

PRESS RELEASE 21 August 2017

Six theatres awarded grants by UK Theatres Small Grants Scheme as Theatres Trust announces extension of scheme

Theatres Trust are pleased to announce the tenth round of awards from its **UK Theatres Small Grants Scheme** (UKSGS) offering grants of up to £5,000 and supported by the **Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation** and **Judy Craymer MBE**.

The recipients for Round 10 are:

- **Tobacco Factory Theatres, Bristol** to build a new dimmer room which will support a new studio space. £4,635
- **Criterion Theatre, Coventry** to tackle an urgent asbestos removal project and rebuild the scenery store. £5,000
- **Farnham Maltings** towards the installation of two new lifts which will improve the accessibility of the stage and rehearsal spaces. £5,000
- **Citizens Theatre, Glasgow** for works to clear the ceiling space and make sure it remains in a safe condition. £4,320
- **Acorn Theatre, Penzance** for a number of essential health and safety works to raise handrails and secure the building. £5,000
- **The Bear Pit, Stratford-Upon-Avon** to improve stage access and install a new ventilation system. £5,000

The **UKSGS** has run for ten rounds since 2012 with Round 10 marking the end of the previously announced scheme. The UKSGS has generated 241 applications and 51 awards to theatres large and small, ensuring access to the arts is nationwide. From Penzance to Thurso, the scheme has funded theatres in England, Scotland and Wales. Successful projects covered a range of improvements to facilities so that theatre buildings are more accessible for disabled audiences, performers and staff.

Jon Morgan, Director of the **Theatres Trust** said “The range of organisations that this scheme has supported reflects how a small grant can go a long way to protect the continued use of a theatre. The generous support of our funders has allowed us to extend this scheme and we look forward to helping more theatres to thrive and serve their communities.

New funding has been received from **Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation** and the **Charles Michael Holloway Charitable Trust** which will allow the Theatres Trust to extend this scheme by a further 3 years.

Madeleine Lloyd Webber, Trustee of the **Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation**, said “The UK Theatres Small Grants Scheme provides a lifeline to theatres across the country enabling them to undertake vital works to keep them open and accessible to all. I am delighted to see other donors join us to support these important buildings in the tenth round of funding.”

Applications for the **UKSGS** are open now with a deadline of 7 January 2018

Theatres Trust

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Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

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The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres

The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund co-operates with Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Tobacco Factory Theatres is located on the first floor of the Tobacco Factory building in Bristol. In a complete transformation of the current footprint of Tobacco Factory Theatres, a capital project will reconfigure the existing space to create a new flexible and multi-purpose studio. Theatres Trust will support the construction of a new dimmer room to jointly support the existing space and the new studio. The new studio space will increase the number of performances presented and create a more sustainable business model for Tobacco Factory Theatres.

Contact | Becky Cresswell, becky@tobaccofactorytheatres.com, tobaccofactorytheatres.com

Criterion Theatre, Coventry is a volunteer run theatre. The supported project involves the immediate removal of the asbestos roof and gable ends of the scenery store to the rear of the theatre building, replacing it with a new scenery store. This will deal with the urgent need to remove asbestos from a deteriorating part of the building whilst allowing the theatre to continue producing its shows.

Contact | Emma Withers, publicity@critteriontheatre.co.uk, critteriontheatre.co.uk

Farnham Maltings' Going Up! Project is part of a programme of lift refurbishment to upgrade existing facilities and enable visitors to access all areas at all times. Supporting this project Theatres Trust will contribute towards the replacement of a lift to the first floor, which provides access to studio spaces, and the installation of a new lift to provide access to the performance area in the Great Hall.

Contact | Niki Hanmer, niki.hanmer@farnhammaltings.com, farnhammaltings.com

Citizens Theatre, Glasgow's auditorium was built in 1876 and the theatre opened to the public two years later. While many original features of the auditorium have been preserved and restored, the enclosed dome area above the auditorium has not been touched since the theatre's opening. Theatres Trust will support the specialist removal of over 130 years' worth of dust and debris from the ceiling void, improving access to the dome.

Contact | Keren Nicol, keren@citz.co.uk, citz.co.uk

Acorn Theatre, Penzance is the most westerly, all-year-round, centre for the performing arts in the UK. As part of a larger capital project Theatres Trust will support repairs and improvements to the building which will make it safer and more secure. Handrails will be raised, floors repaired, secure gates installed and the emergency lighting replaced; all interventions that will protect The Acorn for the future.

Contact | Paul Mullin, admin@theacornpenzance.com, theacornpenzance.com

The Bear Pit, Stratford-Upon-Avon is being converted from a community hall into a theatre space, with new back of house facilities. Theatres Trust's grant will support the installation of dock doors for level stage access to allow sets to be brought on to the stage, improve evacuation routes and disabled access. The grant will also improve the ventilation of the space.

Contact | Pam Hickson, info@thebearpit.org.uk, thebearpit.org.uk

Previous recipients of the UK Theatres Small Grants Scheme

Round 1 | Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool; Little Theatre, Sleaford; Coliseum, Oldham; Wilton's Music Hall, Tower Hamlets; Half Moon Young People's Theatre, Tower Hamlets; Soho Theatre, Westminster

Round 2 | Citadel Arts Centre, St Helens; Royal Court Theatre, Bacup; Hackney Empire, Hackney; Robin Hood Theatre, Newark; Wyeside Arts Centre, Powys; Bush Theatre, Hammersmith and Fulham

Round 3 | The Malt Cross, Nottingham; Mill Theatre, Thurso; Little Theatre, Preston; Tom Thumb Theatre, Margate

Round 4 | Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford; Tara Arts, Wandsworth; Beccles Public Hall, Suffolk; Alnwick Playhouse, Northumberland; Hoxton Hall, Hackney

Round 5 | Grand Theatre, Blackpool; The Players Theatre, Thame; Shanklin Theatre, Isle of Wight; Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells; Theatre Royal Stratford East, Newham

Round 6 | Burgh Hall, Dunoon; Little Angel Theatre, Islington; People's Theatre, Newcastle; Polka Theatre, Merton; The Workshop, Halifax

Round 7 | Horse and Bamboo Theatre, Rossendale; Upfront Arts, Penrith; Hippodrome, Pendle; Theatre Royal, Dumfries; Wardrobe Theatre, Bristol

Round 8 | Theatre Royal, Winchester; Friargate, York; Tron Theatre, Glasgow; Bridgwater Arts Centre, Somerset; Marine Theatre, Lyme Regis; Empire, Burnley

Round 9 | Plough Arts Centre, Torrington; Market Theatre, Ledbury; Carnegie Theatre, Workington; The Place, Bedford; Grand Pavilion, Matlock Bath; Leatherhead Theatre, Surrey

Theatres Trust is the UK national advisory public body for theatres. We believe that current and future generations should have access to good quality theatre buildings where they can be inspired by, and enjoy, live theatre. We champion the past, present and future of live theatre, by protecting the buildings and what goes on inside. We do this through providing advice on planning and development, supplying resources and advice to make theatres sustainable and offering financial assistance through grants. We help people discover more about theatres and campaign for theatres at risk. theatrestrust.org.uk

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. andrewlloydwebberfoundation.com

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Judy Craymer MBE Judy Craymer is the creator and global producer of MAMMA MIA!, the smash-hit musical based on the songs of ABBA. In September 2012 Judy Craymer matched the ALWF with her own personal donation of £125,000 over five years. "MAMMA MIA!" has already been seen by more than 54 million people in over 400 cities across North America, Australia,

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



Europe and Asia. There have been 39 productions in 14 languages. In 2008, Judy produced the movie adaptation of the musical, which became the highest grossing musical film ever worldwide, with the DVD becoming the biggest selling DVD ever in the UK. MAMMA MIA! is now showing at the Novello Theatre. Further information: mamma-mia.com, @MammaMiaMusical, facebook.com/mammamiamusical.

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Charles Michael Holloway Charitable Trust Charles Holloway, a Theatres Trust Friend, provides grant support for the Theatres Trust's UK Theatres Grants Scheme via the Charles Michael Holloway Charitable Trust which provides grants to charities or voluntary bodies.