

For Immediate Release

## Jameel House Online launches free workshops in traditional crafts

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia | May 31, 2020 – Art Jameel, an independent organisation that supports arts, education and heritage in the Middle East and beyond, today announces the launch of Jameel House Online, a programme of online workshops inspired by the traditional arts. Intended for artists and enthusiasts of all levels, including children, the workshops have been adapted to contemporary materials and tools available around the home. The sessions are delivered by local artists and craftspeople, including alumni from the Jameel Houses of Traditional Arts, Art Jameel's network of heritage institutions in Jeddah and Cairo, and are available on Art Jameel's website and social media platforms.

The first series of workshops launched today is a home-grown first for Saudi Arabia, with sessions in Arabic, with English subtitles, taught by artists based in Jeddah, and focused on craft skills inspired by the rich cultural heritage of Saudi Arabia.

Sessions include painting the Flower of Life design with coffee, and making home decorations with geometric stars, both led by Rana AlAmoudi; making traditional kites at home, led by The Aleph Journal, an arts collective; crocheting an eight-pointed star using waste plastic bags, led by {Kees Chic}, a social enterprise; traditional paper-making by hand using scrap card and paper, led by Ammar Jiman; and ornamental drawing with Islamic geometry, led by Marwa Turkestani.

While the Jameel Houses in <u>Cairo</u> and <u>Jeddah</u> and the <u>Atelier Cairo</u>, Art Jameel's centre for Egyptian craft entrepreneurship, are temporarily closed due to COVID-19, these online workshops offer an opportunity for artists of all levels of experience, including children, to try their hand at crafts.

All workshops are available on Art Jameel's website and social media platforms.

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For more information visit artjameel.org and join the conversation on Instagram <u>@art\_jameel</u>, <u>@jhtajeddah</u>, <u>@jhtacairo</u>, <u>@ateliercairo</u> | Facebook <u>Art Jameel</u>, <u>Jameel House in Cairo</u>, <u>Atelier Cairo Art Jameel</u> | Twitter <u>@art\_jameel</u>



## **About Art Jameel**

Art Jameel 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.

Jameel Arts Centre, an innovative contemporary institution in Dubai, UAE, opened on November 11, 2018; Hayy: Creative Hub, a major complex for the creative industries in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, is set to launch in 2021.

Art Jameel's model is collaborative: major institutional partners include Delfina Foundation, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Prince's Foundation School of Traditional Arts and the Victoria and Albert Museum. 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.

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.

artjameel.org