



PRESS RELEASE

FOURTH ROUND OF SMALL GRANTS ANNOUNCED BY THE THEATRES TRUST

8am, 29 January 2014, London, UK

The Theatres Trust is pleased to announce its fourth round of small capital grants to theatres across the nation. Awards are made to five community theatres for projects that will make important capital improvements, including one of the rarest surviving music halls, Hoxton Hall, and the community-owned and volunteer-run Beccles Public Hall & Theatre.

Grants have been awarded to:

Alnwick Playhouse: This cultural hub in Northumberland receives £5,000 towards the 'Alnwick Playhouse & Community Arts Centre Roof Repairs' project to enable it to carry out urgent remedial repairs and protect the fabric of the building.

Beccles Public Hall & Theatre: It receives £5,000 towards an 'Improving Access to the Stage' project, removing part of a side wall to give better access to the stage, and remedial works to remodel the roof as part of a larger programme of renovation and improvement works.

Hoxton Hall, London: This rare Grade II* listed music hall in Hackney, East London, receives £5,000 towards its 'Conservation, Restoration and Modernisation' project to carry out structural and strengthening works to its upper balcony which will enable it to create four new and accessible performance formats.

Tara Arts: London's first Asian-led theatre, based in Wandsworth, receives £5,000 towards the installation of a set of internal double-leaf, fire-proof acoustic doors for its new auditorium as part of the 'Tara Theatre Renovation Project'.

Yvonne Arnaud Theatre: Guildford's Grade II listed theatre receives £5,000 towards the 'Refurbishment and Installation of Automatic Sliding Doors' to improve accessibility through upgrading the main entrance to the theatre and the entrance to the auditorium.

Rob Dickins CBE Chair of The Theatres Trust said: "With the support of the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation and Judy Craymer MBE so far we have been able to fund 22 projects. The Hackney Empire's roof is now buddleia free, the Soho Theatre has an excellent new front door, and Wales' Builth Wells Wyeside Arts Centre is now thankfully watertight. Through the Theatres Protection Fund we have made

a real contribution to the maintenance of theatres ensuring they are safe and secure for audiences to enjoy.”

The Trust's Small Grants Scheme helps theatres in need and at risk address urgent building repairs, improve their operational viability, introduce environmental improvements, and enhance physical accessibility. Trustees of The Theatres Trust will meet again in June 2014 to consider further Small Grants Scheme awards.

For more details see [Notes to Editors](#) or contact [Kate Carmichael](#),

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