



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



AGA KHAN MUSEUM



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2024

You help turn ideas into impact

I wanted to send a note of gratitude to express our deepest thanks to the Aga Khan Museum for being champions of the Bramalea community. [We] witnessed the joy, wonder, and motivation that radiated from our learners who participated in the School In-Residence Program. The students and families were surrounded by grandeur, and not just the building. They were enveloped with love. They were inundated with support and inspiration. They were embraced by a new community. You helped [make] an irreversible change in our community, and there is excitement for what lies ahead.

On behalf of our school, students, staff and community, we thank you so much for helping us pursue our goals. You have helped us dream unapologetically. You have restored joy and trust in our community, and we look forward to continuing this journey with you. You are doing the most important work, and it is having far and deep reaches into our young people's lives and futures.

Kevin Sebastian

Principal, Balmoral Drive Senior Public School, participant in Joy: The Art of Connection, School in Residence Program. Learn more about the impact of this program on page 31.



WHO WE ARE

Founded in 2014, the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, Ontario is home to a growing Permanent Collection of over 1,200 masterpieces, including manuscripts, paintings, ceramics, and textiles from the 9th to the 21st century.

Through its innovative online and in-person programs, the Museum reaches millions of people worldwide, fostering intercultural dialogue and understanding through the arts.



MISSION

Through the arts, the Aga Khan Museum sparks wonder, curiosity, and understanding of Muslim cultures and their connection with other cultures.

VISION

To impact lives and contribute to more inclusive and peaceful societies.

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A Message from LEADERSHIP

Dr. Ulrike Al-Khamis, Director & CEO
Nadia Humayun, Director, Development



It is with full hearts and deep gratitude for your support that we celebrate our very special 10th anniversary year with you all.

Looking back over what has been achieved across the past ten years is truly humbling — over 1 million visitors to the Museum, 8 million global audiences reached online, nearly 80 art exhibitions, some 600 showcase performances, and 600,000 students engaged on-site, in the community, and online.

Ten years ago, the Aga Khan Museum was gifted to Canada by His Late Highness, Prince Karim Aga Khan IV, in recognition of its efforts to build a peaceful nation committed to pluralism. At the same time, the Museum was always envisaged as a beacon for the whole of North America and indeed beyond — a beacon of intercultural understanding, learning, and pluralism, all of which — in the words of our founder — “are essential to peace, and to progress, in our world.”

Ten years on, that vision and our mandate are becoming increasingly critical. As we chart the road ahead, it will be our ambition to build courageously on what has been achieved so far, using the arts of the Muslim world as our engine in expanding our impact — exponentially — as a pluralistic, creative, and educational resource dedicated to serving our city, Canada, and the world at large. Our anniversary exhibition **Light: Visionary Perspectives** and our unique intercultural collaboration with the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Culture to showcase contemporary Islamic art, exemplify the latest achievements in this regard.

We have come far over the last ten years and we can go so much further, propelled by our founder’s vision, our mandate, a Museum team like no other...and YOU — our friends and supporters. As you well know, nothing we do would be possible without you by our side — a massive thank you to you all!

A Message from

PRINCE AMYN AGA KHAN

Chair, Board of Directors

It gives me particular pleasure to join you in celebrating the Museum's 10th anniversary since its inauguration on the 12th of September, 2014.

On that day, ten years ago, I expressed my hope that the Museum might become a place of intercultural connection and dialogue between Muslim and non-Muslim civilizations, its architectural manifestation in itself a symbolic beacon of light and enlightenment gifted to Canada in recognition and support of Canada's exemplary aspiration to foster peaceful, pluralistic communities.

The theme of our 10th anniversary programming has been **Light** — a reference to His Late Highness's (my brother's) founding vision of light and enlightenment as essential concepts for the Museum's architecture, its interior design, and, indeed, its diverse public programming and exhibitions, Living Arts initiatives, and educational offerings.

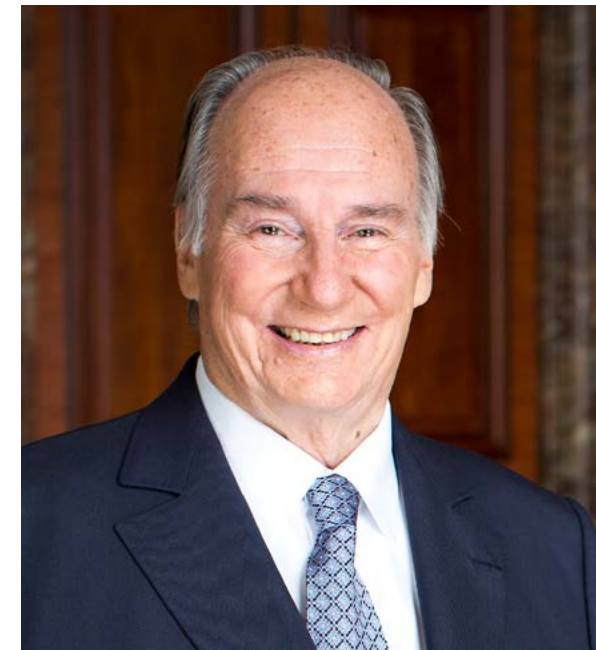
As we celebrate all that has been achieved to date, and as we look ahead towards an immediate future more likely complex, the Museum's role in using the arts of the Muslim World to offer innovative, inclusive ways of truly 'seeing' rather than merely looking, is gathering urgency, and it is with great anticipation and hope that I trust the Museum will have an ever deepening impact in stemming prejudice and broadening intercultural understanding.

In this, our 10th anniversary year, a particularly warm thank you to all of you for having supported the Museum over the years — some of you from the very earliest days of its inception. I can attest that each and every one of you does make a real difference to our efforts in bridging cultures through the arts, and I look forward to continuing the journey into the future in ever new ways and places with you all by our side.



HONOURING THE LEGACY

of His Late Highness Aga Khan IV



His Late Highness Prince Karim Al-Hussaini, Aga Khan IV, founding Patron of the Aga Khan Museum and 49th hereditary Imam of the Shia Ismaili Muslims, passed away peacefully in Lisbon on February 4, 2025, aged 88, surrounded by his family. Prince Karim Aga Khan was the founder and chairman of the Aga Khan Development Network.

A visionary leader, His Late Highness dedicated his life to improving the lives of others, advancing pluralism, and preserving cultural heritage. As Founder and Chairman of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), his work spanned education, healthcare, and humanitarian efforts.

His commitment to the arts, particularly in preserving the heritage of Muslim civilizations, led to the creation of the Aga Khan Museum, which stands as a lasting symbol of his belief in the power of the arts to bridge divides and foster understanding across communities.

At the Museum's opening ceremony, His Late Highness shared his vision:

"If I were looking for a single word to sum up my intention and hope for the Aga Khan Museum, it would be the word 'enlightenment.' It is a word which has both cultural and spiritual significance. The history of the thought and the creations of man can perhaps be said to be a long path from one period of enlightenment to another. I would hope that this museum will contribute to a new period of enlightenment — helping visitors from around the world to rediscover the common symbols that unite us all across the globe, across all civilizations, across time."

His Late Highness envisioned the Museum as a platform for bridging cultural gaps and addressing the misunderstandings that fuel divisions in the modern world. Using the arts as catalyst and conversation starter, the Museum is a space for connection, fostering dialogue and a deeper appreciation of diverse traditions. Through the Museum and his many other initiatives, His Late Highness left an indelible mark on the global landscape, enriching lives and promoting a more harmonious and understanding world.

Celebrating 10 Years of Connecting Cultures



1,034,726 visitors have walked through our doors.



15,555 visitors became Friends of the Museum.

\$100 million raised to connect cultures through the arts.

165,000 followers on social media from around the world or across the globe, including Canada, Pakistan, India, United Kingdom, Syria, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, and Germany.



600 performances across the Museum's spaces - from Sufi whirling to Soleares de Alcalá, and from North Indian classical to Anatolian folk music.



83 diverse courses and workshops covering topics from Islamic architecture to West African drumming and dance.



Over 45,000 minutes of live performances.

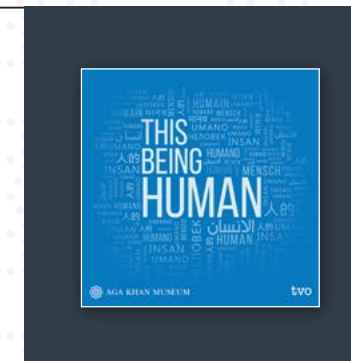
Over 100 genres of interdisciplinary performances showcasing music, dance, theatre, and film.

Over 80,000 students engaged in educational programming.

600,000+ learners from around the globe connected with our virtual education programs in one year alone.

76 special exhibitions showcasing the artwork of **155** artists.

This Being Human podcast has **138,000** downloads from **80+** countries.



Products from 300+ artisans have been featured in the Aga Khan Museum Shop. **Items from 50+ countries** are currently available in the Shop.

300 weddings celebrated at the Museum in **8** indoor and outdoor spaces.



Top exhibitions:

The Moon: A Voyage Through Time

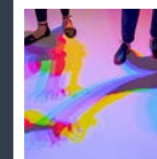
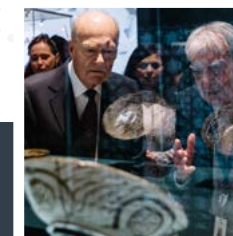
94,939 visitors.

Rumi

61,552 visitors.

Emperors and Jewels: Treasurers of the Indian Courts

61,307 visitors.



1 important visitor has helped the Museum achieve its vision: **YOU.**

LEADERSHIP GIVING



From left: Rahim Lalani, Reena Lalani, Prince Ayn Aga Khan, Amirali Rupani, Parveen Rupani, Sanayah Rupani, Muneera Rupani, and Arman Rupani. Photographer: Akber Dewji.

The Rupani Family

In 2024, the Aga Khan Museum was pleased to announce the renaming of the Patrons' Lounge to the Rupani Family Patrons' Lounge, in recognition of the transformational endowment gift and extraordinary, long-time generosity extended by Amirali Rupani and his family.

The Rupani Family are passionate advocates of the Museum, championing the growth of its global reach and network since it opened its doors in 2014. This dedication celebrates the family's outstanding and sustained contributions over the years to advancing the Museum's mandate of bridging cultures and promoting peaceful societies through the arts.

Located on the second floor, overlooking the serenity of the Aga Khan Park, the Rupani Family Patrons' Lounge stands as a reminder of the crucial role our supporters play in realizing the Museum's mandate and in providing a warm, inclusive welcome to everyone for intercultural conversations, learning, and strengthening our sense of community.

"Our family is passionately dedicated to the Museum's mission and proud to support an institution that makes a meaningful impact worldwide. We look forward to seeing the Rupani Family Patrons' Lounge enhance cultural connections and unite people from all walks of life. We hope our support inspires others and creates lasting change for future generations,"

- The Rupani Family



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

The Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja Families

In 2024, the Museum was fortunate to receive a transformational contribution from the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja families. The families have been instrumental in enhancing the Museum's impact and reach over the past decade, and with their endowment gift, the Museum is able to continue growing its innovative exhibitions and dynamic programs.

In recognition of their extraordinary support, the Museum was honoured to announce the renaming of its lower-level gallery to the Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja Family Gallery.

The 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.

"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. 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 Rasheed Dhuka and Nooruddin Khawja Families



ENDOWMENT

In 2024, the Aga Khan Museum launched an ambitious initiative to significantly grow its Endowment Fund, thanks to the generosity of a group of visionary donors. Endowment support is essential to the Museum's long-term financial sustainability, offering stability and independence that allows us to plan confidently for the future.

With a reliable annual income from the Endowment, we can preserve our unique Collections, deliver accessible and inclusive programming, and fulfill our mission to foster intercultural understanding for generations to come. As donations make up 76% of the Museum's total funding, this enduring source of support is vital to safeguarding and expanding our educational and public programs.

Thanks to the commitment of our supporters, the Endowment is creating an essential and lasting foundation — ensuring that the Museum can continue to thrive and inspire.

To learn more about supporting our Endowment Fund, please contact: leadershipgiving@agakhanmuseum.org.



A MUSEUM OPEN TO ALL

“Thank you for all your hard work to make this event a success. [There was] so much choice, wonderful performances, and amazing exhibitions. You catered for all ages. My grandchildren enjoyed the performances inside the Auditorium and in the Park.”

- Rhythms of Canada Festival attendee

In 2024, with the help of our corporate, foundation, and individual supporters and government partners, the Museum was able to offer more free programming, including festival performances, access to the Museum’s galleries and exhibitions, and educational activities and outreach.

RHYTHMS OF CANADA FESTIVAL

The 2024 Rhythms of Canada Festival offered cultural programming designed to engage and attract the local communities surrounding the Museum. Keeping accessibility at the forefront, the festival featured 49 free performances and offered complimentary admission to the Museum Collections Gallery.

In 2024, nearly **40,000** people attended one or more of the total **8 festivals** at the Museum, a **12%** increase from 2023.

Supported by:



The Museum’s Performing Arts programming is generously supported by the Nanji Family Foundation.





BMO FREE WEDNESDAYS

BMO Free Wednesdays ensures the Museum is a welcoming place for everyone — regardless of their financial circumstances. While the healing power of arts is undeniable, access to it is not always equal. In 2024, this program accounted for an impressive **12%** of the Museums’ total attendance for the year.

BMO Free Wednesdays attracts visitors from across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). In 2024, **11%** of visitors came from Flemingdon/ Thorncliffe, home to many newcomer families.

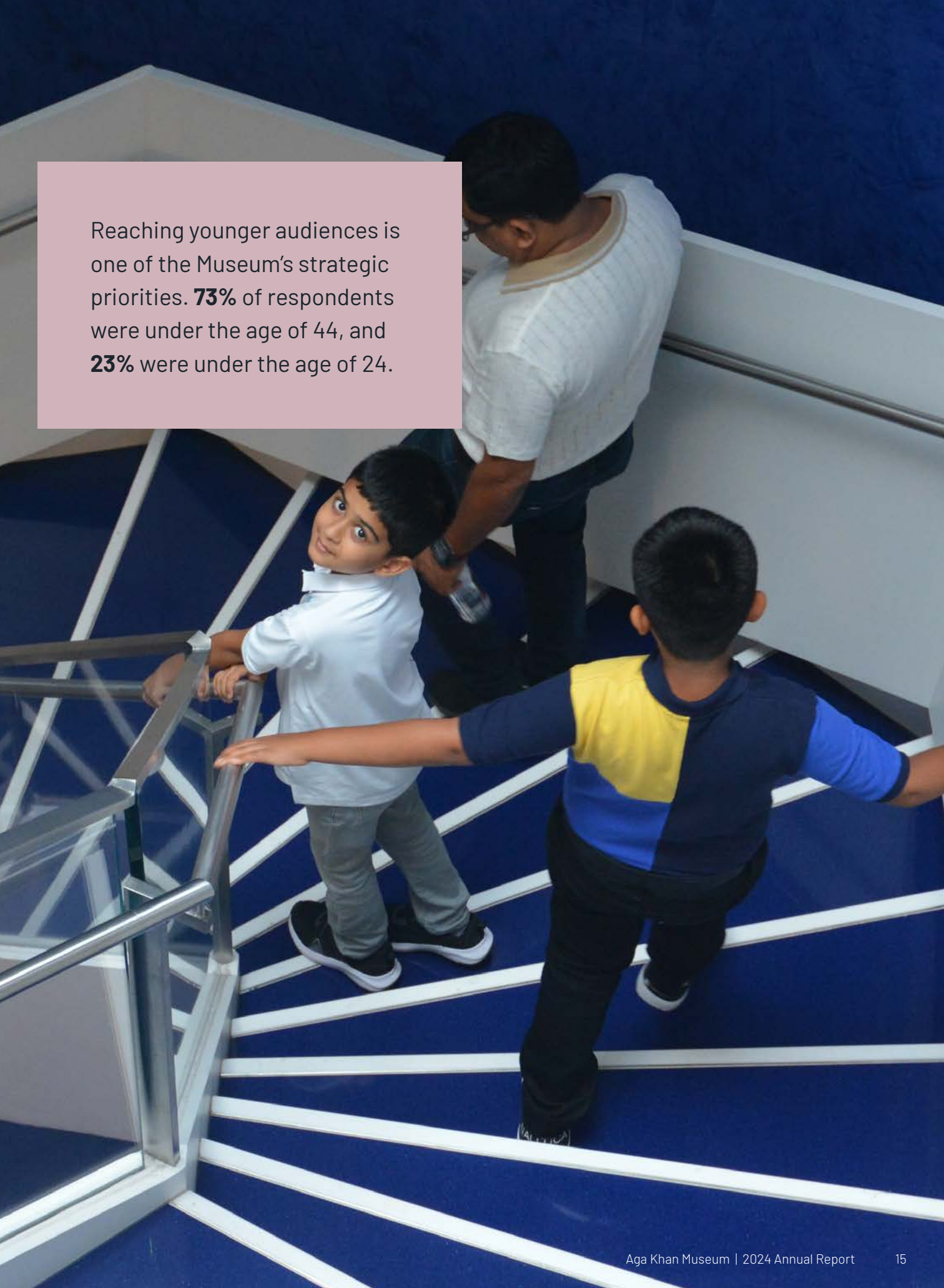
Supported by:



“My niece is visiting from Montreal. We came here today because it is free. I am thankful to BMO for funding this program.

I really urge BMO to continue its support of programs like this because there are many people, like students for example, who can’t afford to visit museums because of the cost.”

- BMO Free Wednesday visitor



Reaching younger audiences is one of the Museum’s strategic priorities. **73%** of respondents were under the age of 44, and **23%** were under the age of 24.

EXHIBITIONS

Light: Visionary Perspectives was sponsored by:

Signature Sponsor



Presenting Sponsor



Supported by

Lizna & Farhan Kabani
Moyez & Farida Khimji
Texas Jasmine

Exhibition Supporters

Global Patrons of the
Aga Khan Museum
Partners in Art

To Breathe by Kimsooja was
presented through the generous
support of the
Faris D. Virani Fund for the Living Arts

We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts



Government Partners



LIGHT: VISIONARY PERSPECTIVES

Marking the Museum’s 10th anniversary, *Light: Visionary Perspectives* explored the omnipresence and impact of light.

This historic exhibition placed visitors at the centre of an immersive experience filled with contemporary installations by 11 renowned artists, including Anish Kapoor, Jamelie Hassan, Anila Quayyum Agha, Sanaz Mazinani, Ala Ebtekar, Tannis Nielsen, Ghazaleh Avarzamani, Mallory Lowe Mpoka, Philip K. Smith III, Olafur Eliasson, and Kimsooja.

By harnessing light in a myriad of different ways, the varied and dynamic installations challenged perceptions and provided space for reflection. Set against the backdrop of the Aga Khan Museum’s stunning architecture, which was designed to showcase the interplay of light, shadow, and form, *Light: Visionary Perspectives* invited visitors to rediscover the world through illuminating artworks that explored the boundless possibilities of light.

Light: Visionary Perspectives
in the numbers:

88,000 VISITORS

Named one of the best exhibitions of 2025 by
CHRISTIE’S

82M+ media impressions

1.2M+ reach from social
media and influencers

“Provided moments of deep connection, awe, and contemplation.”

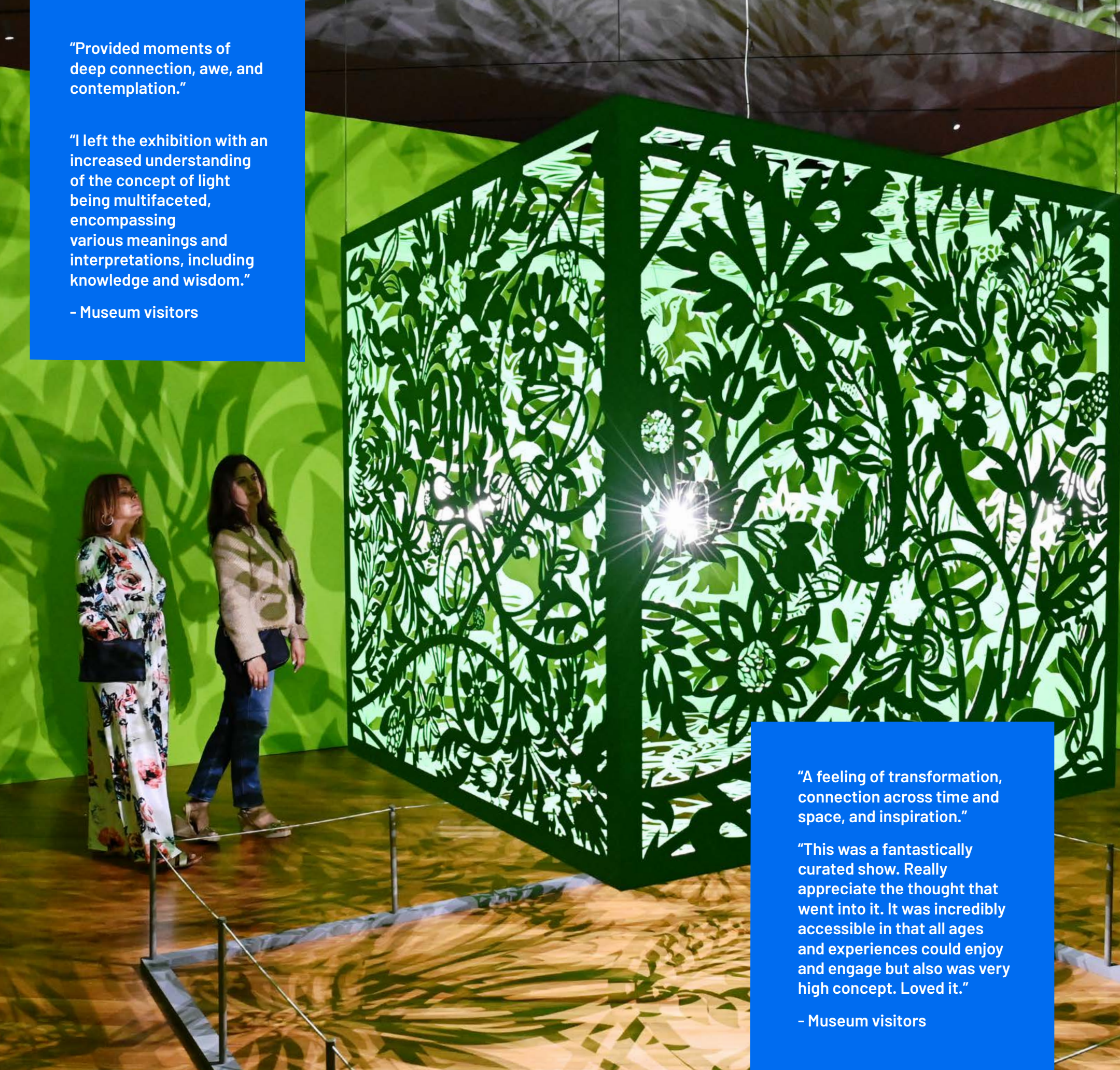
“I left the exhibition with an increased understanding of the concept of light being multifaceted, encompassing various meanings and interpretations, including knowledge and wisdom.”

– Museum visitors

“A feeling of transformation, connection across time and space, and inspiration.”

“This was a fantastically curated show. Really appreciate the thought that went into it. It was incredibly accessible in that all ages and experiences could enjoy and engage but also was very high concept. Loved it.”

– Museum visitors

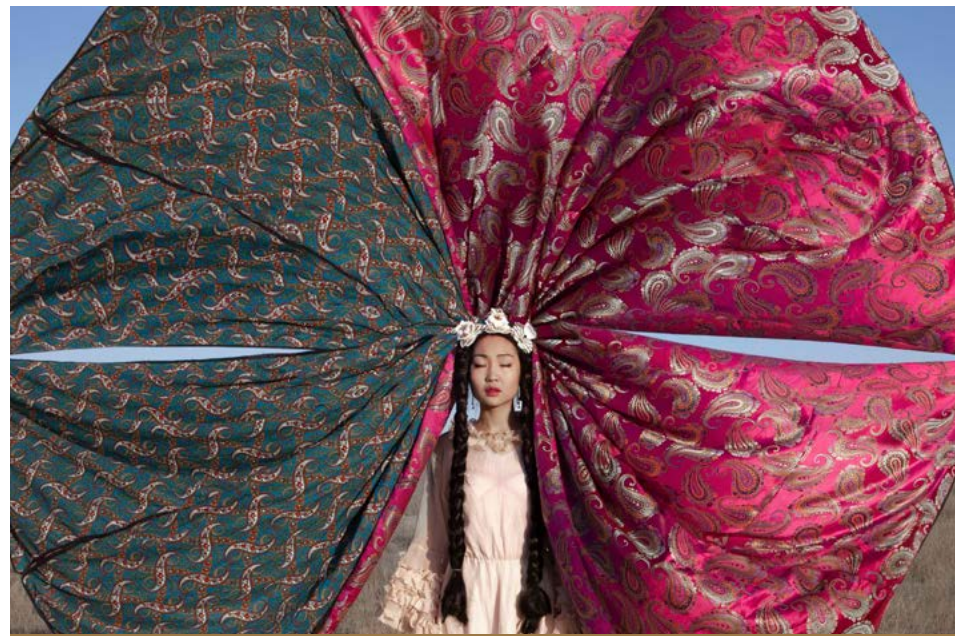


EXHIBITIONS



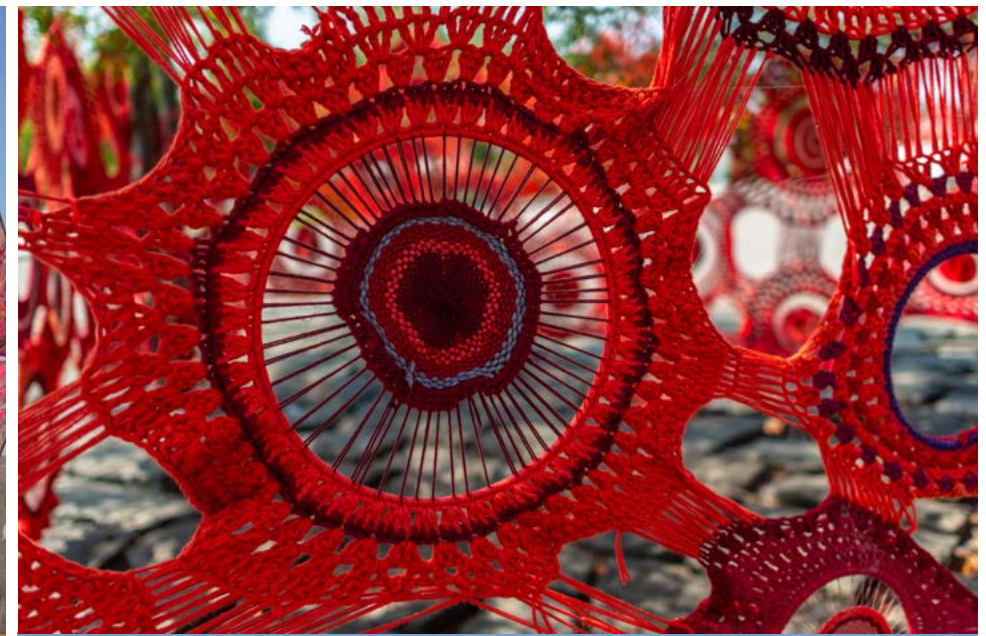
LIFE ON LAND

July 8, 2024–February, 2025
Museum Collections Gallery



ALMAGUL MENLIBAYEVA: MY SILK ROAD TO YOU AND NOMADIZED SUPREMATISM

May 1–September 2, 2024
Aga Khan Park



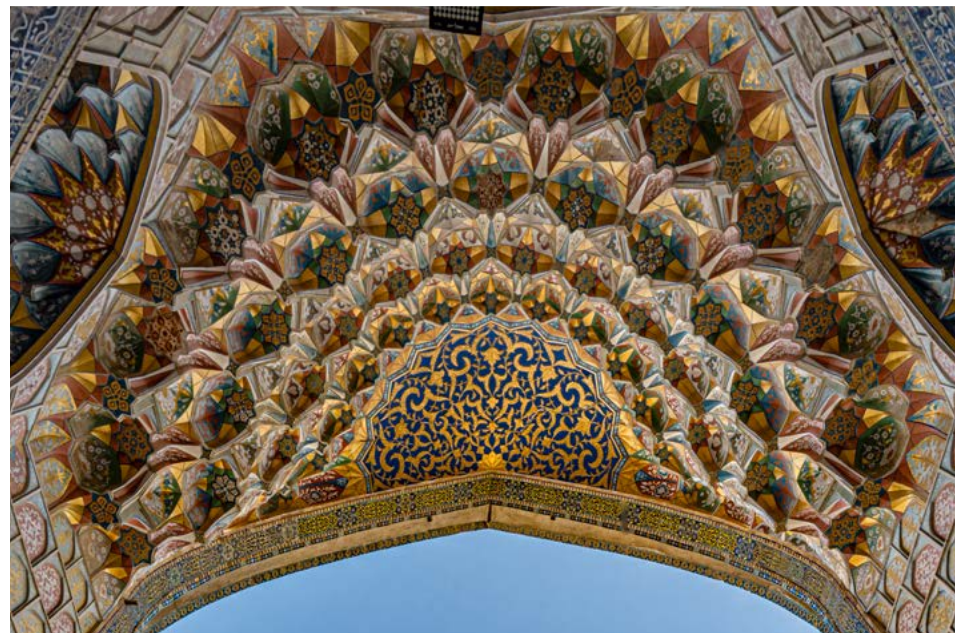
#HOPEANDHEALINGCANADA TRACEY-MAE CHAMBERS

May 18–November 17, 2024
Aga Khan Park



CELEBRATING THE PAST, REIMAGINING THE FUTURE

September 7, 2024–June 15, 2025
Museum Collections Gallery



MUQARNAS: FORM AND LIGHT

September 14, 2024–September 7, 2025
Aga Khan Park



MOON

September 24, 2024–April 27, 2025
Museum Collections Gallery

PERFORMANCES AND FESTIVALS

The Museum's artistic vision is rooted in the ideal of pluralism — the belief that we should recognize, value, and respect our differences, allowing everyone to freely express the diverse identities that make them unique.

Our Performing Arts programming is curated to present many musical traditions and their interconnections, showcasing local, national, and international artists, as well as presenting new and established works otherwise not available to audiences in Toronto and Canada.

DUENDE INTERNATIONAL FLAMENCO FESTIVAL

Bringing local and international artists together to exchange ideas and learn from each other is key to innovation within and beyond art forms. The Museum's annual **Duende International Flamenco Festival** (North America's third — and Canada's largest flamenco festival) presents both international and Canadian flamenco artists to Toronto audiences and includes various singing, dancing, and guitar workshops for flamenco practitioners.

In 2024, 10 visiting Spanish artists conducted **13 workshops with 170 participants** at York University's Dance Program, the National Ballet School of Canada, Campaña Carmen Romero School of Flamenco Dance Arts, Ritmo Flamenco School, and Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Academy.

To close the Festival, the Museum commissioned a brand-new work designed to tour internationally. **Kintsugi** told a story of resilience through the artistry of renowned Gitano artist El Farru, directed by celebrated Madrilenian contemporary dancer and choreographer Ángel Rojas.

The Museum's Performing Arts programming is generously supported by the Nanji Family Foundation.

Duende Festival 2024 was guest curated by Compañía Carmen Romero



Duende International Flamenco Festival was supported in part by a grant from Acción Cultural Española (AC/E), a state agency.

AC/E
ACCIÓN CULTURAL
ESPAÑOLA

Funded by the
Government
of Canada

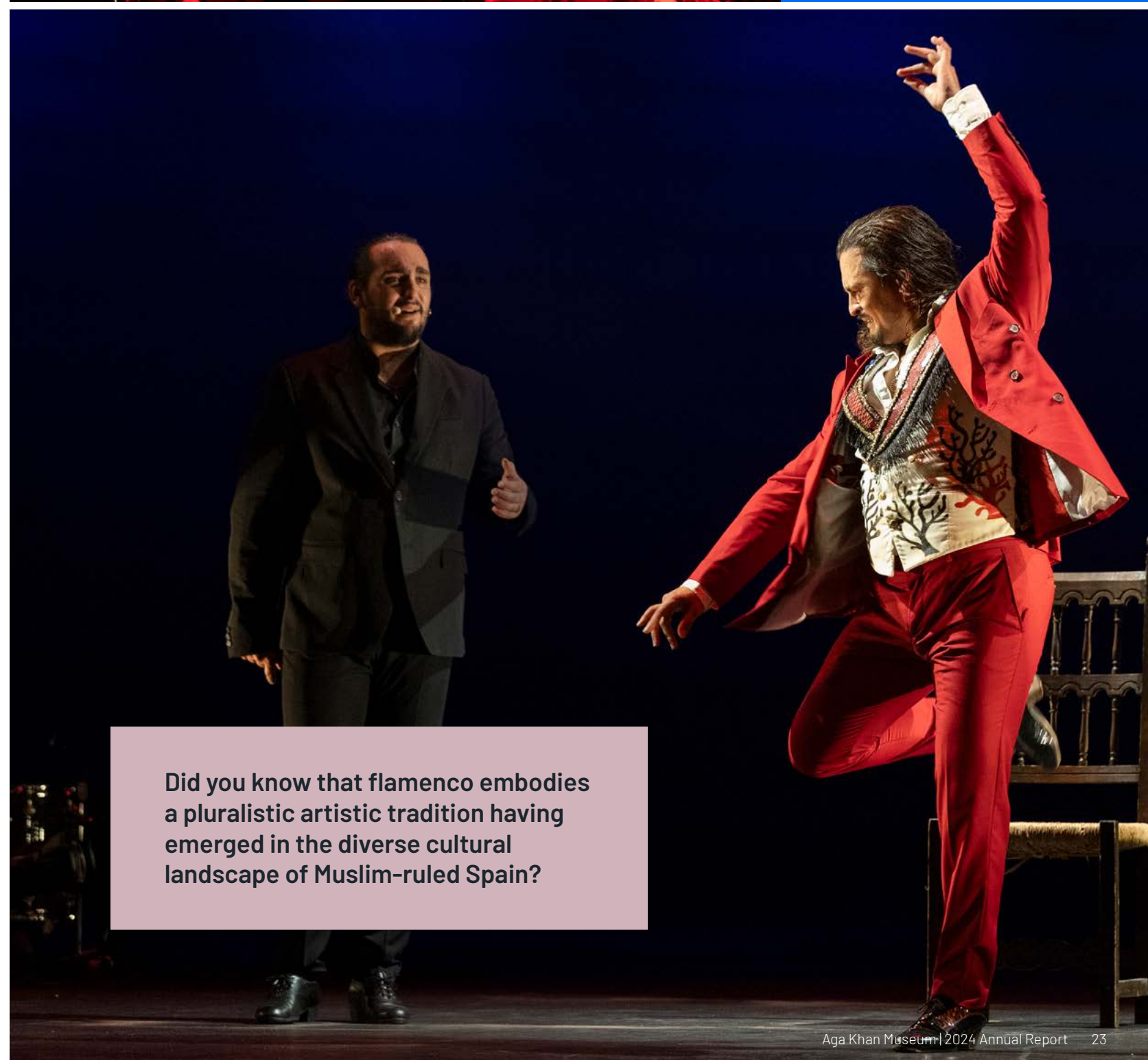
Financé par le
gouvernement
du Canada

Canada



"We love the art shows we have seen at the museum. We go to most of them. We've also enjoyed the [Duende] Flamenco Festival several times, as well as other musical performances."

– Museum visitor



Did you know that flamenco embodies a pluralistic artistic tradition having emerged in the diverse cultural landscape of Muslim-ruled Spain?



"I visited the Aga Khan Museum during Nuit Blanche last year and it was a breathtaking experience at night with the lights and serenity of the place. I'd recommend a visit to this fantastic museum where you can read and explore so much."

– Nuit Blanche visitor

NUIT BLANCHE

For **Nuit Blanche**, the Museum brought together celebrated dancer and artist Eduardo Guerrero and RBC Apprentice dancers from the National Ballet of Canada to create and present ***Sombra Efímera***, a world-premiere installation project performed within a transparent dome in the Aga Khan Park.

RBC Apprentice dancers Maissee Anderson, Tom Cape, Seunghee Han, Yeju Jang, and João Massei appeared courtesy of the National Ballet of Canada.

INTERCULTURAL AND CREATIVE MUSIC FELLOWSHIP

The **Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship** is a project aimed at fostering a greater intercultural understanding of Muslim heritage in music and film while also helping emerging artists achieve greater professional experience. In the summer of 2024, eight Humber Polytechnic Students came together under the guidance of acclaimed Iranian-Canadian Setar player **Kiya Tabassian** to form the band **Solara**.

Inspired by the architecture of the Aga Khan Museum, and the **Light: Visionary Perspectives** exhibition, Solara composed a suite of six songs, each of which presents a unique answer to the question, “how does light guide us?”

Presented with support from Bashir and Farida Dhanani and Family.



“I was a fellow in the first Intercultural and Creative Music Fellowship in 2021. I can say without exaggeration that the fellowship was the most valuable piece of my artistic education. Not only did ICMF provide an unparalleled opportunity to collaborate and create with my peers, it single-handedly ignited my passion for Middle Eastern music and provided me with the tools I needed to start my own journey of exploration.

This past summer, I had the opportunity to return to Humber as a project coordinator for ICMF, working with the next generation of student fellows, and it only reinforced my belief in the value of this program. I’ve seen how the 2024 cohort grew and developed over their summer together, just as my cohort did in 2021, and it’s been a profoundly meaningful experience.”

- Peter Holbrook, ICMF Project Coordinator

TD POP-UP PERFORMERS

The Museum’s TD Pop-Up Performances program is a dynamic platform supporting emerging local artists by providing them with valuable presentation opportunities.

In 2024, the program presented over **131 artists**, including 50 featured during major events like Doors Open, the annual Rhythms of Canada Festival, Nuit Blanche, and the Museum’s 10th anniversary celebration, EnlighTEN x Global Toronto Music Festival.



Representing musical genres from **29** countries and various traditions, these artists connected with **75,568** Museum visitors.

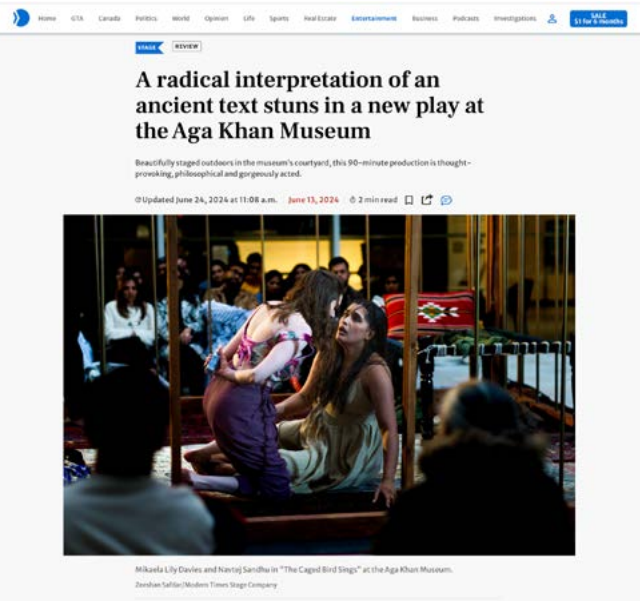
Thanks to the support of our sponsor TD Bank Group, this program is helping artists grow their careers. Our 2024 survey of TD Pop-Up performers revealed that **91%** of artists reported improved presentation and networking skills, **96%** noted enhancements to their professional portfolios, and **82%** gained new opportunities for future performances.

Pop-up Performances at the Museum are sponsored by TD Bank Group.



THE CAGED BIRD SINGS

In June 2024, Modern Times Theatre presented **The Caged Bird Sings** innovatively staged as a performance in the round showcased in the Museum’s Courtyard.





ENLIGHTEN X GLOBAL TORONTO MUSIC FESTIVAL

Festivals are a core part of the Museum's performing arts programming, designed to bring emerging and internationally acclaimed artists from different backgrounds together to celebrate the rich cultural tapestry of Canada.

In Celebration of our 10th anniversary, the Museum hosted **EnlighTEN x Global Toronto Music Festival** in partnership with Small World Music, activating the Museum and Aga Khan Park with concerts by local and international artists including Eduardo Guerrero, HAT, Bageshree Vaze, and Vineet Vyas.

Over 8,700 people came out to celebrate the Museum's 10th anniversary at the festival.

The Museum's Performing Arts programming is generously supported by the Nanji Family Foundation.

Presented in partnership with:



LEARNING



We believe that museums play a vital role in education and building bridges across cultures. Our learning programs foster inclusive mindsets that celebrate and commit to pluralism through creative exploration. We love working with children and youth — the next generation of leaders, artists, and changemakers.

In 2024, the Museum's school programs engaged over **25,000** students in Ontario from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 through hands-on, curriculum-connected learning in art and culture. We partner with schools from many district school boards including Toronto, Durham, Kawartha, York Region, Peel, Niagara, Waterloo, and others.

In response to growing financial challenges faced by schools and families, with critical donor investment, the Museum has been able

to significantly expand access to our programs over the last two years, including through outreach programs with community partners. **Our strategic priority is lowering barriers to access and connecting with students from marginalized and underrepresented communities, so every child can engage with art, culture, and their own creative potential.**

The Aga Khan Museum gratefully acknowledges the support of the following donors who make gifts in support of education and outreach programming:

Weston Family Foundation through the Weston Family Growing Minds Program

The Late Nurali Mawani, Late Kulsum Mawani, Late Salim Mawani & Family, Late Rubina Mawani & Rosemin Mawani

Amin Lalji

Nazmin and Mohamed Rawji



JOY: THE ART OF CONNECTION

The Aga Khan Museum School in Residence Program is a transformative journey of exploration, connection, and creativity. Students from four schools under the Peel District School Board spent a week each in the Museum. The diverse group of middle school and high school students connected with Museum experts to learn about the Museum's mandate and Collections, and to explore the theme **Joy: The Art of Connection**.

Guided by professional artists and educators, the students unleashed their creativity bringing their unique perspectives of life through art. At the end of the program, the students were able to showcase their artwork in the Museum and invite their families and friends to celebrate all they learned and created.



"As leaders, we know that one of the most challenging things to do is to shift thinking — but being witness to this at the Aga Khan Museum, it was undeniable. The students and families were inundated with support and inspiration. They were embraced by a new community. You helped change an irreversible change in our community and there is an excitement of what lies ahead."

– Kevin Sebastian, Principal, Balmoral Drive Senior Public School



CREATE AND CONNECT

Driven by a commitment to making arts and culture accessible to people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, the Museum launched **Create and Connect** in 2024. The program is designed to meet the unique needs of seniors by fostering connection, lifelong learning, curiosity, and civic engagement.

Over **400 seniors** participated in the **Create and Connect** program during its pilot year.

The Museum has partnered with local service organizations to successfully implement the project and ensure free transportation and access for the seniors that need it the most.

“This amazing initiative is a great opportunity for older adults to heal, engage through the arts, and reduce their isolation and longing.”

– Create and Connect participant

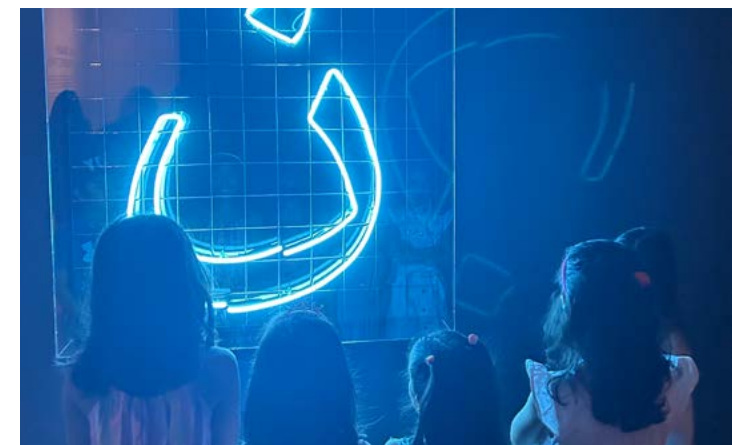
Create and Connect was made possible through the support of the Government of Ontario



SUMMER CAMPS

In 2024, we were fortunate to welcome a diverse group of campers from the GTA and beyond, including many new Canadians who were able to enjoy the transformational experience of camp, thanks to donor-supported bursaries.

Campers were able to take part in a summer experience themed around the **Light: Visionary Perspectives** exhibition. Each week, the campers had the opportunity to examine the work of the artists in the exhibition and explore their own creative expression and identity through art and the broader theme of light.



ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH

For the last decade, the Aga Khan Museum has been running school and outreach programs celebrating Islamic Heritage Month and has built relationships with many school boards across Ontario to address Islamophobia and systemic racism, through the arts. The Museum is recognized for its expertise in Muslim art and culture, and for the immersive and highly curated experiences it provides for students.

In 2024, the Museum engaged **10,153 students** on-site, online, and through outreach programs – a **40%** increase from 2023. This increase shows the soaring demand for programs that dispel misconceptions and foster greater awareness and understanding of Islam and Muslim cultures. Our work with the Peel District School Board – the first school board in Canada to embark on a strategy affirming Muslim identities and dismantling Islamophobia – along with our work with the



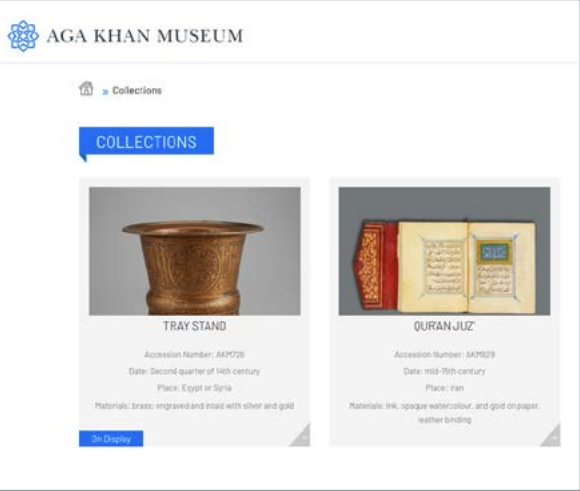
Toronto District School Board model schools for inner cities and various superintendents, validates the need for programs that celebrate the past and present accomplishments of Muslim scholars and artists. These programs also demonstrate interconnectedness and cross-cultural pollination through the arts.

COLLECTIONS HIGHLIGHTS

DIGITIZATION

With the contribution of the Government of Canada and the Digital Access to Heritage fund, the Museum was able to digitize 12 historical manuscripts containing more than 3,000 pages and 500 paintings. This bilingual content and interpretation is now available to Canadian and global audiences via online interactives and in-gallery readers.

The Museum wishes to acknowledge the support of Shiraz and Naseem Kassam for their contribution to the digitization project.



Left to right: Sara bin Safwan, Dr. Ulrike Al Khamis, Fatma Mahmoud, Shaikha AlZaabi

UAE FELLOWS

In December 2023, the Aga Khan Museum entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Culture in Abu Dhabi, in recognition of a profound alignment of ethos regarding the need to drive understanding and empathy between Muslims and non-Muslim societies through the medium of arts and culture. Following a professional development residency offered by the Museum in the summer of 2024, three young UAE Al Burda Fellows worked with Museum staff to co-curate an exhibition, inspired by the notion of divine light.

As the Sun Appears from Beyond: Twenty Years of the Al Burda Award marks the first collaboration under the MoU, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the UAE Ministry of Culture's Al Burda Award for Islamic Art and the 10th anniversary of the Aga Khan Museum. The exhibition first launched at the 18th Al Burda Award ceremony, hosted at the Louvre Abu Dhabi in December 2024, before travelling to the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, where it has been augmented by historical masterpieces from the Museum's renowned Islamic art collection.

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT



We are so fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteers who support every aspect of our operations and help bring the Museum to life each and every day. The creativity, energy, and positivity our volunteers share with staff and visitors impacts every facet of the Museum – whether they are supporting Guest Services, the Museum Shop, special events, leading tours, assisting school groups and summer camps, offering administrative support, and helping support the Rupani Family Patrons' Lounge.

In 2024, a remarkable **205 volunteers** dedicated over **25,500 hours** to supporting the Museum's mandate.



"To serve in a space of such breathtaking Islamic architecture, surrounded by exquisite artworks and artifacts, never ceases to inspire awe and appreciation. Each visit is a reminder of the beauty and richness of our shared heritage."

What makes this experience even more meaningful is the opportunity to work alongside dedicated fellow volunteers and gracious staff who embody the spirit of hospitality and inclusion.

We are honoured to be part of the Aga Khan Museum, which not only preserves history but also builds bridges of understanding for generations to come."

– Jenny and Salim Kaderali, Rupani Family Patrons' Lounge Volunteer Lead



LAPIS BALL

On September 27, the Aga Khan Museum and Aga Khan Park were illuminated for **Lapis Ball: Be the Light**, presented by Anwar & Nasreen Aman and Steel Canada Limited. Over 450 guests gathered to celebrate the Museum's 10th anniversary and raised a record \$1.5 million in support of the Museum's mission to spark wonder, curiosity, and understanding of Muslim cultures and their connection with other cultures through the arts. Guests dined under the stars in a custom-created conservatory-style marquee in the Park before enjoying a world-premiere performance by Hatim Belyamani, Bageshree Vaze, Vineet Vyas, and Eduardo Guerrero González. The evening concluded with enlightening encounters in the Museum's galleries.

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DONOR AND MEMBER PROGRAMMING

In 2024, we introduced new Member programming to give our closest supporters the chance to go deeper and explore the stories behind our world-class Museum Collections, exhibitions, and architecture. As part of the special programming around the opening of **Light: Visionary Perspectives**, over 300 Members and their guests were invited to attend an exclusive talk with artist Phillip K. Smith III where he spoke about his artistic practice, starting from a humble wooden cabin in the Joshua Tree Desert to the immersive exploration of light and colour in his exhibition artwork, **Two Corners**.



SUPPORTER APPRECIATION WEEKEND

In December 2024, we held a special 10th anniversary Supporter Appreciation Weekend, which brought over 300 supporters into the Museum for a series of engaging activities including workshops, and behind-the-scenes tours. Signature evening programming included a special look back on the architectural history of the Museum featuring Shamez Mohamed, Former Executive Officer of Imara (Wynford Drive) Limited and Diarmuid Nash, Partner-in-Charge, Moriyama and Teshima architecture firm. The weekend closed with a rousing concert featuring celebrated Qawwali artist Shahzad Ali Khan and a reception just for supporters and their special guests.



GLOBAL PROGRAMMING

The Museum is fortunate to have supporters in many corners of the world, including a strong supporter base in the United States. In October 2024, members of the Development team travelled to the Eastern United States to connect with supporters in Washington, DC, New York City, and Chicago.

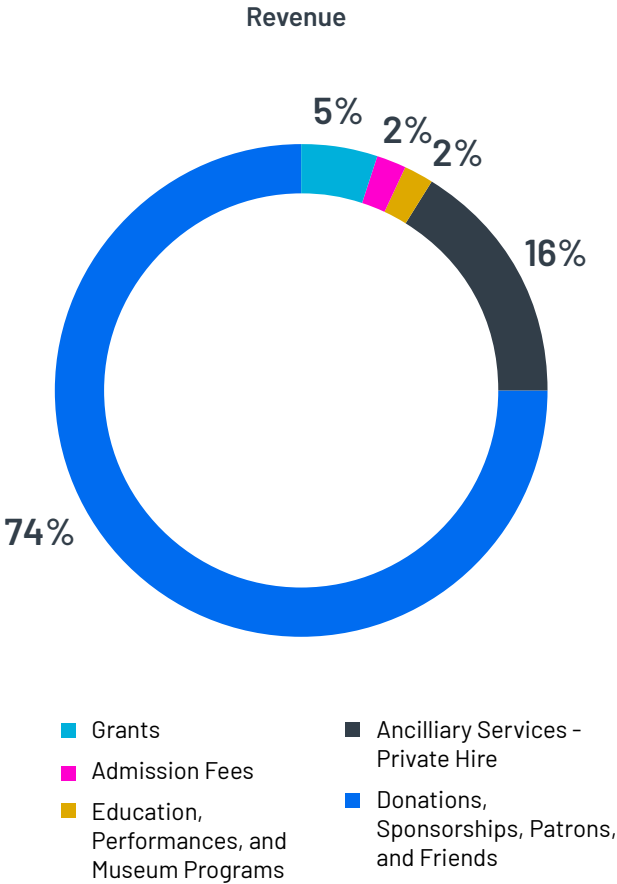
The Museum was pleased to partner with the Ismaili Council to present a special reception at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC, celebrating our shared commitment to fostering inclusivity and connecting cultures through the arts. Speakers included Aga Khan Museum Director and CEO, Dr. Ulrike Al-Khamis, alongside Minister Carrie Goodge O'Brien, Congressional, Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, from the

Embassy of Canada, and President Al-Karim Alidina of the Ismaili Council. Together, they emphasized the importance of pluralism and intercultural dialogue in building bridges between communities and contributing to more inclusive societies.



OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

The Aga Khan Museum raised \$14.6 million in 2024 from donations, sponsorships, patrons, and friends, a 20% increase over 2023. This included donations to the Endowment Fund that supports the Museum’s long-term financial sustainability. Direct revenue from admission fees, education, and performing arts programming also performed well in 2024.



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The Aga Khan Museum gratefully acknowledges the support of our donors, sponsors, government, and foundation partners who made a contribution in 2024. Your incredible generosity and commitment bring our mission and vision to life. Thank you for believing in the power of the arts to spark wonder, curiosity, and understanding of Muslim cultures and to contribute to more inclusive and peaceful societies.

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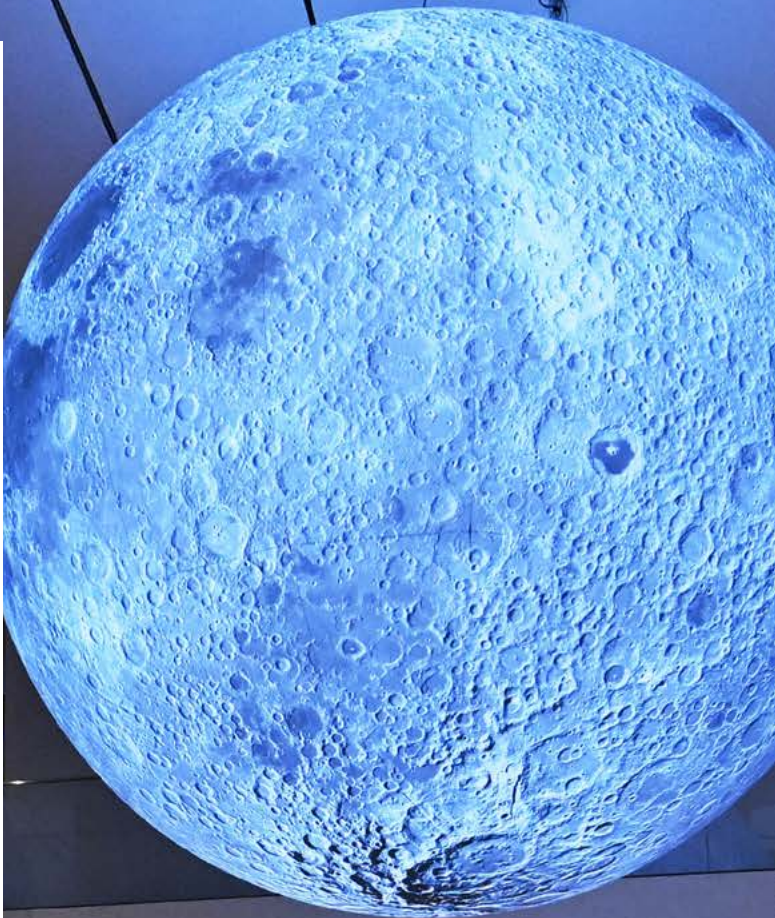
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