



PANELIST BIO

DESTINY BURNS



I am a native Clevelander (born and raised in Euclid), and I recently moved back home after more than 30 years to be near family and to live my dream of opening an urban winery here in my beloved hometown. I'm a retired U.S. Navy officer (I served for 20 years on active duty), and I then spent more than 13 years as a business development executive in the defense industry in the Washington DC area. I am also a former volunteer firefighter/EMT, and I have great love and respect for first responders and for all those who serve our country and communities in uniform.

Wine has always been a great passion of mine - I have lived and traveled all around the world throughout my adult life, studying and enjoying wine and food. I have advanced degrees in Business and professional experience in all aspects of business development, marketing and management, and have also pursued formal and informal training and professional development opportunities in the wine industry. All of my experience and education - combined with my passion for wine and for my wonderful hometown - has culminated in my decision to open and run my own winery in the metropolitan Cleveland area and provide the 'wine companion' to all the great craft beer and spirits made here! So - let's have fun, celebrate, connect, support charitable causes and drink some great wine together at CLE Urban Winery!