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The Waterhole Music Lounge is taking full advantage of the Saranac Lake Winter Carnival's 2025 perfectly paired theme of Musical Legends by delivering the most celebrated acts in the venue's history.

Some may say, that the venue itself is the legend and the bands they've compiled best represent the independent music venue's storied history.

For the first time ever, the venue announced the "Weekend One" lineup which features 5 acts over 3 days, separately from the complete lineup; *Blind Owl Band (BOB)* declared that Winter Carnival would mark their official reunion after a 3+ year hiatus.

March 2nd, 2011 *BOB* played their very first Waterhole show ever in the downstairs barroom. Just a month earlier during Winter Carnival, the young band was busking in front of their apartment in the China Jade building on Main Street when local police officers kicked them off the streets after a sizable crowd had gathered on the sidewalk.

Just a year later at Winter Carnival 2012, *BOB* performed at 8 different places in Saranac Lake including: Dewey Mountain, Whiteface Mountain, the front window of The Fringe, Blue Seed Studios, Paul Smith's College. Then *Lucid*, the most notorious rock act to ever emerge from the Champlain Valley to ask *BOB* to open for their Winter Carnival set later that week, marking *BOB*'s first Winter Carnival at the Waterhole performance. History was made that day.

Just six months later in February of 2016, mandolin player and manager of *BOB*, Eric Munley and his wife Kiki Sarko, reopened the beloved bar and music venue after it had been closed for 6 months. The couple obtained a 2 day temporary permit, while they waited for their full liquor license to be approved and celebrated with 2 days of music. Up until this year, 2016 was the very last time *Blind Owl Band* performed during Winter Carnival. One can imagine why the first night of the *Blind Owl Band* show sold out within 45 minutes.

The other bands performing during Weekend One each have their own exceptional connection to the venue, the owners and most importantly the patrons.

The Mallett Brothers Band and *Eastbound Jesus (EBJ)* will kick off Weekend One on January 31st. The perfect headlining act for Friday night is none other than *The Mallett Brothers Band*, are a well loved rock & roll, alternative, country rock band from the woods of Maine who have a decade plus long history performing at the venue. Paired with them are special guests *Eastbound Jesus (EBJ)* who play self proclaimed Northern Rock, a blend of country, bluegrass, Americana and rock n roll, and hails from the Capital Region.

EBJ has shared countless stages with with *BOB & the Malletts* - which makes it a celebratory occasion when they all come together. All 3 of the bands performing at Weekend One have shared the stage multiple times at Eastbound Throwdown, a home grown music festival in Salem, NY that has come to fill the gap left by the retirement of Backwoods Pond Fest.

Blind Owl Band will perform to a sold out crowd Saturday, February 1st with special guests *Folkfaces* opening up the evening with their rowdy and raucous roots music. A second *Blind Owl Band* show was added on Sunday February 2nd, to accommodate folks who got shut of ticket sales for the first performance. This will be an early show and as of the writing of this press release, tickets are still available. *Arthur Buezo* is set to open the night with savage folk music.

The remainder of the lineup also reflects bands who have made a significant impact on the music community here in the North Country.

Wednesday February 5th, *Soggy Po' Boys* will perform an early show that celebrates the music of New Orleans. Although the band hails from New England, you'll hear musical traditions beyond NOLA jazz, including some traditional Caribbean tunes, as well as Meters funk, soul, brass band and street beat music.

Thursday February 6th, *Annie in the Water* will serve up and experience of compassion and joy through their songwriting, led by guitars and synthesizers, overtop a ground-shaking rhythm section, they offer the listener the ability to traverse across multiple genres in heart and mind.

Special guests *What?* a funk sextet hailing out of the Hudson Valley will open up the night with infectious melodies, thunderous grooves, a powerhouse horn section, and the undeniable urge to dance.

Weekend Two will kick off with North Country party legends *Lucid*. The self-proclaimed "party rock" or "backwoods soul" group is well known and regarded for rollicking performances lasting endless hours, this whirlwind of genres, tones, and sonic landscapes that can only be described as "everything but the kitchen sink.

Special guests *All Night Boogie Band* hail from the Green Mountains of Vermont have wooed Adirondackers for 2 years now, performing at Northern Current: A Community Music Festival, Party on the Patio, Winter Carnival and multiple other parties across the ADK. Listeners can expect massive soulful vocals, big horns; and a powerfully tight rhythm section that creates an emotional blues sound that will make you shake your hips!

Saturday February 8th features two different shows - the first being the Post Parade Party which has a reputation for being the biggest dance party in all of Saranac Lake. This day time show takes place immediately after the parade ends (2ish pm) and is a free show headlined by another fan favorite, *The Big Takeover!*

Later that evening, a second show awaits Carnival goers. *Funk You* will enchant the audience with an intoxicating blend of modern and vintage funk sounds. They are a musical manifestation of nine kindred spirits from Georgia. Listeners can expect their signature high-octane funk, driven by a hard hitting rhythm section and glistening horns. The band has performed twice at Party on the Patio, and this will mark their Winter Carnival debut!

Rock and Roll band *Chestnut Grove* has recently reunited after their Ta Ta for Now Tour marked their recent hiatus. They will open up the night on Saturday February 8th.

To wrap things up, Waterhole always throws one final party called Bloody Mary Sunday featuring live music downstairs during the day time and of course, Bloody Marys! This year, One-Man-Band performer *Arthur Buezo* will bring his self titled genre, Savage Folk to Bloody Mary Sunday February 9th.

Due to the sold out show, week pass tickets will not be available this year. It is highly recommended to purchase tickets for all shows ahead of time to guarantee entry. Tickets are available on the Waterhole website and in person at the bar. For more information please visit www.saranaclakewaterhole.com

As always, The Waterhole is a 21+ venue.

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