



ACCREDITED  
GEMOLOGISTS  
ASSOCIATION  
Est. 1974

# TUCSON CONFERENCE

**FEBRUARY 1, 2023**

**WATCH  
ON DEMAND**

**RECORDED CONFERENCE**

**AVAILABLE ONLINE**

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FOR DETAILS**

# AGA Board 2023–2026 is announced!



PICTURED (L TO R): TOP ROW: OFFICERS. BOTTOM ROW: GOVERNORS.

## OFFICERS

Teri Brossmer	President
Çiğdem Lüle	Vice-President
Adam Ostrow	Secretary
Heidi Harders	Treasurer
Stuart Robertson	Immediate Past President

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Gina D'Onofrio	Alberto Scarani*
Donna Hawrelko	Martin Fuller*
Antoinette Matlins	Gary Roskin*

*\*New member of AGA Board*



Kate Donovan  
Executive Director - AGA

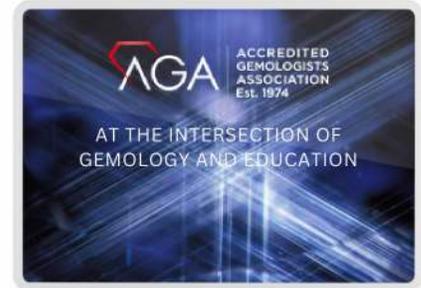
## About the AGA Election

Occurring only every three years, in accordance with AGA Bylaws and Constitution, a general election is held to determine the next leadership of the Accredited Gemologists Association (AGA). Open to all who qualify, as outlined in AGA Bylaws, the AGA Board is nominated and elected by peers, fellow AGA Members.

## AGA TUCSON CONFERENCE

February 1, 2023

Marriott University Park Hotel. Tucson, AZ



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2023 AGA Tucson Conference! After three years of meeting through a computer screen, we are elated to bring the gemological community together again, in person. This conference is a testament to the commitment of the volunteers serving on the AGA Board and Committees who have put together an amazing lineup of speakers covering so many facets of gemology.

We appreciate our speakers, all leaders in their respective fields, for sharing their valuable knowledge and time with us today. We hope you will discover the presentations timely and applicable to your gemological practice.

Although today's focus is on our in-person event, AGA will continue to host webinars, gemological career forums, and celebrity gemologist interviews throughout the year. Our goal is to keep our members and the gemological community well informed and to provide a platform for gemologists to connect throughout the year.

A huge Thank You to AGA members for your participation in today's event. And to those of you who are not yet members, I'd like to personally invite you to consider joining some of the world's brightest gemological minds and supporting the gemological community by becoming an AGA member. Please visit our website to apply.

Thank you to our generous AGA Sponsors for their commitment to learning and support of AGA.

It is an honor and a privilege to be part of the Accredited Gemologists Association and the commitment to ethical practices in gemology it represents.

Please enjoy the conference,

Teri Brossmer, AGA President

# OPPORTUNITIES



## AGA CONFERENCE VENDORS

Conference attendees are encouraged to visit, engage, and learn from the vendors, set up around the conference ballroom, during conference breaks and lunchtime.



## AGA TUCSON AUCTION

**Check out the many generous donations and BID!**

The 2023 AGA Tucson Silent Auction offers valued items (to the highest bidder!) such as gemstones, gemological books, equipment and services, as well as unique gemology related experiences. Auction items will be on display at the conference & gala. Bidding is open at both events.

*Bidding closes at 7:45 pm. tonight*



## AGA TUCSON RAFFLE

**Tickets available for \$10 each or \$20 for (3) tickets.**

Secure your spot for a GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY. Win attendance to the 2024 AGA Tucson Conference and Gala. The event will kick off a year of AGA's Golden Celebrations, recognizing our 50th year (1974-2024) - AGA's golden anniversary.

*Raffle tickets are available for purchase at the conference and gala.*

## AUCTION DONORS

AGA extends our thanks to the individuals and organizations who generously donated to 2023 AGA Tucson Silent Auction.

**American Society of Appraisers (ASA)**  
**Arizona Gemological Laboratory, Inc.**  
**Chicago Gem Evaluation Services, Inc.**  
**Lotus Gemology, Bangkok, Thailand**  
**Magilabs USA & Gemology Resources**  
**The estate of William "Bill" Hanneman**

**Çiğdem Lüle of Kybele LLC**  
**Commercial Mineral Company**  
**Gemworld International**  
**John and Kristi Koivula**

**Gemmology Rocks**  
**Martin P. Steinbach**  
**Renee Newman**  
**Teri Brossmer**

*Additional donors may not listed, due to print deadlines*

# AGENDA

## Morning Sessions

- 8:30 am AGA Welcome & Opening Remarks
- 8:45 am Practical Gem Marketplace - Brief  
by Art Samuels, AGA Diamond Sponsor
- 9:00 am Hidden Treasures; Finding the Jewel  
in Gem Rough - by Meg Berry
- 10:00 am Tourmaline Treasures  
by Bill Larson
- 11:00 am Break (20 mins)
- 11:20 am Live-Stream Interview with Alan Hodgkinson  
by Çiğdem Lüle and Stuart Robertson
- 12:20 pm AGA Board 2023-2026 - introduced
- 12:30 pm Lunch (1 hour 15 mins)

## Afternoon Sessions

- 1:45 pm Presentations Resume
- 1:45 -3:15 pm: Ballroom presentations OR  
Breakout Session (pre-registration required)
- 1:45 pm Digital Photography  
of Gemstones and Jewelry  
by Robert Weldon
- 2:30 pm New Directions for  
the International Gem  
Trade Show Business  
by Gary Roskin
- 3:15 pm Break (30 mins)
- 3:45 pm Tanzanite & Fancy Zoisites; color, chemistry,  
and cutting - by Clemens Schwarzingler
- 4:30 pm AGA Closing Remarks  
(Ballroom must be fully vacated before 5:00 pm)

} OR Breakout Sessions #1, #2, #3

**Live Q&A will follow each presentation. Participation is encouraged.**

### CONFERENCE RECORDINGS

**Links will be emailed to all conference registrants when published by AGA.**

## AGA Gala Evening

**6:30 p.m. Cocktails  
7:00 p.m. Dinner**

Networking. Dinner. Silent Auction. Raffle. Dancing.  
Live presentation of AGA Antonio C Bonanno Award





SESSION 1

## Hidden Treasures; Finding the Jewel in Gem Rough

From the eye of the artist, learn from nearly 50 years of knowledge and experience in lapidary arts, how a master gemstone cutter and carver determines "what shall this be". A simple statement that sounds so easy. However, it takes extraordinary comprehension and skill to read the attributes of rough gem material, to interpret and develop a finished (faceted or carved) gemstone design.



Presenter

**Meg Berry**



Meg Berry trained as a gem cutter at Grieger's, Inc., starting in 1975. She has been a Master Faceter since 1977 and has been cutting gems ever since. Meg has faceted over 12,000 gems, including many very important and famous pieces.

Starting in 2000, Meg began teaching herself to carve gemstones. This has ever since been her passion, and her delightful carvings have drawn wide attention, as well as 6 of her 13 AGTA Spectrum Cutting Edge trophies.

Meg has been involved in almost every aspect of the jewelry trade since 1975, from selling tools at Grieger's to being a regular lecturer at GIA's Sinkankas Symposium, and a volunteer instructor at the Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society.

Meg feels she has a mission to improve the earth, one carat at a time. Her work inspires a profound appreciation for the earth's beauties.

Meg's carvings are sensual and exotic. She works on rare and precious gems to create her inspired artworks. If the viewer impulsively reaches to touch a piece, it is a success.



## SESSION 2

## Tourmaline Treasures

This presentation will provide a historical and informative journey into the history, production, desirability, and importance of Tourmaline from San Diego County, in California, and beyond, with one of the gemstone and mineral industry's leading figures.



Presenter

**Bill Larson**

Bill Larson, President of Pala International, Inc., gemstone importers and lapidaries, is one of the world's experts on precious gemstones and mineral specimens.

His interest in fine gems and minerals began at a very early age when he combed the hills of northern San Diego County with his father, Josephine Scripps, and John Sinkankas in search of mineral and gem crystals. This early exposure ignited his passion and later he earned an advanced degree in geological engineering, receiving the coveted silver diploma from the Colorado School of Mines. He then spent two years in the Army assigned to special services, teaching lapidary and jewelry making.

In 1968, Larson and partner Ed Swoboda formed Pala Properties International, Inc., and purchased three gem mines: The Tourmaline Queen, Stewart Lithia, and Pala Chief, whose histories go back to the 1800s. In 1972, an extraordinary strike established Pala Properties International as one of the prime sources of tourmaline in the world, and the only firm actively mining pink tourmaline in all North America.

In 1980, Larson bought out his partner, sold three properties, and leased the Himalaya Mine. Larson then started dealing on a more international scale, renaming the corporation Pala International. Today, "Pala" is one of the leading supplier firms for wholesale gemstones and for fine mineral specimens.

PALA International



SESSION 3

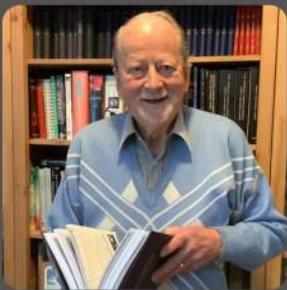
## Interview with Alan Hodgkinson

Joining us from Scotland via live streaming, AGA honorary lifetime member and first ever recipient of the AGA Bonanno Award for Excellence in Gemology, Alan Hodgkinson will candidly share his more than 65-year career, passion and quest for and to promote gemological knowledge.



Presenter

### Alan Hodgkinson, FGA



Alan Hodgkinson began his career in the jewelry industry in 1957 and earned his FGA with distinction in 1961, before becoming the first Group Training Officer for the Jewelry Trade in 1969. He set up his own business as a manufacturing jeweler in 1973 which enabled him to gradually build a collection of specimens for teaching gemology.

Since those early days, Alan's abilities and reputation have gone from strength to strength. Among his many career milestones are:

- Honorary President, Scottish Gemmological Association
- Freeman of The Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths
- Freeman of the City of London
- Honorary Valuer of the Institute of Registered Valuers
- Honorary member of the Canadian Gemmological Association
- Honorary life member of the Gem-A, AGA, and AGTA
- Canadian Gemmological Association's (CGA's) inaugural Diamond Award
- **First ever recipient of the AGA Antonio C. Bonanno Award**



**2000 RECIPIENT**  
AGA BONANNO AWARD  
FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN GEMOLOGY

Alan has written many well-received articles for gemology journals as well as authoring his own book, Gem Testing Techniques, first published in 2015. After selling out its first run, Gem Testing Techniques was reprinted in 2021.



## Breakout Sessions

### Speaker Bios



#### **BREAKOUT SESSION 1: BACK TO BLACK**

**Sarah Caldwell Steele** has had a love affair with Whitby jet since the age of seven. Reinforcing 40 years of commercial experience of working jet as a lapidary product, she graduated from Durham with a Degree in Geology in 1992. She was awarded Fellowship of the Gemmological Association of Great Britain in 2013, and subsequently Diamond Fellowship in 2015. Her gemmological prowess lies in the identification of black gem materials including natural and semi-synthetic biopolymers. Sarah is widely considered the world's leading authority on the jet species of gemstones and is a regular speaker on the subject at national and international conferences. Steele's work to establish an accurate nomenclature system for gem-quality hydrocarbons and ultimately determine country of origin for jet is challenging previous perceptions of these ancient and culturally important gem materials.

In 2019 she returned to Durham University as a PhD candidate. Her project aims to establish a new methodology for the identification of jet artifacts in the archaeological record, drawing on her own practitioner experience and those techniques employed by the contemporary indigenous lapidary practitioners of Europe, Asia and the Americas.



#### **BREAKOUT SESSION 2: JADE IDENTIFICATION**

**Richard W. Hughes** is one of the world's foremost experts on ruby and sapphire. The author of several books and over 170 articles, his writings and photographs have appeared in a diverse range of publications, and he has received numerous industry awards. Co-winner of the 2004 Edward J. Gübelin Most Valuable Article Award from Gems & Gemology magazine, the following year he was awarded a Richard T. Liddicoat Journalism Award from the American Gem Society. In 2010, he received the **AGA Antonio C. Bonanno Award for Excellence in Gemology from the Accredited Gemologists Association.**

The Association Française de Gemmologie (AFG) in 2013 named Richard as one of the fifty most important figures that have shaped history of gems since antiquity. In 2016, Richard was awarded a visiting professorship at Shanghai's Tongji University. 2017 saw the publication of Richard and his wife and daughter's *Ruby & Sapphire • A Gemologist's Guide*, arguably the most complete book ever published on a single gem species and the culmination of nearly four decades of work in gemology. In 2018, Richard was named Photographer of the Year by the Gem-A, recognizing his photo of a jade-trading market in China, while in 2020, he was elected to the board of governors of the Accredited Gemologists Association and was appointed to the editorial review board of *Gems & Gemology* and *The Australian Gemmologist* magazine. Richard's latest book, *Jade • A Gemologist's Guide*, was published in 2022.



#### **BREAKOUT SESSION 3: TREASURE FROM TRASH**

**Kerry Gregory FGA DGA, GIA GG**, founder of Gemology Rocks, National Association of Jewellers' (UK) Service Provider of the year, is a professional gemmologist and jewellery industry specialist. She has worked in the industry for over 20 years in a variety of fields, working, studying and honing her craft. She started Gemology Rocks to deliver real life development and practical vocational education to businesses; getting to the root of frustrations and problems and providing solutions and education to tackle the stuff that make a difference every day in business and makes more money. Anyone who has met Kerry, knows she is a one-woman whirlwind, passionate, funny and motivating.

She is described in many ways by people, but never described as boring! Kerry's talk, if previous talks are anything to go by, will be a fast paced, entertaining and educational experience.



## SESSION 4

## Digital Photography of Gemstones and Jewelry

A practical, eye-opening "how-to" that focuses on the photography tools, gem staging and positioning, lighting approaches - as well as some post-processing techniques of gemstone and jewelry photography.



Presenter

### Robert Weldon


**GIA**


Robert Weldon is director of GIA's Richard T. Liddicoat Library in Carlsbad, California, leading a team of librarians and subject matter experts. He is positioning the library to not only be a critical archive for researchers and students, but also a significant digitized content producer for the Institute.

He pursues writing assignments at gem localities and often leads gem photography projects in those global locations. Weldon has visited gem sites in Myanmar, India, eastern and southern Africa, Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, Russia, and other sources. He speaks Spanish and German fluently and is a well-known public speaker on gemological subjects. Robert is the recipient of the 2020 Antonio C. Bonanno Award for Excellence in Gemology. He has reported extensively on gemological issues for over three decades. He was a senior editor at JCK, and later Professional Jeweler magazines before returning to GIA in 2006.


**2020 RECIPIENT**

 AGA BONANNO AWARD  
 FOR  
 EXCELLENCE IN GEMOLOGY

Weldon's photography is published in international gemological, jewelry, and consumer publications and in several books, including Splendour & Science of Pearls, which he co-authored and edited. A Rough Guide for Artisanal Miners is an educational booklet which he has also lectured on and delivered to artisanal miners in Tanzania and other East African countries. His photographs have appeared on more than 35 covers of GIA's scholarly publication, Gems & Gemology, where he has published a number of peer-reviewed articles on subjects such as the Museum of London's Cheapside Hoard, Botswana's diamond industry, Colombia's Chivor emerald mine, the gemstones of the Taj Mahal and the Mughals, and the extraordinary carvings from the Dreher family of Idar-Oberstein, Germany.



## SESSION 5

## New Directions for the International Gem Trade Show Business

A look at how global economics alter the gem exhibitions landscape. What we have learned over the past two years about how to operate an on-line business, and how to work successfully from home, affects in-person trade shows. Trade shows aren't just another fun place where you can go visit gem dealers. They are a business. And they know that if they cannot attract the in-person exhibitor or buyer, they too must pivot.



Presenter

### Gary Roskin

### Roskin Gem News Report

*The Magazine*



Gary Roskin, gemologist, author, gemstone photographer, and journalist, is the Editor in Chief of the Roskin Gem News Report.

Former CEO for the International Colored Gemstone Association (ICA), Senior Gemstone Editor for JCK Magazine, and the Baselworld Daily News, Roskin has covered the international-colored gems and diamonds market, as well as gemological subjects on diamonds, and the estate gemstone/jewelry market for close to four decades.



[READ GARY ROSKIN's FULL BIO on page 27](#)

As recipient of the 2022 AGA Antonio C. Bonanno Award, Gary's full bio is available on the award page. Roskin will be presented the award at this evening's gala award ceremony.



## SESSION 6

## Tanzanite and fancy zoisites - color, chemistry, and cutting

Tanzanite, the blue variety of the mineral zoisite, is, despite being known only for about 60 years, among the most coveted gemstones of our time. Zoisite is also found in a range of other colors, and it even displays three different colors along each crystallographic axis, a property known as trichroism. We have analyzed hundreds of samples in terms of chemistry and how trace elements influence the color and why some materials can be heat-treated to improve their color while others will suffer from this treatment. And finally, we will have a look at this material through the eyes of a gem cutter – how orientation, positioning of color zones, and design of special cutting patterns can help to create unique gems.



Presenter

### Dr. Clemens Schwarzingger



Dr. Clemens Schwarzingger is Associate Professor for chemistry at the Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria. In 2016 he founded the Center for Scientific Gemmology at the University Linz and is scientific advisor of the Viennese Diamond Bourse. He is owner of a small company which is dedicated to precision gemstone cutting and developing novel cutting designs. In 2017 he won the US Faceters Guild Single Stone competition in the Master category, in 2018 and 2019 he was certified as Grand Master. In 2021 he was winner of the Gem A Photo Competition.

His academic research interests (in terms of gemmology) focus on the identification of gem treatments and mineral chemistry, particularly on the use of trace elements for origin determination of garnets and coloration of zoisite/tanzanite as well as advanced spectroscopy. He is also lifelong collector of minerals with an emphasis on gem species.

Dr. Schwarzingger is widely published and holds professional memberships in: Austrian Gemmological Society (ÖGemG), Austrian Chemical Society (GÖCH), American Society of Mass Spectrometry (ASMS), and Gemmological Society of Great Britain (Gem A).

# AGA 2023 Sponsors

Generous financial support from these organizations helps us deliver the superior level of education and participant experience attendees have come to expect from AGA Conferences.

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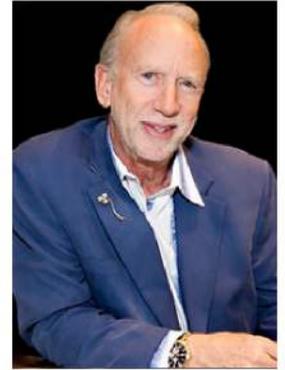


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Est. 1974

AT THE INTERSECTION OF  
GEMOLOGY AND EDUCATION

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## About AGA

AGA is an independent, international, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting excellence in gemology and upholding the highest ethical and professional standards in:

- Gemological education
- Scientific gemological research
- Identification & quality determination of gem materials & jewelry

Established in 1974, the Accredited Gemologists Association (AGA) was envisioned as a network for sharing gemological information and skills. Today's Accredited Gemologists Association proudly counts some of the world's leading gemologists among our members.

Governed by standards, the association and our members abide by: AGA [Code of Ethics](#), [Bylaws](#), and [Constitution](#)

# AGA MEMBER BENEFITS



## AGA COMMUNITY

A global dynamic community - bound by our shared love of gemstones and the desire to keep learning. AGA membership and its supporters include some of the world's most recognized gemologists.

**AGA** ACCREDITED GEMOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION Est. 1974

**INVITATION**  
MEMBER EXCLUSIVE  
#AGAHOSTEDWEBINAR

Tuesday, October 18, 2022  
10:00 AM (PDT)

PRESENTING "LIVE" from MACAU

Amber from Burma  
"Burmite"

## AGA WEBINARS

Delivered regularly, AGA Member Exclusive educational webinars are offered live to members and feature gemological and jewelry researchers, experts and historians. In 2022, AGA expanded this professional growth series further by introducing live AGA Gemological Celebrity Interviews providing a glimpse of the gem world from their perspective. Each session is recorded live and made available for future viewing via the online AGA Virtual Library.



## AGA CONFERENCES

AGA strives to offer two gemological education conferences each year. Attendance is open to all. Since 1983, a full-day conference has been presented in Tucson, scheduled to coincide with the city's annual gem and mineral shows at the beginning of the year. A half-day conference is held in Las Vegas and runs concurrently with the international gem and jewelry tradeshow each spring.

Antoinette Bonanno Matlins, PG, FGA (Gem-A)

**Business Type**

- Gemologist, Press, Consultants

**Education Degrees/Qualifications**

- BA | Mary Washington College of the Univ.
- Professional Gemologist | Columbia School
- FGA (Hon) | Gem-A | 2012
- Antonio C Bonanno Award For Excellence

**Areas of Expertise**

- A gemologist, author, & lecturer, Matlins has numerous TV and radio shows including "R

## AGA WEBSITE MEMBER PROFILE\*

Coming in 2023, AGA Members\* will soon have the opportunity to build a professional profile page to be hosted on AGA's new website. Profiles will be publicly searchable, advancing AGA member recognition both within and outside the trade - while highlighting personal accomplishments, training and skills.

*\*Available to all except Student Members*



## AGA CAREER FORUMS

Introduced in 2021, the success and value of the AGA Career Forums were immediately apparent and will continue with two new installments in 2023. These Forums provide a panel of industry experts sharing their career insight and experience, focusing on unusual facets of the gemology profession via live interactive virtual discussions. Participation is open to the global gemological community.

Mark Your 2023 Calendars:

- March AGA Career Forum - Gemological Careers in Museums
- November AGA Career Forum - Gemological Careers in Wholesale (Gems and Jewelry)

#AGAcareerforum

#ThisisAGA

#AGAmembership



# AGA VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Gemology education "on-demand". Designed to provide our diverse membership with practical gemological information, AGA webinars and virtual events focus on varied facets of the industry. Each recorded presentation is filled with invaluable tips and information delivered by experts in their field and can be accessed online.

Visit the AGA Virtual Library [here](http://bit.ly/AGAhostedwebinars).

Or, visit URL: <http://bit.ly/AGAhostedwebinars>

#AGAhostedwebinars

#AGAcontinuingeducation

# AGA Membership

AGA members improve gemological skills and earn recognition through active participation in educational programs and industry forums while gaining the personal satisfaction of contributing to the profession.

AGA membership includes some of the world's leading gemologists. Membership options are available for all experience levels from students to professional gemologists.

[Learn more about membership](#)  
[Submit application](#)



## AGA GLOBAL NETWORK

#BecomeanAGAMember

## APPLY TODAY

### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

	REQUIREMENTS				BENEFITS				Annual Dues
	Approved Gemological Credential <sup>1</sup>	Professional References	Vote for Bonanno Award	Member Profile Page	Find a Member	Exclusive Live Events	Display AGA Logo	Vote in Association Elections	
VOTING	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	\$125
LIFE VOTING	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	\$1250
RETIRED	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	\$50
ASSOCIATE		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	\$100
CORPORATE		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	\$350
STUDENT			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	\$0

<sup>1</sup> A current list of approved schools & designations are shown on the Membership application.  
<sup>2</sup> Corporate membership includes up to 3 Associate Memberships.  
<sup>3</sup> One time fee, no annual dues henceforth.



# AGA MEMBERSHIP

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

In-person, virtually or on social. AGA members are bound by the shared love of gemstones and the desire to keep learning.

## MEMBER COMMUNITY

Learn, network, celebrate, collaborate & share. Build your professional network with fellow AGA members around the globe.

## PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

AGA members are recognized for their dedication to high ethical & professional standards. Join some of world's leading gemologists.

#AGAMemberCommunity



#BecomeanAGAMember



# AGA ANTONIO C. BONANNO AWARD

For Excellence In Gemology



Inaugurated in February 2000, the Antonio C. Bonanno Award for Excellence in Gemology honors recipients for their significant contributions to the gemological field and their work to establish and maintain high professional standards.

Bonanno award recipients are recognized during the AGA Gala Awards Ceremony & Dinner following the AGA Conference in Tucson, AZ.

Nominations are open to the global gemological community. AGA membership is not required for nominations or nominees. [Learn more about AGA Bonanno Award.](#)

#AGABonannoAward

#AGAexcellenceingemology



# AGA ANTONIO C. BONANNO AWARD

For Excellence in Gemology

CONGRATULATIONS - 2022 AWARD RECIPIENT

**GARY ROSKIN**

Gary Roskin has received the 2022 AGA Antonio C. Bonanno Award for Excellence in Gemology and joins the distinguished group of only twenty-five previous Bonanno awardees. Roskin's gemological career and significant contributions truly epitomize the criteria and definition of the Bonanno Award.



Gary Roskin, FGA, GIA GG - graduate gemologist, author, gemstone photographer, and journalist, is the Editor in Chief of the Roskin Gem News Report and former Chief Executive Officer for the International Colored Gemstone Association. Roskin is one of the world's most highly regarded authorities in the art and science of diamond grading.

As the author of *Photo Masters for Diamond Grading*, Roskin provided jewelers and appraisers with an invaluable resource for diamond grading. Former Senior Gemstone Editor for JCK Magazine (1997-2009), Gemstone Editor for the Baselworld Daily News (2010-2015), and for the Roskin Gem News Report (2009-2015), Gary has covered the international colored gems market, gemological subjects, colorless to fancy color diamonds, and the estate gemstone/jewelry market for well-over two decades.

A Graduate Gemologist (GIA) and Fellow of the Gemmological Association of Great Britain (FGA); in 2002, he received the International Society of Appraisers' Media Award for his feature story entitled, *Bad Appraising Lands Good Jeweler in Court*. Roskin was awarded several Richard T. Liddicoat Journalism Awards Honorable Mentions from the American Gem Society in 2004 and in 2011, he earned 2nd place in Gems & Gemology's 2010 Dr. Edward J. Gübelin Most Valuable Article Award, as a co-author of *Synthetic Gem Materials in the 2000s: A Decade in Review*.

Roskin began his career as a fourth-generation retail jeweler in Marion, Indiana. In 1976, at the urging of his father, he moved to Santa Monica, CA to study at GIA. Upon completion of the Graduate Gemologist program, Roskin worked at the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) from 1977 to 1992. First as Assistant to the Director of the Los Angeles GIA Gem Trade Lab, then as a resident gemology instructor, and finally as Executive Director of the GIA Alumni Association. From 1992 through 1997, Roskin was Assistant Director of the European Gem Lab in Los Angeles. From 2009 to 2017, he taught gemology as an adjunct professor at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) Jewelry Design Department in New York City while serving as a Practical Tutor for the Gemmological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A).

While at GIA, Roskin worked for and with some of the great gemologists and Bonanno Award recipients including: Richard Liddicoat, Bob Crowningshield, John Koivula, Shane McClure, and Jim Shigley. Two of Gary's former students have been honored with the Bonanno award, Chris Smith, and Robert Weldon.

Highlights of Roskin's career include the opportunity to quality grade the Black Orlov diamond (approx. 67.5 carats Natural Black), attending and reporting on several Argyle Pink Diamond Tenders, and an invitation to attend the gemological study of the two blues, the Fancy Deep Greyish-Blue Hope Diamond and the Fancy Deep Blue Wittelsbach-Graff Diamond at the Smithsonian.



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# LOOKING AHEAD...

## ACCREDITED GEMOLOGISTS ASSOCIATION



- MARCH 2023** 5TH AGA VIRTUAL CAREER FORUM  
GEMOLOGICAL CAREERS IN MUSEUMS
- APRIL 2023** AGA HOSTED WEBINAR
- MAY 2023** AGA GEMOLOGICAL CELEBRITY INTERVIEW
- JUNE 2023** AGA LAS VEGAS CONFERENCE
- JULY 2023** AGA WEBINAR
- SEPTEMBER 2023** AGA AT HARDROCK SUMMIT - DENVER
- OCTOBER 2023** AGA HOSTED WEBINAR
- NOVEMBER 2023** 6TH AGA VIRTUAL CAREER FORUM  
GEMOLOGICAL CAREERS IN WHOLESALE

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### JANUARY 2024

AGA TUCSON CONFERENCE & GALA AWARDS DINNER\*  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024  
TUCSON, AZ

### AGA TURNS 50 IN 2024!

JOIN US TO KICK OFF OUR YEAR CELEBRATING  
50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN GEMOLOGY



\*AGA BONANNO AWARD RECIPIENT RECOGNIZED

