

ESTABLISHED 1977
LAKE SONOMA
WINERY

EST. 1863
VALLEY OF THE MOON
WINERY

MEET OUR WINEMAKER

Jaime (JJ) Dowell

JJ was born in San Diego and is a fifth-generation Californian. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Viticulture and Enology from the University of California, Davis, in 2000, and undertook internships in the Napa Valley until taking a near-decade-long detour to manage and operate her family's art gallery in the East Bay Area. JJ returned to winemaking on a part-time basis by becoming the winemaker for Crooked Vine & Stony Ridge Winery in the Livermore Valley and after the three years of dividing her time between the gallery and the winery she was convinced that her true passion was winemaking, so she made the bittersweet decision to sell the gallery in 2010.



JJ also spent time in New Zealand, managing the production of a high-end Pinot Noir at Villa Maria Estate in Blenheim, before returning to California in time for the 2011 harvest, where she joined Bonny Doon Vineyards in Santa Cruz as Assistant Winemaker under Randall Grahm. This was followed by a move to Alpha Omega Winery in Rutherford, where she worked as an Associate Winemaker alongside Winemaker, Jean Hoefliger until the summer of 2017. Jean's 5-year mentorship shaped JJ to take the helm of winemaking at Round Pond Estate in the Rutherford, Napa Valley. She then transitioned to the role of consulting winemaker in 2019 and is thrilled now to be immersed in the grapes of Sonoma where she is the US Winemaker for West Coast Wine Partners, which includes making the wines for Lake Sonoma Winery and Valley of the Moon Winery.