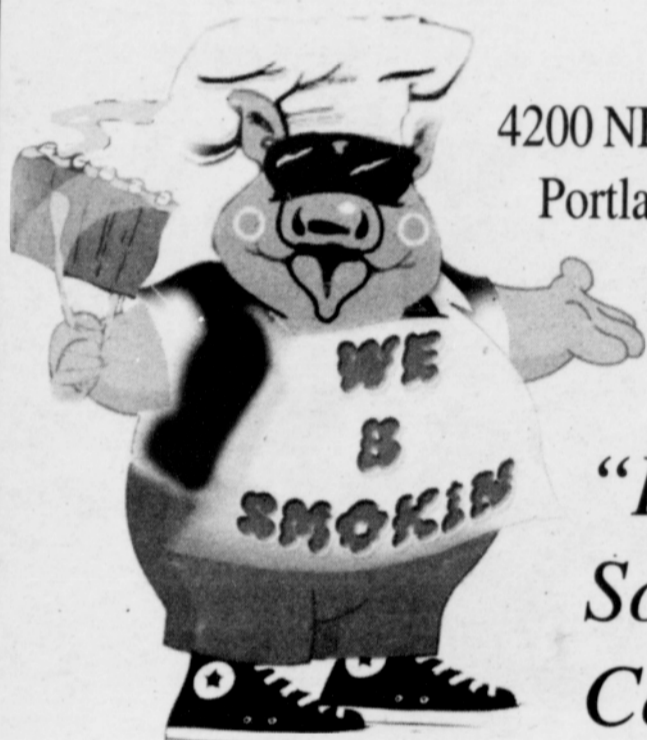


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THE LAW OFFICES OF Patrick John Sweeney, P.C.

Patrick John Sweeney
Attorney at Law

1549 SE Ladd, Portland, Oregon

Portland: (503) 244-2080

Hillsboro: (503) 244-2081

Facsimile: (503) 244-2084

Email: Sweeney@PDXLawyer.com



Gospel and Blues legends and 5-time Grammy winners, the Blind Boys of Alabama, are one of 8 headline acts coming to the 17th annual Vancouver Wine and Jazz Festival.

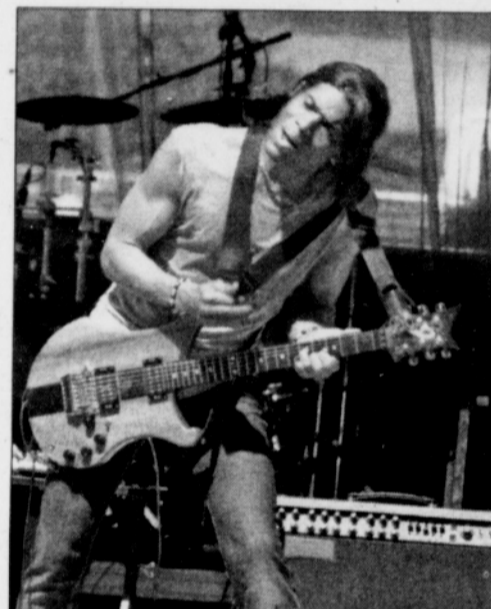
Hot Jazz and Fabulous Wines

Diverse lineup for Vancouver's annual event

The Vancouver Wine and Jazz festival, one of the largest festival's of its kind in the Northwest, takes off Thursday to begin four days of entertainment through Sunday at Esther Short Park in downtown Vancouver.

The 17th annual festival will feature a 20 concert lineup, 200 wines from around the world, food from local restaurants, and coupled with fine arts and crafts.

The headline acts include Blind Boys of Alabama, a legendary gospel and blues band and 5-time Grammy winner; Lee Ritenour, a jazz guitarist and 17-time Grammy nominee; Don McLean, singer/songwriter of classics “American Pie” and “Vincent (Starry, Starry Night)”; Toshiko Akiyoshi, a leg-



Stanley Jordan, a guitar virtuoso and Grammy winner, will perform at the Vancouver Wine and Jazz Festival which runs through Sunday, Aug. 24 at Esther Short Park.

endary jazz pianist and National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master; Stanley Jordan, a guitar virtuoso and 2-time Grammy winner; the Dan Brubeck Jazz Quartet, internationally acclaimed drummer and member

of The Brubeck Brothers Quartet; Coco Montoya, a Blues guitarist and band leader; and The Heritage Blues Orchestra, 2013 Grammy nominee making their Pacific Northwest debut.

Local and regional jazz bands will also be performing—including Portland's own Mel Brown B3 Quintet. A Jazz Education Stage will also provide an opportunity for high school musicians to perform each day.

“We have put together a diverse lineup this year, with classic jazz, smooth jazz, blues, gospel, and pop artists performing throughout the weekend” says the festival's artistic director and clarinetist Michael Kissinger.

Admission is free for Thursday's “Jazz Education Night”; and \$20 at the gate for Friday's lineup and \$25 at the gate for Saturday and Sunday. For tickets and more information, visit vancouverwinejazz.com

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