



Press release: under embargo for 00.01 GMT on Wednesday 20 July

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation announces £15,000 grant to support eight new Mayor's Music Fund scholarships



Image Credit: Paul J Cochrane for Mayor's Music Fund

“Without a doubt, I could never have afforded my son the tuition and the amazing opportunities he has had. He found his passion and talent in the violin. During very dark times for the family, when we were living in a hostel, it really helped him to cope with difficult events...I think it saved his mental health, actually.” - Parent, Lewisham

- £15,000 will go towards new music scholarships for eight talented young Londoners
- £500 will fund one previous scholar's ongoing tuition

Today, Wednesday 20 July, the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation announces a grant of £15,000 to go towards new music scholarships over two years for eight talented young primary school students in London. Those to benefit would otherwise be unable to progress their talent due to a lack of local provision or financial hardship.

An additional £500 from the Foundation will fund ongoing tuition for former scholar Charlie Browne who has made huge achievements as a young scholar, passing his Grade 5 cello in December 2015. This additional funding will allow Charlie, who is working towards his Grade 6 and who has just been promoted from the Young Musicians Orchestra to Sutton Youth Symphony Orchestra, to continue his cello and theory lessons at Sutton Music Services' Music School over the next year.

The Mayor's Music Fund's mission is to enable and empower children and young people to fulfil their potential through music education. It was cited in the government's Culture White Paper, published in March 2016, as an example of good practice in music education. Since 2011, the Mayor's Music Fund has awarded over 375 scholarships to talented primary school children from under-privileged backgrounds, representing 332 schools from all 32 London boroughs.

The Foundation's active grant giving programme, founded in 2010, supports projects improving skills, access and diversity across the arts, heritage and culture sector. It has now awarded more than £13.6m to more than 255 recipients across the UK and beyond.

Chrissy Kinsella, Chief Executive of Mayor's Music Fund, comments,

'I am enormously grateful to the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation for their ongoing commitment to and belief in our work. This generous support means eight more talented young musicians from low income families will receive opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have access to. The Foundation represents excellence, access and diversity and I look forward to continuing to develop our relationship in the coming years.'

Madeleine Lloyd Webber, trustee at Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation comments,

'Mayor's Music Fund Scholarships deliver high quality tuition and inspirational musical opportunities to disadvantaged young people. This is the heart of our mission and I am delighted to announce support for a further two years of scholarships under their banner.'

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Notes to Editors:

About the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation

- The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation was set up by Andrew in 1992 to promote the arts, culture and heritage for the public benefit; since inception Andrew has been the principal provider of funding for all its charitable activities.
- In 2010, the Foundation embarked on an active grant giving programme and has now awarded grants of more than £13.6m to support high quality training and personal development as well as other projects that make a real difference to enrich the quality of life both for individuals and within local communities. Significant grants include £3.5m to Arts Educational Schools, London to create a state of the art professional theatre, £2.4m to The Music in Secondary Schools Trust, £1m to The Architectural Heritage Fund, \$1.3m to the American Theatre Wing and over £350,000 annually to fund 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need.
- In 2015, the Foundation awarded over £1.5million in 46 new grants to organisations, made 17 grants totalling £860k to projects in their second and third year of funding and provided 30 musical theatre scholarships worth over £300k to young performers on the brink of their careers. The grants focus on the enhancement of arts education and participation, improving access to the arts for all, and increasing diversity across the arts, culture and heritage sector.

www.andrewlloydwebberfoundation.com

About Mayor's Music Fund

MMF's mission is to enable and empower children and young people to fulfil their potential through music education. The Fund was cited in the government's Culture White Paper, published in March 2016, as an example of good practice in music education.

It is well documented that music plays an important role in the development of children and young people; offering the opportunity to develop social skills, improve self-esteem, team work, promote cognitive development and cultivate a life-long love of music.

Established in 2011, the Mayor's Music Fund is an independent music education charity for children and young people. Working across all 32 boroughs in partnership with Music Education Hubs, it funds instrumental scholarships for primary school children from disadvantaged backgrounds who have received some free tuition via the government's whole class teaching programme, and offers progressive musical opportunities to young musicians in London through wider projects.

MMF is the only charity in the country to focus on this very specific gap in music education provision, supporting children from low-income families at the very beginning of their musical journey.

www.mayorsmusicfund.org