



Art Gallery of Hamilton

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Art Gallery of Hamilton Hosts First Virtual Fundraising Gala

The AGH Dream: A Virtual Gala Experience

Saturday, November 28, 7:00 pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Hamilton, Ontario | Tuesday, November 17, 2020



Jean-Jacques Henner (French 1829-1905), *Contemplation* (detail), oil on board. Bequest of Margaret E. Galbreath, 1984. Photo: Mike Lalich

Continuing its effort to keep the community safe and healthy, the Art Gallery of Hamilton will host its first-ever virtual Fundraising Gala, titled [The AGH Dream: A Virtual Gala Experience](#), on **Saturday, November 28 at 7:00 pm**. Tickets start at \$30.00 per household and include a presentation of behind-the-scenes Gallery footage, a lineup of exciting local performers, and access to the ever-popular art auction - all celebrated virtually from the comforts of home.

"Now more than ever, public support of the Art Gallery of Hamilton by way of this major annual fundraising Gala will make a critical impact on the future vibrancy of the Gallery and the communities it supports," says Shelley Falconer, AGH President and CEO. "As the world shifts in response to COVID-19, the AGH continues to adapt while maintaining our commitment to the community. The pandemic has taught us the value of culture and the potential for people to change and collaborate to get through difficult circumstances together. We have all increasingly relied on culture to soothe the daily stresses of this challenging year and to help maintain a sense of normalcy in our lives. We can't do this alone which is why we are calling on the community to join us on the journey to recovery by purchasing a ticket to the Gala, bidding on the online auction, or making a personal donation."

Inspired by the current exhibition [The Artist's Dream: Works of French Symbolism](#), **The AGH Dream: A Virtual Gala Experience** is a demonstration of Hamilton's collective spirit and ability to come together in new ways. As one of the most influential events of the season, the AGH Gala marks a special moment in time where the community gathers in celebration of regional talent and rallies in support of the widespread work of the Gallery.

Locally sourced culinary packages, available by delivery or curbside pickup at the AGH, are offered to provide a Gala-worthy experience while supporting local businesses.

Master of Ceremonies: Max Francis, True Hamiltonian

Land Acknowledgement and Smudge Ceremony: Layla Black

Performances: Terra Lightfoot, Logan Staats, and the Hamilton City Ballet

Artist Guests: Sylvia Nickerson and Lester Coloma

Special Guest Speakers: Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Laurie Davidson, Regional Vice President, RBC, and Joseph Mancinelli, International VP and Regional Manager, LiUNA

For tickets, please visit <https://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com/join-and-support/agh-gala/> or email gala@artgalleryofhamilton.com

The AGH Dream: A Virtual Gala Experience is presented by RBC and LiUNA.



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About the Art Gallery of Hamilton

Founded in 1914, the Art Gallery of Hamilton is the oldest and largest public art gallery in southwestern Ontario. Its permanent collection, which is focused on historical Canadian, 19th-century European, and International and Contemporary art, numbers more than 10,000 works and is recognized as one of Canada's finest. The AGH is a vital creative hub and centre of lifelong learning that enables people of all ages to enrich their lives by gaining a deeper understanding of art. The Gallery is supported by the City of Hamilton, the Canada Council for the Arts, and the Ontario Arts Council.

For more information, interview requests, or the media package, please contact:

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