

## Art Jameel

For Immediate Release

### **Art Jameel to celebrate the graduation of the 7th class of Jameel House of Traditional Arts / Cairo programme.**



**Cairo, Egypt | September 11, 2017** – The 7th class of students from the Jameel House of Traditional Arts / Cairo will celebrate their graduation with a ceremony to take place at the Fustat Traditional Crafts Center on Thursday, September 14, at 7 p.m.

This year's graduating class consists of 17 promising artists over four specializations: gypsum and glass, woodwork, metalwork and ceramics.

Launched in 2009 by Art Jameel, the Prince's School of Traditional Arts and the Cultural Development Fund of Egypt, the Jameel House of Traditional Arts / Cairo is a major educational institute teaching young Egyptians classes in traditional Islamic geometry, drawing, colour harmony and arabesque studies, as well as specialised training in ceramics, glass and gypsum, metalwork and woodwork.

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Photo during JHTA/C 6<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony 2016

In line with Art Jameel's focus on preserving cultural heritage, including traditional arts in Egypt, the programme develops students' abilities to apply the foundational skills they learn during the programme to contemporary design and the restoration of monuments. The programme also focuses on securing job opportunities for its students within the fields of art and design, and some of its more than 90 graduates have gone on to teach at academic institutions, venture into the world of furniture design, and hold successful exhibitions of their artwork

Art Jameel supports alumni with business courses, an annual alumni exhibition, and a dynamic alumni club that this summer led children's workshops in geometry, pottery and wire-shaping in the Al-Khalifa neighbourhood of Old Cairo, as part of a collaboration with the Megawra – Built Environment Collective.

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Photo at one of the JHTA/C alumni's club meetings

"This year we are very happy to announce the beginning of the 'Heritage Project', in which our students visit a monument, draw some of its decorative elements, and analyze them before starting to make similar pieces," said Mamdouh Sakr, director of the programme at the Jameel House of Traditional Arts / Cairo. The aim is not to make replicas of old pieces but rather to learn from the master artists of Cairo. This year our students worked on the beautiful decorative elements of Amir Altunbugha al-Maridani, in ceramics, gypsum, woodwork and metalwork. The heritage project was a great opportunity to explore new techniques and use different tools."



One of the graduation projects for the JHTA/C students 2017

The graduation ceremony will take place in the presence of students' friends and family, alumni from previous editions of the programme, as well as several distinguished guests from Egypt's cultural scene. The event will begin with a walk-through of the exhibition displaying the students' work, followed by a welcome address by Mamdouh Sakr. Dr. Khaled Azzam, director of the Prince's School of Traditional Arts, will then give a brief introduction to the program, followed by a speech by Dr. Ahmed Awad, head of the Cultural Development Fund. George Richards, head of heritage programmes at Art Jameel, will also attend. The day will conclude with the presentation of diploma certificates to graduating students and a group photograph commemorating the event. The graduating students' work will be exhibited for a further week, from September 17 – 21 from 10 am to 3 pm, at the Fustat Traditional Crafts Centre.

**END**

For more information visit [www.artjameel.org](http://www.artjameel.org) and join the conversation on Instagram [@art\\_jameel](https://www.instagram.com/art_jameel), [@jhtacairo](https://www.instagram.com/jhtacairo) | Facebook [Art Jameel](https://www.facebook.com/ArtJameel), [Jameel House of Traditional Arts / Cairo](https://www.facebook.com/JameelHouseofTraditionalArtsCairo) | Twitter [@art\\_jameel](https://twitter.com/art_jameel)

**Press Contacts**

Basma Hamed  
00201280532888  
jhtacairo@artjameel.org

**Jameel House of Traditional Arts / Cairo (JHTA/C)**

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### **Prince's School of Traditional Arts (PSTA)**

The Prince's School of Traditional Arts is part of a group of charities which reflect HRH The Prince of Wales's profound interest in some of the most relevant and pressing challenges facing the world we live in today. The Prince's School has pioneered practical post-graduate degrees at Masters and Doctoral level in the traditional arts of the great civilizations of the world. The School teaches the importance of integrating the theoretical study of the traditional arts with their practical application. One of the School's main objectives is to encourage an awareness of the holistic nature of the traditional artist, whose inspiration derives from the highest sources and whose skill and dedication creates masterpieces which we can all recognise as part of our world heritage. The School's postgraduate programme based on the practice and research of the traditional arts has expanded to include the Open Programme, extending our teaching to a wider community; the Harmony Schools Programme, presenting an integrated view of the world to younger audiences; and an Outreach Programme active in more than twenty countries across five continents.

[www.psta.org.uk](http://www.psta.org.uk)

### **Art Jameel**

Art Jameel is a non-profit organisation that supports artists and creative communities. Current initiatives include running heritage institutes and restoration programmes, plus a broad range of arts and educational initiatives for all ages. The organisation's programmes foster the role of the arts in building open, connected communities; at a time of flux and dramatic societal shifts, this role is understood as more crucial than ever.

Art Jameel's model is collaborative: major institutional partners include the Victoria & Albert Museum, the Prince's School of Traditional Arts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art; locally, the organisation works with individuals and organisations to develop innovative programming that embraces both ancient and new technologies, and encourages entrepreneurship and the development of cultural networks.

The Jameel Arts Centre is set to open in Jadaf, Dubai, in the winter of 2018. A not-for-profit contemporary arts institution, the Centre includes galleries, project spaces and a library and resource centre, and will feature a broad programme of solo and group exhibitions plus educational initiatives and residencies.

## Art Jameel

Art Jameel is positioned alongside Community Jameel, and complements its sister organisation's work in promoting positive social change, job creation and poverty alleviation across the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey.

[www.artjameel.org](http://www.artjameel.org)