PRIZE is named for Dr. Luther Brown, founding director of The Delta Center for Culture and Learning at Delta State University. Between the years 2000–2014, Dr. Brown led The Delta Center, distinguishing it as a Center of Excellence at the university that manages the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area and other programs and initiatives that educate the public about the region’s distinctive cultural heritage. Dr. Brown was a founding member of the Mississippi Blues Commission, past Chair of the Mississippi Blues Foundation, and director of several workshops and seminars that focused on the Blues. He played an important role in the development of the Mississippi Blues Trail.

In keeping with Dr. Brown’s vision of promoting and supporting Delta-centric scholarship, The Luther Brown Prize will be awarded to an emerging scholar presentation at the International Conference on the Blues whose paper advances greater understanding and appreciation of the Delta’s cultural heritage. Herein, the selection committee will award The Luther Brown Prize according to the themes found within the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area Management Plan. The paper that is determined by the selection committee to most effectively and eloquently incorporate the majority of these themes shall be awarded The Luther Brown Prize, which includes a \$500 scholarship for the winning emerging scholar.

THE DELTA CENTER FOR CULTURE AND LEARNING serves as the management entity for the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area, a partnership between the people of the Mississippi Delta and the National Park Service designed to promote understanding of the Delta’s cultural heritage through education, tourism, community engagement, and economic development. The Delta Center also oversees the International Delta Blues Project, a three-tiered initiative featuring an International Conference on the Blues, the development of an academic blues studies program, and a Blues Leadership Incubator.

The International Delta Blues Project and
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