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**BAY AREA BLUES SOCIETY**  
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# Press Release/For Immediate Release

**WHO:** Bay Area Blues Society and the City of Oakland  
**WHAT:** West Coast Blues Hall of Fame & Awards Show 2008  
**WHERE:** Marriott Oakland City Center, 1001 Broadway, Oakland, CA  
**WHEN:** Saturday - March 29, 2008 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. – Awards Show  
11:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. – After Party

**WHY:** To support the Bay Area Blues Society's ongoing programs and notably, the "Blues in the Schools" Program which uses local blues musicians to teach the history of the Blues to young students and provide instruction on the playing of musical instruments. The West Coast Blues Hall of Fame & Awards Show honors blues, jazz and gospel artists for their contributions to the art form called Blues and to celebrate Black History Month. This year's inductees will cover a very broad array of greats who helped to keep blues alive. Eighteen extraordinary artists will be inducted into the West Coast Blues Hall of Fame and the Bob Geddins Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to the artist who has most influenced a generation of musicians. General Category Awards will be given to the best: blues singer of the year, blues guitar of the year, blues drummer of the year, etc. This year's show will induct notables as Pinetop Perkins, Ray Taliaferro, Fillmore Slim; Lady Bianca; Lil Frances; Joel Durham, Coke Escovedo, Adolph Jacobs, Freddie Hughes, Ferdinand "Fats" Washington; The Continental Club; The Passions; The Hawkins Family (Edwin, Tramaine, Walter); Nat Dove; Nick Harper; Lee Ashford; Connie Bailey; and Joe Simon. The Bob Geddins Lifetime Achievement Awards presented to Lady Esther of Esther's Orbit Room and Frosene Phillips. We are happy to announce our new venue, the beautiful Marriott in downtown Oakland which includes Valet Parking and BART within steps of the front door.

**TICKETS:** \$30 in advance; \$35 at the door – After Party Included

[highsierratickets.com](http://highsierratickets.com) or [tickets.com](http://tickets.com)