



Luisa Ponzi

Winemaker | Owner

Luisa Ponzi graduated from Portland State University, Portland, Oregon in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science. Following her undergraduate studies, Luisa moved to Beaune, France where she continued her education in viticulture and enology. As part of the required curriculum, Luisa apprenticed with Burgundian producer, M. Christophe Roumier of Domaine Roumier of Chambolle Musigny, France as well as with Italian producer Luca Currado of Vietti in Piedmont, Italy. In 1993, Luisa was awarded the Certificate Brevet Professionnelle D'Oenologie et Viticulture, at the time the only woman to earn such distinction.

In addition to her formal studies of enology and viticulture, Luisa has traveled extensively throughout other prominent wine regions including Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Italy, Austria, Slovenia and the United States. Since 1986, she has participated in all the International Pinot Noir Celebrations in McMinnville, Oregon and has attended all of the accompanying Steamboat Technical Pinot Noir Conferences.

Luisa combines her formal winemaking experience with her lifelong work with her father, Dick Ponzi, at their Willamette Valley vineyards and winery. Since 1993, Luisa has brought her knowledge of Burgundian practices combined with her personal experience to the family-owned winery.

Luisa continues to educate herself through contacts with winemakers around the world, frequent winery tastings and winemaking conferences. She currently sits on several advisory and wine organization boards. She serves as President of the Chehalem Mountain Winegrowers Association, is on the board for LIVE, and is a member of the Assemblage Advisory Board which supports women and diverse communities in the wine industry.

Luisa has been honored with awards and accolades, all contributing to Ponzi's heightened stature in the national arena.

She, her husband, fellow winemaker Eric Hamacher, and their four children reside atop the Chehalem Mountains with commanding views of the glorious valley.

For more than two decades, Luisa's passion and winemaking talent have helped sustain Ponzi Vineyards' 50-year acclaimed tradition of producing some of the world's finest wines.

ACCOLADES

*Industry Leader by Wine Business
Monthly in 2019*

*"Luisa Ponzi... one of the brightest stars
among the new generation in Oregon."*

- Paul Gregutt, September 2011

*"Ponzi Vineyards remains a reference point
for American Pinot Noir with winemaker
Luisa Ponzi at the top of her game."*

- Robert M. Parker's The Wine Advocate,
October 2008

*"By adding academic knowledge to her
unparalleled experience learning from
her father, Luisa Ponzi has become one of
the most formidable winemakers in the
country."*

- Oregon Wine Report, June 2002