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**TELLURIDE BLUES & BREWS SUNSET BLUES CONCERT**  
***September 15, 2011***

September 12, 2011 (Telluride, CO) – Just another reason to attend the 18th Annual [Telluride Blues & Brews Festival!](#) In addition to jaw dropping scenery, performances by the finest blues, rock, gospel, and soul artists and more than 150 brews from over 50 of the best microbreweries in the southwest and beyond, the Telluride Blues & Brews festival is delighted to announce a free concert to kick-off the weekend's festivities, The Sunset Blues Concert, will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2011, featuring Arizona's 1# voted Best Blues Band, The Sugar Thieves.

There is no better way to launch the Telluride Blues & Brews Festival than with Sugar Thieves guitarist Mikel Lander and singer Meridith Moore. They have proven that hard work, massive talent, and big dreams can get you where you want to go. From that first unannounced club gig to this year's debut on the main stage the band's dedicated intent and serious chops has brought them to this lofty achievement. Instantly embraced here in Telluride, the band is wildly popular in Arizona where they've been voted Best Blues Band, among other accolades. At the International Blues Challenge of 2009-10, they were named as one of the Top 10 unsigned bands. The Sugar Thieves' mission is to re-introduce the blues to the next generation. Along with soulful originals, the Thieves feature classic blues songs from the 1920s-40s and serve it up sultry and warm.

The 18th Annual Telluride Blues & Brews Festival also features headliners Willie Nelson, The Flaming Lips, and Big Head Todd and the Monsters. Additional performances include The Robert Cray Band, Zappa Plays Zappa, moe., Marcia Ball, Fitz and the Tantrums, The Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band, Mavis Staples, Anders Osborne, Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit and many more.

The 2011 Festival promises a magical three-day celebration of live blues, rock, funk, gospel, jam band, aspiring new talent, and some of the biggest stars on the Festival circuit today! With over 20 nationally touring acts on the [main stage](#), blues with breakfast, and late-night jams in five [Juke Joint](#) venues; musical entertainment abounds in Telluride at the 18th Annual Telluride Blues & Brews Festival.

Additional Festival highlights include a wide variety of food and craft vendors, the festival's *House of Brews* beer tent featuring a myriad of craft beers, the Telluride Acoustic Blues Competition, the festival [Rainbow Kids area](#) and Kids parade.

Along with an amazing weekend of music and entertainment, Telluride Blues & Brews proudly presents the [Grand Tasting](#) Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011 on the festival grounds. One of the premier beer tasting events in the Southwest, the Grand Tasting features more than 150 beers from over [50 microbreweries](#), including those from the Telluride Blues & Brews official beer sponsor, Sierra Nevada Brewing Company, who will be featuring the Festival's signature special brew, Back Porch Lager.

There are limited quantities of [tickets](#) available; with **only several hundred single day tickets left** in stock. Single Day tickets, Three-day passes, Juke Joint tickets, and camping passes are currently on sale.

For Festival information or to purchase tickets visit us online at [www.tellurideblues.com](http://www.tellurideblues.com) or call 1.866.515.6166 today. Tickets available locally at the Festival Box Office.



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