

\$135,800 OTF Grant is a Bright Light for the Aga Khan Museum's Outdoor Programming

Toronto, ON – January 10, 2023 – On the evening of Wednesday December 28, 2022, the Aga Khan Museum welcomed Patrons to a special event as part of *Light Up the Dark*, an annual lighting display installation, showcasing how the Museum is creating opportunities for the community to gather safely and engage in unique art experiences. Local MPP Dr. Adil Shamji and Nishant Nayak, an Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) volunteer, were on hand to congratulate the Museum on the work done to date. The \$135,800 Resilient Communities Fund grant it received in 2022 is being used to leverage outdoor spaces around the Museum and in the Aga Khan Park by expanding outdoor exhibition and performance capabilities. The expansion has and will continue to allow the public to experience art and live performances, such as *Light Up the Dark*, turning the Aga Khan Museum into an illuminated beacon for the community to gather and connect.

“The Aga Khan Museum is a jewel in Don Valley East, serving as a vibrant epicenter for diversity and multiculturalism while delivering on its important mission to showcase the contributions of Muslim civilizations,” said Adil Shamji, MPP for Don Valley East. “In pursuing this mission, the Museum reveals how cultures connect with and enrich each other in a spirit of sparking dialogue and mutual understanding. This well-deserved grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation will enable the Museum to continue this incredible work and is an acknowledgement of its monumental impact on the social and economic fabric of our province.”

Funds from this grant are being used to purchase the audio and visual equipment needed to operate outdoor exhibitions. The long-term impact of this grant will enable the Museum to continue to host outdoor events beyond 2022, expanding on the range of visitor experiences it can create.

“The support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation allows us to ensure that the Museum’s exhibitions and programs are fully accessible to everyone,” said Moyez Jadavji, Chief Operating Officer at the Aga Khan Museum. “With community and connection at the core of our programming, making sure we continue to adapt to the changing needs of our community is vital in creating accessible opportunities for visitors to experience the benefits and impact of the Museum both on-site and virtually.”

The Aga Khan Museum is committed to providing accessible on-site programs in core education, performing arts, exhibitions, and curatorial programs outdoors for community members. Long-term, this expansion will tap into the potential of the Museum’s outdoor spaces by introducing new programming opportunities that will continue to serve the community.

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.

About The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF): The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada’s leading granting foundations celebrates 40 years of grant-making in Ontario and making a lasting impact in communities. Last year, OTF invested nearly \$209M into 2,042 community projects and partnerships, which included funding for the Government of Ontario’s Community Building Fund. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

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