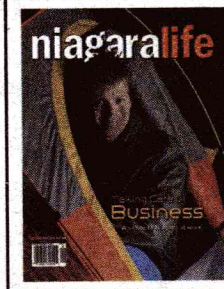


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The Niagara Rhythm Section has been nominated for Blues Band of the Year at the first Niagara Music Award. The band consists of: Steve Grisbook, Dave Norris, Penner MacKay, Steve Goldberger and Herb Nelson.

Niagara Rhythm Section receives nod

Group nominated in blues band of the year category at first Niagara Music Awards

BY EDDIE CHAU
STAFF

It came as a surprise to members of the Niagara Rhythm Section that they had been nominated for an award.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake based band is nominated for Blues Band of the Year as part of the Niagara Music Awards, the first ever awards ceremony which celebrates the talent of Niagara's music industry. The ceremony takes place March 25 at the Niagara Centre for the Performing Arts in Niagara Falls.

Niagara Rhythm Section are nominated in the same category as Guv'nor Generals and The

Outlaw Kid.

NRS vocalist and guitarist Steve Goldberger had just heard about the nomination last week and said the nod is "wild."

"I read about (the awards) in the newspaper and then someone told me about the nod," Goldberger told The Crier. "We're not really a blues band though, but we'll take it!"

Goldberger said the band has backed up several guest performers who sing the blues during their weekly performances at The Anchorage. He said the NRS is more old-school rock and funk than blues.

Bandmate and percussionist Penner MacKay said it's nice to be nominated, but even if the

group doesn't win it's still OK.

"We just have lots of fun (playing in the band)," he said.

Along with celebrating the group's nomination, Goldberger said he's excited that the group's first live album, *Live At The Anchorage 1.0*, is almost sold out.

The album is a compilation of some of the best performances at The Anchorage from the past four years. The band is currently mastering a follow up live album, *Live At The Anchorage 2.0*, which will be released in a few months.

For more information on the Niagara Music Awards, visit www.niagaramusicawards.com.