

Hot jazz, fabulous wines, fine art and delicious cuisine all in one terrific place...Vancouver, Washington!

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18th Annual Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival Presents Jazz Legends, Newcomers and 25 GRAMMY Awards

JAZZ, LATIN, BRAZILIAN, MAMBO, POP! – The 18th Annual Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival runs August

21, 22, 23 at **Esther Short Park** in Vancouver, Washington. The Festival is *"…the largest festival of its kind in the Northwest…"* (ABC TV affiliate KATU 2, Portland, Oregon) and is recognized by musicians, fans and critics alike as one of the best summer concert venues in the region. *"This year is one of the best concert lineups that we have had in the past 10 years"* says Festival Manager Maria Manzo. *"We are bringing some of the most-acclaimed jazz artists in the world to the Festival, as well as up-and-coming artists who are breaking onto the national scene. When people come this year, they will hear jazz legends as well as new faces performing incredible music."* The lineup of major acts features:

- The Manhattan Transfer 10-time GRAMMY-winning vocal jazz legends.
- Arturo Sandoval Recognized as one of the world's greatest jazz trumpeters and 10-time GRAMMY winner.
- Poncho Sanchez GRAMMY winning Latin Jazz band leader and percussionist.
- Billy Childs One of the most acclaimed jazz pianists and composers of our time and 3-time GRAMMY winner.
- Pacific Mambo Orchestra Phenomenal 20-piece Latin Jazz Orchestra and 2015 GRAMMY winner.
- Claudia Vilella Brazilian singer / composer and rising star on the American Jazz music scene.
- Jane Monheit GRAMMY-nominated Jane Monheit has been a leading light in both the jazz and cabaret worlds since emerging as a finalist in the Thelonious Monk Institute's 1998 vocal competition.
- Johnny A. Blues Band Recognized as one of top blues guitarist of the past decade, Johnny's virtuosity has earned him the rare honor having his name placed on a signature Gibson[®] guitar.

Local and regional bands will also be performing—including the acclaimed **Seattle Jazz Singers**, Flamenco and Brazilian Jazz band **Camnihos Cruzados** and Portland-based **Go By Train**, led by guitarist and bandleader Dan Balmer. The Festival also gives a nod to patriotism and United States Military, with performances by the **56th US Army Jazz Band** from Joint Base Lewis-McCord and Portland-based **204th US Army Reserve Jazz Band**. 15 concerts will be staged during the 3-day Festival. *"We have put together a diverse lineup of internationally acclaimed headline jazz artists along with fantastic local and regional bands"* says Dr. Manzo. *"The Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival is recognized not only throughout the Northwest, but nationally as a Festival which presents great music performed by world-class musicians, partnered with fine arts and crafts, 200 wines and delicious food. What more do you need to create a perfect Northwest weekend?"*

WINE, ART, FOOD – In addition to the music, the Festival features over 200 wines from around the world. Attendees can sample wines with a 1-ounce taste or purchase a glass to while enjoying food from 8 local restaurants. The cuisine ranges from Northwest fare to Middle Eastern cuisine, from Hawaiian dishes to mouth-watering Kobe Beef Burgers. Art and craft enthusiasts can enjoy and shop the 40 fine artists from California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Numerous commercial exhibitors are also on hand throughout the weekend displaying their products and services. *"The Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival is a unique northwest cultural arts event. We combine American jazz, blues & pop music,*

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fine arts and crafts, premium wines and great food" says Dr. Manzo. "Our goal has always been to create a multi-faceted cultural festival, an event where people can experience great music, sample a Northwest wine, purchase a piece of art, and become immersed in an eclectic and creative weekend." Recognized as the #1 Cultural Tourism Event in Southwest Washington, the Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival attracts an estimated attendance of 12-15,000 people each year and visitors from 19 states and Canada. "This year we have already sold tickets to attendees from Texas, California, New Jersey and Wyoming, says Ticket Manager Peni Thunen.

DATES / TIMES / LOCATION – The Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival takes place at Esther Short Park in downtown Vancouver. Washington located at 8th & Columbia Streets.

- Friday / August 21: 4 PM to 10 PM
- Saturday / August 22: 11 AM to 10 PM
- Sunday / August 23: 11 AM to 9 PM

SEATING & TICKET PRICES — Seating is General Admission on the lawn. Blankets & low-back sand chairs are permitted. NO outside food or beverages is allowed. Kids age 12 and younger are admitted FREE with paid adults. Festival Tickets include admission to the Festival and to all the concerts for the entire day. Wine, Food and Art is not included with the ticket, and are purchased separately.

General Admission Ticket Prices:

- Friday: \$20 at the Gate
- Saturday: \$25 at the Gate
- Sunday: \$25 at the Gate
- ADVANCE 3-Day Pass: \$55
- Advance Discount tickets and ALL Festival information is available at <u>www.vancouverwinejazz.com</u>

HISTORY — The Festival is recognized as one of the most prestigious Jazz Festivals on the West Coast. Diane Schuur, jazz pianist and singer says "...the Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival is a world class event..." More than 150 bands and 650 fine artists have participated since 1998. The Festival and National Geographic put Vancouver "on the map", being featured in the National Geographic Cultural Tourism Map of The Central Cascades. (http://thecentralcascades.com/vancouver-wine-and-jazz-festival/). Since 1998 it is estimated that more than 170,000 people from 19 states and Canada have attended the event to experience the music, wine, art, food—and friendship at the Festival!

SPONSORS — The Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival is supported by numerous sponsors—from international corporations to small businesses. *"Sponsors are really the engine which drives the Festival"* says Artistic Director Michael Kissinger. *"Our nonprofit organization, Bravo! Vancouver, could not produce this event and bring world-class musicians to the Northwest without the support of our sponsors."* Major Sponsors include: **Presenting Sponsor:** Comcast. Jazz Artist Sponsors: iQ Credit Union & Evergreen Home Loans. Corporate Sponsors: Alaska Airlines, Boeing, Cinetopia, DeWils, McCord's Vancouver Toyota. Supporting Sponsors: Columbia Bank, E&J Gallo, Heathman Lodge, Irvine & Company, Michelle's Piano, MillerCoors, Oxford Suites Jantzen Beach, Vancouvercenter, Vancouver Sign Co., Waste Connections. Media Partners: iHeart Radio (K103 FM, 1190 KEX), KATU 2, KVBM FM, Lamar Transit, Vancouver Business Journal.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Web: <u>www.vancouverwinejazz.com</u> / Email: <u>info@vancouverwinejazz.com</u> Email: <u>media@vancouverwinejazz.com</u> Telephone: 360-906-0441 / 360-241-6438 / 360-991-6922

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