Press Release

Recreating Gesture: Crafting a Gold Necklace from The Iron Age

New Exhibition in Dubai from November 5th, 2026, to April 24th, 2027

School of Jewelry Arts

Supported by
Van Cleef & Arpels



One of two replicas of the Montans torque in 24K gold.
© L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts. Photo: Benjamin Chelly

L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts supported by Van Cleef & Arpels unveils a new exhibition in Dubai, set to open during Dubai Design Week, the region's leading annual design festival. In strategic partnership with Dubai Design District (d3), the exhibition "*Recreating Gesture: Crafting a Gold Necklace from The Iron Age*" welcomes the public from November 5th, 2026, until April 24th, 2027, at the L'ÉCOLE campus in d3, Dubai.

Following its debut in Paris and subsequent showings in Lyon, Seoul and Shanghai, the exhibition in Dubai represents a strategic research project for L'ÉCOLE, at the crossroads of archaeology and the history of techniques, and goldsmithing craftsmanship. The aim of this collaborative adventure in experimental archaeology was to achieve an understanding of the skills and techniques of a given period by reproducing the object studied. By reproducing a Celtic torque, a form of neck collar discovered in 1843 in Montans (France) and dating from the Second Iron Age (450–25 BC), the exhibition project offers Middle Eastern audiences, for the first time, insights into the complex techniques behind the craftsmanship of this remarkable historical jewel.

An **Open House** themed around the exhibition on **Saturday November 7th**, invites the community to discover L'ÉCOLE through course demonstrations, kids' workshops, guided tours and other activities. The event offers visitors a unique opportunity to explore the connections between gemstones, history and craftsmanship, with research as the core of all activities.

Throughout its six-month duration, a specially designed **cultural program** encourages dialogue and discovery for all audiences, connecting the Celtic torque with the heritage of goldsmithing techniques in the region, and the explorative archaeological findings across the UAE. To go further, visitors are invited to discover **L'ÉCOLE's Podcast, "Voice of Jewels"** within the exhibition space, through three episodes translated in Arabic for the occasion.



About
L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts

Established in 2012 with the support of Van Cleef & Arpels, L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts aims to introduce the public to all aspects of jewelry culture through various activities: courses, workshops, talks, exhibitions, books and podcast.

Programs at L'ÉCOLE cover three main areas: the history of jewelry, the world of gemstones and savoir-faire.

L'ÉCOLE now has four permanent addresses: in Paris, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Dubai. In line with its worldwide locations, L'ÉCOLE established its Middle Eastern campus in Dubai at d3 in April 2024. All proceeds from L'ÉCOLE Middle East's public courses and talks are donated to Dubai Cares to support youth education and skilling programs, underscoring the school's commitment to social responsibility and youth empowerment.

Moreover, since its inception, L'ÉCOLE regularly travels abroad, in Europe, America, Asia and the Middle East, for talks, exhibitions or travelling course programs that can last one to three weeks. L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts therefore contributes to the promotion and visibility of jewelry culture on an international scale.

For more information: https://www.lecolevancleefarpels.com/me/en



Gentle note: Please reference the permit number [PRHCE-004308852] and the IACAD logo when communicating on Dubai Cares donations, as per IACAD's policy.

Practical Information

Exhibition

Recreating Gesture:
Crafting a Gold Necklace from The Iron Age

From November 5th, 2026 to April 25th, 2027

L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts
supported by Van Cleef & Arpels

Dubai Design District,
Building 10, Dubai, UAE
From Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Free admission, upon registration
(link)

+971 (0) 567 242 154
Press Relations
STORY Public Relations
Laetitia Tregoning
laetitia@story-pr.com

Pressroom
https://press.lecolevancleefarpels.com