



Leslie Frank

Founder

Leslie (Miller) Frank is an Emmy Award-winning journalist and a founder of Frank Family Vineyards. Today, Leslie plays an active role in the strategic marketing and branding of Frank Family and their luxury collection of wines. While Leslie's natural curiosity and desire to see the world led her to a career in journalism, it was her interest in wine that prompted her first visit to the Napa Valley in the 1990s. Napa is where she met her husband Rich Frank, former president of Disney Studios, and where they shared their first bottle of wine. Now it is their permanent home, when they are not traveling around the world sharing their passion for wine and the Frank Family brand.

Born in Hamilton, Ontario, Leslie began her journalism career in Canada before crossing the border to work in some of the largest television markets in the United States. She spent more than 25 years covering many major news events including the terror attacks of 9/11 where she reported live from ground zero in New York City, the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi and New Orleans, and was inside the courtroom for Michael Jackson's 2005 trial. Leslie spent the last decade of her TV news career reporting and anchoring at the number one rated KABC in Los Angeles, where she covered politics, crime, weather calamities, and interviewed some of the biggest stars in Hollywood on the red carpet. Prior to Los Angeles, Leslie was the main anchor at KCPQ in Seattle, where she helped launch the station's 10 pm newscast, taking it to number one in its time slot and clinching an Emmy Award for Outstanding News Anchor.

In addition to a keen eye and innovative approach to brand, Leslie also coordinates Frank Family's charitable giving initiatives and is very involved in the Napa community. Leslie joined the Board of Directors of Festival Napa Valley in 2017 and chairs the Festival's annual Arts for All Gala. She sits on the Board of Directors of the St. Helena Hospital Foundation, as well as the Board of Directors of OLE Health. Leslie and Rich have been named the Honorary Gala Chairs for Collabria Care, and have been recognized as Vintner Grant Honorees by the V Foundation for Cancer Research. In 2019 Leslie received the wine industry Philanthropy Award by the North Bay Business Journal.

Leslie is also strongly committed to the field of journalism and to growing the next generation of storytellers. In 2020 she and Rich established the Richard and Leslie Frank Center for Leadership and Innovation in Media at the University of Illinois College of Media in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

In 2013, Leslie proudly became a U.S. citizen after living in the country for 15 years. Leslie and Rich enjoy spending time at their home on Winston Hill in Rutherford along with their German Shepherd, Magnum, who can often be found greeting guests at the Frank Family Vineyards tasting room.

