

## Theatre Royal Plymouth receives lifeline grant from Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund

Theatre Royal Plymouth has been awarded £1,896,000 as part of the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund to help face the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic and to ensure they have a sustainable future, the Culture Secretary Oliver Dowden has announced today.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is one of 35 major cultural organisations receiving the first grants between £1 and £3 million through the Culture Recovery Fund – with £75 million of investment announced today.

This follows £334 million awarded earlier in the month to nearly 2,000 organisations, also from the Culture Recovery Fund grants programme being administered by Arts Council England. Further rounds of funding in the cultural and heritage sector are due to be announced over the coming weeks.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the South West's principal centre for performing arts and has an extensive education and community engagement programme that reaches thousands annually.

The doors to Theatre Royal Plymouth have sadly been closed to the public for over six months, the first time in its 37-year history, and saw over 90% of their income vanish overnight, leaving the charity in a precarious position. This funding will enable them to continue to deliver their life-changing community engagement projects, support local communities and theatre-makers, creative freelancers and to stage live socially distanced performance.

**Culture Secretary Oliver Dowden said:** *"As part of our unprecedented £1.57 billion rescue fund, today we're saving British cultural icons with large grants of up to £3 million – from Shakespeare's Globe to the Sheffield Crucible. These places and organisations are irreplaceable parts of our heritage and what make us the cultural superpower we are. This vital funding will secure their future and protect jobs right away."*

**Adrian Vinken, CEO at Theatre Royal Plymouth said:** *"We're relieved to announce that our application to the government's Culture Recovery Fund was successful and we have been awarded a £1,896,000 lifeline. This funding will enable us to continue to deliver our life-changing projects and support our local communities and theatre-makers. It should also help us to welcome audiences back to the theatre to see live shows in a safe and socially distanced way in the near future. This news is a great relief to us, for Plymouth and the cultural landscape of the far south-west and it*

*demonstrates that the government clearly recognises the great economic, social and creative value of an organisation like Theatre Royal Plymouth to this city and region.*

*“Thank you to DCMS and Arts Council England for this fantastic news today and for their clear demonstration of support and confidence in TRP. We look forward to a growing programme of activity across and beyond our stages as conditions allow.”*

**Chair, Arts Council England, Sir Nicholas Serota, said:** *“The Culture Recovery Fund has already helped hundreds of organisations, of all types and sizes, in villages, towns and cities across the country. It has provided a lifeline that will allow these organisations to continue to play an integral role in their communities and produce new artistic work that will entertain and inspire us all.*

*“This latest funding, which are the largest grants to date, will support some of the country’s most loved and admired cultural spaces – from great regional theatres and museums to historic venues in the capital – which are critical to the development of a new generation of talent and in providing work for freelance creatives.”*

## ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on [mediaandcommunications@theatroyal.com](mailto:mediaandcommunications@theatroyal.com) / 01752 230439

**Arts Council England** is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in [Let’s Create](#) that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million **Emergency Response Package**, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of several bodies administering the Government’s **Culture Recovery Fund** and unprecedented support package of £1.57 billion for the culture and heritage sector. Find out more at [www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19)

**Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP)** is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires with the aim of touching lives as the South West’s principal centre for performing arts.



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Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales.

Theatre Royal Plymouth works with partners to understand the challenges people face accessing the arts, especially vulnerable and disadvantaged people. It creates pathways that are genuinely accessible to those who might otherwise never get to engage with the arts. They collaborate to co-create and co-author work that represents the community, creating the space needed for people to tell their story in their own way.

Theatre Royal Plymouth is the UK's largest regional producing theatre. With a focus on embracing the vitality of new talent and supporting emerging and established artists. It collaborates with a range of partners to provide dynamic cultural leadership for the city of Plymouth.



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