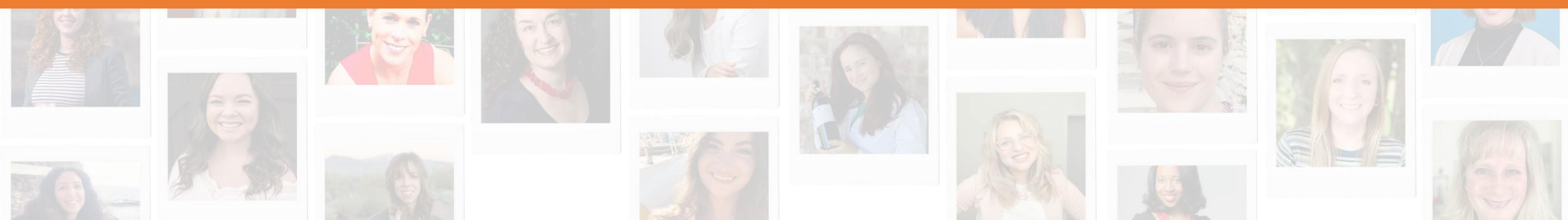


# WOMEN OF THE VINE & SPIRITS FOUNDATION

“Crafting a Better World”™

for Women in Wine, Beer & Spirits

The Women of the Vine & Spirits Foundation, Ltd. 501(c)(3) provides scholarships and awards for the purpose of helping women advance their careers in the food, wine, spirits, beer, or hospitality industries through education, leadership, and professional development, as well as fosters gender diversity and talent development across the industry at large.



# Thank You to Our 2022 Foundation Donors

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Kendra Scott

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# Professional & Leadership Development Recipient

## Sarah Andrew

Professional & Leadership Development Recipient  
Victoria, Australia

“This scholarship will enable interaction with high achieving women/nonbinary across a diverse range of industries for me to learn, understand and adopt new strategies and concepts across the various programs I operate. This opportunities will enable to continue to grow and evolve as a professional so that in my current roles, I can share this with other professionals and mentees to foster their growth, development and future success.”





# Student Educational Scholarship Recipients

## Marie Berson

Student Educational

Saint Macaire du Bois, France

“Receiving this scholarship has been one of my greatest achievements so far, and I will forever be grateful of the WOTVS foundation for giving me the opportunity to pursue my dreams and follow my mother's footsteps in the wine world.”





## Laura DeOliveira

Student Educational  
San Francisco, CA

“Being an already established gastronomic professional, it was a very large decision to embark on a self-funded 2-year wine program abroad. So, I am beyond grateful to have been awarded the WOTVS Student Scholarship, helping me to pursue additional education and achieve my larger goals of working in eno-gastro tourism.”

## Snehal Deshmukh

Student Educational  
Nashik, India

“I'm thankful and beyond grateful to Women of the Vine & Spirits for considering me as a potential candidate and acknowledging my contribution to the wine industry. This scholarship will always be a reminder to soar higher and motivate me for contributing towards empowering more women.”







## Limor Finkel

Student Educational  
Mill Valley, California

“I am honored to receive a Student Educational Scholarship from Women of the Vine to pursue my MBA at Sonoma State University. The generosity of WOTV is both an immense help financially and, just as importantly, furthers my ability to enact larger changes in the wine industry with my degree and experience”



## Leyla Gonzalez

Student Educational  
Pasco, WA

“Being chosen as a recipient for this award has opened a door for me to fully focus on my education, allowing me to dedicate more time to my studies.”



## Victoria Terrill

Student Educational  
San Luis Obispo, CA

“Being awarded the WOTVS scholarship not only will continue to inspire me to be a female leader in the industry, but to give back and mentor other industry members. Thank you WOTVS!”



# Continuing Education Scholarship Recipients



## Kirsten Ainslie

Continuing Education  
Glasgow, Scotland

“It is such an honor to receive a Continuing Education Scholarship from the Women of Vine and Spirits. The scholarship will be used to embark on a Diploma in Distilling from the Institute of Brewing and Distilling (IBD) alongside continuing to work on my job as a Whisky Blender. Having the support and community of WOTVS means the world!”

## Miriam Chambers

Continuing Education  
Sacramento, CA

“I am deeply filled with gratitude for the Women of the Vine and Spirits Organization and the work they are doing to elevate women in our industry! As a dedicated mom of two, wife, and hard-charging career person, deciding to pursue my Masters Degree was an incredibly difficult decision. Thank you WOTVS, I will put these funds to use in powerful ways! ”





## Juanita Diusaba

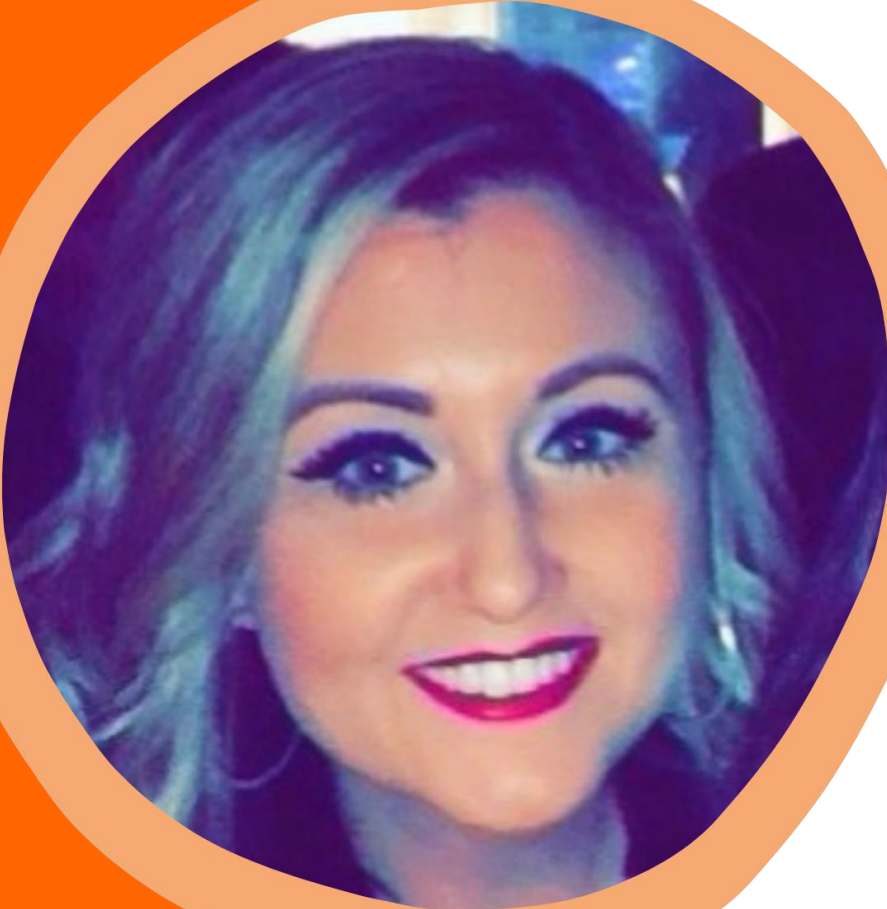
Continuing Education  
Bogota, Columbia

“One of my personal accomplishments came with receiving a the WOTVS Continuing Education Scholarship. A major accomplishment for me has been the opportunity to understand the interaction between the science of grape growing and the chemistry behind winemaking processes. I am preparing for a wine career which marries the artistry of winemaking and viticulture.”

## Charese Embree

Continuing Education  
Santa Rosa, CA

“I am so honored to receive the Women of the Vine & Spirits Professional Development Award! Dining has always been an important part of my life and exploring new wines and spirits are an important part to that! With this opportunity, I will now be able to start my Certified Sommelier Program! Being a part of a community with inspiring, intelligent and amazing women will help us all grow and further our knowledge!”





## Miriah Falce

Continuing Education  
Manson, WA

“I am so honored to be chosen as a scholarship recipient! Our Alliance of Women in Washington Wine just started out and it’s so inspirational seeing the community, work and importance of this group with similar goals and just how large scale it can be. Continuing education is very important to me and this scholarship will allow me to pursue opportunities to become the best I can be.”



## Anna Maksimova

Continuing Education  
British Columbia, Canada

“I feel exceptionally blessed and grateful to be chosen as a recipient. It will allow me to pursue my dream of becoming a winemaker. The award will help me to make a first step in the industry, by taking the assistant winemaker course from Okanagan College. Thank you for this opportunity!”



## Debra Mortillaro

Continuing Education  
Pittsburgh, PA

“This scholarship enhances my ability and commitment to mentor young professionals in the wine and spirits industry, as well as expand my school’s offerings. I’m honored to receive this award that will not only help increase my own knowledge, but also offer pathways to success for others in this dynamic field.”





## Sophia Mumbi

Continuing Education  
Nairobi, Kenya

“WOMEN CAN TOO”



## Chijindu Peace Onwuchekwa

Continuing Education  
Lagos, Nigeria

“This award is a dream come true for me. For an entire year, I found it difficult taking up courses that could help advance my career as I couldn't afford paying for them. Tara Nurin shared the scholarship opportunity and I immediately applied and wrote my essay. With the money won, I can now apply to the institute of Brewing and distilling for my diploma and subsequently a Master Brewer certificate from Siebel's institute.”



## Morgan Plew

Continuing Education  
San Francisco, CA

“This award will help me pay for tuition at the CIA as I continue to grow my managerial skills in a professional kitchen.”

## Emma Rangsinee Promjant

Continuing Education  
Bangkok, Thailand

“Women of The Vine & Spirits’ gracious support will enable to me enroll in the ‘Italian Wine Scholar’ program. For approximately two years I will follow the online class until I am certified. I sincerely thank WOTVS for their kind support. It is gratifying to feel part of this worldwide network of women in our industry.”





## Tonya Rawe

Continuing Education  
Washington, DC

“A year and a half ago, I decided to change careers – to chase what brings me joy and share it with others. As someone with a deep commitment to sustainability, including social equity, the support of an organization like WOTVS means so much. I am deeply grateful and hope I can make as valuable a contribution to WOTVS’ work as I move forward in my new career.”





## Elise Vaux

Continuing Education  
West Des Moines, IA

“I am humbled and honored to have been selected for the Women of the Vine & Spirits Continuing Wine Education Scholarship. This award will not only enable me to achieve a certification only a small handful of wine professionals in the state of Iowa have completed, but it will also help the enrichment of wine knowledge in the Des Moines market.”



# WSET Awards Recipients



## Karen Freyre

WSET Level 1 Award in Wines

Miami, FL

"Knowledge will bring you the opportunity to make a difference" I am embracing this amazing opportunity from the Woman of The Vine and Spirits to allow me to make a difference and share knowledge"

## **Britt Spears**

**WSET Level 1 Award in Wines**  
Silver Spring, MD

“I am so grateful to be awarded this scholarship to begin my formal wine education. Knowing that less than 1% of all U.S. wineries are Black-owned, and that Black people make up a steadily growing 10%+ of American consumers, pursuing my WSET level 1 certification and beyond will provide me the knowledge necessary to pursue business and educational opportunities in the wine space from distribution to land ownership and increase statistics of Black people in the wine world.”





## Antonia Davis

WSET Level 1 Award in Spirits  
Cincinnati, OH

“I want to continue to be a source of education, fun, and culture in the Wine and Spirits field while embracing my culture and helping other BIPOC individuals feel like the industry is more inclusive.”



## Becca Goldklang

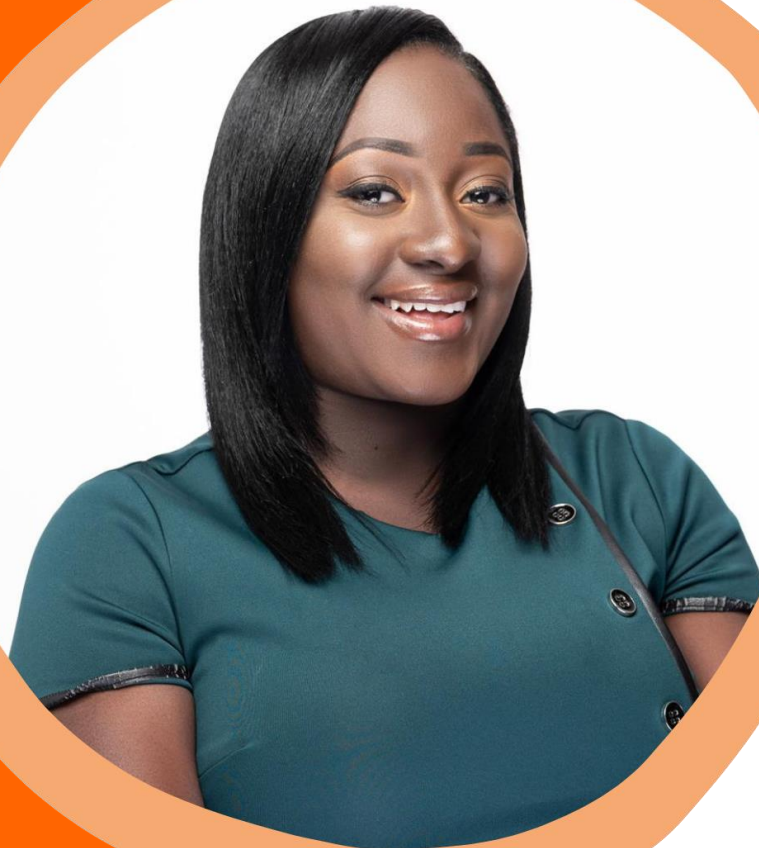
WSET Level 1 Award in Spirits  
Gardena, CA

“I am thrilled to be a scholarship recipient from the Women of the Vine & Spirits Foundation Scholarship Committee to pursue WSET Level 1 in Spirits! By expanding my knowledge of the expansive Spirits category, I can better help my team at Drizly create innovative strategies for our partners across advertising solutions, insights, and industry challenges, all while supporting continued education and individual development through leading by example.”

## Keiani Worrell Thomas

WSET Level 1 Award in Spirits  
Nassau, Bahamas

“This scholarship will allow me to understand better the beverage industry and the categories within the industry which can then allow me to better educate the bartending community locally.”



## Caitlin Burdick

WSET Level 1 Award in Sake  
Austin, TX

“I am so excited to explore the world of Sake through the WSET program and am very honored to have been awarded this scholarship to expand my knowledge!”





## Tanisha Edwards

WSET Level 2 Award in Wines  
Brooklyn, NY

“Earning a WSET Level 2 certification will allow me to continue my passion in wine, apply this knowledge in my community and pursue my goal of becoming a consultant. Having this supportive community of women will allow me to grow in confidence and be another vessel to amplify women’s voices in the wine industry.”



## Carolyn Wairimu

WSET Level 2 Award in Wines  
Nairobi, Kenya

“I am thrilled and grateful to receive the WOTVS WSET Level 2 in wines scholarship award. It provides the perfect opportunity to deepen and broaden my knowledge in wine, the boost in confidence I need to grow professionally in the wine industry. I'm incredibly honored to become a part of the WOTVS community of dreamers, trailblazing, successful women.”

## Alma Leticia Robles Valdez

WSET Level 2 Award in Spirits  
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

“Thank you for choosing me as a recipient, this will help get more courses and specializations so I can go further in my wine studies, my goal is to become a wine and spirit professional, and to have more job opportunities.”



## Mollie Reese

WSET Level 2 Award in Spirits  
Surprise, AZ

“My personal passion and palate for wine runs deep, but my industry knowledge of the styles, quality, origin and production can certainly be refined. I hope to take this opportunity that Women of the Vine & Spirits is so graciously offering, to further develop my palate and distill my learnings to my clients and community, so we may all become better stewards of the craft.”



## Nina Keyser

WSET Level 3 Award in Wines  
Mame, France

“I am extremely grateful for this award and the opportunity to start my WSET level 3 journey. I believe that it will help me in all aspects of my future career in the wine industry, including creating wine tourism activities in Champagne and assisting wineries and other wine businesses with their social media challenges and goals.”





## Ty Morrison

WSET Level 3 Award in Wines  
Houston, TX

“I’m beyond grateful to be a WSET Level 3 scholarship recipient of the Women of the Vine & Spirits Foundation. As I continue to grow my wine events business Your Glass or Mine, it is important that I stay on top of my wine education. I do not take this investment in my professional development lightly and appreciate the opportunity to dive deeper into the wine industry.”



## Connie Lee

WSET Level 3 Award in Spirits  
Toronto, Canada

“The scholarship will enable me to further my studies in spirits and solidify my subject matter expertise in the field. I am excited to embark on this path of personal career development and look forward to being able to share my knowledge and passion for the subject with my customer base. Thank you to Women of the Vine & Spirits for welcoming me into your community.”

## Jaya Mootoo

WSET Level 3 Award in Spirits  
Ontario, Canada

“Receiving this scholarship not only provides me with the funds to complete my WSET Level 3 education and continue my wine education journey, but also the community to support and encourage me to keep pushing forward through the barriers faced by women of colour in the wine and beverage industry. Thank you to the sponsors, supporters, staff and WOTVS community for this spectacular opportunity.”



## Zaloren Gonzalez Fontes

WSET Level 3 Award in Sake  
Mexico City, Mexico

“Thanks to the Women of the Vine & Spirits Foundation I am able to further my studies that will take me to a position where I can reach my goal of becoming a teacher, but most of all thank you for proving to myself and my daughter that no matter age or circumstance, you should always keep on growing and that helping women is a powerful engine that will always help us create and move forward.”





## Mac Pedersen

WSET Level 4 Diploma in Wines  
Seattle, WA

“I’m overjoyed to have been selected as the recipient of the Women of the Vine and Spirits WSET L4 scholarship. Organizations like WOTVS, who provide support and leadership to underrepresented groups, are the bedrock to the growth of diversity in the wine industry. Without their assistance, I would likely never have been able to start the WSET L4 track.”



**Executive Leadership & Developing Leadership Program  
Scholarship to attend DISCUS Academy**



## Elana Effrat

Executive Leadership Program Scholarship  
DISCUS Academy  
Washington, DC

“This award will sharpen my skills as a professional in the spirits industry and provide me with a safe space to learn and grow from others. I look forward to giving back to the craft spirits community and inspiring others. As a friend of mine used to say, "put boots on dreams."

## Lauren Reynolds

Executive Leadership Program Scholarship  
DISCUS Academy  
Crestwood, KY

"I'm committed to improving equity in the spirits industry and working towards a more diverse and inclusive future. As a global leader of incredible spirits brands, I value the opportunity to grow as a leader and learn how to leverage diversity and inclusion to improve organizational effectiveness and achieve business results. Thank you to the Women of the Vine & Spirits Foundation for this exciting opportunity to learn and grow alongside other spirits industry leaders."



## Lindsay Parmele

Executive Leadership Program Scholarship  
DISCUS Academy  
Lemont, IL



“I couldn’t be happier to embark on this amazing journey ahead and for the opportunity to collaborate with other industry leaders. I know this program will help me to continue to grow and refine my leadership skills to make the biggest impact in the years to come. Thank you to the Women of the Vine and Spirits for partnering with the DISCUS Academy and providing me, and other future leaders, with this amazing opportunity.”



## Otesha Mosley-Bremond

Developing Leadership Program Scholarship  
DISCUS Academy  
Los Angeles, CA

“I am a reason to dream! I plan to use this opportunity to be the change the world needs to see and the representation my community is proud of!”



## Ashley Noble

Developing Leadership Program Scholarship  
DISCUS Academy  
Brooklyn, NY

“It is an honor to be chosen as a recipient of this WOTVS scholarship award for the DISCUS Developing Leadership Program. It motivates me and validates my belief that I am meant to grow within this industry! I am excited to be empowered with the tools and the lessons that the industry experts will provide that will help me achieve new heights in my career.