

## **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**Report To: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 17 March 2003**

**Report On: Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department, Revenue Support 2003-2004**

**Report By: Director of Leisure and Arts**

**Report No. 248-2003**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To submit to the Committee a request for renewal of revenue funding to Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department, 2003/2004.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That the Committee approves the level of grant funding amounting to £18,728 as set out in the Report.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The funding recommended is £18,728, which sum is provided for in the Leisure and Arts Department's revenue budget for 2003/2004.

3.2 The Draft Budget 2003/2004 (Appendix 1) shows a DCC Special Projects Grant of £7,000. This is a special sum applied to youth work initiatives, including international work, which will be the subject of a separate Committee Report.

3.3 The terms and conditions of grant will be contained within a Funding Agreement 2003/2004, between Dundee City Council and Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department.

### **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The renewal of revenue funding to Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department will ensure the continued provision of a popular cultural service, that local needs are met locally, and that opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all.

### **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department's mission statement is "to provide open access, without fees or auditions, to participatory drama and community arts, to develop self-confidence and the transference of skills, and to use the theatre's resources and expertise to create a forum for wider community involvement and interaction". The Community Department delivers its programme within the community and directly engages those who may not normally participate in mainstream arts provision.

5.2 The Funding Agreement 2003/2004 will contain requirements that Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department practices equal opportunities policies in respect of its dealings with its public and staff.

## 6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 The Community Drama Department of Dundee Repertory Theatre has met and exceeded its business targets for 2002/2003. In the past year it has delivered 400 community workshops with total attendances 50% over the target level. It has undertaken 11 major productions, including 12 performances at the theatre and 26 performances in the community at which attendances have exceeded 5,700. The programme supports regular meetings by an Adult Group, Sister Act Women's Drama Group, a Senior Youth Group, 2 Youth Theatres and a Junior Youth Group.

6.2 Major achievements in 2002/2003 included:

- "Transitions" education programme with the Baldrigon School's cluster involving drama workshops and performances. The programme will run for a further two years.
- "Life at Liff" exhibition entailed joint working with the McManus Galleries, NHS Tayside and Dundee University. It was a major long term project for the Arts Advocacy Project.
- The second Junior Youth Summer School was fully subscribed and received additional funding from the "Scottish Fund for Communities".
- The Senior Youth Group toured "A Life More Ordinary" to Memphis, USA. The project was supported by an International Projects Grant from the Scottish Arts Council and a Community Media Award. The production also appeared in Dundee and Glasgow.
- As part of the Women's Festival of Performing Arts, the group Sister Acts staged "Bonnie Fechtors" in relation to the Dundee Suffragette Project.
- This year's main community production is "Saturday Night at the Alamo" written and devised by local people, and featuring local line dancers and musicians.
- The Youth Theatre has been accepted onto the National Theatre's Shell Connections project. As part of the project they will perform a commissioned play in Dundee, and as part of the Scottish Youth Drama Festival at the Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh.

6.3 Major plans for 2003/2004 include:

- A youth drama festival on Dundee Rep's main stage in July.
- A new Senior Youth production of Max Frisch's "Andorra", looking at issues of prejudice and tribalism, and a performance of "Totally Over You" at the Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh.
- The third annual Junior Youth Summer School.
- The development of a minority ethnic programme building on the links created through the National Lottery supported outreach programme.
- Continuing links and joint working with Dundee City Council Education Department.

6.4 The Community Drama Department continues to successfully raise external funding from a wide variety of sources to sustain its development and delivery of projects. It sustains 12 full-time job equivalents in the local economy.

**7.0 CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance, Director of Corporate Planning, Director of Personnel and Management Services have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its content.

**8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 None

**STEVE GRIMMOND  
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND ARTS  
28 FEBRUARY 2003**

**COMMUNITY DRAMA DEPARTMENT****Projected Budget 2003-2004****Expenditure**

Staff costs, production costs, marketing costs, general overheads	165,567
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**Income**

Box Office, fees, sponsorship, donations, miscellaneous, education work	37,864
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**Grants**

Scottish Arts Council	55,992
DCC Grant	18,728
DCC Special Grant	7,000
Tayside Health Board	2,164
Misc Grant	29,810
DCC Outreach Grant	4,000
SEN Education Project Grant	10,009

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>165,567</b>
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Balance brought forward	12,128
Balance carried forward	12,128