



Press Release

## Lawrence Ma, Founding President & Chairman of DFHK Received highest honours “Lifetime Achievement Award” at 2020 JNA Awards

HONG KONG, 28 October 2020 – Lawrence Ma and Kent Wong, longstanding pillars of the global jewellery industry, are the Recipients of JNA Awards 2020’s highest accolade – the Lifetime Achievement Award.



Recognised for helping shape and transform not only Hong Kong’s jewellery industry but that of the global jewellery community, Ma and Wong dedicated their lives to finding new ways to create a richer, more sustainable and forward-thinking jewellery sector. Their bold ambitions and vision went beyond simple profit-making; they endeavoured to affect positive change within their organisations and the communities they serve through leadership and action.

“Lawrence and Kent are both legendary figures who have thrived through the many ups and downs of the jewellery industry in the last four decades. They have undoubtedly achieved commercial success for their respective organisations, but what makes them truly stand out are their tremendous contributions to the growth and prosperity of Hong Kong’s jewellery industry, all of which have had a massive impact and influence on jewellery hubs around the world. It is indeed a great honour and privilege to celebrate their lifetime achievements by conferring them the highest accolade of the JNA Awards,” said Letitia Chow, Chairperson & Founder of JNA Awards at Informa Markets - Jewellery.



**Lawrence Ma**

*Lawrence Ma,  
Chief Executive Officer of  
Lee Heng Diamond Group*

*Founding President & Chairman of  
Diamond Federation of Hong Kong*

Starting his career in the jewellery industry four decades ago, his en vision and initiative of merging the Diamond Importers Associations and the Hong Kong Diamond Bourse became reality in year 2000. As a founding president and current chairman of the Diamond Federation of Hong Kong (DFHK), Ma was instrumental in the promotion and implementation of ground-breaking initiatives that fortified Hong Kong's unique position as a global diamond and jewellery trading centre. He also led the charge in creating a culture of integrity and excellence in the city's jewellery market, which to this day, remains the operational guidepost for every jewellery retailer in Hong Kong.

At the ceremonial introduction, Mr. Chow Kit Shing, former chairman of DFHK, described Mr. Ma's character using 5 elements – heart, mind, eye, mouth and hand. ““Heart” refers to Mr. Ma's enthusiasm, and dedication to the development and advancement of the industry. “Mind” refers to his broad-mindedness. “Be tolerant to diversity, as tolerance is a virtue” is Mr. Ma's motto, he values different opinions in order to seek the best solution for the broader interest of the trade. “Eye” refers to Mr. Ma's vision. He stands high and sees far, possessing a unique vision. He led the merger of DIA and HKDB to establish DFHK in consolidating the strength and combines resources to help members expand and integrate with overseas, the mainland Chinese market as well as promotes Hong Kong's retail business. “Mouth” refers to Mr. Ma as an eloquent speaker. He is knowledgeable, modest, and has a fine sense of humour. “Hand’ refers to Mr. Ma's social skills. He is personable, well-spoken and has a wide network, when there's a need to unite or mobilise the trade there is often consensus under his leadership. Mr. Ma's lifetime achievement is that he brought long-term and sustainable advancement to the Hong Kong diamond industry, making Hong Kong a diamond exchange hub for Asia and even the world. He is the pride of the diamond trade, the treasure of the jewellery sector and the glory of Hong Kong.”

Commenting on the award, Mr. Ma said, “I am overwhelmed and excited to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from the JNA Awards this year. I have been very blessed and privileged to be surrounded by loving family members, brilliant mentors, capable and loyal colleagues and partners, as well as genuine and caring friends. I appreciate the great contributions and achievements of all previous Recipients of this honour and I am delighted to be one of them. I am here tonight to receive this honour on behalf of so many who have, knowingly or unknowingly, in the past years taught and showed me, enlightened and inspired me, encouraged and supported me as well as offered me invaluable opportunities and thus made tonight a reality for me. To all these amazing people, some of whom are here tonight, please accept my heartfelt gratitude! I promise to keep on doing what I believe is vital in my life journey: To bring the best out of myself and of all the incredible people around me.”



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The prestigious JNA Awards was launched by Informa Markets Jewellery in 2012. Serving as a benchmark of excellence, innovation and best business practices in the jewellery industry, the Awards celebrates the achievements of exceptional individuals and companies whose actions have a far-reaching and positive impact on the global jewellery trade and society, regardless of their scale of operations, areas they serve and fields of expertise.

JNA Awards 2020 is supported by Headline Partners Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group, Shanghai Diamond Exchange, and DANAT, alongside Honoured Partners KGK Group and Guangdong Land (Shenzhen) Limited.

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For more information,

Visit [www.dfhk.org](http://www.dfhk.org) or <http://www.JNAawards.com/>

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