

Aga Khan Museum Lower-Level Gallery Renamed in Honour of the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja Families

Generous contribution made by the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja families will enable the Museum to further grow its work of connecting cultures through the arts

TORONTO, ON – December 3, 2024 – In recognition of the transformative contribution made by the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja families, the Aga Khan Museum is excited to announce the renaming of its lower-level gallery to the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja Family Gallery. With the families' endowment gift, the Museum is able to continue growing its innovative exhibitions and dynamic programs.

Based in Houston, Texas, the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja families have been instrumental in enhancing the Museum's impact and reach. Over the past decade, their generous support has been demonstrated through their roles as major gift donors, Director's Circle members, and Lapis Ball sponsors every year since its inception in 2017.

"The Aga Khan Museum is a window into centuries of creativity, knowledge, and beauty. It illuminates the ways in which we are all connected through the universal language of art," the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja families stated. "We love this magnificent institution. It is an honour to be a part of the Museum's journey, and our families are grateful to have the opportunity to name the lower-level gallery."

The newly named gallery is a free-to-visit space dedicated to showcasing contemporary exhibitions that foster intercultural connections and spark dialogue between the past and present. As one of the first spaces visitors encounter, it exemplifies the Museum's ongoing commitment to providing accessible opportunities for the public to engage with the arts.

"As we mark our 10th anniversary, we are incredibly grateful for this transformational gift, and celebrate with deepest appreciation, the remarkable generosity of the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja families," says Dr. Ulrike Al-Khamis, Director and CEO of the Aga Khan Museum. "Their long-time, passionate dedication to the Museum's mandate transcends their sustained financial support over the past ten years. Their inspirational advocacy on behalf of the Museum is an extraordinary reflection of the unwavering belief they share with us regarding the unparalleled power of the arts to unite and make peace beyond differences."

The renaming of the gallery stands as a testament to the families' lasting impact and steadfast support of the Museum, inviting visitors to explore a rotating array of exhibitions that celebrate unique stories curated to inspire intercultural dialogue and understanding.

To learn more about supporting the Museum's Endowment or legacy giving opportunities, please contact Nadia Humayun, Director, Development at leadershipgiving@agakhanmuseum.org.

About the Aga Khan Museum

The Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, Canada, has been established and developed by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), which is an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). Through permanent and temporary exhibitions, educational activities and performing arts, the Museum's mission is to spark wonder, curiosity, and understanding of Muslim cultures and their connection with other cultures through the arts. Designed by architect Fumihiko Maki, the Museum shares a 6.8-hectare site with Toronto's Ismaili Centre, which was designed by architect Charles Correa. The surrounding landscaped park was designed by landscape architect Vladimir Djurovic.



Back from left: Faizmeen Dhuka, Aman Dhuka, Nasreen Dhuka, Rasheed Dhuka, Prince Aamir Aga Khan, Dr. Ulrike Al-Khamis, Nooruddin Khawja, Shenaz Khawja, Shumaila Khawja and Wasim Khawja
Front from left: Aziz Dhuka, Azam Dhuka