



WJA Foundation Welcomes New Board Member, Kathy Hillelson

New York, NY. August 15, 2024. The Women's Jewelry Association (WJA) Foundation is proud to announce the addition of Kathy Hillelson, a second-generation diamantaire and CEO of OWL Financial Group, to its board.

With over 15 years of experience, Hillelson has built a remarkable career by skillfully combining her deep knowledge of diamonds with a strong background in finance. As CEO of OWL Financial Group, Hillelson has driven substantial growth, expanding the company's reach into international markets, and delivering innovative, asset-based financial solutions tailored to the diamond trade. In addition, she continues to play a pivotal role in her family's business, Blue River Gems Inc., where she manages the global buying and selling of fine diamonds and jewelry.

Hillelson is an active member of prominent industry organizations, including the World Diamond Council (WDC), and the Jeweler's Vigilance Committee (JVC). Her contributions to advancing industry standards and practices are widely recognized. Outside of her professional pursuits, Hillelson is an avid traveler and is deeply committed to supporting charitable causes, particularly those that benefit children.

"Kathy's lifelong connection to the diamond industry and her deep-rooted passion for fine jewelry bring a fresh and inspiring energy to our team," says WJA Foundation President Nikia Levesque-Meyer. Growing up in a world where diamonds and jewelry were a part of everyday life, she has developed a dynamic blend of expertise and intuition that will greatly benefit our mission of empowering women throughout the industry. I am excited to welcome Kathy to the board and look forward to the remarkable contributions she will undoubtedly make."

"I am honored to join the board of the Women's Jewelry Association Foundation. This organization is at the forefront of empowering women in the jewelry industry, and I am excited to contribute to its mission of fostering growth, innovation, and leadership," says Hillelson. "Together, I look forward to creating new opportunities and driving meaningful change."

About the Women's Jewelry Association Foundation

WJA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that offers a variety of scholarships and grants to support the career growth and educational endeavors of professionals in the jewelry and watch industries. To learn more and donate to WJA Foundation, please visit:

<https://www.womensjewelryassociation.com/foundation>



To learn more about WJA Foundation, visit www.womensjewelryassociation.com, or email info@womensjewelryassociation.com.

About the Women's Jewelry Association:

The Women's Jewelry Association (WJA) is a trailblazing organization dedicated to empowering and advancing women within the jewelry and watch industries. In 1983, WJA was founded on the belief that women could create lasting change by connecting, mentoring, and recognizing one another's accomplishments. Today, WJA stands as a global network of professionals spanning diverse roles, from designers and manufacturers to retailers and media representatives. The organization's mission is to facilitate professional growth through networking, education, leadership development, and a wide range of member services. Through its numerous chapters across the U.S. and around the world, WJA offers a spectrum of benefits, including networking events, educational programs, mentoring initiatives, scholarships, and grants. For more information about WJA, or to become a member, visit www.womensjewelryassociation.com.

For more information, contact:

Marsha Watson, WJA Executive Director
marsha@womensjewelryassociation.com