



Press Release 2nd April 2021

Pied Piper Theatre Company are delighted to receive £36,500 from the second round of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund.

This award will help us continue our commitment to creating exciting and engaging theatre for children and babies; and to explore a wider and more diverse audience.

Julie Walters, Patron of Pied Piper Theatre Company, said:

"As Patron of The Pied Piper Theatre Company, I'm delighted to hear that the company are being supported by the Arts Council's Culture Recovery Fund. It's tremendous that the value of their work for young children is recognised."

Tina Williams, Artistic Director of Pied Piper Theatre Company, said:

"This is wonderful news for 'Pied Piper'! The Culture Recovery Fund will enable us to continue with our tour which was cancelled overnight when the third lockdown came in January. We're all set to start again over the month of May with thirty four performances in schools and seven in theatres!"

Our work:

Pied Piper Theatre Company believe that our young audience are entitled to high quality cultural opportunity wherever they live, whatever their socio-economic background.

We use striking design, puppetry and original music to absorb our young audience, and include those who engage visually rather than through language, or for whom English is not a first language, encouraging all our audience to enjoy, participate and engage in the arts.

We believe our audience deserve to feel included in the story, through diverse casting, and relatable characters and language, so that they can connect and better voice their own feelings. We know that our productions inspire role play: in engaging with characters and their dilemmas children can creatively try out solving real-world concerns in a safe space; more important now than ever as they try to process the impact of the pandemic.

The Culture Recovery Fund:

Pied Piper Theatre Company is among more than 2,700 recipients to benefit from the latest round of awards from the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund.

Over £800 million in grants and loans has already been awarded to support almost 3,800 cinemas, performance venues, museums, heritage sites and other cultural organisations dealing with the immediate challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

The second round of awards made today will help organisations to look ahead to the spring and summer and plan for reopening and recovery. After months of closures and cancellations to contain the virus and save lives, this funding will be a much-needed helping hand for organisations transitioning back to normal in the months ahead.

Culture Secretary, Oliver Dowden, said:

“Our record breaking Culture Recovery Fund has already helped thousands of culture and heritage organisations across the country survive the biggest crisis they've ever faced.

Now we're staying by their side as they prepare to welcome the public back through their doors - helping our cultural gems plan for reopening and thrive in the better times ahead.”

Sir Nicholas Serota, Chair, Arts Council England, said:

“Investing in a thriving cultural sector at the heart of communities is a vital part of helping the whole country to recover from the pandemic. These grants will help to re-open theatres, concert halls, and museums and will give artists and companies the opportunity to begin making new work.

We are grateful to the Government for this support and for recognising the paramount importance of culture to our sense of belonging and identity as individuals and as a society.”

The funding awarded today is from a £400 million pot which was held back last year to ensure the Culture Recovery Fund could continue to help organisations in need as the public health picture changed. The funding has been awarded by Arts Council England, as well as Historic England and National Lottery Heritage Fund and the British Film Institute.

Notes to Editors:

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

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 the bodies administering the Government's Culture Recovery Fund. Find out more at www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19.

At the Budget, the Chancellor announced the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund would be boosted with a further £300 million investment. Details of this third round of funding will be announced soon.