



EISMA

Evanston In-School Music Association

Proudly Presents...

The Omar Coleman
Blues Band



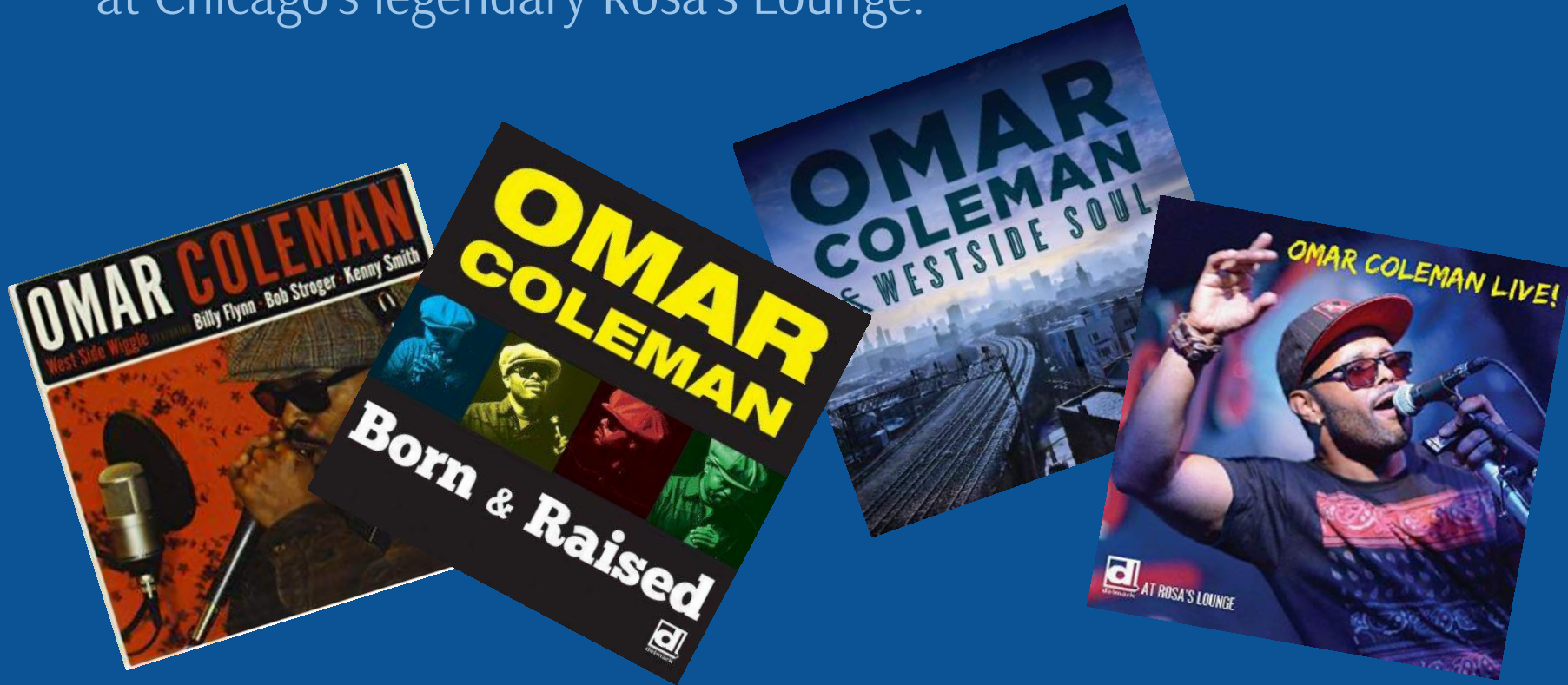
Omar Coleman

Omar Coleman is a blues singer and harmonica player from Chicago's West Side. He has performed in Chicago blues festivals, clubs, and concerts around the world since 2003.



Omar Coleman

He has recorded 3 studio albums, plus a live album recorded at Chicago's legendary Rosa's Lounge.



Blues

Blues is an original American music. The blues originated on Southern plantations in the 19th Century, evolving from African spirituals, African chants, and work songs.

It has influenced many other styles of music, including Rock 'n' Roll, R&B, Hip Hop, Jazz, and Country.



Blues

During the **Great Migration** of the 1930's & 40's, the Blues spread north from the southern U.S. to cities such as **St. Louis** and **Chicago**.

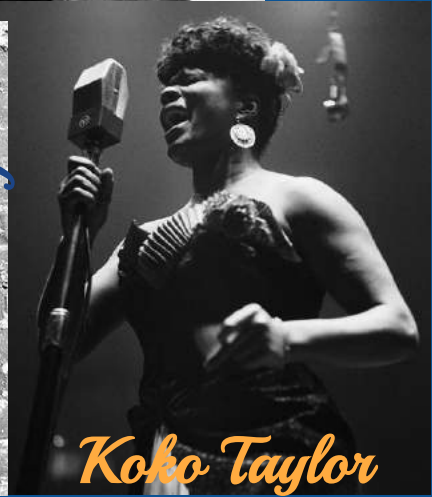
Musicians then began to play the blues on electric instruments.



Muddy Waters



Howlin' Wolf



Koko Taylor

Blues

Blues songs deal with themes about the difficult struggle to overcome hardship.

The music is often built on **Riffs** - short repeating themes, often played on guitar. Many blues songs are composed of a 12-measure, 3-chord progression.



Buddy Guy



Listen to Omar play and talk about playing the blues!

The *Omar Coleman* Blues Band

This fall's EISMA concert will feature Omar Coleman playing in a **trio**, or three musicians.



The *Omar Coleman* Blues Band

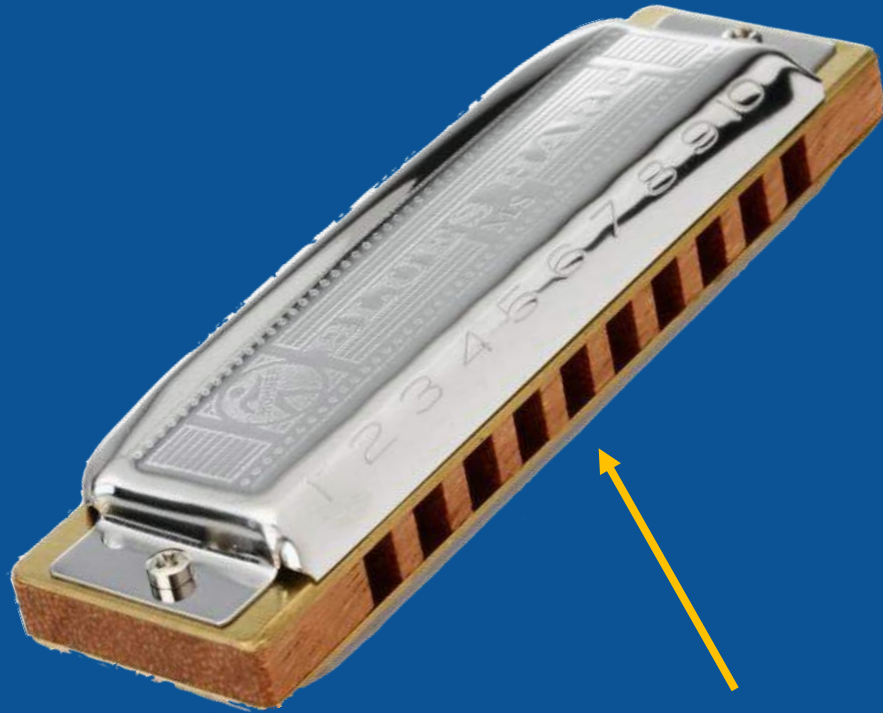
Instruments

Let's look at the instruments the trio will be playing.



Harmonica

A harmonica – sometimes called a “**Blues Harp**” – is an instrument played using the mouth, lips, and tongue to direct air into or out of one or more holes along a mouthpiece called a “comb”.

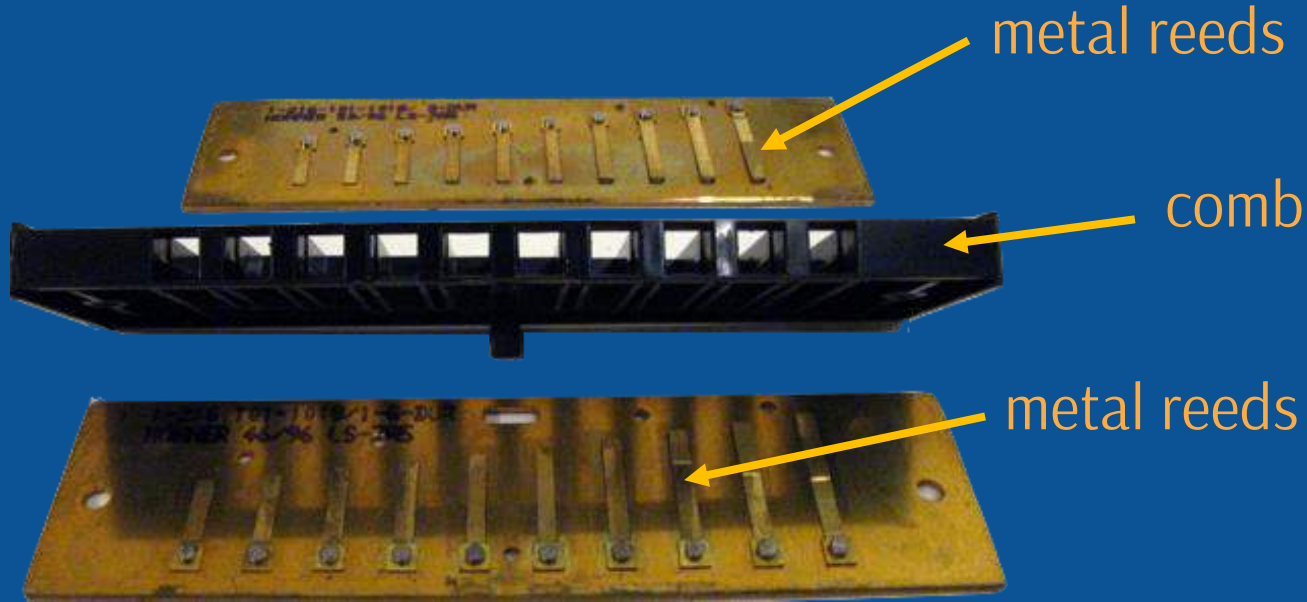


comb

Harmonica

It is a **reed instrument** – like saxophone, clarinet, and oboe – but it has several tiny metal reeds. Sound is created when air is blown into a harmonica and the reeds vibrate.

Saxophone
reed

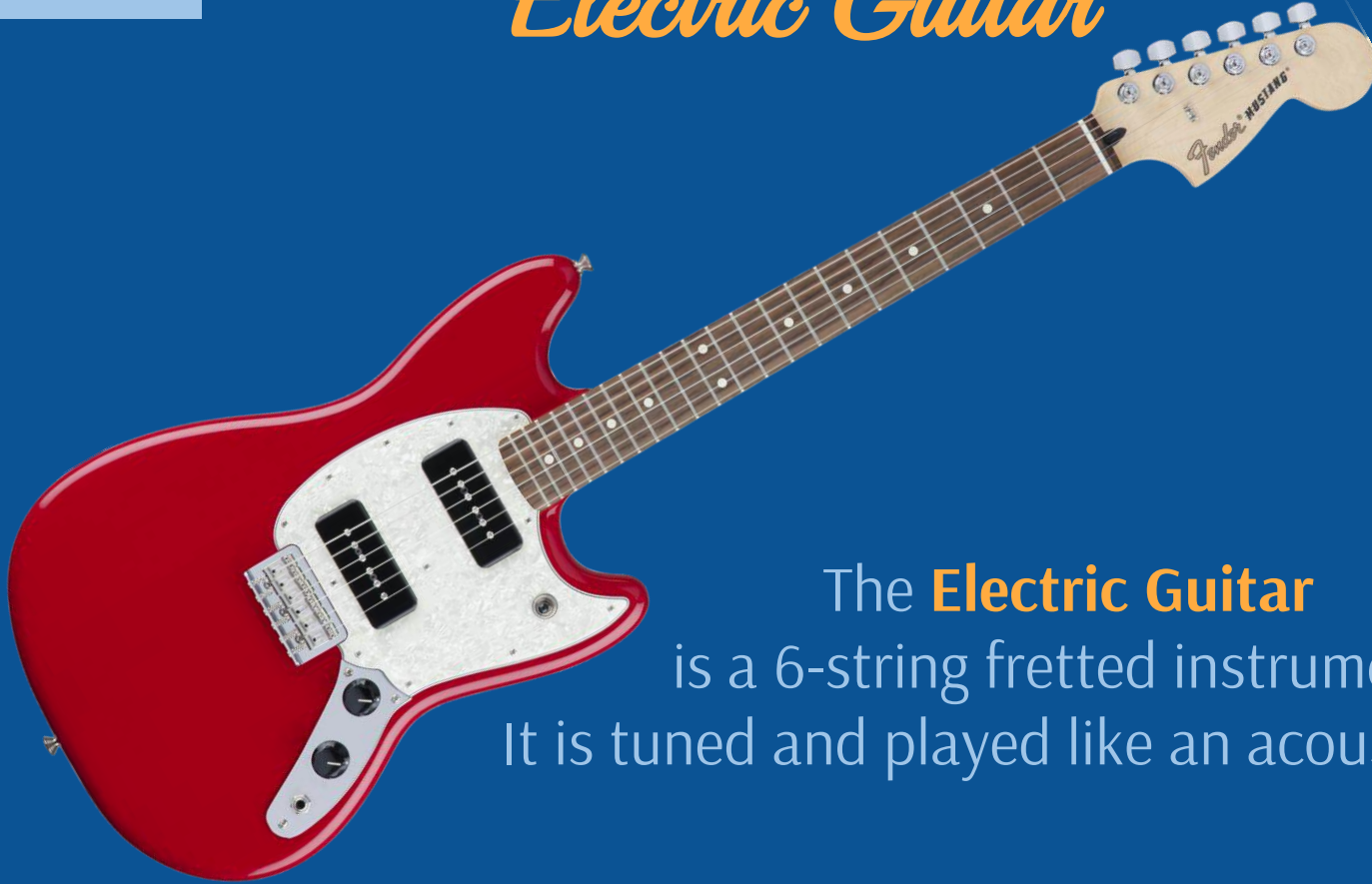


Harmonica



Click to watch and listen to Omar play harmonica!

Electric Guitar



The **Electric Guitar** is a 6-string fretted instrument. It is tuned and played like an acoustic guitar.

Electric Guitar

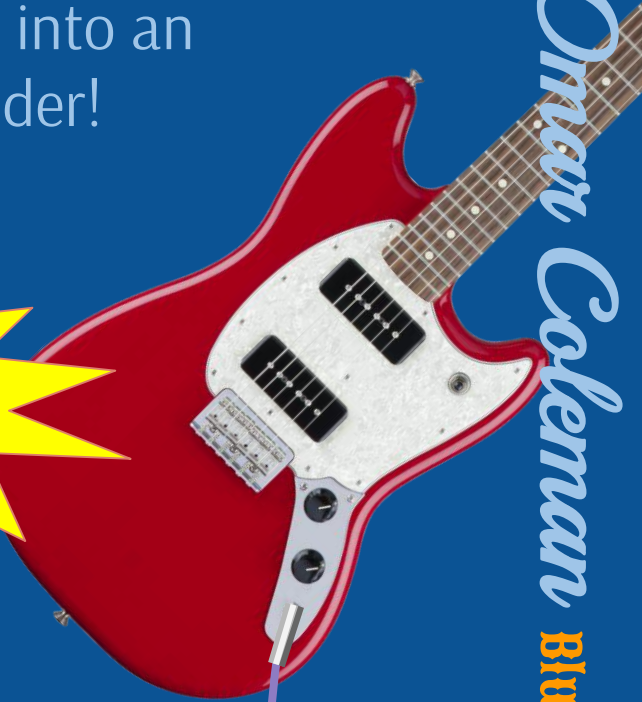
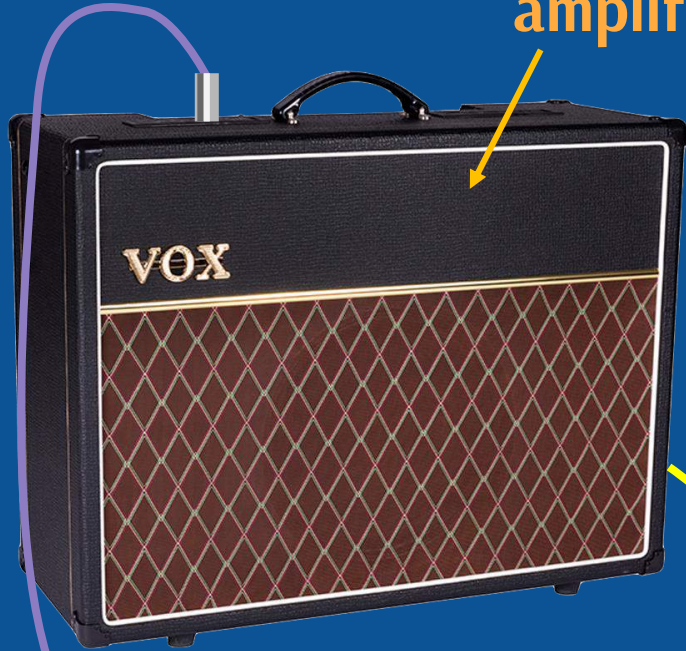


Frets

It's called a "fretted" instrument because it has little metal bars on the neck called "frets"

Electric Guitar

An electric guitar can be plugged into an **amplifier**, which makes it louder!



Electric Guitar



Click to watch and listen to a sample of electric guitar!

Tom Holland

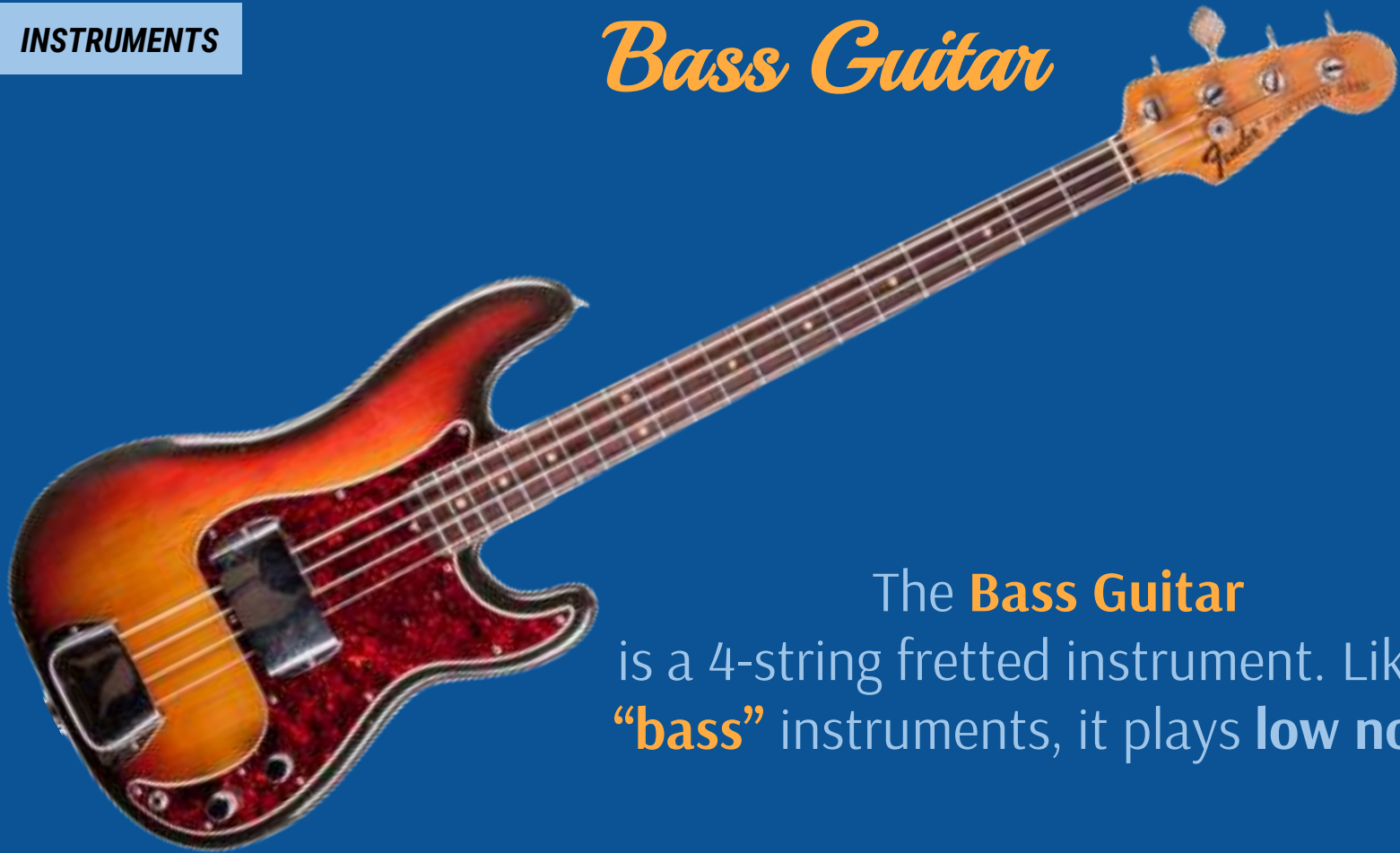
Electric Guitar



Tom Holland grew up on Chicago's south side listening to jazz and blues. He began playing guitar at 13, and was playing professional gigs by 19.

He has toured the world, playing with blues legends such as Eddie "the Chief" Clearwater and James Cotton.

Bass Guitar



The **Bass Guitar** is a 4-string fretted instrument. Like all “**bass**” instruments, it plays **low notes**.

Bass Guitar

The **bass guitar** has 4 strings tuned exactly like a **string bass** from an orchestra or jazz band.



Electric Bass Guitar



Acoustic String Bass

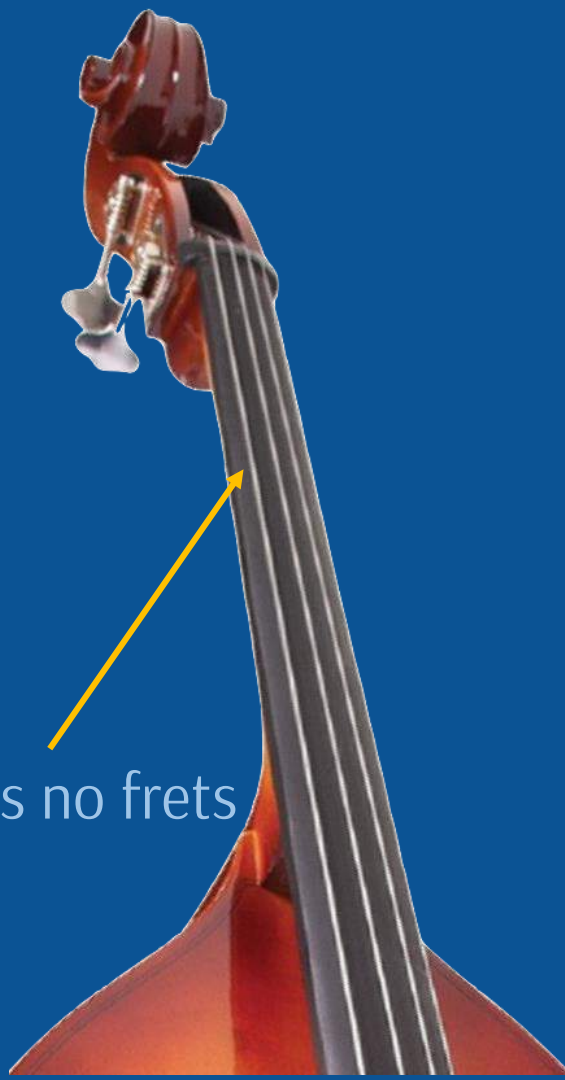
Bass Guitar

Like a guitar,
a bass guitar has frets.

Frets



A string bass has no frets



Bass Guitar



Click to watch and listen to a sample of **bass guitar**!



Harlan Terson

Bass Guitar

Harlan Terson has played bass for over 50 years. Born in Chicago, he began playing guitar at age 15.

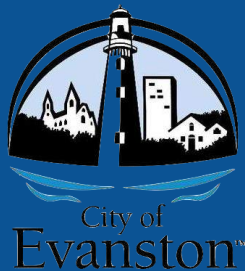
He has played with a number of blues legends such as Otis Rush, Lonnie Brooks, and Albert Collins.

Thanks to...

The
Omar Coleman
Blues Band



...and thanks again for the support of
EISMA, the City of Evanston, the Evanston Arts Council, and the Illinois Arts Council.



EISMA is partially funded by the City of Evanston,
in partnership with the Evanston Arts Council,
and by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.



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