



Maria Ponzi

President | Director of Sales and Marketing

Anna Maria Ponzi is President, Director of Sales and Marketing, Second-Generation Vintner and Owner of Ponzi Vineyards, perched atop the Chehalem Mountains in Oregon's Willamette Valley. For nearly 30 years, Anna Maria and her sister — Winemaker Luisa Ponzi— have been operating the winery founded by their parents in 1970. Together, they have grown the business into a wine-industry leader farming over 140 acres of certified sustainable vineyards and experimenting with innovative agricultural methods to grow new wine varietals.

Anna Maria is actively involved in philanthropic organizations and events. She is currently a commissioner on the Oregon Tourism Commission, President of ¡Salud! and also serves on the board of Project Lemonade, an organization inspiring self-esteem in foster youth. She has served extended terms on the Oregon Wine Board, Oregon Pinot Camp, and the Willamette Valley Wineries Association. Her roots as the daughter of a pioneering wine family give her the strong advantage of being educated in all areas of the wine business. 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 in the region. In Spring 2018, The Laurelwood was unveiled, a one-of-a-kind hospitality space that pays homage to her parents' legacy while looking forward into a prosperous future. Pulling from a history of innovation and sustainability, Anna Maria is focused on continuing to forge a path onto the global stage for other regional wineries to follow.