15 new Arts Fundraising Fellows announced as Arts Council England confirms investment to extend Fellowships programme nationally

As the Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy Programme announces the next 15 Fellows who this year will join arts organisations in the North, the South West and London, Arts Council England has confirmed additional funding to support the programme’s expansion into the Midlands and East/South East in 2015.

The Arts Fundraising Programme Fellowships - the first of their kind in the UK – were established in 2013 to support the arts and cultural sector’s sustainability and ensure its leadership is equipped with the vision, entrepreneurial expertise and ingenuity to secure the future health of the UK’s outstanding arts and cultural sector.

Year 2 of the Fellowship sees 15 new Fellows taking part in year-long traineeships at a diverse range of organisations, including Liverpool Biennale, the Bush Theatre and Create Gloucestershire. The Fellows will learn on the job from experts in the field and support the organisations’ fundraising efforts, whilst working towards receiving a Postgraduate Certificate in Arts Fundraising & Philanthropy, accredited by the University of Leeds.

Year 1 Fellows, who are currently taking part in the National Summer School for Arts Fundraising & Leadership, have already gone on to secure permanent positions at Dance UK, The Roundhouse, Sound and Music and The Lowry, whilst their Hosts have reported significant improvements in their future fundraising capacity.

Dominic Parker, Director of Communications and Development at SAGE, Gateshead, which hosted a Fellow during 2013/14 said: ‘Hosting Adam Cooper, our talented Fundraising Fellow, brought benefits that have seen his career flourish and also brought great value to our own development team. He steered a number of projects for Sage Gateshead’s 10th Birthday Appeal, which has now raised £3m, most notably the Take your Seat campaign, and Royal Northern Sinfonia’s Grade-1-a-thon. His energy and fresh ideas were greatly valued and will stand him in good stead for the future.’

Melanie Aram, Development Director at the Bush Theatre is looking forward to hosting Phoebe Walker during 2014/15. She says: 'We are delighted to be part of this year's Arts
Fundraising & Philanthropy Programme which will have a triple benefit of supporting a recent graduate, enhancing the Bush's fundraising team and increasing capacity and expertise in the sector more widely. This is an exciting time to be joining the Bush Theatre team as we embark on the second phase of development of the Old Library building, continue to champion diversity and promote our vision of risk and discovery in new writing.’

Michelle Wright, Programme Director of the Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy Programme, says: ‘It’s fantastic news that Arts Council England will be supporting the programme’s expansion further across the country, which will enable us to support 25 Fellows in 2015. As our Year 1 Fellowships have proved – a combination of talent, good attitude, fast-track training and peer learning has meant that our Fellows in Year 1 have made a significant impact on their organisations as well as collectively raising more than £550,000 in new income.’

Clare Titley, Director of Philanthropy at Arts Council England, which is supporting the Arts Fundraising and Fellowship Programme, said: ‘The fact that the programme is still going strong into its second year is testament to the success of the Year 1 Fellowships, and demonstrates the necessity of providing training and hands-on experience for future arts fundraisers. The Arts Council is delighted to make a further commitment to the programme by offering funding in principle to support the national roll-out of the scheme. This will result in even more opportunities for fellowships with arts and cultural organisations across England.’

David Platten, the University of Leeds Professor who oversees the accreditation process for the Fellowship programme, says: ‘The University of Leeds is delighted to be developing the first work-based Post Graduate Certificate in Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy in the country. Through access to the latest research and with insights from leaders of some of the country’s leading arts organisations, it provides an academic and theoretical framework, allowing participants to put what they have learned into practice. This marks an important step forward for arts fundraising.’

For interviews, images, and further information, please contact Chloe Barker, PR & Communications Consultant on 07921 866109 or at chloegudrun@live.co.uk

About The Arts Fundraising Programme – www.artsfundraising.org.uk

The Arts Fundraising & Philanthropy Programme came into existence as a result of a national award from Arts Council England’s Catalyst lottery fund. Our aim is to improve the perception of the arts as a charitable cause and enhance fundraising practice, encouraging leadership and entrepreneurialism. Working with trustees, leaders, senior managers and emerging talent, our ambition is that the Programme will inspire, train and
develop people at all levels, helping to achieve a networked, skilled and resilient arts workforce.

Between September 2014 and March 2015 we will be running more than 50 one-day fundraising training courses across England for people working in all aspects of the arts. Details of all our training and events can be found in our brochure: http://artsfundraising.org.uk.

About Arts Council England - www.artsCouncil.org.uk

Arts Council England champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people’s lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2010 and 2015, we will invest £1.9 billion of public money from government and an estimated £1.1 billion from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.

About the Delivery Partners:

Cause4 - www.cause4.co.uk

Cause4 was set up as a social enterprise in May 2009 to support charities, social enterprises and philanthropists in development and fundraising across the charity, arts, sports and educational sectors.

Cause4 seeks to be a modernising influence and leader within the charitable sector, offering relevant, contemporary solutions for charities and social enterprises at a time when more creative, entrepreneurial approaches are much needed. The organisation works in three main areas: strategy and fundraising, philanthropy and enterprise development.

In 2010 Cause4 developed the Entrepreneurship training programme through which it seeks to address the widely-acknowledged shortage of entrepreneurial development and fundraising personnel within the charity sector. The programme identifies young graduates with a passion for the charitable sector and with the entrepreneurial drive, personality and talent to succeed. The Arts Fundraising Programme Fellowships in London have emerged from learning from this original training initiative.

The DARE Partnership - www.dareyou.org.uk
The DARE collaboration between Opera North and University of Leeds, created in 2007, is committed to making a positive contribution to high quality learning and practice in the Arts nationally and internationally.

DARE Fundraising Fellowships are part of a series of DARE professional development programmes, which aim to drive forward practice-led training opportunities to support the needs of cultural organisations in the North. The Fellowships were created in partnership with Royal Northern College of Music, Sage Gateshead and Tate Liverpool.

University of Leeds – www.cciexchange.leeds.ac.uk

University of Leeds is the lead education partner in the Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy Programme delivers the national evaluation and accreditation for learners participating in the programme.
Through its Cultural and Creative Industries sector hub, Cultural and Creative Industries Exchange (CCI Exchange), University of Leeds works in partnership with leading arts and cultural organisations to promote and develop innovation and growth.

With academic colleagues and sector partners it has developed the first National Summer School for Fundraising and Leadership in Europe and a Post Graduate Certificate in Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy with a work-based module.

Informed by our world-class research, CCI Exchange provides a focused and strategic gateway to developing collaboration and partnerships between researchers and cultural partners to foster innovation and to enhance knowledge and skills.

_________________________ Ends