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For Immediate Release

DATES CONFIRMED FOR THE FIRST EVER TOUR OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S SMASH HIT WEST END & BROADWAY MUSICAL

NEW AUDITION VIDEO RELEASED <u>HERE</u> ASSET FOLDER ALSO INCLUDES PRODUCTION IMAGES AND TITLE TREATMENT AND PRESS RELEASE

Coming to Theatre Royal Plymouth from Tuesday 03 – Saturday 07 May 2022!

School of Rock - The Musical, Andrew Lloyd Webber's smash hit, award-winning West End show today announces the schedule for its major UK and Ireland 2021/22 tour.

Auditions are in full swing, but who will stick it to the man? Full casting will follow later this summer, but in the meantime go wild for our super-talented young auditionees as they rock out with some killer shred guitar and perfect their stage moves in a new video recorded at the London Palladium.

Based on the hilarious hit movie, this new musical follows Dewey Finn, a failed, wannabe rock star who decides to earn a few extra bucks by posing as a substitute teacher at a prestigious prep school. There he turns a class of straight-A students into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping, mind-blowing rock band – sensationally performed live by the production's young actors every night with roof-raising energy!

While teaching these pint-sized prodigies what it means to truly rock, Dewey falls for the school's beautiful, but uptight headmistress, helping her rediscover the wild child within.

'THE MOST ENJOYABLE FEW HOURS MONEY CAN BUY' THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

Featuring 14 new songs from **Andrew Lloyd Webber** and all the original songs from the movie, this high-octane smash delivers face-melting guitar riffs and touching romance in equally awesome doses.

'A BIG HEARTED SHOW. LOUD AND CHEEKY, A FEEL-GOOD EXPERIENCE WITH A HINT OF ANARCHIC WILDNESS' EVENING STANDARD

The production opened on Broadway at the Winter Garden Theatre in December 2015 before quickly transferring to the West End and opening at the New London Theatre (now the Gillian Lynne Theatre) in November 2016 to 5-star reviews and widespread critical acclaim. It went on to win the Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in



Mayflower 400



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Music. The Australian production opened at Her Majesty's Theatre in Melbourne in October 2018 before embarking on a national tour of China, and a short season in Korea, before returning back to Australia for seasons in Brisbane and Sydney.

'A TRIUMPH FOR ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER AS THE KING OF HIT MUSICALS' DAILY MIRROR

School of Rock - The Musical features new music written by Andrew Lloyd Webber with lyrics by Glenn Slater (*The Little Mermaid, Sister Act*) and a book by Julian Fellowes. It was originally directed by Laurence Connor (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, London Palladium 2019) with choreography by JoAnn M.Hunter, set and costume designs by Anna Louizos, lighting design by Natasha Katz, with sound design by Mick-Potter.

Andrew Lloyd Webber is the composer of some of the world's best known musicals including *Cats, Evita, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Jesus Christ Superstar, The Phantom of the Opera (which this year celebrates its 30th anniversary) and Sunset Boulevard.* In New York, *School of Rock – The Musical, a stage version of the movie, is currently running alongside Cats and Phantom of the Opera, equalling Lloyd Webber's previous record of three shows running simultaneously on Broadway.*

His awards, both as composer and producer, include seven Tonys, seven Oliviers, a Golden Globe, an Oscar, the Praemium Imperiale, the Richard Rodgers Award for Excellence in Musical Theatre, a BASCA Fellowship, the Kennedy Center Honor and a Grammy for Best Contemporary Classical Composition for Requiem, his setting of the Latin Requiem mass which contains one of his best known compositions, Pie Jesu. He owns seven London theatres including the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, the New London Theatre and the London Palladium. He was knighted by Her Majesty The Queen in 1992 and created an honorary member of the House of Lords in 1997. He is passionate about the importance of music in education and the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation has become one of Britain's leading charities supporting the arts and music.

School of Rock has a book by **Julian Fellowes**, for which he received a Tony nomination. Julian the creator, writer and executive producer of the worldwide hit TV series Downton Abbey, which has received 69 Emmy Award nominations, winning 15, including two awards for Fellowes.

Casting for the UK Touring production is to be announced.

The UK & Ireland Tour of *School of Rock – The Musical* is produced by **David Ian Productions**.

ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on <u>mediaandcommunications@theatreroyal.com</u> / 01752 230439

Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP) is a registered charity providing art, education and community engagement in Plymouth and across the region. It engages and inspires



1620-2020 Mayflower Britain's Ocean City 400



with the aim of touching lives. Theatre Royal Plymouth presents a year-round programme of world class productions on all scales as the South West's principal centre for performing arts.

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.





