



# THE ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL

## **The White Lodge Redevelopment Appeal** a unique blend of education, arts and heritage

The Royal Ballet School is one of the world's great ballet schools, rivalled only by The Vaganova Ballet Academy of St Petersburg and the Paris Opera Ballet School in attracting the most talented ballet students in the world.

The School has an excellent record for managing a major building project following the conclusion of a highly successful capital appeal to re-house the Upper School in Covent Garden. This £18m project was completed on time and on budget in 2003 and included the award-winning Bridge of Aspiration which links the School to the Royal Opera House. This enables the School to continue its close artistic links with the Royal Ballet and the students to perform on stage with the Company throughout the year.

White Lodge in Richmond Park has been the home of the Lower School (11–16 year olds) since the School's Royal Charter was granted over 50 years ago. Set in an eighteenth century former royal hunting lodge, it was in need of significant improvements to provide dance, academic and boarding facilities compliant with government regulations for the 125 young dancers and the residential staff. Plans for an extensive redevelopment project were launched in 2005 which would deliver new accommodation, a dining hall, library, medical centre, wardrobe, class rooms and two new state-of-the-art dance studios.

Support for the project was received from English Heritage, the Crown Estate, (as freeholder), and the Royal Parks with planning permission approved by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and endorsed by the Greater London Authority. The School's President, HRH The Prince of Wales has taken great interest in this project and has agreed to mark the opening of the 'new White Lodge' by hosting a gala there in the Spring.

When complete, The Royal Ballet School will have world-class facilities for all its students, 96% of whom are dependent on financial support from the Government. As part of the redevelopment, further provision will be made for public access to White Lodge and there is a new outreach programme particularly targeting black, minority and ethnic communities to join the School's current exciting inner-city Partnership and Access programme.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families has been most generous in its support of this project and together with our many donors, parents and friends over 85% of the £22.3 million appeal target has been pledged. The first two phases of the project were completed on time and on budget with the third phase is following suit and due to be finished in the early spring. We are thus in the 'Final Stretch' of the Appeal with just £3 million to raise to complete a project which will put The Royal Ballet School on solid footing for the future. Donations at any level towards this Appeal are more than appreciated and there are still a number of interesting naming opportunities available where a donor's support may be recognised in perpetuity at White Lodge.

***"It is the policy of The Royal Ballet School not only to produce dancers of excellence but also dedicated, balanced, well-mannered, individuals who will be an asset to any community and in any environment – not only a joy to watch but a pleasure to know."***  
(Gailene Stock AM, Director)



## The White Lodge Redevelopment Appeal Naming Opportunities

### **New Boarding Block - £1,500,000**

**FULLY FUNDED**

Three stunning houses have been built in one block providing excellent new accommodation for the 14 to 16 year olds. Bright and modern facilities are now available with two students to a room and bathrooms nearby. There is a girls and boys common room for each year group as well as basic kitchen and IT facilities. These up-to-date facilities will also provide opportunities for additional Summer School activities. **Completed and in use**

### **Two New Dance Studios - £1,000,000 per Studio**

**FULLY FUNDED**

The Royal Ballet School's, Lower School at White Lodge is currently desperately short of dance studio space. Phase 3 of the redevelopment project will deliver a large studio complex in close proximity of the Margot Fonteyn Studio, with modernised amenities, adjoining changing rooms, storage space and washroom facilities. The complex will have the facility to be divided into two separate studios allowing two classes to take place simultaneously. **Phase 3**

### **Dining Hall - £750,000**

**FULLY FUNDED**

A new two-tiered dining hall has provided greatly improved facilities for the School's dining rota and for the first time enabling the whole School to sit down together. It is light and spacious with large doors and windows providing students with wonderful views of the new courtyard, gardens and park beyond. **Completed and in use**

### **The White Lodge Museum & Ballet Resource Centre - £350,000**

**FULLY FUNDED**

Created within the original Grade I listed King's Building, this exciting dual project now allows the School to store and present parts of its unique Collections, increasing access to the Collections by the general public and by scholars. It will be the only dedicated Ballet Museum in the country. **Phase 3**

### **Gardens and Landscaping - £200,000**

The peaceful surroundings of White Lodge are unique and contribute greatly to the success of the training offered. The School has redeveloped the landscape gardens and re-opened the original views of White Lodge from both inside and outside the estate. The New Courtyard, leading from the new Dining Hall, mirrors the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century Yew Tree Garden by the Pavlova Studio which is much enjoyed by the students for eating outside and small performances particularly during the Summer months. **Completed and in use**

### **Entrance Foyer - £100,000**

Originally the Orangery, the main entrance to the School has been completely refurbished, bringing it back to its original Georgian condition. The Reception desk is situated on one side of the area and there will be space for a series of temporary exhibitions en route to the White Lodge Museum & Ballet Resource Centre. **Completed and in use**

### **Refurbishment of the Science Laboratory - £100,000**

**Application pending**

This badly needed improvement to the scientific facilities at the School has made setting work more effective and enabled students to excel in the Sciences. **Completed and in use**



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## **Library - £75,000**

**FULLY FUNDED**

In addition to providing educational and recreational literature, the Library has additional computers and is in daily use by students wishing to use the Internet for their studies and to contact their families by email. It is organised into sections that flow from one to the other and is also used as additional class-room space. A lockable area to the back of the library will house the School's Specialist Collections, currently in storage, for use by external scholars and researchers enabling the School to continue its aim to widen access to its Collections and facilities in general. **Completed and in use**

## **Wardrobe Department - £50,000**

The new Wardrobe area has been extended to provide better light and improved facilities for the proper care and maintenance of the school's costume collection. The new area allows more hanging space, washing and drying facilities and a school uniform shop. It also provides space for the storage of repertoire accessories and props. **Completed and in use**

## **Medical and Physiotherapy Centre - £50,000**

**FULLY FUNDED**

The new medical centre includes a dispensing surgery, an office for the nurse and two bedrooms, a bathroom and dedicated physiotherapy area for students requiring particular care. Students will be seen when ill or injured and physiotherapy will take place in the centre to assist those students needing remedial work. **Completed and in use**

## **Maths Room - £25,000**

**FULLY FUNDED**

The maths room has been rewired and redecorated to create a much more attractive and productive learning environment. **Completed and in use**

## **Student Common Rooms - £25,000 each**

These are six lovely bright rooms situated in the new Boarding Block and provide important areas where students can watch television, use the computers, listen to music and generally unwind. There are separate Common Rooms for Boys and Girls with one of each in the three accommodation blocks. The students have to work particularly hard to succeed with their academic and dance studies and it is vital that they have the opportunity to relax. **Completed and in use**

## **Music Rehearsal Rooms - £20,000 & £25,000**

**FULLY FUNDED**

All White Lodge students take additional music tuition, whether in voice or instrument. The four dedicated Music Rehearsal Rooms provide the opportunity to practise regularly in an appropriate environment, enabling students to broaden their knowledge and understanding of music in all its forms. One room is slightly larger and can also be used as an ensemble practice room. **Completed and in use**

## **Student Rooms - £10,000**

There are forty rooms in the new Boarding Block which provide essential modern living and sleeping accommodation to students, now compliant with current Health & Safety Regulations boarding standards. Students can now sleep two to a room, all of which either have full bathroom facilities nearby or en-suite shower rooms for the older students. **Completed and in use**



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## **Recognition of Donors to the White Lodge Appeal**

Donors to the White Lodge Appeal are recognised as follows:

- £500,000+ - Founding Benefactor
- £300,000 - Knight of White Lodge
- £200,000 - Founding Sponsor
- £100,000 - Founding Donor
- £ 10,000 - Founding Prima Patron
- £ 5,000 - Founding Patron
- £ 1,000 - Founding Supporter
- to £1,000 - Founding Contributor

There will be a specific commemorative feature honouring the Founding Benefactors and the Knights of White Lodge who will also be invited to at least two special events a year.

There are naming opportunities for Founding Prima Patrons upwards and these levels of donors will be invited to the White Lodge Gala in May 09.

Founding Patron's upwards will be recognised on the White Lodge Appeal Donor Board which will be placed in a prominent position at White Lodge – exact location is still to be confirmed.

All donors to the White Lodge Appeal will be listed in the 2008-2009 Annual Report.

For further information please contact:

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