

theatre Royal Wakefield

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Theatre Royal Wakefield awarded **£4000** **from Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation**

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation has awarded £4000 to Theatre Royal Wakefield to support their search for new talent.

The funding provides bursaries to Theatre Royal Performance Academy for young people who might not otherwise be able to take part in their weekly theatre training class, which teaches singing, acting and dancing skills to students from across the Wakefield District.

Head of Fundraising & Partnerships, Jon Ingham, who put together the application said:

“We are overjoyed that we were successful in this application. We will be in a position to offer a number of bursaries to young people who may have skills in this area but are unable to further them due to financial restrictions. This means that we are able to continue to develop the talent within the district and find the star performers for our own youth productions of CATS (26 August – 5 September 2015) and Jesus Christ Superstar (August/September 2016) with the potential to be the future stars of the West End.”

Established in 2011, the Performance Academy also offers audition opportunities to participants for Theatre Royal Wakefield’s highly successful Christmas Pantomimes including this year’s Dick Whittington (26 November – 4 January 2016).

Lady Lloyd Webber, Trustee of the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation said:-

‘I’m delighted that the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation is able to support this worthwhile scheme from Theatre Royal Wakefield. We believe that to maintain vibrancy in the arts, it is critical that the new generation of potential artists are nurtured and encouraged and we’re particularly keen to ensure that this includes people from all economic circumstances. I wish all the young people well in the Cats and Jesus Christ Superstar youth productions.’

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 £10m 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, £1m to The Architectural Heritage Fund, £1m to The Music in Secondary Schools Trust and over £350,000 annually to fund 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need. The Foundation owns two important paintings, a Canaletto “Old Horse Guards from St James’s Park”, currently on exhibition at Holburne Museum, Bath and a Stanley Spencer “The Garage” on exhibition at The Stanley Spencer Gallery in Cookham, Berkshire.

Ends

For more information please contact Jon Ingham, Head of Fundraising & Partnerships on 01924 334116 or jon.ingham@theatreroyalwakefield.co.uk