

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 1, 2021

Alliance of Women in Washington Wine

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## **ALLIANCE OF WOMEN IN WASHINGTON WINE ANNOUNCES BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Grassroots, Peer Mentoring and Advocacy Group to Fund Scholarships, Promote All Women in the Washington Wine Industry*

RICHLAND, WA - March 1, 2021: Today, at the beginning of National Women's History Month, the Alliance of Women in Washington Wine is pleased to announce that after eighteen months of grassroots participation a formal board of directors has been formed for the organization.

The board represents women from large and small wineries, from the vineyards, labs, and crush pads, who all share a common goal: to build a safe community to connect, inspire, and advance women and their advocates in the Washington wine industry.

President: Tiffany Britton, Winemaker, Brainstorm Cellars

Vice president: Casey Cobble, Winemaker, Goose Ridge Winery

Treasurer: Maurine Johnson, Winemaker, Goose Ridge Winery

Secretary: Rebecca Alberts, Enologist, Fidelitas

Board member, Social: KD Organ, Winemaker, Educator, Wine & Spirits Archive

Board member, Student Outreach/Education: Tanya Morning Star Darling, CellarMuse

Member at Large: Rachel Horn, Winemaker, AniChe Cellars

Advisory Office: Kristin Scheelar: Associate Winemaker, Columbia Winery

Member (Mentor) at Large: Megan Schofield: Director of Winemaking, Constellation Brands

Ex-officio: Heather Unwin: Instructor, NW Wine Academy, Seattle Colleges

The group is an outgrowth of discussions held at informal meetings, dinners, and wine education events at which women from all areas of the wine industry found common concerns such as isolation, lack of opportunity awareness, and lack of diversity. Initial programming will include spotlighting social media profiles of women winemakers, vineyard managers, winemaking and vineyard staff, winery owners, and range of professionals in Washington wine beginning on March 8 International Women's Day. This will include promotions and events such as Cairdeas Winery's pre-release of their 2020 *Nellie Mae*, with a portion of proceeds being donated to the Alliance.

The law firm of Perkins Coie LLP attorneys Anna Joy, Nicole Schilling and Ben Straughan provided *pro bono* guidance to the organization's development, bylaws, and tax filing document

process. The Alliance wishes to thank Charlie Hoppes for providing a physical location for the Alliance at 318 Wellhouse Loop, Richland, WA 99352.

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#### About the Alliance of Woman in Washington Wine

The Alliance's mission is to inspire, educate, and advance women in the Washington wine industry. The organization will achieve this by creating mentorship programs and developing educational outreach tools about a career in wine. The Alliance of Women in Washington Wine has applied for 501c3 public charity classification with the Internal Revenue Service; during the time that the application is pending contributors to the organization do not have advance assurance of the deductibility for their donation. For further information, contact [secretary@awwawine.org](mailto:secretary@awwawine.org). The Alliance mailing address is c/o Rebecca Alberts, WineBoss, 318 Wellhouse Loop, Richland, WA 99352. The website is [www.awwawine.org](http://www.awwawine.org)