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Andrew Lloyd Webber
Foundation

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation grants over £1million to support aspiring actors, vital music education and training in heritage crafts

- **28** new grants awarded worth a total of **£1,105,558** to projects across the UK
- **The Stage** newspaper awarded funds to set up a free online resource for emerging talent from all backgrounds
 - A number of grants support important music education initiatives

The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation has awarded grants worth over £1 million pounds to 28 projects across the UK this summer. These form part of the Foundation's active grant giving programme, which supports projects that focus on the enhancement of arts education, participation, improving access and increasing diversity across the arts, culture and heritage sector.

The recipients of this round of grants are **Alt Actor Training, Batley & Spenneth Youth Theatre Company Ltd., Boomsatsuma, Chelsea Quavers Music School, Clod Ensemble, Creative Futures, East London Arts and Music (ELAM), English Schools Orchestra, Fethard Council Heritage Centre, Hackney New Primary School, Historic England, Holy Trinity School, Leicester Curve Theatre, Lincoln Cathedral, London Chamber Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Montgomery Holloway Music Trust, National Theatre of Scotland, North East of Scotland Music School, Orpheus Centre, PEEK, Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), Stage One, The Stage, Theatres Trust, Toonspeak Young People's Theatre, United Learning and Welsh National Opera.**

The world's longest-running publication for the performing arts industry, **The Stage**, has been awarded the highest amount of **£175,000** over three years. This will support the creation of a free online data resource detailing the full range of training opportunities and careers in theatre, as well as funding and support that is available for aspiring theatre workers. It will have a particular focus on opportunities for those from disadvantaged backgrounds, including young people from BAME backgrounds. The project has sprung from one of the key recommendations of the **Centre Stage** report, published by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation last year.

Also, awarded over three years, the **Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC)** received **£121,880** towards Next Generation, a talent development programme for young people aged 13 to 18. The programme will recruit talented young people from the RSC's nationwide partnerships with schools and regional theatres, known as the Associate Schools programme. Some of the best theatre-makers, actors and directors in the business will give advice, teaching, support and practical experience, under the guidance of the RSC, with

workshops and residential courses in Stratford-upon-Avon. Next Generation will encourage new talent, who would not have had access to these opportunities, to enter a career in the theatre in either acting, directing or working backstage. (The RSC will make a further announcement in September).

Theatres Trust, the national advisory public body for theatres that advises on planning, operations, regeneration, development, architecture and design to make theatres sustainable and accessible has been awarded **£90,000** over three years. Since April 2012, ALWF has supported the UK Small Grants Scheme generating 241 applications and 50 awards to address urgent building repairs and help theatres in need and at risk across the UK. Funding will extend this scheme for a further three years and support more theatres with their capital projects. Grants awarded include Royal Court Liverpool, Oldham Coliseum, Hackney Empire, Bush Theatre, Blackpool Grand Theatre, Shanklin Theatre Isle of Wight, Theatre Royal Dumfries and Wyeseide Arts Centre, Wales.

Stage One has been providing training and support to new UK producers in theatre for 40 years. The charity has been awarded **£69,600** over two years to fund **The Producer Placement Scheme** that offers a unique hands-on training opportunity within established and experienced producing companies or regional subsidised venues. Successful applicants to the scheme will receive a living wage for the year spending either 6 months with one production office and 6 months with another or 12 months within one producing house where they learn all aspects of theatre production. The training is open to those who do not have the funds to pay for a course or are hindered by their geographic location.

United Learning is a group of schools across the UK which aims to provide excellent education to children and young people across the country. They believe in the power of the arts to have a transformative effect in schools and seek to improve the life chances of all children and young people. **The Access to Theatre Programme** to run in secondary schools has been awarded **£49,000** over two years and will add to the schools' curriculum by bringing students, teachers and practitioners from the performing arts together to learn, train and perform in a professional environment. There will be two programme strands in Physical Theatre delivered by Frantic Assembly and Contemporary Dance delivered by Ballet Boyz.

The Foundation also continues to support projects that provide opportunities for young people to develop lifelong skills and obtain qualifications within the heritage construction sector through grants awarded to **Historic England** and **Lincoln Cathedral**.

Historic England has been awarded **£95,447** over three years towards their **Heritage Skills Programme**, as part of the Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings Heritage Lottery Funded project. It will provide 175 training opportunities, 20 work-based placements and 200 continued professional development opportunities for trainees, students and professionals - focusing on specific heritage crafts – in addition to 20 hard hat tours for members of the public.

Lincoln Cathedral has been awarded **£16,500** towards the development of Heritage Skills of members of its in house Works Department. These individuals will be using their enhanced skills to conserve and restore Lincoln Cathedral, which is currently the only English Cathedral on the Heritage at Risk Register.

New Theatre Talent, a year-long, part-time theatre training programme for 25 young people aged 18-25, provided by **Curve**, has been awarded **£27,500**. Managed by **Leicester Theatre Trust**, the programme aims to recruit talented young adults from BAME backgrounds from neighbourhoods rated the 21st most deprived Local Authority area in England. The scheme will focus on providing free training for stage and musical performance skills which will culminate in a final musical showcase at Curve.

Boomsatsuma was created in 2011 to deliver the highest quality arts and creative opportunities for children and young people in the West of England. They have been awarded **£27,000** to fund free drama and technical training for BAME young people aged 13 to 19 in East Bristol. The training will be delivered by professional tutors working at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School (BOVTS) in weekly classes and school holiday workshops culminating in a public performance.

Andrew Lloyd Webber said:

'I'm delighted to see the range and depth of the initiatives that the Foundation is funding. It's particularly gratifying that the Foundation is helping to address one of the recommendations of its Centre Stage report, working with The Stage and other funders, so that young people of talent, whatever their background, can gain access to the opportunities and training they need to forge a successful career in the performing arts.'

Further grants awarded are:

- **£6,000** to **Alt Actor Training** towards a new and free actor training company working exclusively with BAME actors from low income backgrounds in London and Manchester.
- **£5,000** to **Batley & Spen Youth Theatre Company Ltd** that was set up to pay tribute to the late Jo Cox MP aims to leave a lasting legacy for young people in the town. The company's first project 'Hear the People Sing' includes a production of *Les Misérables* with a local cast & company.
- **£4,185** over three years to **Chelsea Quavers Music School** that teaches children from the age of 4 to read, write, perform, develop aural skills, compose and perform music using their series of Chelsea Quavers Music Puzzles.
- **£23,185** over three years to **Clod Ensemble** to support GCSE and A Level students from two London schools in Haringey and Islington to develop a firm grasp of classical music theory and history by providing leaders, workshops and one-to-one mentoring sessions focusing on the composition component.
- **£45,000** over three years to **Creative Futures** a multi-arts charity which delivers participatory creative arts and music projects for children and young people, especially in areas of deprivation in London and beyond.
- **£90,000** over three years to **East London Arts and Music (ELAM)** a state funded free school that offers talented young people from tough backgrounds the opportunity to train with industry specialists, leading to successful lives in the creative industries.
- **£40,000** over two years to **English Schools Orchestra (ESO)** towards a composing project for disadvantaged pupils in schools across London in partnership with MiSST, Academy Trusts, Lewisham Hub, Goldsmiths and English Young Artists' Sinfonia.
- **£10,000** to **Fethard Council Heritage Centre** towards the employment of a Museum Curator at the Fethard Council Heritage Centre.
- **£14,386** to **Hackney New Primary School** towards the purchase of musical instruments. The children will have daily music lessons and the school has employed a full-time music teacher to run the programme. The instruments will remain at the school and be available for generations of children to use.
- **€30,000** (£26,500) to **Holy Trinity School** to fund musical instruments and tuition costs for five years. The school is committed to providing music tuition as part of the school curriculum and every child from age 9 will have an opportunity to play a musical instrument and to progress to the school orchestra.
- **£10,000** to **London Chamber Orchestra** Music Junction project - towards nurturing young people's musical appreciation, understanding and talent so that orchestral music becomes a familiar

part of their lives, as well as to encourage greater empathy and connection between young people from different backgrounds - including children who face disadvantage or extreme vulnerability - and to build lasting relationships between schools and communities. Working with partner schools and organisations in Kent, Berkshire, Waltham Forest and Havering providing opportunities for shared experience to bridge social divides through creative music making and instrumental learning.

- **£30,000** over three years to **London Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO)** towards their LPO Junior Artists project to tackle diversity in the orchestral workforce. LPO Junior Artists core programme is for 8 talented young musicians at Grade 7+, aged 15-19 and a second strand for younger students LPO Junior Artists: Overture aimed at children, Grade 4 +, aged 7-14, all from communities and backgrounds currently under-represented in the orchestral profession.
- **£2,000** to **Montgomery Holloway Music Trust** towards bursaries for disadvantaged students, aged 16 to 25, to attend their Summer School which is their advanced performance course and provides talented musicians with a variety of opportunities to develop their skills through creative experiences.
- **£10,000** to **National Theatre of Scotland** towards an open paid internship programme for five people from BAME communities. Each intern will receive five weeks paid employment beginning with an induction week, where they will learn the aims and mechanisms of each department within the National Theatre of Scotland.
- **£5,490** to **North East of Scotland Music School** towards travel costs for a qualified professional, Nigel Clayton FRCM from London to Aberdeen to teach music to gifted musicians from school age to maturity, in Aberdeen and NE Scotland.
- **£90,000** over three years to the **Orpheus Centre**, an inclusive, performing arts centre that provides opportunities for personal development through the performing arts and other learning experiences for young, disabled adults. The funding will go towards their Learning and Transition project which will provide supported internships, training in interview skills and creating a CV, and students achieving accredited qualifications in life and living skills.
- **£10,985** to **PEEK** to provide quality music workshops and develop a choir for young people who would not otherwise have access.
- **£5,900** to **Toonspeak Young People's Theatre** towards their Silver Arts Awards (Production and Performance) project which are nationally recognised qualifications delivered by one to one mentoring for young artists aged 11 to 25 from areas of exceptional social exclusion in Glasgow.
- **£5,000** to **Welsh National Opera (WNO)** towards the establishment of WNO Youth Opera in Birmingham. There will be a focus on developing progression routes into the arts for participants from BAME and economically challenged backgrounds.

- ENDS -

For further information on the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, please contact Four Colman Getty at:

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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 £17.5m 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