

# Bluegrass Breakdown

October 20th, 2020

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## Joe Val Postponed Due to COVID-19

We are very saddened to announce that there will be no Joe Val Bluegrass Festival this coming February of 2021. We have been monitoring the COVID-19 virus closely, and unfortunately we don't see any way that we can gather together safely this winter. The health of our community is of paramount importance, and we hope you will join us when we can safely gather again. In the meantime, please see the better news below, and stay safe!

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## Free Year of BBU Membership for All Members

Since 2020 has been a "lost year" for many folks, we will be giving a free year of BBU Membership to all our members. This free year of membership is being added retroactively to everyone who had an active BBU membership as of March 1, 2020. So even if you let your membership lapse, your membership will be renewed until next year; and for those who did renew, you will also receive an additional year of membership. Please allow us a few days to complete this change, and ignore any automatic renewal notices you may receive in the mean time.

Should you wish to donate to the BBU this year, please remember that the BBU is a 501(c)(3) educational organization, and any donation that you make is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Donations directly support our educational programs, and you can donate securely online here: <https://bbu.wildapricot.org/page-1546218>

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## Our Community Donated \$38,900 to Local Bluegrass Musicians

Earlier this year, the BBU's COVID-19 MUSE (Musicians' Emergency) Fund opened up for donations and we were overwhelmed with the response from the bluegrass community. Thanks to many generous donors, and matching funds from employers and the BBU itself, we were able to offer nearly forty thousand dollars in assistance to folks throughout the Northeast who make some or all of their living in the bluegrass community. We gratefully thank everyone in our community for contributing to this fund and for helping us get the word out!

The Boston Bluegrass Union's Board of Directors