

## https://pickuptheguitar.com/female-blues-singers/#Top\_Best\_Female\_Blues\_Singers

Name	Year of Birth	Primary Location	Main Contributions to Blues Genre
Early Pioneers	Before 1910		
Ma Rainey	1886	[Information Not Available]	Known as the "Mother of the Blues," she popularized blues music and influenced future generations of singers.
Bessie Smith	1894	[Information Not Available]	Dubbed the "Empress of the Blues," her powerful voice and emotional performances set the standard for blues singing.
Lucille Hegamin	1894	[Information Not Available]	One of the first blues singers to record, helping bring the genre to mainstream audiences.
Mamie Smith	1891	[Information Not Available]	Recorded the first blues song in 1920, "Crazy Blues," opening doors for blues music in the recording industry.
Clara Smith	1894	[Information Not Available]	Known for her dramatic and heartfelt performances in the classic blues style.
Sippie Wallace	1898	[Information Not Available]	Her songwriting and unique vocal style contributed significantly to the development of the blues genre.
Lucille Bogan	1897	[Information Not Available]	Known for her risqué lyrics, she helped break barriers and expand themes in blues music.
Bertha Hill	1905	[Information Not Available]	Collaborated with Louis Armstrong and contributed to early jazz blues fusion.
Gladys Bentley	1907	[Information Not Available]	Trailblazing performer known for her charismatic stage presence and pianodriven blues.
Ida Cox	1896	[Information Not Available]	Role model for women in blues, her empowering songs highlighted themes of independence and resilience.

## Blues Greats Series: Women who shaped the blues



- ### \*\*Early Blues Pioneers (born before 1910)\*\*
  - Ma Rainey (1886)
  - Bessie Smith (1894)
  - Lucille Hegamin (1894)
  - Mamie Smith (1891)
  - Clara Smith (1894)
  - Sippie Wallace (1898)
  - Lucille Bogan (1897)
  - Bertha Hill (1905)
  - Gladys Bentley (1907)
  - Ida Cox (1896)
  - Lizzie Miles (1895)
  - Monette Moore (1902)
  - Blue Lu Barker (1913)
  - Bessie Tucker (1906)
  - Mozelle Alderson (c. 1904)
  - Ora Alexander (active in 1930s)
  - Irene Scruggs (early 1900s)
  - Madilyn Davis (active in 1920s)
- ### \*\*Mid-20th Century Legends (1910s–1930s)\*\*
  - Billie Holiday (1915)
  - Dinah Washington (1924)
  - Big Mama Thornton (1926)
  - Etta James (1938)
  - Nina Simone (1933)
  - Ruth Brown (1928)
  - Big Maybelle (1924)
  - Hadda Brooks (1916)
  - Mabel Scott (1915)
  - Diana Ross (1944)
  - Roberta Flack (1937)
  - Irma Thomas (1941)
- ### \*\*1960s-1970s Influential Voices\*\*
  - Aretha Franklin (1942)
  - Janis Joplin (1943)
  - Bonnie Raitt (1949)
  - Koko Taylor (1928)
  - Sister Rosetta Tharpe (1915)
  - Tina Turner (1939)
  - Rory Block (1950)
  - Marcia Ball (1949)
  - Kathi McDonald (1948)
  - Beverly Watkins (1939)
  - Gwen Stefani (1969)
  - Chaka Khan (1953)
- ### \*\*1980s-1990s Artists Rising\*\*
  - Susan Tedeschi (1970)
  - Joanna Connor (1962)

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- Debbie Davies (1952)
- Ruthie Foster (1964)
- Janiva Magness (1957)
- Angie Stone (1961)
- Kelly Rowland (1981)
- Alicia Keys (1981)
- ### \*\*2000s-Present: Modern Blues Innovators\*\*
  - Shemekia Copeland (1979)
  - Beth Hart (1972)
  - Dana Fuchs (1976)
  - Samantha Fish (1989)
  - Joanne Shaw Taylor (1985)
  - Ana Popović (1976)
  - Carolyn Wonderland (1972)
  - Cassie Taylor (1986)
  - Shakura S'Aida (contemporary)
  - Dani Wilde (1985)
  - Erin McCallum (1981)
  - Christina Skjolberg (1987)
  - Malyssa BellaRosa (contemporary)
  - Danielle Nicole (1983)
  - Wendy Colonna (1970s–80s)
  - Sue Foley (1968)
  - C. Kelly Wright (contemporary)
- ### \*\*Australian & Emerging Artists\*\*
  - Mia Dyson (1981)
  - Mia Wray (1990s/2000s)
  - Grace Woodroofe (early 1990s)
  - Georgia Lee (1921)
  - Karise Eden (1992)
  - Alice Skye (1990s)
  - Marlene Cummins (1950s)
  - Jaguar Jonze (b. 1990s)