

# Diane Kallay

[www.dianekallay.com](http://www.dianekallay.com)



*"Diane Kallay's sizzling vocals will raise eyebrows and touch your soul."*

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***"Described as a sweet spice of blues, Diane Kallay's sizzling vocals will raise eyebrows and touch your soul."***

**The Buffalo News**



Diane's career in music began with a group called *Suspect*. They had a progressive sound and style, covering such artists as *Kate Bush*, the *Eurythmics*, and *Motels*. In 1995 she joined *Red Rain*, which won best new country band in WNY at the Country Music Awards. She performed with her brother Bob Raslawsky in an acoustic duo called *Kinship*. In 1999, Diane's solo performance at the Tonawanda Women's Music Festival marked the debut of an impressive repertoire of original compositions.

2001 was quite a year for Diane. She was nominated in three categories at the Buffalo Music Awards: *Kinship* was nominated for "Best Acoustic Duo" and Diane for "Best Female Vocalist." Her band, *Urban Renewal*, won top honors in the "Best Crossover Blues Band" category. She was named "Best Female Blues Vocalist" at the 2002 Buffalo Music Awards.

Her musical highlights include performances at "Thursday at the Square" (opening for *Kim Mitchell*), The Tralf (sharing the stage with *Shemekia Copeland*), and opening slots for Artpark shows featuring *The Marshall Tucker Band* and *Dave Mason*. A trip to the "Chicago Blues Festival" gave her a chance to sing with the legendary *Larry McCray* at Club Legends. A guest appearance at the South by Southwest Festival in Austin, Texas, prompted festival promoters to invite her to return next year as a featured performer.



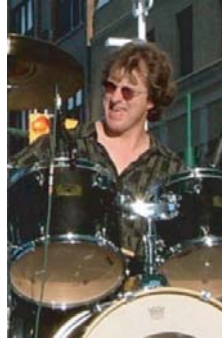
Diane has participated in several benefit shows and compilation recordings in support of the community. Her original song, "It's Christmas Time," appeared on a CD to benefit the MS Foundation. She helped raise money for the Buffalo Performing Arts School of Music, and participated in "Stand America," a CD to benefit the American Red Cross. She recently performed at a hospital benefit for the Women and Children's Foundation.

Diane is currently putting the finishing touches on her debut CD.

# The Diane Kallay Band

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## **Tom Ryan - Drums**



Tom began his music career as the drummer for the very popular group called *Weekend*, recently inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame. He also was a member of *The Vincent Michaels Band*, *Watchers*, *Skin Deep*, *Win Lose or Draw*, the *Soul Providers* and *SLAM*. Tom was awarded "Best Drummer" in the Buffalo Music Awards three times. He keeps busy as a sought-after studio drummer for various recording projects. He has shared the stage with such greats as *Fleetwood Mac*, *Styx*, *Stevie Ray Vaughan*, *Sly and the Family Stone*, *the Guess Who*, *Grand Funk Railroad* and others. Tom also has played drums for the *Platters*, the *Belmonts*, *Godspell*, *Bobby Sherman* and *Susan Anton*.

## **Greg Straka - Sax, Midi & Vocals**



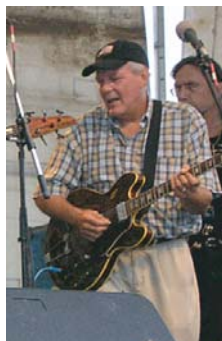
Greg has performed professionally for over 20 years. He has performed locally with various bands/musicians, including *Badlands*, *The Soul Providers*, *Urban Renewal*, and *Flipside*, and was a member of *Nik & the Nice Guys* for nearly 10 years, performing internationally. He has performed in opening acts for *The Guess Who*, *The Drifters*, *Liza Minnelli*, *Marshall Tucker Band*, and has performed onstage with *Chuck Berry* and *Clarence Clemons*. Greg can be heard on CD's of local artists *Terry Buchwald* and *Tom Sartori*. Recently, Greg was the 2004 WNY People's Choice winner for "Best Blues Saxophonist".

## **George del Valle - Bass & Vocals**



George is a very sought-after musician because of the distinctive grooves he lays down with his bass guitar. As a member of *Cruizin Dueces*, George was awarded Buffalo Blues Beat Magazine's "Muddy Award for Best New Band" in 1998, and the Buffalo Music Award's "Best Blues Band" in 1999. George was also the winner of Buffalo Music Award's "Best Crossover Blues Band" with the band *Urban Renewal*. He is often nominated for "Best Bassist" in the Buffalo Music Awards for his outstanding bass playing in the Blues/R&B category. George is recently known for his outstanding work with the *Soul Providers*, who were named "Best R&B Band" at the 2005 Buffalo Music Awards.

## **Rick Johnston - Guitar & Vocals**



Rick's touring days with such hi-profile "road" bands as *Hi-Rize* and the *Main Street Singers* saw him become a sought-after sideman. He has shared the stage during concerts with a long list of notables over the years, including *Eric Burden*, *Steppenwolf*, *Rodney Dangerfield*, *Eric Johnson*, *Grass Roots*, *the Doobie Brothers*, and one 40-minute set with legendary guitarist *Les Paul* that Rick will remember for the rest of his life. After touring, he landed in Daytona Beach, where he was the session guitarist for *Seabird Studios*. An injury to his hand in a car accident put his music career on hold for more than 10 years, and he's now picking up where he left off.

## *Repertoire*

*Diane's song lists are dynamic and constantly changing.  
This is a typical list of songs the band might play during a given show.*

Al Green - Let's Stay Together  
Alannah Myles - Black Velvet  
Aretha Franklin - Chain of Fools  
Aretha Franklin - Respect  
Aretha Franklin - Since You've Been Gone  
Average White Band - Pick Up the Pieces  
Bonnie Raitt - Runaway  
Carole King - Jazz Man  
Chi Coltrane - Thunder and Lightning  
Chicago - Beginnings  
Cold Blood - I Just Wanna Make Love  
Cold Blood - If You Will  
Cold Blood - I'm a Good Woman  
Debbie Davies - I Don't Want No Man  
Debbie Davies - Where the Blues Comes to Die  
Eddie Floyd - Knock on Wood  
Gladys Knight - I Heard It through the Grapevine  
Ides of March - Vehicle  
James Brown - I Feel Good  
Janis Joplin - Piece of My Heart  
Joanna Conner - Good Rockin Daddy  
Kelly Hunt - Talk to Me Baby  
KK & The Rays - Southside of the Tracks  
Linda Ronstadt - You're No Good  
Martha & Vandella's - Heat wave  
Mother's Finest - Baby Love  
Phoebe Snow - At Last  
Phoebe Snow - Shaky Ground  
Pink & Aerosmith - Misery  
Rufus Chaka Khan - Tell Me Something Good  
Sanford Townsend Band - Smoke from a Distant Fire  
Santana - Black Magic Woman  
Sass Jordan - Make You a Believer  
Sass Jordan - Love Me Tonight  
Smith - Baby Its You  
Spiral Staircase - More Today than Yesterday  
Susan Tedeshi - Alone  
Susan Tedeshi - Hampmotized  
Susan Tedeshi - It Hurts  
Susan Tedeshi - Little By Little  
Toni Lynn Washington - Bad Intentions  
Toni Lynn Washington - Just Around the Corner  
Toni Lynn Washington - Teardrops from My Eyes  
Vonda Shepard - My Love Is Alive