



Fabulous People: Daniel Wampfler

Written by Fabulous Washington • Published on August 24, 2021 • in Fabulous People

Daniel Wampfler is the winemaker and general manager at the award-winning [Abeja](#) winery and tasting room in Walla Walla. Abeja also offers upscale lodging, fine dining and space for private events. [Learn about Daniel Wampfler...](#)

Hometown: Midland, MI

First job: Paper-boy at age 9, Midland Daily News

Favorite ways to spend your free time in WA: With family and friends over a great culinary experience with amazing wines.

Your biggest accomplishment and why: It's still a work in progress, but I strive to be the best father and husband possible.



The biggest obstacle you overcame: Getting through harvest 2020 with two kids going to school online due to COVID. What a juggling act! Great wines were made, and the kids didn't miss a beat.

Someone who inspires you and why: My wife, Amy. She is the most even-keeled, thoughtful and bad-ass person I've ever known.

Advice to someone pursuing a career path in what you do: Walk before you run. Lug hoses in the cellar, get dirty in the vineyard, and do it multiple vintages in a row. So many people enter into a position in winemaking knowing just enough to be dangerous. If you think you're ready, spend one more vintage learning, and then take the promotion.

Favorite quote: "The more relaxed you are, the better you are at everything." *-Bill Murray*

Something someone would be surprised to learn about you: I used to be a percussionist, then a drummer, and now I'm just a hack with drum sticks.

What makes someone fabulous: Building people up, being a mentor, honesty, integrity and poised thoughtfulness.



Fabulous People: Amy Alvarez-Wampfler

Amy Alvarez-Wampfler is the winemaker and general manager of Walla Walla-based Abeja, a century-old farmstead set in the foothills of the Blue Mountains. Abeja is home to a winery and tasting room, which is open by appointment. Learn about Amy Alvarez-Wampfler...

Hometown: Yakima, the “Palms Spring of Washington State”

First job: Safeway courtesy clerk

Favorite ways to spend your free time in WA: Spending time with family, golfing, eating and drinking great food and wine. Watching beautiful sunsets.

Your biggest accomplishment and why: Being myself and not what I think people expect of me and trusting my gut instincts.



The biggest obstacle you overcame: Assuming the role of winemaker for an established brand.

Someone who inspires you and why: Both of our daughters, as well as my teammates at Abeja. They pay attention to the details and are fully engaged in what they do.

Advice to someone pursuing a career path in what you do: Surround yourself with individuals who encourage you and follow your passion.

Favorite quote: "Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard."

Something someone would be surprised to learn about you: I have served on the Altera Educational Board for the last four years. The organization primarily serves rural students who grow up in bilingual households. The goal these kids discover their full potential.

What makes someone fabulous: Treating others with respect and a sense of humor (my husband is a great example).