Thought Leadership

Investing in the Aga Khan Museum
Your campaign gift will serve as the catalyst for the Aga Khan Museum’s emergence as a national and international thought leader in Islamic art and culture across three platforms: research, education, and conservation. We will invest in the capacity of our leaders and attract new scholars to create new knowledge and promote understanding about our collections and exhibitions. New educational experts, programs and tools will enrich our ability to communicate ground-breaking ideas, and inspire dialogue and debate. Donations to this priority will also fund the Museum’s conservation program, assuring access to the specialists and equipment we need to safeguard our collection for research and display.

Investment Opportunities

$9 million

- Directorships, Curatorships and Fellowships: $5,500,000
- Conservation and Care of the Collection Fund: $1,500,000
- Education Development Program: $1,000,000
- Lecture Series, Workshops, Conferences and Symposia: $1,000,000
LEADERSHIP

Directorships, Curatorships and Fellowships: $5.5 million

Four new academic funds will form the cornerstone of the Aga Khan Museum’s efforts to emerge as a national and international thought leader in Islamic art and culture.

WHAT YOUR GIFT WILL FUND

- **The Museum Directorship** ($2.5 million) will provide five years of steady funding for the Museum’s most senior leader to engage in new research, travel and scholarly activities designed to propel the Museum, its ideas and discoveries onto the world stage and into partnerships with other leading institutions.

- **The Collections and Public Programming Directorship** ($1.5 million) will attract for a five-year term an inaugural leader to oversee the Museum’s growing scope of activities related to collections management, academic research, exhibitions, public programming and performing arts. Through a strategic process of research, planning, implementation, assessment and dissemination, the director will introduce innovative initiatives and share our proven approaches with other museums and institutions.

- **The Museum Curatorship** ($1 million) will provide critical release time for the curator to conduct research, enhance knowledge of the artifacts and develop the Museum’s collection. Funding over five years will also allow the curator to connect with museums and cultural institutions around the world to explore opportunities for exhibitions, meet with collectors, discover new and emerging artists, and establish a world-wide network of partners and consultants.

- **Research and Curatorial Fellowships** ($500,000) will attract and support emerging scholars to participate in the Museum’s academic activities. Over a term of one to two years, curatorial fellows will research and create new showcase exhibitions and supporting materials to be featured at the Aga Khan Museum. Funding from the Museum’s research fellowships will support doctoral candidates, post-doctoral fellows and young scholars from fields including museology, history, anthropology and sociology as they research aspects of the Museum’s collection or performing arts program.

THE DIFFERENCE YOU WILL MAKE

Investments in directorships, curatorships and fellowships will strengthen the Museum’s capacity for knowledge generation and dissemination. We will formalize and add focus and leadership to our research efforts and establish the Aga Khan Museum as the leading source of information about Islamic art and culture.
Conservation and Care of the Collection Fund: $1.5 million

Funding to safeguard the Aga Khan Museum’s unique collection and assure its readiness for display and research is a top priority of the Changing Perceptions Campaign. Investments in this area will support the recruitment of a freelance team of conservation specialists in paper, object, textiles, and new media, as well as the purchase of urgently-needed conservation equipment and tools. These specially-trained experts will meticulously research each piece, propose and complete any required treatments and advise on proper display and storage techniques.

WHAT YOUR GIFT WILL FUND

• Recruitment of a rotating team of freelance conservation specialists.
• Purchase of conservation equipment and tools, including valuable lighting systems, photography equipment, and specialized state-of-the-art conservation hardware and software.

THE DIFFERENCE YOU WILL MAKE

The Conservation and Care of the Collection Fund represents a fundamental goal for every responsible Museum. As our partner in this priority, you will help steward His Highness the Aga Khan’s precious gift and assure its role in our collection for the long-term. A well-conserved collection and display strategy will enable us to advance our research and education priorities.
EDUCATION

Education Development Program: $1 million

The goal of the Museum’s Education Development Program is to help educators and members of the public transform the way the Museum communicates its powerful messages and ideas.

WHAT YOUR GIFT WILL FUND

• Development of new school and public education programs, innovative online learning modules, and kits and tools to guide teachers and support hands-on learning.
• Pilot, launch and assessment of the new learning programs, modules and tools in collaboration with teachers, parents and students.
• Ongoing training to build the capacity of the Museum’s education team.
• Recruitment of specially-trained educators in areas such as pre-school education and digital learning.

THE DIFFERENCE YOU WILL MAKE

Your support of the Education Development Program will assure our continuing capacity to make education a priority. We will remain on the leading-edge of best practice by investing in our team and programs, while developing modules and tools that appeal to both new and existing audiences.
Lecture Series, Workshops, Conferences and Symposia: $1 million

If the goal of the Museum’s directorships, curatorships and fellowships is the creation of new knowledge, the goal of this priority is to disseminate those ideas in accessible and compelling ways. Campaign gifts will establish the Changing Perceptions Lecture Series, a new program focused on inspiring discussion and debate about the Museum, its research and the larger role of culture and the arts in society through the eyes of our researchers and other nationally- and internationally-recognized thought leaders. The Aga Khan Museum will also introduce an expanded selection of workshops, conferences and symposia for scholars, practitioners, educators, and cultural, political and religious leaders to engage in topics such as social change, international development, human rights, and societal empowerment.

WHAT YOUR GIFT WILL FUND

• The launch and promotion of a new, semi-annual lecture series and occasional workshops, conferences and symposia in topics of relevance to the Museum.

• Stipend, travel and accommodation costs for high-profile guest speakers from around the world.

• Associated event costs, including receptions.

THE DIFFERENCE YOU WILL MAKE

Knowledge is most powerful when it is shared. With your support, we will introduce programs to disseminate our research and showcase the ideas and findings of other experts in the field. Together, we will create a forum for cross-cultural dialogue that has the power to counter rhetoric and prejudice, erode barriers, and incite understanding and compassion.