

Beaver County blues acts have rosy future

By [Scott Tady](#) Entertainment Editor



Super Midnight, fronted by Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School student, Jacquelyn Paul, earned a spot in the International Blues Challenge and got to perform in a prestigious Memphis club as part of a program designed to mentor promising young bands.

“Memphis was a wonderful experience for all of us,” Paul, of Brighton Township, said. “First of all, going away in general is very exciting for our band. It’s almost like a mini tour. It was really fun having the audience engaged and playing to a blues-loving packed house that really enjoyed listening to us. As a youth band, we didn’t compete, but there were judges writing notes for us. I talked to a couple of them after our performance, and they loved our cool arrangements and our overall sound. One of the judges thought that we should have competed this year. I was very pleased with our performance.”

The program mentored Super Midnight in preparing the necessary business tools a successful band needs.

“Press kit, bios, website and social media,” Paul said. “That alone was a big job.”

Buoyed by the response in Memphis, Super Midnight plans to release a collection of original songs this year. They already were chosen to compete in April’s Blues Society of Western Pennsylvania Blues Challenge at the Double Tree Hilton in Moon Township where the winner advances to the 2021 IBC.

Super Midnight has a shot at winning the western Pennsylvania regional, according to a member of last year’s winning band.

“They’re absolutely astonishing, especially when you consider how young they are,” said Sinchak, who caught Super Midnight’s set in Memphis. “I’m not sure the crowd and judges truly believed what they were witnessing. Those kids are as good as any group of adults that have been playing together for decades. Pittsburgh blues is leaving some footprints around the country.”