

MUSICIANS WHO WORK IN LAW, MEDICINE & FINANCE BY DAY ROCKED THEIR HEARTS OUT IN BATTLE OF THE BANDS

Recreational musicians won \$7,000+ at Rebel club

New York City—Once a week for the last few months, Jesse Short has hot-footed from his Flatiron office to a Times Square music studio to shake off his professional persona as accountant for a not-for-profit and channel his inner Ziggy Stardust...and David Byrne, Geddy Lee and Billy Idol.

Last Friday night the 41-year-old took the stage amid smoke machines, strobe lights and a full band to spellbind the crowd. He impressed—and earned "Best Dressed" for his get-ups (alternating headgear, industrial/goth Storm Trooper boots and more) and, together with his band, scored "Best Cover Band" at The Jammy Awards, produced by recreational music community The Jam NYC.

Short is just one of 50+ recreational musicians who took the stage at Rebel, 251 West 30th Street, on April 16 to compete for trophies and prizes worth more than \$7,000. Honors were bestowed by a panel comprised of music industry pros.

"There was such great energy at Rebel and lots of talent on that stage," said judge Aimee Steele of Liz Caplan Vocal Studios. "I love to see how supportive all the musicians are of each other and I appreciate how serious they are about their music yet know how to have fun--that's what it is all about."

"The Jam is an amazing outlet for musicians to connect and make music," said judge Ari Simon of D'Addario. "It's great to be able to see the final product in action. I really enjoyed it."



Individual honors and prizes:

- **Jammer of The Year:** Phil Dunn (free open jams and rehearsals for the next 12 months; retail value \$1,500+).
- **Best Dressed Performer:** Jesse Short (\$50 gift card from Guitar Center Manhattan).
- **Female Vocalist of the Year:** Heidi Sadowsky (Liz Caplan Vocal Studios package; retail value \$125).
- **Male Vocalist of the Year:** Joe Fortine (Liz Caplan Vocal Studios package; retail value \$125).
- **Keyboard Player of The Year:** Elena Belan (\$125 Gift Card from Guitar Center Manhattan).
- **Bass Player of The Year:** Suki Fujioka Muller (\$150 gift card from 30th Street Guitars, a Planet Waves Chromatic Pedal Tuner, D'Addario XL ProSteel Strings, a Planet Waves "Dark Side" guitar strap, a 20-foot Planet Waves Custom Pro Instrument Cable, plus an Adjustable Insert Pick and Microfiber Polishing Cloth; retail value \$500+).
- **Drummer of The Year:** Jeff Mucciolo (Zildjian 20" K Custom Dry Ride Cymbal; retail value \$334.95).
- **Percussionist of The Year:** Jeff Mucciolo (\$125 gift card from Guitar Center Manhattan).
- **Guitar Player of The Year:** John Carucci (a \$150 gift card from 30th Street Guitars, Planet Waves Chromatic Pedal Tuner, D'Addario EXL 110 Nickel Wound Electric Guitar Strings, Planet Waves "Dark Side" guitar strap and Dual Action Capo and more; retail value \$500+).

Group honors and prizes:

- **Most Dysfunctional Band:** Anonymous (a 1.5-hour session with the Rockshrink; retail value \$600).
- **Best Tribute Band:** *Santanaria* (a \$500 gift card from Vinny's Music Service).
- **Best Cover Band:** *Lemonshade* (\$600 video package from 11th Story Productions).
- **Best Original Act:** *Dave Sasscer & The Mojo Conga Jam* (four hours of studio time (which can be used for recording, mixing, and/or mastering) from Doug Maxwell and Media RightStudios; retail value \$1,000).

continued

Esteemed sponsors of the 17th annual Jammy Awards are 11th Story Productions, D'Addario, Evans Drumheads, Guitar Center Manhattan, 30th Street Guitars, Liz Caplan Vocal Studios, MediaRight Productions, Planet Waves, Puresound Percussion, Soundsmith HK, Vinny's Music, and Zildjian.

The Jam, conveniently located in Times Square at Seventh Avenue and 47th Street, is a recreational music community that is open to the public. Open jam sessions, InstantBand projects, guided workshops, free use of instruments, and studio rentals are available. Membership services include free bandmate matching for those who want to perform live at clubs, free booking services and free cartage, set-up and breakdown for shows.

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ABOUT THE JAM NYC

www.TheJamNYC.com

For 20 years, The Jam has helped area singers, songwriters, guitarists, bassists, drummers, percussionists, keyboard, horn players and the occasional cowbell-ringer play and perform with others who share their passion. New York City's recreational music center is conveniently located in Times Square and produces live showcases at clubs just blocks from major subway lines, making it easy for people in the city, Westchester, Long Island, Connecticut and New Jersey to fit live music into their busy lives. Bands from The Jam regularly participate in charity fundraisers and at cultural events like the Taste of Tribeca Food Festival.

FOR INTERVIEW SOURCES, PHOTOS & STORY IDEAS, contact Liza Horan at 212.844.9274.

LET US KNOW IF YOU'D LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR JAM SESSIONS & ATTEND OUR LIVE SHOWCASES.