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UNION GÉNÉRALE ARMÉNIENNE DE BIENFAISANCE DE MONTRÉAL INC. • ARMENIAN GENERAL BENEVOLENT UNION OF MONTREAL INC.

New AJF Scholarships for Syrian Armenian Expatriates in Canada (Winter 2016)

Montreal/Geneva, January 11, 2016 -- The Armenian Jewellers Foundation (AJF) has announced new study grants for Syrian-Armenian expatriates in Canada. AJF will support 15 applicants enrolled in the Gemology 1 and Gemology 2 winter session courses at the École de gemmologie de Montréal ([EGM](#)), one of the prime jewellery sector academies in North America. The study curriculum covers key aspects of gemological science, including diamonds. Graduates are expected to gain a solid knowledge in gemology, which may be used to pursue further studies or embark on a new career in the jewellery sector.

Applicants must be recent Syrian-Armenian expatriates who are living in Canada as permanent residents. A recommendation letter is required along with a signed application. Teaching and course materials are in English or French. Therefore, basic knowledge of either language is a key requirement.

Forms may be obtained from AGBU Montreal by contacting **Mrs. Rahel Dertadian**, Executive Secretary at **(514) 748-2428**. Completed applications must be received by January 22, 2016. Furthermore, an information session for applicants will be hosted by AGBU Montreal on **Friday January 22, 2016, 9:00pm** at 805 Rue Manoogian, Saint-Laurent, QC H4N 1Z5.

The AJF scholarships program has funded 25 grants to-date. Thanks to a collaboration agreement with the Armenian Gemological Laboratory and Academy in Yerevan, Armenians from diverse communities continue to participate in the full intensive Diamond Grading diploma program. The pilot Canadian initiative funded 11 applicants in fall 2015 with support from the Birks Family Foundation (BFF). It aimed to address the needs of the recent influx of hundreds of Armenian families to Canada. Fleeing war and destruction in Syria thousands of expatriates sought refuge in Armenia and elsewhere including those who resettled in Canada.

The [Armenian Jewellers Foundation](#) was established in 2013 to advance the heritage of Armenians in jewellery. AJF's mission is to undertake historical research, document present-day success-stories and ensure the transfer of knowledge to the new generation. The scholarship program promotes new capacity in the jewellery and diamond manufacturing sector both in Armenia and the Diaspora. Since 2015, AGBU Montreal has been supporting and collaborating with AJF to ensure the success of this important initiative.

- End -

For more information, please write to info@agbumontreal.org and/or info@ajf.foundation.

ARMENIAN JEWELLERS FOUNDATION (AJF)

Montreal Gemological School (EGM) Gemology 1 Course Scholarship Application Winter 2016

PERSONAL DETAILS

Full name _____

Email Address _____

Phone Numbers _____

Address _____

ACCEPTANCE BY EGM (courses begin on January 28)

I prefer to participate in evening courses on Thursdays

evening courses on Tuesdays

I prefer to study in English

French

REFERENCE LETTER

Letters should be sent to info@ajf.foundation and received by January 20, 2016

CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)

Please include a CV clearly outlining your:

- a) Education
- b) Work experience (if any)
- c) Extra-curricular activities

PERSONAL DECLARATION

I have read and understood the regulations for the Armenian Jewellery Foundation Scholarship and agree to abide by them.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Montreal Gemological School (EGM) Gemology 1 Course
Scholarship Program Conditions and Declaration

Winter 2016

- In case I am selected to receive this scholarship, I commit to fully participate in the course study program until its completion, otherwise, I am obligated to refund AJF all relevant expenses made for my education under this initiative.
- The information I have provided in this application form and in the attached documents will be used for the purposes of assessing my application for this Scholarship.
- AJF may request and/or obtain any personal information about me that is necessary to assess my application, including academic results from previously attended organisations.
- Personal information contained in my application will be made available to members of AJF's selection committee, as well as to EGM, for evaluation.
- AJF undertakes to store and dispose of my application in accordance with its records management policies and procedures. No part of the application can be returned.
- I agree to co-operate with any publicity for this scholarship and understand that such publicity may include material supplied with my application.

I, _____, agree to the above-mentioned conditions.

Signature: _____ Date: _____