



Anna Anna Maria Ponzi
President / Director of Sales and Marketing



Anna Maria Ponzi is the President, Director of Sales and Marketing, and second-generation vintner of Ponzi Vineyards, perched atop the Chehalem Mountains in Oregon's Willamette Valley. Founded in 1970 by her parents, Anna Maria and her sister—Winemaker Luisa Ponzi—have been operating the winery for the past 25 years, growing the business into a wine-industry leader that produces 50,000 cases annually, farms over 130 certified-sustainable vineyards, experiments with innovative agricultural methods and new wine varietals, and is active in philanthropic organizations and events. Anna Maria currently sits on the board of Travel Portland and has served extended terms on the Oregon Wine Board and the Willamette Valley Wineries Association. She is an active presence in Oregon's agriculture and travel industries.

Anna Maria's roots as the daughter of a pioneering wine family give her the strong advantage of being educated in all areas of the wine business. She has worked every aspect of the winery, from planting vines to making sales calls. This unique experience and skill set allows her to serve the state's wine industry in a myriad of ways, including acting as an ambassador for Oregon wine growers internationally and building Oregon wine country into a travel destination.

In 1987, Anna Maria graduated from the School of Journalism at the University of Oregon. She moved to Boston and worked in the publishing industry before returning home to the wine business in 1991, when she took the position of Director of Sales and Marketing at Ponzi Vineyards. The following year, she became a founding member of Women for Winesense and became President of the Oregon chapter.

In 2012, Anna Maria and her sister Luisa acquired ownership of the winery from their parents, and Ponzi Vineyards became one of the country's few sister-run wineries and one of Oregon's few second-generation wineries. The following year, Anna Maria opened an elegantly modern tasting room, establishing Ponzi Vineyards as an exceptional wine country destination.

She assumed the position of President in 2014, overseeing all business operations. Under her steadfast leadership, natural business savvy, and tireless work ethic, Ponzi Vineyards is experiencing continued growth and success as one of the nation's most respected producers of award-winning Oregon wine.

In Spring 2018 she will be unveiling The Laurelwood, a one-of-a-kind hospitality space that pays homage to her parents' legacy while looking forward into a prosperous future. She will also continue contributing to multiple charitable causes, including ¡Salud!, an organization co-founded by her mother Nancy to provide healthcare services to Oregon vineyard workers. Pulling from a history of innovation and sustainability, Anna Maria is focused on forging a path onto the global market for other Oregon wineries to follow.