

PRESS RELEASE 25 July 2017

Theatres Trust in partnership with the Wolfson Foundation announces Urgent Repairs recipients

Theatres Trust, the national advisory public body for theatres, will be awarding a selection of theatres a total of **£44,313** in its first funding round as part of the **Urgent Repairs Scheme**. The new fund, set up in partnership with the **Wolfson Foundation**, helps theatres in need of immediate repair and maintenance - which otherwise could face closure.

Recipients of the Urgent Repairs Scheme:

Trinity Centre, Bristol will receive £15,000 for roof repairs.

Royal Court Bacup will receive £15,000 for electrical work to replace the mains distribution board and wiring.

Saltburn Community Arts will receive £14,313 for fire alarms and emergency lighting.

Through the **Urgent Repairs Scheme** theatres are able to apply for grants of up to £15,000. The scheme is open to all theatres who can demonstrate a commitment to excellence in architecture and programming of live performance.

Director at Theatres Trust, Jon Morgan says: "We received a range of applications from theatres of all sizes for this scheme and evidently there is an urgent need to fund works throughout the UK. We are pleased to be able to support these successful applicants to keep their theatres open for their local communities to enjoy."

Chief Executive of the Wolfson Foundation, Paul Ramsbottom, says: "The Wolfson Foundation has a long history of working in partnership with expert bodies, and we are delighted to be working with Theatres Trust to ensure our funding can support excellent theatres most in need of repair."

Round Two of the pilot scheme will close on **Friday 15 September 2017**, with awards being announced in January 2018. Further details including criteria and application forms can be found: theatrestrust.org.uk/grants

ENDS

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Chair Tim Eyles **Director** Jon Morgan

Trustees Richard Baldwin, David Blyth, Pam Bone, Paul Cartwright, Paddy Dillon, Ruth Eastwood, David Ian, Richard Johnston, Gary Kemp, Dara Ó Briain, Simon Ricketts, Peter Roberts, Ann Skippers, Anna Stapleton

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

NOTES TO EDITORS

Images from Tom Stickland on request,

Trinity Centre, Bristol is a participatory Arts Centre in Bristol located inside a converted Grade II* listed Georgian church. The supported works will prevent future water ingress protecting the Fyfe Hall theatre space below. The Urgent Repairs Scheme will help fund works to the roof, including repairing and replacing lead-work on the North Aisle, works to repair already damaged timbers, and appropriate insulation of the space.

Contact | Sarah Bentley, Marketing Officer, Trinity Community Arts, 0117 935 1200,
sarahb@3ca.org.uk, 3ca.org.uk

Royal Court, Bacup in use since 1893 is a hidden gem of a theatre built into the valley side of the River Irwell in Lancashire. It presents professional acts, in house and local productions as well as supporting many local groups involved in community activities. Urgent electrical works are required to bring the aging infrastructure up to modern standards. Theatres Trust and the Wolfson Foundation will support these works which include the installation of new distribution boards and re-wiring of the theatre.

Contact | Nick Sands, Vice Chair Bacup Royal Court Theatre Group, 01706 874988,
njsnads@btinternet.com, bacuproyalcourttheatre.com

Saltburn Community Theatre in the East Cleveland District of Yorkshire is located in a Grade II listed church which hosts productions by UK touring theatre groups and is home to the '53 Drama Group. The Urgent Repairs Scheme will pay for an overhaul of the fire safety systems front and back of house including a new alarm system and improved emergency lighting. Making this theatre safer will allow it to continue to be enjoyed by audiences and performers alike.

Contact | Trev Wardle, Director of Visual Arts, Saltburn Community and Arts Association, 01287 201625, trevwardle@btinternet.com, saltburnarts.co.uk

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

The Wolfson Foundation is an independent charity that aims to improve the civic health of society by supporting excellence in the fields of science, health, education and the arts and humanities. Founded in 1955, it has awarded over £800 million (£1.7 billion in real terms) to some 10,000 projects across the UK, all on the basis of expert peer review. The Foundation's existing funding programme for the performing arts aims to support and promote excellence in the sector.

Wolfson Foundation has long been providing capital funding to the cultural sector, supporting

Protecting theatres for **everyone**



museums and galleries, historic sites, educational institutions and performing arts organisations. Since the beginning of the year Theatres Trust has been working with the Foundation to develop a scheme focusing on smaller, regional theatres, complementing its existing funding programme and building on the knowledge and expertise of Theatres Trust. 2017 will be a pilot year for the Urgent Repairs Scheme, with the Wolfson Foundation providing £100,000 funding and Theatres Trust managing the application and evaluation process. wolfson.org.uk/funding/arts-and-humanities/performing-arts/