

4th September 2018



Andrew Lloyd Webber
Foundation

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation awards 16 new grants to improve access to the arts across the UK and beyond

- **16 grants** awarded to education and outreach projects in music, drama, dance and heritage sectors totalling **£270,690**
- Awarded **over £150,000** to ensure accessibility of music education, drama and dance training for young people and emerging talent
 - Granting **over £100,000** towards the provision of top quality training and paid work experience placements for performers, skilled technicians and heritage workers
- The latest round of grants brings the **total awarded** by the Foundation to over **£19.5 million**

Andrew Lloyd Webber said:

“Young and emerging talent needs to be nurtured, regardless of an individual’s background. From music masterclasses and drama workshops to apprenticeship opportunities in the heritage sector, I am thrilled the Foundation continues to support projects that work towards this important goal.”

This September, Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation has awarded grants worth a total of **£270,690** to **16** projects across the UK and internationally. This includes **£101,000** towards the provision of music education for young people; **£67,777** to fund paid work placements for designers and lighting technicians in leading venues; **£53,296** to support drama and dance programmes for young people and emerging talent; and **£33,617** towards the development of skills in the heritage and crafts sector. This round of grants will also extend to the delivery of music therapy, awarding **£15,000** towards the provision for seriously ill children.

This new round of funding will support projects across the length and breadth of the country, from London to Birmingham, Wales to Edinburgh and Devon to Glasgow, as well as further afield in New York City. Breaking down barriers to participation in the arts, the Foundation has prioritised projects that engage young people and individuals from hard-to-reach and minority backgrounds and support the advancement of emerging talent through the provision of top quality training and paid work placements.

The recipients in this round of grants are **ALT.**, **Association of Lighting Designers (ALD)**, **Birmingham Royal Ballet**, **Blackheath Conservatoire of Music and the Arts**, **City & Guilds of London Art School**, **Diversity School Initiative**, **Ecchinswell Primary School Choir**, **The Landmark Trust**, **London Music Fund**, **Music in Secondary Schools Trust**, **Noah's Ark Children's Hospice**, **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire**, **Sherman Theatre**, **Tron Theatre**, **Young Music Makers of Dyfed** and **Young People's Chorus of New York City**.

Ensuring access to music education for young people has been a long-running priority for the Foundation which has awarded several grants to projects providing greater access to teaching this autumn. **Blackheath Conservatoire of Music and the Arts** has been awarded **£40,000 over 2 years** to run music lessons and outreach projects for disadvantaged individuals and communities in Greenwich and Lewisham. The conservatoire works closely with local schools, charities and children's centres to identify and support young people in creative arts. Beneficiaries include those with significant musical talent from low income families or who face other barriers to participation including special educational needs, refugee status and challenging family circumstances. The Foundation will also continue to support the work of **Young People's Chorus of New York City**, who received a grant of **£35,000** towards music education for 1,300 young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods in New York City, and **Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST)**, who received **£10,000** towards intensive music tuition for London schoolchildren at their annual Radley Summer Residency. This year MiSST students on the residency enjoyed masterclasses from Nicola Benedetti and Wynton Masalis.

Since the publication of *Centre Stage* in 2017, a report examining the pipeline of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) trained talent into the theatre industry, the Foundation has continued to champion projects that cultivate a more diverse industry. Funding an outreach programme delivering introduction to drama school workshops for young people in areas with a high density of BAME communities in Birmingham, Leicester and Sheffield, the **Diversity School Initiative** has been granted **£10,000 over 2 years**. **ALT's** free actor training programme for young BAME actors from low income backgrounds is awarded **£15,000** towards their project in partnership with Southwark Playhouse, The Birmingham Repertory Theatre and Citizens Theatre, Glasgow.

Further support for drama and dance training for young people across the UK has been awarded to **Birmingham Royal Ballet**, whose Dance Track programme received **£15,000** to provide free dance training to 2,600 children, and further support to 80 talented children from deprived areas in Central Birmingham. **Tron Theatre**, Glasgow, received **£13,296** to provide workshops, masterclasses and careers advice for their Young Company, supporting their members' transition from youth theatre to professional theatre.

Supporting the conservation and appreciation of heritage across the UK is prevalent in this autumn's round of grants with funds being allocated to **The Landmark Trust** and **City & Guilds London Art School**. **The Landmark Trust**, who are restoring the Grade II listed Winsford Cottage Hospital in Devon, received **£23,000** to fund two apprentices on the Prince's Trust Foundation Building Crafts course and provide in depth experience of the build to 25 students from Bridgewater College Furniture Making and Design course. The **City**

& Guilds of London Art School received **£10,617** towards bursaries for young people to experience short courses in woodcarving, stone carving and gilding, focusing on underrepresented groups to encourage diversity in the heritage sector.

Further grants awarded include:

- **£46,377** to **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire over 3 years**, matched by Birmingham City University, to fund a trainee assistant technician post in the Conservatoire's state of the art performance and workshop spaces
- **£15,000** to **Noah's Ark Children's Hospice over 3 years** to support their one to one and group drama and music therapy sessions for 65 seriously ill children with complex individual needs in their own home, in hospital or the community.
- **£11,400** to **Sherman Theatre over 3 years** to provide a placement for a design graduate who has trained in Wales, giving them an opportunity for professional development.
- **£10,000** to **Association of Lighting Designers, Lumière Scheme** to fund emerging lighting designers on placements with established designers at professional theatres.
- **£8,000** to **London Music Fund over 2 years** towards bursaries for young people in London who are unable to progress their talent due to lack of local provision.
- **£6,000** to **Young Music Makers of Dyfed** towards their Young Composers Project, providing young people with an opportunity to learn about composition through presentations, workshops, tutorials and rehearsals.
- **£2,000** to **Ecchinswell Primary School Choir over 2 years** to help fund the school choir, providing pupils aged 5 – 11 the chance to sing together in school and in the community.

- ENDS -

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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 £19.5 million 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. www.andrewlloydwebberfoundation.com