



Fondazione **Zegna**

## **ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA FOUNDER'S SCHOLARSHIP OVERCOMES 550 GRANTS WITH 12<sup>th</sup> EDITION**

*Milan, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025* – “Meritocracy, excellence and leadership by example” are the principles that continue to guide the Ermenegildo Zegna Founder’s Scholarship programme, now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year. With the addition of 74 new Zegna scholars the programme has helped a total of 561 young Italians realize their dream of spending a period of study and research overseas.

This philanthropic initiative, launched in 2014, is financed by an annual grant of 1 million euros from Fondazione Ermenegildo Zegna. Awardees are selected by a committee composed of distinguished external volunteers as well as Zegna family members, on the basis of nominations made by 20 of Italy’s top universities. The scholarships granted cover the cost of periods of study or research at world-class institutions elsewhere in Europe, in North America and in Asia, feeding a virtuous circle of talent, knowledge and skills that will allow awardees to contribute to the development of our country following their return to Italy, typically in cutting-edge STEM or biomedical fields.

On July 18th, a gathering in Milan brought together more than one hundred alumni of the programme in addition to this year’s awardees, offering them a chance to get to know one another, to strengthen their sense of community, and to set the stage for future interactions at the professional or academic level. At the meeting the Scholars were once again invited to explore the concept of giving back to their communities, following the example set by Zegna Group Founder Ermenegildo Zegna (1892-1966), in whose honour the scholarship programme was established. In his day he went beyond his wool mill for the benefit of his community and created the surrounding environment known today as Oasi Zegna, a shining instance of leadership by example that can be of inspiration to everyone, regardless of profession or passions.

### **ABOUT FONDAZIONE ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA | FOSTERING A BETTER FUTURE**

*Fondazione Ermenegildo Zegna is committed to fostering a better future for the next generations. Inspired by the spirit of giving back to the community that guided our founder from 1910 on, the Foundation was set up by the third generation of the family in 2000 to further their philanthropic legacy. Following his vision and the progressive road he travelled, quality and dedication to work may live in harmony with protection of the natural environment, social wellbeing and cultural development.*

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