## WJA Kicks Off Financial Empowerment Series in February in Partnership with The Newman Group at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.

Closing the gender wealth gap is a critical component of reaching gender-equality in the United States. Women's ability to earn, save and invest is vital to the functioning of our businesses and communities. To further its mission of supporting the personal and professional development of women in the jewelry and watch industries, the Women's Jewelry Association is proud to kick off its first-ever Financial Empowerment series in partnership with The Newman Group of Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. The first event, *Women and Money: Taking Control of Your Financial Future*, will be held virtually Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, at 1pm EST with Cindy and Morgan Newman of The Newman Group of Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.

The Newman Group of Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. is a multi-generational mother-daughter financial advisor team that provides wealth management services to women. Whether starting a career, running a business, preparing for retirement or somewhere in between, they invite women from the jewelry and watch industries to learn the fundamentals of finances to enable them to spend less time concerned about money, and more time focused on what brings true meaning to their lives.

"Cindy and Morgan are an inspirational duo, reminding us all that no matter where we are in our careers, financial literacy and confidence around finances is a huge key to being empowered at home and in business," says WJA's Executive Director Jennifer Markas.

The Newman Group is passionate about equipping women with knowledge through financial education. On average, women live longer than men, make less and invest more conservatively. As a result, women face a retirement savings gap. According to research from TIAA, "For a man and a woman to have an equal amount of savings at the moment of retirement, a man would need to save 10% of his salary, whereas a woman would need to save 18% of her salary. To put this in perspective, for professionals earning \$100,000 a year, closing the Gender Retirement Gap requires that women save an additional \$667 a month."

The Newman Group has presented similar trainings to Google, IBM, Facebook, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Walmart, Columbia University, and the National Organization for Women—reaching thousands of women at various points in their professional lives to empower them about their money.

WJA will host four virtual sessions over the course of 2021, enabling members and non-members to attend from around the country. The webinar-style events will be complemented by online resources available to course participants. The series, which is a part of WJA's larger leadership training series, is relevant for independent designers, small business owners, corporate employees, consultants and professionals from all areas of the jewelry and watch industries.

To register for the kick-off event on February 24th, visit: <a href="https://www.womensjewelryassociation.com/ev\_calendar\_day.asp?date=2/24/2021&eventid=84">https://www.womensjewelryassociation.com/ev\_calendar\_day.asp?date=2/24/2021&eventid=84</a>

## About the Women's Jewelry Association

WJA's mission is to help women in the jewelry and watch industries advance and develop professionally through networking, education, and leadership development. For more information, visit www.womensjewelryassociation.com.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Evelyn Stetzer
WJA Communications
Evelyn@thesmitheegroup.com
561-329-3126