

GIA Names Winner of Jewelry Design Competition



The Gemological Institute of America (GIA) awarded the sixth annual Gianmaria Buccellati Foundation Award for Excellence in Jewelry Design earlier this month to GIA graduate Sara Guergova from the GIA London school. Guergova is the first student from GIA London to win the award.

Guergova's design for the 2022 award is a jewelry sketch that features gold, black onyx, ruby, diamonds, tourmaline and blue sapphire.

"Our founder, Gianmaria Buccellati, believed that designing jewelry was an art and like all art needed to be studied and practiced in order to grow into a master designer," said Larry French, chief officer of North America strategies at the Gianmaria Buccellati Foundation. "The Gianmaria Buccellati Foundation is proud to partner with the Gemological Institute of America to encourage the growth of these young designers and

we hope they will continue on this exciting career path.”

The judges for this year’s competition were Alishan Halebian, owner of Alishan Jewelry Studio in Southern California; Cathy Calhoun, owner of Calhoun Jewelers in Royersford, Pennsylvania, and Carmel, California; Remy Rotenier, fine jewelry designer and jewelry rendering and design teacher; Shelly Sergent, collections manager of Somewhere In the Rainbow Gemstone and Jewelry Collection; and Victoria Gomelsky, editor in chief of JCK.

The award was created in partnership with the Gianmaria Buccellati Foundation in 2018 to recognize outstanding talent in design among GIA students globally. The 2023 Gianmaria Buccellati Foundation Award for Excellence in Jewelry Design competition is underway and open to students in GIA’s Jewelry Design course who meet the eligibility requirements.

Image: The winning design. (GIA)