

PRESS RELEASE



22nd February 2018

LIVERPOOL THEATRE SCHOOL AWARDED ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation has pledged more than £36,000 to fund a scholarship at Liverpool Theatre School. The bursary, starting in the next academic year (2018/19), will fund a place on the three-year Musical Theatre course at the highly regarded stage school.

The scholarship, which will be awarded to a student on the basis of merit and financial circumstances, has been granted in recognition of Liverpool Theatre School's commitment to making performing arts training more accessible to young people who lack financial support.

Maxine Ellis, Principal at Liverpool Theatre School, made the bold decision to axe audition fees earlier this year in a bid to help encourage more students from working class backgrounds. She said: "We are thrilled that the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation has chosen to support one of our students with a three-year scholarship, starting in the next academic year.

"Improving access to training for young people from diverse backgrounds is an important part of the ethos at Liverpool Theatre School. I'm sure this generous gesture will make a huge difference to a talented young performer, who may otherwise have missed out on the opportunity of professional training."

Mark Wordsworth, Chair of Trustees at the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, said: “A key recommendation of the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation’s Centre Stage report was for drama schools to help remove the financial impediments that hamper diversity on all levels. We welcome Liverpool Theatre School’s move towards making training accessible to all. We are pleased to be able to assist the school’s efforts in nurturing young talent, regardless of background or financial circumstances.

“I am confident that this scholarship will create an excellent opportunity for someone with the right level of talent and ambition.”

Liverpool Theatre School, whose graduates include musical stars Tommy Sherlock (Tenors of Rock), Carina Gillespie (Wicked) and Oliver Ormson (The Addams Family), offers the Trinity College London Diploma in both Professional Musical Theatre and Professional Acting.

Liverpool Theatre School provides various levels of financial support to students, such as school scholarships, the DaDA (Dance and Drama Awards), which are funded by the ESFA (Education and Skills Funding Agency), and Advanced Learner Loans.

Applications for the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation scholarship must be made through Liverpool Theatre School. Visit www.liverpooltheatreschool.co.uk for further details.

ENDS

For further media information, images or interview requests, please contact Linda Kelly on 07855 742 538 or linda@lindakellypr.com.

Notes to Editor

About Liverpool Theatre School

- Liverpool Theatre School, established in 1939, attracts students from across the country and abroad.
- Liverpool Theatre School specialises in professional musical theatre and acting, offering the Trinity College London Diplomas in both Musical Theatre and Professional Acting.
- More than 90 percent of Liverpool Theatre School graduates have achieved success in musical theatre or progressed to higher education.
- Students benefit from ‘real world’ experience with regular public performances and a West End theatre showcase at a London theatre, attended by industry influencers and agents.

- Patrons and advisors include Anita Dobson, Wayne Sleep OBE, Bill Kenwright, Graham Bickley, Sir Ken Dodd OBE, Ricky Tomlinson and Martin Dodd.

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 over £18m 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 £300,000 annually to fund 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need. www.andrewlloydwebberfoundation.com