Edinburgh International Festival Statement on Creative Scotland Funding

Today, Creative Scotland has announced the long-awaited outcome of its Multi Year Funding Programme, which offers 3-year funding for creative and cultural organisations to support core costs and programmes of work.

These decisions will shape the Scottish cultural landscape for years to come. Multi-year funding commitments are critical in providing stability and confidence, and allowing the many benefits of culture to spread throughout communities across the whole country.

The Edinburgh International Festival's level of core funding had not increased since 2008, but this morning the Festival was awarded a three-year grant averaging £3.92 million annually. This funding will benefit the thousands of artists, freelancers, organisations, audiences, and communities that the Festival employs and serves.

Francesca Hegyi, **Chief Executive, Edinburgh International Festival** said, "*It's a good day for culture and creativity in Scotland. We welcome this increased investment in the Scottish cultural sector, which will help to showcase the enormous talent of this country. We are grateful for the International Festival's uplift in funding, which recognises the unique role we play in connecting Scotland to the world, and gives us a firm foundation from which to build. The return of multi-year funding allows us all to plan ahead with greater confidence.*"

– ENDS –

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Media images can be found here.

About Edinburgh International Festival
The original festival. We're the one that started it all, the igniting spark that established Edinburgh as the world's Festival City. Founded in 1947, the International Festival was the inspired idea of Rudolf Bing, a cultural pioneer and Jewish refugee, working with a group of civic and artistic leaders. Together, they created a festival that transcends political boundaries through a global celebration of the performing arts.

For 78 years our hand-picked programme of world-leading dance, opera, music and theatre has continued to bring people of different cultures and viewpoints together every August. Meanwhile, our sister festivals have grown up around us – each of them contributing to the atmosphere of unparalleled excitement that transforms the city each summer.

The next International Festival takes place 1-24 August 2025, under the direction of Festival Director and Scottish violinist Nicola Benedetti. Benedetti's vision is to create the deepest level of experience, through the highest quality of art, for the broadest possible audience.

Shining far beyond what you see on stage, we also offer year-round pathways for people of all ages and backgrounds to discover and participate in live performance, focusing on youth, community and industry connections.

Edinburgh International Festival is supported by Creative Scotland and the City of Edinburgh Council. This year's programme was also supported by the UK Government.

You can support the Festival as a member and gain access to priority booking, backstage tours and rehearsals.

For more information visit www.eif.co.uk.