



Andrew Lloyd Webber  
Foundation

## **Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation champions heritage and fine art in grants totalling over £500,000**

- 19 new grants awarded worth a total of £566,911
- Founded in 2010, the active grant giving programme has now awarded over £14 million
- **Ulster Architectural Heritage Society** to receive **£130,000** to extend the **Heritage Angel Awards** to Northern Ireland
- **The Watts Gallery Trust** to receive **£75,000** towards the restoration of the interior of Watts Chapel
- **Hay Castle** to receive **£25,575** towards the restoration of the castle and the development of traditional building and heritage courses
- **Southampton City Art Gallery** to receive **£3,600** towards the conservation of three frames in the Burne Jones' Perseus series
- Further grants have been awarded to projects working with diverse communities, young performers and emerging artists including **The Old Vic Theatre Trust** who received **£105,000**

The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation today announced it has awarded grants worth a total of £566,911 to 19 projects across the UK. The grants form part of the foundation's active grant programme and support arts and culture projects that make a real and ongoing difference to people's lives. This year's recipients will also include a number of projects promoting the appreciation, preservation and conservation of heritage and fine arts. These include initiatives proposed by the **Ulster Architectural Heritage Society**, **Watts Gallery Trust**, **Hay Castle Trust** and **Southampton City Art Gallery**.

Receiving the biggest grant this year is the **Ulster Architectural Heritage Society** who will receive **£130,000** to support the **Heritage Angel Awards** from 2017-2020. Having supported the English and Scottish Heritage Angel Awards for several years, the foundation's grant towards the introduction of the awards in Northern Ireland will realise the celebration of heritage across the UK for the first time. The awards will acknowledge the achievements of people, groups and communities, and aims to inspire and encourage further activity across Northern Ireland's heritage sector. The first ceremony will be held at Belfast's Grand Opera House in 2017 alongside the organisation's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

**The Watts Gallery Trust** will use their grant of **£75,000** to restore the renowned arts and crafts masterpiece Watts Chapel. Promoting the appreciation of Victorian artist G F Watts and ceramic

artist Mary Seton Watts, the trust promotes the Compton area as a centre for Victorian art and social history. Preserving the unique artistic interiors of the chapel for future generations, the grant will contribute to the restoration of the chapel's renowned gesso panels and return the chapel to its original purpose to serve the community for burial and memorial services. Providing invaluable conservation experience for students, the work will be undertaken by ten City & Guilds London School of Art students and graduates who will work under the guidance of leading expert Patricia Jackson. This grant has been offered as a 'challenge grant', with Watts Gallery Trust working to match the donations in order to release the funding. This grant has been offered as a 'challenge grant', with Watts Gallery Trust working to match the donations in order to release the funding.

Other successful projects in this area include Hay Castle Trust and Southampton City Art Gallery. Contributing to the preservation and purchase of Hay Castle, the **Hay Castle Trust** will also use their **£25,575** grant to advance education on the architecture of the building through a programme of traditional building and heritage courses for young people no longer in education or work. **Southampton City Art Gallery** will use their **£3,600** to conserve three frames in the Burne Jones' Perseus series, a collection recognised for its importance worldwide and on request by the Tate Britain for their 2018/19 Burne Jones exhibition.

The Foundation believes that in order to maintain vibrancy in the arts, it is critical to recognise the importance of the nation's fine art and heritage sectors so it can be enjoyed and understood for future generations. Recognising that these are difficult economic times to get ahead, the Trustees have prioritised projects that promote this area for the public benefit, as well as ensuring its future through the development of professional training, apprenticeships and work place experience.

Another major grant recipient is **The Old Vic Theatre Trust** who will receive **£105,000** over three years to support The Old Vic 12 mentoring project for 12 young aspiring theatre artists. Each year participants will have an individual mentor, receive paid experience to develop their craft, be provided with a space to develop and rehearse their own projects and have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the life of a theatre. Applications will be encouraged from diverse backgrounds, non-traditional routes into theatre and from across the UK to ensure a wide spectrum of voices on the project.

The remaining grants have been awarded to Birmingham Royal Ballet, Lyric Theatre Hammersmith, Generation Arts and Salisbury Playhouse for projects working with diverse and marginalised communities, as well as projects supporting emerging artists at Southwark Playhouse, Hull Truck Theatre and Tangled Feet Theatre Company. Further projects inspiring young performers and supporting the provision of arts services across the country have been awarded to Music in the Round, Dad's Rock Academy, Music in Secondary Schools Trust, Philharmonia Orchestra, Community & Youth Music Library, Rowan and Grundisburgh Symphony Orchestra.

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**About The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation**

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- 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 £14m 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](http://www.andrewlloydwebberfoundation.com)