



**LED BY WOMEN.  
POURED WITH PURPOSE.**

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**2026 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH**



KOMÉ COLLECTIVE™



GEO VINO



VINE CONNECTIONS



## COMMITTED TO LEADERSHIP, REPRESENTATION, AND CRAFT

**50%**

of the brands in the Geo Vino portfolio  
are produced by women winemakers  
or women-led wineries.

**66%**

of the Vine Connections company  
are women. We are a majority  
female-led team.



**KELLEY ROCHNA**  
VICE PRESIDENT OF PEOPLE & MARKETING

What makes Vine Connections special is that we genuinely believe investing in people — especially women — strengthens everything we touch: our culture, our partnerships, and our future. When we give support, opportunity, and trust, we gain perspective, resilience, and impact. "GiveToGain" isn't just a theme for us — it's how we cultivate a more sustainable, prosperous future for wine, sake, and the people behind them.

# KOMÉ COLLECTIVE

## FEMALE LEADERS IN SAKE & SPIRITS



**MIHO IMADA**  
Fukacho | Toji & Owner



**MIHO FUJITA**  
Yuho | Brewery President



**YURI HONDA**  
Chiyonosono  
Global Sales Director



**YOSHIKO SATO**  
Kanbara | Co-Owner &  
Director of International Business

### AUTHENTICITY

*"In an industry often seen as an old boy's club, and within a predominantly male Japanese workforce, Komé Collective stands as a beacon of change. We take pride in representing a true paradigm shift, where our success is rooted in inclusivity and the authentic celebration of the diverse strengths that our amazing women bring to the table."*

**MONICA SAMUELS, KOMÉ COLLECTIVE PRESIDENT**

### RELENTLESS

*"I have yet to make the best sake of my career, so I am always tweaking things. I am working with the manufacturer of sake rice polishing machines to bring out the best characteristics in the Hattanso rice and I worked tirelessly to revive it from extinction!"*

**MIHO IMADA, FUKUCHO**

### COMMUNITY

*"I helped the region of Ishikawa rebuild after our recent earthquake and invested in my brewery staff past the season to help bottle and finish production for nearby breweries whose facilities were so damaged that they couldn't do it themselves. I have a passion for protecting this region and others in my industry."*

**MIHO FUJITA, YUHO**

# DISCOVER THE BRANDS



## CHIYONOSONO

📍 Kumamoto, Japan

Yuri Honda represents the next generation of leadership at Chiyonosono, following in her father's footsteps as the brewery's future president.

Chiyonosono was the first brewery to stop adding distilled alcohol to its sake after the rice shortages of World War II, setting the stage for the Junmai style we know and love today.

[Learn More About Chiyonosono →](#)



## FUKUCHO

📍 Hiroshima, Japan

Miho Imada is often referred to as the most celebrated brewer in Japan - with multiple documentaries made about her contributions to brewing and in 2020 was named by BBC as one of the 100 most influential women in the world.

Intensely passionate and hardworking, her pursuit of perfection is evident in every expression of Fukacho.

[Learn More About Fukacho →](#)



## YUHO

📍 Ishikawa, Japan

Unapologetically unconventional, Yuho experiments with brewing components and techniques to produce sake that have a wild, gamey characteristic with pronounced acidity and remarkable texture.

Miho Fujita and Toji Yokomichi-san do not follow traditional brewing methods and brew the sake that they enjoy drinking.

[Learn More About Yuho →](#)



## KANBARA

📍 Niigata, Japan

Kanbara brews powerful, big, bold sake from one of Japan's most popular brewing region, Niigata.

Led by husband & wife co-owners Dr. Shunichi and Yoshiko Sato, whose families have deep roots in sake, alongside toji Kenichiro-san, who brings over 50 years of brewing experience, Kanbara stands out for its depth, character, and craftsmanship.

[Learn More About Kanbara →](#)

# GEO VINO

WOMEN LEADING  
THE WAY IN WINE



**LAURA CATENA**

Luca & La Posta | Owner



**JIMENA LOPEZ**

Graffito  
Winemaker & Owner



**ANABELLE & TATIANA  
SIELECKI**

Mendel | Owners



**LAELY HERON**

Heron  
Founder & Winemaker



**CLAUDIA PIEDRAHITA**

Casarena & Areyna | CEO



**MARY KATE BUCKLEY**

Urlari | Owner



**MARA CASTELLANI**

Michele Castellani | Owner



**HALEY WIGHT**

Hayfork  
Owner & Winemaker



## PIONEER

*"I was the first person to receive the Old Vine Hero Award from The Old Vine Conference. Luca Old Vine Malbec has been sourcing grapes from Old Vineyards since 1999 and I was a pioneer in preserving old vines in Argentina when nobody else was."*

**LAURA CATENA  
LUCA & LA POSTA**

## COLLABORATION

*"I believe in the collaborative approach in order to accelerate action, either within the winery or across the industry. That's why I'm devoting time and energy as President of the Wines of Argentina in order to re-engage consumers worldwide with the beauty of Argentina."*

**CLAUDIA PIEDRAHITA  
CASARENA & AREYNA**



## EXPLORATION

*"I have been in the wine business for almost 30 years and many things are changed. I'm an innovative woman and I try to keep up with the times. I dedicate myself to research of new ideas, new trends of labels and packaging."*

**MARA CASTELLANI  
MICHELE CASTELLANI**

## PERSEVERANCE

*"I started in the wine industry at a very young age. Today, with 30 years in the industry, I teach my students and the younger women who work with me that excellence, perseverance and passion for what we do is the key to working in this fascinating and wonderful wine industry."*

**JIMENA LOPEZ  
GRAFFITO**



# DISCOVER THE BRANDS



## GRAFFITO

📍 Mendoza, Argentina

Winemaker Jimena Lopez left her corporate wine job to pursue her dream of making her own wine, and she now handles all aspects of Graffito from vine selection to the final blend with a precise attention to detail.

Jimena believes so deeply in her wine quality that she puts her fingerprint stamp of approval right on the label.

[Learn more & view the full Graffito lineup →](#)



## LUCA

📍 Mendoza, Argentina

Luca is Laura Catena's passion project to rescue old vines and produce wines that express the history and soul of Mendoza's century-old vineyards.

She believes that "old vines are family" and strives to highlight the vigneron behind the wines and preserve the genetic diversity of Mendoza's historic vines.

[Learn more & view the full Luca lineup →](#)



## MENDEL

📍 Mendoza, Argentina

Anabelle Sielecki founded Mendel Wines. Her vision and entrepreneurial spirit have helped grow Mendel to the successful, sophisticated, premium winery it is today.

In 2002, Roberto de la Mota partnered with the Sielecki family to help preserve and make wine from their historic estate in Luján de Cuyo. Together, they transformed her family's 1928 vineyard into the respected estate it is today.

[Learn more & view the full Mendel lineup →](#)



## LA POSTA

📍 Mendoza, Argentina

Argentina's best small-family growers express their individual passions with single-grower, single-vineyard wines.

Wine pioneer, Laura Catena, collaborates with esteemed winemaker Luis Reginato, to showcase the hard work and skill of the people behind the wines.

[Learn more & view the full La Posta lineup →](#)

# DISCOVER THE BRANDS



## AREYNA

📍 Mendoza, Argentina

Led by female CEO, Claudia Piedrahita, Areyna wines are made by sourcing the highest-quality fruit for each varietal.

With every sip, the winemaking and viticulture team strives to transport you to the time and place where the fruit was sourced.

[Learn more & view the full Areyna lineup →](#)



## HERON

📍 California, United States

Founded by wine pioneer Laely Heron, Heron is one of the industry's first female-owned and produced brands.

Inspired by the strength, focus, and determination of Laely and its namesake bird, Heron draws on Laely's 30 years of intuition and experience to craft fresh California wines that redefine approachability.

[Learn more & view the full Heron lineup →](#)



## CASARENA

📍 Mendoza, Argentina

Led by female CEO, Claudia Piedrahita, Casarena is a family-owned estate focusing on top quality, single-vineyard and varietal wines across diverse terroirs.

The winery was built in 1937 and sits in the heartland of Mendoza's historic winemaking region, Lujan de Cuyo.

[Learn more & view the full Casarena lineup →](#)



## BODINI

📍 Mendoza, Argentina

Crafted by winemaker Jimena Lopez, Bodini showcases the region of Mendoza and highlights the region's high-elevation desert, long sunny days, cold nights, low humidity and natural irrigation from glacial snowmelt from the Andes.

Bodini wines are fresh, fruit-forward, and a great introduction to Malbec.

[Learn more & view the full Bodini lineup →](#)



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# DISCOVER THE BRANDS



## HAYFORK

📍 California, United States

Napa winemaker Haley Wight is the 6<sup>th</sup> generation of her family to farm the Lewelling Ranch which sits at the base of the St. Helena foothills in the Napa Valley. She believes the farmer in the field lays the foundation to produce amazing wine.

[Learn more & view the full \*\*Hayfork\*\* lineup →](#)



## URLARI

📍 Tuscany, Italy

Founding partner Mary Kate Buckley brings a wealth of global experience to the Urlari team, grounded in innovation and a deep commitment to quality.

Located on the Etruscan Coast of Tuscany overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, Urlari blends Old World tradition with New World innovation to create a distinctive expression of Tuscany meets Bordeaux.

[Learn more & view the full \*\*Urlari\*\* lineup →](#)



## LEWELLING

📍 California, United States

Lewelling Vineyards celebrates more than 150 years as one of Napa Valley's oldest continuously owned and farmed vineyards.

Today, the estate is guided by 5<sup>th</sup> generation brothers Doug, Dave, and Alan, with Doug's daughter Haley leading as winemaker, representing the next generation shaping the future of this iconic family brand.

[Learn more & view the full \*\*Lewelling\*\* lineup →](#)



## MICHELE CASTELLANI

📍 Veneto, Italy

Founded in 1945, Michele Castellani is a family-owned, award-winning estate renowned for its exceptional Amarone and Ripasso wines from Valpolicella.

Today, the winery is led by Sergio Castellani alongside his daughter, Mara Castellani, representing the next generation of family leadership—balancing tradition, innovation, and a deep commitment to quality.

[Learn more & view the full \*\*Michele Castellani\*\* lineup →](#)

# FEARLESS FEMALES

## OF VINE CONNECTIONS



**Monica Samuels**  
Komé Collective President



**Kelley Rochna**  
VP of People & Marketing



**Elizabeth Sidles**  
Director of Wine Experiences



**Adrienne Richmond**  
Director of Operations



**Georgia Sugerman**  
Director of Sales & Strategy



**Dila Lee**  
Komé Collective Director of National Accounts - On-Premise



**Aisha Risinger**  
Sr. Design & Marketing Manager



**Valeria Guarnieri**  
Head of Global Packaging



**Jaime Edwards**  
Digital Content Specialist



**Valentina Banyuls**  
Design & Marketing Associate



**Nicole Hansen**  
Marketing Associate



**Jenn Ross**  
Komé Collective Sake & Spirits Sales Manager



**Janiz Frago**  
South Central Regional Sales Manager



**Rebecca Loewy**  
Great Lakes Regional Sales Manager



**Maddie Soto**  
Northwest Regional Sales Manager



**Bella Pearson**  
Field Sales Manager



**Melinda Barrett**  
Florida Field Sales Manager



**Mary Failing**  
Data & Insights Manager



**Stephanie Bramlet**  
Operations Manager



**Lexi Mudd**  
Sr. Accountant



**Danika Siwek**  
Order Entry Specialist



# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

## CELEBRATING PROGRESS, INSPIRING CHANGE

International Women's Day (March 8) and Women's History Month (March) celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and professional achievements of women worldwide.

This year's theme, **#GiveToGain**, highlights the power of reciprocity and support—a reminder that generosity creates momentum, expands access, and strengthens communities.

**International Women's Day is a shared commitment to progress.** It is a global moment—shared across industries, cultures, and communities.

### BE PART OF THE MOVEMENT

#### SUPPORTING HASHTAGS

#GivetoGain #IWD2026  
#InternationalWomensDay  
#FemaleLeaders #WomenInWine  
#WomenInSake #WeEmpowerHer  
#WomensHistoryMonth

#### EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

[www.internationalwomensday.com](http://www.internationalwomensday.com)  
[www.womenshistorymonth.gov](http://www.womenshistorymonth.gov)

### LET'S COLLABORATE

Partner with Vine Connections to highlight the stories and craft of the **16 women-led wineries and breweries** across the **Geo Vino** and **Komé Collective** portfolios.

[www.geovinowines.com](http://www.geovinowines.com) | [@drink\\_geo\\_vino](https://www.instagram.com/@drink_geo_vino)  
[www.komecollective.com](http://www.komecollective.com) | [@kome\\_collective](https://www.instagram.com/@kome_collective)

#### QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

CONTACT: [marketing@vineconnections.com](mailto:marketing@vineconnections.com)