



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sugar Ray Leonard to Inspire at AGS Conclave 2017

Las Vegas, NV (October 17, 2016) - The American Gem Society (AGS) is pleased to announce that celebrated boxing legend, Olympian and record-breaking world champion Sugar Ray Leonard will headline as one of the primary keynote speakers at the 2017 Conclave in Hollywood, CA, taking place April 5-8, 2017 at the Loews Hollywood Hotel. Mr. Leonard will speak at the general session breakfast during the Society's 83rd Conclave on Friday morning, April 7th.

One of the most enthralling sports figures of our time, Sugar Ray Leonard faced the difficulties of life head-on and then swept them aside. Mr. Leonard took home Olympic gold and fought his way to world championships in five weight classes, a record still standing today. Voted "one of the top 25 athletes of the last 25 years" by ESPN, he is a successful entrepreneur who started his own sports promotion firm. He has also shared his success by fighting for a worthy cause. In 2009, Leonard and his wife founded the *Sugar Ray Leonard Foundation* to raise funds for research and awareness towards a cure for Type 1 Diabetes and to help children live healthier lives through diet and exercise.

Recently, the Hollywood spotlight turned to Mr. Leonard in the movie *Hands of Stone*. The legend is portrayed by Usher in the film, which was released in August.

"Mr. Leonard's endurance, drive and record-breaking success are a source of inspiration for millions," says Ruth Batson, CEO of AGS and AGS Laboratories. "We look forward to his presentation and his insights on persevering through adversity, and achieving his goals through hard work, passion and dedication...traits our members share!"

The AGS will be making more announcements in the near future regarding additional speakers, registration information, breakout sessions, and more. To learn more about the American Gem Society or the annual Conclave event, visit the Society's website at www.americangemsociety.org or contact 702.255.6500.

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About the American Gem Society

The American Gem Society, founded in 1934 by Robert M. Shipley, is a nonprofit trade association dedicated to promoting a high standard of ethics, continuous education, and consumer protection within the jewelry industry. The American Gem Society is a professional organization awarding credentials for its members, who are held to the highest ethical and professional standards in the industry and must pass annual recertification examinations to

maintain their titles. Less than one in twenty jewelers in the country have chosen to meet the exacting standards necessary for membership.

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CONTACT: Donna Jolly
Director of Marketing
AGS and AGS Laboratories
702.255.6500 ext 1018
djolly@ags.org