

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation launches new grant fund to protect Victorian theatre buildings

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, founded by the composer in 1992, has announced a new grant fund to support the protection, conservation and long-term success of Victorian theatre buildings across the UK.

The Victorian Theatres Small Repairs Fund will provide capital funding to discreet and vital repairs or conservation projects in listed* theatre buildings built between 1837 and 1910. The Fund will have a particular focus on urgent or historically significant projects for which it is otherwise difficult to raise money. In addition, an emphasis will be placed on theatre buildings which have a programme of performing activity which encourages social, economic and cultural diversity in the arts.

Individual grants of up to £15,000 will be awarded on a matched funding basis. Recipients must be an active theatre, or those who can demonstrate that the project is vital to the reopening of their building, and owned by a charity or not-for-profit organisation.

Dr Simon Thurley CBE, Trustee of Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, adds:

'Victorian theatres are important to many towns and cities: monuments to civic pride and much loved community assets. But many struggle with complex and expensive repairs. Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation wants to help these theatres remain serving their communities, bringing joy to audiences and opportunities for those who work there. We hope these grants will help secure the future of Victorian theatres not just as architectural gems but as vital assets at the heart of our communities'

Applications for the Victoria Theatres Small Repairs Fund are open now. For more information please see the website www.andrewlloydwebberfoundation.com or contact enquiries@andrewlloydwebberfoundation.

Listed as Grade I, II and II (England), A B and C (Scotland) or A B+ B B1 B2 (Northern Ireland)

NOTES TO EDITOR

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation is registered charity 1015648, set up by Andrew Lloyd Webber in 1992 to promote the arts, culture and heritage for the public benefit. Since inception Andrew Lloyd Webber has been the principal provider of funding for all its charitable activities.

In 2011, Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation embarked on an active grant giving programme and has now awarded grants of £22 million 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
- £3.5m to the Music in Secondary Schools Trust
- £1m to The Architectural Heritage Fund, \$1.3m to the American Theatre Wing
- Over £350,000 annually to fund up to 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need.
- The Foundation is also a founding supporter of the Get Into Theatre careers website www.getintotheatre.org

Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation exists to:

- **champion** wider access to the arts and heritage by supporting projects that reach diverse communities and those who would not otherwise be able to participate
- **prioritise** projects that enable people to develop their abilities and careers, by providing professional education, training, apprenticeships and workplace experience in all areas of the arts, from stone masonry to youth orchestras and stage electricians
- promote excellence in all areas of the arts, culture and heritage
- **continue** a role as high profile champion of the benefits of engagement in the arts and heritage and the importance of diversity in the sectors