

1st April 2015

What is gold to be proud of?

First Fairmined jewelry exhibition in New York City

Everyone with an interest in ethically sourced metals will have the chance to see Fairmined Gold and Silver on display when [Ethical Metalsmiths](#) (EM) hosts its first large-scale exhibit of jewelry made by its members and supporters. The exhibition and auction *Gardens of Gold* runs from April 7-11 at Linhardt Design in New York. The exhibition features eight North American jewelers working in Fairmined certified metals. Parallel to this event, Fairmined will be represented at the [Fifth Annual IAC Gold Conference](#) and will also [host an information session on Fairmined](#) for interested jewelers.

“Fairmined is fully traceable and represents fair wages, active environmental protections, no child labor and a beautiful commitment by artisanal miners to model best practices in artisanal mining internationally. EM supported jewelers in their pioneering choice to source from Aurelsa, a Fairmined certified mine in Peru, marking Aurelsa’s first export to the US. Today more and more artisanal mining communities are being certified internationally and we are proud to exhibit a selection of pieces made by N. American Fairmined licensees.” Said Christina Miller – E.D. at Ethical Metalsmiths.

Worldwide around 100 million people depend on artisanal mining for their livelihoods. Fairmined Gold and Silver comes from empowered responsible artisanal and small-scale mining organizations that have been certified under the Fairmined Standard - created by the Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) to support sustainable development in artisanal mining communities. Artisanal mining is regularly associated with negative images of environmental problems or child labor but the activity presents great opportunities for development in mining communities if practiced responsibly. As producers of Fairmined Gold and Silver, miners are empowered to secure a future for themselves and their families and change the negative perception of artisanal miners.

“Fairmined is gold that everyone can be proud of – from the miner to the customer” said Conny Havel, Fairmined Marketing Coordinator at the Alliance for Responsible Mining. *“We are thrilled to see the increasing interest in responsible sourcing in the industry and to be here to spread the word on the responsible artisanal miners who work hard to make a change in their communities.”*

The Alliance for Responsible Mining has experienced an increasing demand for Fairmined metals in the past years and has teamed up with Ethical Metalsmiths to spread awareness on responsible supply chains and increase the availability of Fairmined metals for all businesses interested in working with a source of gold to be proud of in the United States. The *Gardens of Gold* exhibition of Fairmined jewelry is one of the events where responsible sourcing will be a hot topic. Fairmined will also be represented in panel discussions at the Fifth Annual IAC Gold Conference on April 10th and host its own introductory event *“Where does your gold come from? Introducing Fairmined Gold”* at the Fashion Institute of Technology on Saturday 11th of April.

For more information on Fairmined please visit www.fairmined.org or send an email to info@fairmined.org.



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[About Ethical Metalsmiths \(EM\)](#)

[Ethical Metalsmiths](#) (EM) is a US based, internationally recognized, independent jewelry ethics association aimed at making jewelry a vehicle of long-term positive benefit for the global community. EM's 250+ members are jewelers, consumers, educators, retailers, suppliers, and environmental stewards who are driven to create a legacy of beauty and justice. EM is committed to responsible environmental practices, social rights, and economic justice.

Ethical Metalsmiths' mission is to lead jewelers and consumers in becoming informed activists for responsible mining, sustainable economic development and verified, ethical sources of materials used in making jewelry.

Ethical Metalsmiths carries out its mission by: working directly with jewelers, consumers and suppliers to provide the most reliable resources possible for the ethical production of jewelry. EM encourages best practices, holds jewelry producers and suppliers accountable and educates the marketplace about responsible practices. Ethical Metalsmiths collaborates with other organizations and community groups and individuals to realize its mission.

[About the Alliance for Responsible Mining \(ARM\)](#)

The Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) is an independent, global-scale, pioneering initiative established in 2004 to enhance equity and wellbeing in Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM) communities. ARM's mission is to set standards for responsible ASM and to support and enable producers to deliver Fairmined certified metals and minerals through economically just supply chains to the markets, in order to contribute towards the transformation of ASM into a socially and environmentally responsible activity, and to the improvement of: the quality of life of marginalized artisanal miners, their families and communities.

[Fairmined](#) is an assurance label that certifies gold and silver from empowered responsible mining communities. It is backed by a rigorous 3rd party certification and audit system that ensures that small entrepreneurial mining communities meet world leading standards for responsible practices. Fairmined transforms mining into an active force for good, ensuring social development and environmental protection providing everyone with a source of gold they can be proud of.

There are currently 4 Fairmined certified mining organizations. One in Colombia, two in Peru and one in Mongolia. ARM works with 25 organizations towards achieving Fairmined certification in Colombia, Bolivia, Peru, Senegal and Burkina Faso.