Vineyard and Farm Worker’s Scholarship

The Vineyard and Farm Worker’s Scholarship was established by Brian and Johnine Talley to support higher education for the local children of vineyard and farm workers.

The Talley Family has farmed in the Arroyo Grande Valley for four generations since Oliver Talley founded Talley Farms in 1948. Oliver’s son Don, along with his wife Rosemary, established Talley Vineyards in 1986 and produced the first Chardonnay and Pinot Noir in the Arroyo Grande Valley. Talley Vineyards has enjoyed consistent accolades for its wines since the mid-1990s, including selections on the Top 100 lists of Wine Spectator, Wine Enthusiast, and Wine and Spirits Magazines. Talley Vineyards wines have been served at the White House on numerous occasions.

Rosemary and Don’s son, Brian, began harvesting vegetables at Talley Farms at age 12. As a third-generation farmer and second-generation winegrower, Brian graduated from UC Berkeley with degrees in History and Natural Resource Economics. He became General Manager of Talley Vineyards in 1991 and now serves as President of Talley Vineyards and Talley Farms. Brian is recognized as a leader in the local wine industry and was co-founder of the World of Pinot Noir, past President of the SLO Coast Wine Collective, and has been recognized by the local wine industry as a Wine Industry Person of the Year. Johnine Talley was born in Monterey, California and spent five years in Germany before moving to Paso Robles. Johnine graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor’s Degree in Agricultural Business Management. Johnine joined Talley Vineyards in 1988 to work in the tasting room. She has served in a number of roles at the winery over the years, including Tasting Room Manager, National Sales Manager and Administrator of Human Resources. Brian and Johnine live at the edge of Talley Farms and have two adult daughters, Elizabeth and Olivia Talley.

Johnine focuses much of her energy on philanthropy and was a founding member of the San Luis Obispo County Community Foundation and a founder of the Fund for Vineyard and Farm Workers. Through the Vineyard and Farm Worker’s Scholarship Fund, the Talleys have supported the education of several local students who are children of vineyard and farm workers.