

Thursday 29 September 2022

TRP Press Contact: Savanna Myszka, savanna.myszka@theatreroyal.com

For Immediate Release

Theatre Royal Plymouth Launches New To Industry Technical Residency In Honour Of Lighting Technician

Theatre Royal Plymouth have launched a new to industry technical residency in memory of former lighting technician, Andy Harman, who tragically lost his life in 2021. The Harman Technical Residency will be a first of its kind in the theatre industry, with TRP hoping this new offering could be replicated across the country.

Theatre Royal Plymouth have reflected on how difficult it can be for new people starting out in the industry to gain practical experience and get people's foot in the door to begin their careers. With this they are keen to offer an opportunity to gain real life experience that will cement a passion for theatre and establish a high-quality approach to work that will support our industry and a life-long career.

Matt Hoyle, Head of Technical at Theatre Royal Plymouth said: *"This technical residency will provide valuable career pathways, networking and training opportunities within the UK theatre sector. The 18-month Harman Technical Residency will see the successful candidate work within TRP's established, well respected and experienced technical team on existing skills and will offer mentoring to help enter the technical theatre profession."*

Theatre Royal Plymouth are looking for applicants across the South West and wider UK with existing skills from a relevant higher level qualification looking for their first role in the industry. The exact programme for the successful candidate will be bespoke to the skills, knowledge and experience that individual brings.

To find out more about the Harman Technical Residency at TRP visit

<https://theatreroyal.com/harman-technical-residency/>

ENDS

For further information please contact the Media and Communications team on

public.relations@theatreroyal.com / 01752 230439



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Plymouth
Britain's Ocean City

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. 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.

About Andy Harman

Andy Harman was a valued member of TRP's backstage team for over 16 years. As Lighting Technician, he was responsible for all activity related to the 'Get Ins/Outs' of productions, supporting new members of staff to settle in, having creative input in production meetings, and ensuring health and safety compliance backstage. Sadly, in September 2021, Andy lost his life and everyone who worked at TRP – and his wider theatre sector colleagues – were devastated. Andy played a key role in developing and supporting younger and/or less experienced members of the TRP technical team and was a shining example of hard work and the skills, knowledge and experience required to shine within a technical team.