



**THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENT VENUE ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES
THE SECOND ANNUAL NIVA CONFERENCE, TAKING PLACE
JULY 10-12 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**NIVA '23 Brings Together the Independent Live Entertainment Industry for Panels,
Workshops, Networking, and Performances from Artists from
Across the Country**



NIVA 22' panel with Ethan Millman of Rolling Stone, Michael Dorf of City Winery, Ben Lovett of Mumford and Sons, Tobi Parks of xBk and Shahida Mausi of The Right Productions.

Early Bird Registration Opens Today

February 15, 2023 – [The National Independent Venue Association \(NIVA\)](https://www.nivassoc.org) announces the second annual NIVA conference taking place July 10 - 12, 2023, in Washington, D.C. As the leading conference for independent music and comedy venues, festivals, and the promoter industry, **NIVA '23** will bring the live entertainment community together to support, educate, and connect industry leaders across the U.S.

Early Bird Registration for NIVA members and non-members begins today and goes through April 1. Visit <https://www.nivassoc.org> to register.

Last year's inaugural NIVA conference in Cleveland was an astounding success, selling out with more than 650 members, industry leaders, and policymakers attending.

Important topics discussed this year will include industry diversity, mental health, safety, insurance, economic impact of live entertainment, booking, artist development, ticketing, and the role of live entertainment in policymaking. Keynote panels will feature prominent industry leaders, members of the media, recording artists, and NIVA members. NIVA '23 will also give members the opportunity to engage with NIVA's federal and national partners on Capitol Hill, in the Administration, and throughout the Capitol region.

“In welcoming the NIVA conference to the District, we look forward to showcasing the independent venues and creatives who keep D.C. the capital of creativity,” said **The Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor of Washington, D.C.** “And we have a lot to be proud of – from our vibrant Go Go scene, to the venues that have hosted and built generations of music fans, to the

independent venues and creatives who keep D.C. the capital of creativity,” said **The Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor of Washington, D.C.** “And we have a lot to be proud of – from our vibrant Go Go scene, to the venues that have hosted and built generations of music fans, to the festivals that bring Washingtonians together year after year. D.C. residents love going to festivals and shows and supporting artists, and we know the important role our creative community will continue to play in D.C.’s comeback. We look forward to bringing NIVA members and industry experts together in D.C., and we’ll see you in July.”

NIVA's selection of D.C. as the home of the 2023 conference is a huge win for the District's independent venues and will allow officials and industry professionals from music cities across the country to recognize Washington as a national leader that embraces and cultivates live entertainment.

“We have an incredible community of music industry stakeholders here in Washington, D.C.,” said **Chris Naoum, co-founder of Listen Local First D.C.**, Down in the Reeds Festival and Vice Chair of the NIVA’s Mid-Atlantic Chapter. “The music and comedy communities rallied together during the pandemic to build a coalition that continues to work together on a weekly basis to advocate for live entertainment and uplift each other through the incredibly difficult times. The coalition we have built is one of the reasons D.C. was chosen for NIVA ‘23 and I am ecstatic that so many members of our community are excited to host this one-of-a-kind event.”

In addition to a full slate of programming there will be live performances, a pre-party on July 9 and an awards gala July 10 at The Anthem, celebrating live entertainment’s contribution to the nation. Events will take place at multiple NIVA music and comedy venues across Washington, D.C. During the evenings, attendees will take advantage of concerts and performances happening every night of the conference as NIVA ‘23 coincides with Independent Venue Week, making D.C. the epicenter of independent live music in the country the week of July 10.

“Thousands of music and comedy venues across the country spent 2020 and 2021 focused on making the case to Washington D.C. policymakers that small businesses in live entertainment needed help to prevent the permanent loss of stages in every community, and NIVA’s efforts led to the largest arts investment in U.S. history,” said **Stephen Parker, Executive Director of NIVA.** “This summer, the nation’s music and comedy community will return to D.C. to illustrate why the partnership between government and the independent live entertainment industry must continue beyond the pandemic, to forge the future for independent music and comedy venues, festivals and promoters and to demonstrate their place in America’s culture and economy.”

NIVA is partnering with the following member venues and festivals to bring the 2023 conference to Washington, D.C.: All Things Go, Black Cat, DC Improv, DC9 Nightclub, Down in the Reeds Festival, I.M.P. (The Anthem, 9:30 Club and Lincoln Theatre), Listen Local First D.C., National Cannabis Festival, Pearl Street Warehouse, Rhizome, Songbyrd Music House, The Hamilton, The Pie Shop, The Pocket, U Street Music Hall Presents, and Union Stage.

More details on conference programming and speakers will be announced.

Go to <https://www.nivassoc.org/conference> to find information about registration, media credential applications, and host hotels.

[Early Bird Registration](#) is open now through April 1, 2023.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

[Register here.](#)

Non-member tickets are available.

Media credentialing application can be found [here.](#)

ABOUT NIVA

The National Independent Venue Association (NIVA) represents independent music and comedy venues, promoters, and festivals throughout the U.S. NIVA led the #SaveOurStages campaign, culminating in landmark legislation in 2020 that established the \$16 billion Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program.

venues, promoters, and festivals throughout the U.S. NIVA led the #SaveOurStages campaign, culminating in landmark legislation in 2020 that established the \$16 billion Shuttered Venue Operators Grant program.

NIVA's mission is to preserve and nurture the ecosystem of independent live venues, promoters, and festivals throughout the United States. NIVA is committed to equity in its support and advocacy for independent venues and seeks to create and encourage opportunities for venues, promoters, and festivals owned, operated, and staffed by people of color, women, non-binary, LGBTQ+, veterans, and people with disabilities.

##

MEDIA CONTACTS

Kris Ferraro

kris@luckybreakpr.com

818-480-0229

Mike Stommel

mike@luckybreakpr.com

323-333-2901