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THE
DUCKHORN
PORTFOLIO

ZACH RASMUSON

Executive Vice President, Chief Operations Officer – The Duckhorn Portfolio



As executive vice president and chief operations officer, Zach Rasmuson guides every aspect of production at The Duckhorn Portfolio, overseeing a handpicked vineyard and operations team that manages 32 estate vineyards, more than 300 grower partners and 10 winemaking facilities spread throughout California and Washington State. An acclaimed winemaker in his own right, Zach works closely alongside winemakers Renée Ary (Duckhorn Vineyards), Dana Epperson (Migration & Decoy), Cara Morrison (Sonoma-Cutrer), Julien Howsepian (Kosta Browne), Kristen McMahan (Goldeneye), Cardiff Scott-Robinson (Paraduxx), Mike Waller (Calera), Katie Povah (Postmark) and Joseph Czarny (Canvasback & Greenwing) to preserve the unique identity of each winery, while continually elevating quality to new heights.

After receiving a BA in philosophy and the history of science from St. John’s College, Zach began his career at Stag’s Leap Wine Cellars, Robert Sinskey Vineyards and Husch Vineyards before joining The Duckhorn Portfolio in 2003. During his tenure as the winemaker and general manager for Goldeneye, Zach’s commitment to viticultural and winemaking excellence played a key role in building the Anderson Valley’s reputation as one of the world’s premier wine regions, while establishing Goldeneye as one of the valley’s most renowned wineries.

In recognition of his thoughtful and empowering leadership style and his unwavering commitment to quality, Zach was named executive vice president and chief operating officer for The Duckhorn Portfolio in 2012. In the years since, Zach has played a pivotal role in guiding the company’s evolution, helping to found Canvasback and Greenwing in Washington State, spearheading the acquisition and seamless integration of Calera, Kosta Browne and Sonoma-Cutrer into The Duckhorn Portfolio, and overseeing the purchases of hundreds of acres of new estate vineyards, including the famed Three Palms Vineyard in Calistoga. Zach’s leadership was also instrumental in the highly successful launch of the company’s IPO in 2021.

“For me, success is measured by our ability to grow without sacrificing the virtues and values that have defined us since our founding,” says Zach. “This means creating an empowering culture of ideas and innovation that allows our employees and our business to thrive. It also means constantly reinvesting in our people, vineyard program and winemaking facilities to ensure that our wineries are benchmarks for their regions and varietals.”

In addition to overseeing operations for ten wineries, and a grower relations and estate program that spans Napa Valley, Sonoma County, Anderson Valley and the Central Coast in California and Red Mountain in Washington State, Zach works closely with the sales and executive leadership teams to guide analytics, supply chain logistics, strategic business planning, vineyard and infrastructure acquisitions and new product development, while always honoring the history of integrity and excellence that define The Duckhorn Portfolio. As EVP/COO, Zach also helped establish The Duckhorn Portfolio Founder’s Fund, an employee-run philanthropic initiative supporting educational opportunities in the communities in which The Duckhorn Portfolio’s employees and their families work and live. In addition to his role at Duckhorn, Zach serves on the board of his alma mater, St. John’s College.