

Saturday Workshop – January 27, 2024

There's Black, and Then There's Jet Black

Sarah Caldwell Steele, FGA, DGA

Even the most competent of gemmologists pale at the thought of identifying black stone items. Indeed, the GIA have suggested that black stone identification is the biggest challenge to 21st century gemmology! The problem is exacerbated somewhat further however, when we consider the huge variety of Victorian materials employed as simulants of Whitby jet during the 19th century. Moreover, it is not even certain as to whether jet is actually a vampiric or indeed mummified material! Sarah Steele focuses both her commercial and research interests entirely on black stone identification and this workshop will explore the techniques she uses to determine gem species. Please note, no gemstones will be burnt during this workshop! If you know, you know and if you don't then you will...

This NAJA Workshop will be held at the Tucson Convention Center, Maricopa Room

When: Saturday, January 27, 2024

Time: 10 am to noon, 2 hours

Cost: \$50 Class size is limited

There will be some gem testing equipment available for delegates to share, but to get the most benefit please bring your own loupe and other handheld instruments (pen light, Chelsea filter, Hanneman filters, spectroscope).