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Andrew Lloyd Webber
Foundation

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER FOUNDATION WELCOMES HISTORIAN SIMON THURLEY TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Today, Wednesday 2 September, the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation is delighted to announce the appointment of Simon Thurley, historian and former CEO of English Heritage, to the board of Trustees.

As former Curator of Historic Royal Palaces, Director of the Museum of London and, until May of this year, CEO of English Heritage, Thurley brings with him extensive expertise in protecting and preserving our heritage.

As a Trustee, Simon Thurley will be involved in the Foundation's active grant giving programme. Founded in 2010, the programme has now awarded grants of over £10m to more than 200 recipients for projects which make a visible positive impact on the quality of life of both individuals and local communities.

Many of these grants support heritage projects, such as the Theatre Trust's Protection Fund Small Grants Scheme, the Annual English Heritage Angel Awards and the Architectural Heritage Fund's 'Challenge Fund', which the Foundation supported in 2011 with a £1 million grant over five years.

Andrew Lloyd Webber said:

'I am passionate about saving heritage at risk and am delighted to welcome Simon to our board of Trustees. His expert knowledge will prove invaluable to the Foundation's growing support of heritage projects.'

Simon Thurley said:

'Our wonderful heritage plays such a positive role in improving the quality of people's lives and through my involvement with the Foundation I look forward to helping ensure that communities are able to enjoy this heritage for many years to come.'

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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 over £9m 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.

About Simon Thurley

Simon John Thurley, CBE, FSA, FRIBA, FRHistS (born 29 August 1962, Huntingdon) is an academic and architectural historian, and the former Chief Executive of English Heritage (2002 to 2015), Director of the Museum of London (1997 – 2002), and Curator of Historic Royal Palaces (1989 – 1997). Since leaving the English Heritage in May 2015, Thurley has taken up a Senior Research Fellowship at the Institute of Historical Research.

Simon Thurley has also written multiple academic articles and books, including: *The Building of England: How the History of England has shaped our buildings* (William Collins, 2013); *Men from the Ministry: How Britain Saved its Heritage* (Yale, 2013); *Hampton Court Palace: A Social and Architectural History* (Yale, 2004); *Whitehall Palace: An Architectural History of the Royal Apartments, 1240-1698* (Yale University Press, 1999); and *The Royal Palaces of Tudor England: A Social and Architectural History* (Yale University Press, 1993). His new book, *Houses of Power*, will be published by Transworld in 2016. Simon has also appeared regularly on television, commenting on history, heritage and the history of London.

Simon lives in Norfolk with his wife, author and Director of the Landmark Trust, Anna Keay, and their two children.

For further information on the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation,
please contact Four Colman Getty:
Truda Spruyt on Truda.spruyt@fourcolmangetty.com / 020 3697 4248
Hannah McMillan on Hannah.mcmillan@fourcolmangetty.com / 020 3697 4260