

# Better Than Ezra 15th annual Ezra Open keeps the arts alive at local school



(BR) Kevin Griffin, Hugh Hayden, Tom Drummond, Jim Payne and Michael Jerome (FR) Michael Whelan and Jonathan Silverman at Better Than Ezra Foundation's 2017 Ezra Open at B.B Kings Blues Club. Saturday, April 22, 2017. (Josh Brasted Photo)

1 / 11

Fullscreen

Share

Caption



By Sue Strachan, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune  
Email the author | Follow on Twitter  
on May 03, 2017 at 7:50 PM

Print  
Email

Was it good? For **Better Than Ezra** fans, the **15<sup>th</sup> annual Ezra Open** definitely was. The event on April 22 moved to a new venue, B.B. King's Blues Club, which was filled on both floors with guests who perused silent auctions boards, noshed on items from B.B. King's menu, and listened to music from **Josh Martin, Hacienda Brass Band, Bonerama**, and of course, Better Than Ezra.

A live auction helmed by **Mark Romig** and actor **Jonathan Silverman** ("Weekend at Bernie's"; "Broadway Bound"; and numerous guest appearances on TV shows), of six items incurred some active bidding, including the popular, "Bring Home the Band," for which Better Than Ezra will play at the winner's party.

Proceeds from the Ezra Open will benefit the after-school arts and educational program at **Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School**, as well as other programs the Better Than Ezra Foundation is interested in. "Through the years, we've supported many great causes, but our local support of the Bethune Elementary School's programs really reaches to the core of what we hope to accomplish giving back to the community," says **Kevin Griffin**, lead singer and founding member of Better Than Ezra.

## 'BIG EASY' PARTY PHOTOS

[Better Than Ezra 15th annual Ezra Open keeps the arts alive at local school](#)

[Who was named Ronald McDonald House's King of the Kilts?](#)

[Disco is a family affair at Upturn Arts Studio 504](#)

[Todd Price Taste Club at Maypop was a fragrant and flavorful journey](#)

[18 candidates vie to be Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Man and Woman of the Year](#)