

## GHM Designs and Donates Wallace Fountain Award Statuette



La Société des Fontaines Wallace created the Wallace Fountain Award to recognize and encourage philanthropy for the common good in the spirit of Sir Richard Wallace, the man who donated the Wallace Fountains to the city of Paris so everyone could have access to clean drinking water. The physical award was designed, fabricated, and donated by GHM-Eclatec, the foundry that continues to manufacture Wallace Fountains using the traditional methods of forging decorative cast iron. The statuette is a half scale replica of one of the four caryatids found on the iconic fountains. The Wallace Fountain caryatids represent the human virtues of kindness, charity, simplicity and sobriety.

The arms of the caryatids hold up the dome of the fountain from which the gift of free, clean drinking water flows. Just as clean water is necessary and essential for human life, the virtues represented by the caryatids on the fountains are necessary and essential to hold up humankind and provide social cohesion.

The first award was presented to Lionel and Ariane Sauvage as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Wallace Fountain of Paris installed in 1872. The presentation took place at a charity celebration dinner at the residence of the British Ambassador to France on the evening of 22 September 2022. Dame Menna Rawlings, Ambassador to France, presented the award.