

White Salmon Jazz returns to the Huckleberry Fest on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. This will be the band's 33rd consecutive Huck Fest.

This 17-piece big band plays a mix of swing tunes, jazz and contemporary, with many of your old favorites and a few that are sure to become favorites.

The band was formed in 1979 by a core group of Columbia High students and alumni, and now boasts players from all over the Gorge area.

White Salmon Jazz is dedicated to the performance and promotion of jazz music. Throughout the years since its inception, the band has always welcomed young people, including players from The Dalles, Hood River Valley, Trout Lake and Columbia High Schools.

The band donates to local schools to help pay for instruments, sheet music, and other items to support the music departments. In 2007, they instituted the 1st annual White Salmon Jazz scholarship. Since then they have sent a total of 9 local students to jazz band camp. In 2010 the scholarship was renamed in honor of Jeff Agar, late CHS music teacher and director/trumpet player for White Salmon Jazz.

This band is living proof that music can last a lifetime, and it is never too late to get out and play and have lots of fun doing it. Get your seat early for this annual Huckleberry Fest tradition!