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VOTING BEGINS FOR GO-GO AWARDS TO STREAM LIVE on NOV 22

The Go-Go Museum & Café is pleased to announce the nominees for the [2020 Go-Go Awards](#) taking place Nov. 22. The event will cap off a week of activities to commemorate the 2nd annual Go-Go Preservation Week in the first award ceremony since Go-Go, a music genre punctuated by Afro-Latin polyrhythms, was stamped as the “Official Music of Washington, D.C.”

Nominees [in 25 categories](#) recognize excellence in a range of Go-Go genres from Bounce Beat, Traditional, Adult-like, Gospel, and mastery in lead vocals, lead talker, rapping, rhythm section, and percussion. “We want this recognition to influence these bands, inspire them to get even more creative,” said Go-Go Award Committee Chair DJ Supa Dan, founder of www.wearegogomusic.com. “We want to see more original music. If you set the bar high, the artists will reach it.”

Coming months after clubs first went silent due to COVID-19 social distancing rules, the awards are a celebration of artistic achievement and resilience during a catastrophic year. As clubs went dark, fans followed the bands online, drawing millions of page views and thousands of comments, as fans rekindled the connections endemic to live go-go, and followed them to social media. “Go-go revived the city once again,” said Go-Go Museum Café co-founder Ronald Moten. “Go-Go figured it out. Backyard was the first to stream their practice live on Facebook, and everyone followed suit.”

New to the awards this year are categories such as “Best Virtual Performance” and the “Petey Greene Award for Truth-telling and Advocacy.” The first-ever “Best Outside the Beltway Band” demonstrates that D.C.’s hometown sound is flourishing in places such as Greensboro, N.C., Columbus, OH, Miami, Atlanta and Richmond. Members of Go-Go’s extended creative economy—including deejays, promoters, sound engineers, and fashion design—also earned nods from the 10-member committee comprised of go-go historians, journalists, radio hosts, marketing execs and deejays

Fans can cast their vote for their favorite artists at this [LINK](#).

At 7 p.m. November 22th, the Go-Go Awards ceremony will be streamed live with special performances and celebrity appearances.



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GO-GO 2020 TIMELINE

Since Go-Go was created by the “Godfather of Go-Go **Chuck Brown**” in the mid 1970s, DC’s own unique artform, culture and industry has endured soaring heights and crippling lows. However, few years have been as dramatic as 2020. A few highlights:

Feb. 5, WPGC 95.5 host **DJ Flexx** hosts [a 12-hour Go-Go Radio Thon](#) raises \$17,000 for the **Go-Go Museum & Café** in Anacostia.

Feb. 19 Mayor **Muriel Bowser** signs “Go-Go Music Official Designation Act”

Mar. 15. Go-go performances outlawed due to COVID-19 inspired social distancing rules.

Mar. 19. Metropolitan Police Department break up a livestream concert by Go-Go Band CCB during a livestream concert because they had more than the mandated 10 members of the band.

March 21. Go-Go Live Virtual Concert & Fundraiser featuring **Black Alley** and **Junkyard Band**, and **Rare Essence** shows streams live on Facebook at the same night of DJ Nice’s Club Quarantine, drawing over 100,000 viewers.

April 10. **Don’t Mute DC** commemorates its 1st year anniversary with a livestream performance by **Backyard Band** and panel conversation.

June 3. Go-Go Museum & Café launches online with a conversation with **Ta-Nehisi Coates**, author of the first Oral History of Go-Go, and *Go-Go Live* author and Don’t Mute DC co-founder **Dr. Natalie Hopkinson**.

Jun. 19 EU, **Backyard Band**, **TOB** and others take to the streets to [protest police killings](#) on Juneteenth throughout the city.

Jun. 21 TV One airs “**The Beat Don’t Stop**” a national documentary on [the history of Go-Go](#).

Aug. 22 D.C. Councilman **Kenyan McDuffie** commemorates Go-Go Godfather Chuck Brown’s birthday by announcing a \$3 million “Go-Go Stimulus” plan to provide COVID relief to go-go artists, and investments in education and preservation.

Aug. 22 **Chuck Brown Day Virtual Festival** hosted by Mayor Muriel Bowser's administration, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music & Entertainment.



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Aug. 25 Don't Mute D.C. Records first single "**Can't Mute Us**" releases as one of the most radio-aired original go-go songs of the year. Performance By The Pure Elegance Band Featuring Special Guest Jus Paul, Weensey, J'TA Freeman. Song Written By Jus Paul and Ron Moten

Aug. 30. Maiesha Rashad Funeral Tribute Concert Streams Live on Facebook.

Sept. 19. Snoop Dogg and **Rare Essence** release their go-go collaboration, "Hit the Floor"

Sept. 25. Parliament Funkadelic leader and "Chocolate City" [pays tribute to Go-Go](#) on the drummer QuestLove's podcast.

Oct. 13. Stevie Wonder releases go-go voting anthem, "[Can't Put it in the Hands of Fate](#)" featuring **Busta Rhymes, Rapsody, and Cordae** and **Chika**.

Oct. 19. Go-go artists [release protest songs](#) in the wake of the 2020 election.