

Report To: Leisure & Arts Services Committee – 22nd April 2002

Report On: Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department, Revenue Support 2002 - 2003

Report By: Director of Leisure and Arts

Report No. 273- 2002

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To submit to the Committee a request for renewal of revenue funding to Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department, 2002-2003.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Committee approves the level of grant funding amounting to £18,271 as set out in the Report.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 The funding recommended, as shown in the Budget at Appendix 1, is £18,271.00.

3.2 This expenditure will be met from the Leisure and Arts Department's revenue budget, 2002-2003.

3.3 The terms and conditions of grant will be contained within a Funding Agreement 2002-2003, between Dundee City Council and Dundee Repertory Theatre Community Drama Department.

4. 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. 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 2002-2003 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. Main Text

6.1 The Community Drama Department of Dundee Repertory Theatre has met and exceeded its business targets for 2001-2002. In the past year it has delivered 350 community workshops with total attendances of 6020. It has undertaken 11 major productions, including 25 performances at the theatre and 18 performances in the community at which attendances have exceeded 6300. The programme supports regular meetings by an Adult Group, Sister Act Women's Drama Group, Senior Youth Group, 2 Youth Theatres and Junior Youth Group.

6.2 Major Performance events in 2001-2002 were:

- “Moving On” performed at Dundee Rep. and in Dundee primary schools.
- “Perceive” Youth Theatre show performed at Dudhope Arts Centre, and due to be staged in the theatre.
- “Giants” environmental work, in Caird Hall, following a two week summer school for 60 young people aged 8 –12.
- “The Big Youth Theatre Festival” by the Senior Youth Group, who also appeared at the Youth Theatre Festival, Epping Forest, England.
- “Bloody Spears” adapted from Shakespearean scenes, performed in the theatre, and in Menzieshill and Kirkton.
- “Measure for Measure”, working with the professional company.
- “Duck Duck Goose” by the Adult Group, plus Community Drama Apprentices, working with people with experience of mental health difficulties. The piece was performed as part of a residency at Liff Hospital and will be revived in association with the exhibition “Life at Liff”.

6.3 Major plans for 2002-2003 include:

- the development of outreach work and a full programme of performances.
- “Bonnie Fechtors” by Sister Acts Women’s Theatre Group and the Women’s Singing Group, created by local women as part of the Dundee Suffragettes’ projects.
- “Perceive” to be performed by the Senior Youth Theatre on the Rep main stage.
- “The Ordinary Life” to be performed in Dundee by the Senior Youth Theatre, and in the Playhouse on the Square, Memphis.
- The Junior Youth Theatre Summer School will have a professional designer added to the team working with the 8-12 year group.
- The February main stage show will combine the work of the Adult Company with local Line Dancing Groups.

6.4 The Scottish Arts Council has awarded an increase of £15,000 to the Community Drama Department for 2002-2003 enabling the establishment of a permanent post of Senior Outreach Worker. The Community Company will continue to sustain 12 full-time job equivalents in the local economy.

7. Consultation

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.

8. Background Papers

None

SIGNATURE

.....
Director of Leisure and Arts

.....
Date

COMMUNITY DRAMA DEPARTMENT**APPENDIX 1**

	Projected Out-turn 2001 – 2002	Projected Budget 2002 – 2003
Expenditure:		
Staff Costs, Operating Costs, General Overheads	£168,563	£167,214
Income:		
Box Office, Sponsorship, Donations, Miscellaneous, Fees and courses	37,398	28,063
Grants:		
Scottish Arts Council	39,626	54,626
SAC Outreach Grant	13,600	-
SAC Project Grant	3,000	12,554
Dundee City Council	17,912	18,271
DCC Special Grant	7,000	6,669
SEN Education Project Grant	10,000	9,765
Tayside Health Board	2,060	2,122
MISG Grant	28,153	28,153
Lloyds TSB Grant	7,007	3,991
DCC Outreach Grant	2,000	3,000
Total Income	167,756	167,214
Net Income/Expenditure	(807)	-
Balance B/Fwd.	13,998	13,191
Balance C/Fwd.	13,191	13,191