Amal Launches Scholarship

by SCARLETT CONLON
Wednesday 16 December 2015

AMAL CLOONEY has partnered with 100 Lives - a new global initiative that supports and celebrates the strength of human spirit in the wake of the Armenian Genocide in the early 1900s - to launch an annual scholarship for young women from Lebanon to pursue studies at the United World College Dilijan in Armenia.

The annual Amal Clooney Scholarship, as it will be known, will annually fund one female student to enroll on a two-year international baccalaureate programme, and the candidate will be selected based on
"her exemplary academic performance and demonstrable interest in the promotion of human rights and international issues".

"This scholarship will give young women from Lebanon the opportunity of a lifetime," Clooney, who was born in Beirut, said. "Cross-cultural learning and studying abroad can be transformative. I am grateful to 100 Lives for helping to open doors for these bright and talented young women."

The first recipient is Pamela Tebchrany, who recently graduated top of her class and will pursue studies in human rights and women's equality.

"As a leading human-rights barrister and campaigner, Amal Clooney is an inspirational role model for young women around the world," said Ruben Vardanyan, co-founder of 100 Lives and UWC Dilijan College. "She exemplifies integrity, compassion and dedication and typifies what it means to be a global citizen across all cultures. 100 Lives recognises the need for future generations to have greater cross-cultural understanding. The college strives to make education a force for peace by bringing together aspiring young leaders from all over the world."

Both Clooney and her husband George are advocates of the work done by 100 Lives. He is co-chair of its Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity - a $1 million global humanitarian prize recognising those who put themselves at risk to enable others to survive - that he will present in Yerevan, Armenia on April 24 next year, while his Not On Our Watch foundation is also a partner to the initiative. Together they aim to focus public attention on the impact of genocide and work to prevent mass atrocities around the world.