V&A and Art Jameel endowment gift

The Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) has received an endowment gift from Art Jameel, successfully achieving its *Catalyst: Endowment* campaign target via a match-funding award from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The endowment campaign supports the Museum's ambition of building an endowment fund over the next 15 to 20 years to maintain and develop its core curatorial activities including research and conservation, alongside its permanent collection of over 2.75 million objects.

The successful completion of the campaign has secured five key curatorial posts for the long-term across its jewellery and Middle East collections as well as providing for the ongoing maintenance of two major gallery spaces. The target was achieved thanks to Art Jameel, a longstanding partner of the V&A and a non-profit organisation that supports arts, education and heritage in the Middle East and beyond. The *Catalyst: Endowment* campaign was completed with significant support from The Porter Foundation and two individual donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Nicholas Coleridge, V&A Chairman said: *"Alongside the Museum's large scale capital and revenue fundraising priorities, the creation of a sustainable endowment fund is crucial for a museum of our size, and the Catalyst programme is helping us to build financial resilience for decades to come. We are immensely grateful to the generosity of our donors and to the HLF for enabling us to reach this important milestone."*

Fady Mohammed Jameel, President of Art Jameel, said: *"Over the past decade, through our partnership with the V&A, we have achieved extraordinary recognition for artists – from those who crafted the world's oldest carpet in the 1500s through to contemporary artists of today. We are delighted to now extend our support further and play a role in building the V&A's remarkable scholarly programmes for the future. This is part of our programme to support the arts, including in the Middle East and around the world."*

Stuart Hobley, Head of HLF London, said: *"Congratulations to the team at the V&A. Creating an endowment is one way the Heritage Lottery Fund is helping heritage organisations like the V&A build financial resilience, which is vital to safeguarding collections for future generations."*

Art Jameel recently announced a number of initiatives designed to strengthen its programmes internationally, as well as announcing its first permanent space, the Jameel Arts Centre Dubai.

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Notes to Editors

About the Catalyst: Endowments programme:
The *Catalyst: Endowments* programme and the Heritage Endowments Programme is a joint initiative between the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), Arts Council England and the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The programme offers match-funding to help arts and heritage organisations become more sustainable and resilient by building a new endowment fund or developing an existing one, in order to increase their annual income.

About Art Jameel's partnership with the V&A:
Art Jameel has partnered with the V&A since 2006, with the opening of the Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art by Mohammed Abdul Latif Jameel, who dedicated the Gallery to the memory of his parents, Mrs Nafisa and Mr Abdul Latif Jameel, the late founder of Abdul Latif Jameel. This was followed by the establishment of the Jameel Prize for contemporary art and design inspired by Islamic tradition. This endowment gift has been made to mark the tenth anniversary of the V&A's Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art. Highlights include the Ardabil Carpet, the world's oldest dated carpet and one of the largest, most beautiful and historically important.

For further PRESS information, contact the V&A press office on 020 7942 2502 or email press.office@vam.ac.uk (not for publication)

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