



**Inclusive Arts.**  
**Connected Communities.**  
**Creative Futures.**

# Investing in Creativity

**SUPPORT THE**

**OXFORDSHIRE  
FESTIVAL**  
OF SPEECH, DRAMA &  
MUSICAL THEATRE

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# Welcome!

***Dear Friends, Supporters, and Champions of the Arts,***

Welcome—and thank you for taking the time to explore the vision behind the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre.

At the West Oxfordshire Performing Arts Foundation (WOXPAF), we believe creativity belongs to everyone. The performing arts have the power to uplift, connect, and transform lives—and communities. Founded on a commitment to inclusion and artistic excellence, WOXPAF is dedicated to making the performing arts accessible to all, regardless of age, background, or financial circumstance.

In 2026, we'll launch the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre—a vibrant, professionally adjudicated celebration of live performance, learning, and community spirit. From Shakespeare to show tunes, poetry to original writing, the festival offers opportunities for performers of all levels, alongside workshops and community showcases.

But this isn't just a weekend of performances—it's a celebration of voices, stories, and belonging. With fee waivers, bursaries, inclusive formats, and accessible venues, we're creating a space where everyone can grow, share, and shine.

## **But we can't do it alone.**

Whether you're a business seeking meaningful impact, a grant funder looking for measurable public benefit, or a local supporter who simply loves the arts—your contribution helps us break down barriers, nurture talent, and build a lasting legacy of creativity in Oxfordshire.

Join us in creating a festival that's not only about performance, but about connection, growth, and joy. Together, we'll make the arts a place where everyone has a voice—and a stage to share it.

Warm regards,

**The WOXPAF Team**



# About WOXPAF

The West Oxfordshire Performing Arts Foundation (WOXPAF) is a charitable organisation committed to making the performing arts accessible, inclusive, and enriching for everyone. Established in 2025, WOXPAF was founded on a simple but powerful belief: that creativity should be a right, not a privilege—and that the stage can be a space where confidence grows, communities connect, and voices are truly heard. Our flagship event—the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre—is the cornerstone of this mission.

As a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), WOXPAF is governed by a dedicated board of trustees and operates with robust safeguarding, financial oversight, and a deep commitment to public benefit. Our work is guided by five core charitable objectives:

**1**

## Advance the Performing Arts

Through festivals, workshops, and performances—especially in speech, drama, and musical theatre.

**2**

## Promote Inclusive Arts Participation

By offering accessible, welcoming opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds.

**3**

## Support Education and Personal Growth

Through skills-based workshops and adjudicated events that build confidence, creativity, and communication.

**4**

## Removing financial barriers

By providing bursaries, subsidies, and “pay what you can afford” ticketing.

**5**

## Foster Community Collaboration

By connecting schools, theatre groups, and local organisations across West Oxfordshire.

WOXPAF offers a supportive environment where artistic growth and personal development go hand in hand. Through our flagship event—the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre—and an expanding programme of workshops and showcases, we’re building a movement that celebrates creativity, nurtures talent, and brings people together.

# OXFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL OF SPEECH, DRAMA & MUSICAL THEATRE

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Coming to Witney in 2026, the **Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre** will bring together performers of all ages for a weekend of expressive arts, learning, and connection. Whether stepping onto the stage for the first time or returning as a seasoned performer, this festival is designed to be welcoming, inspiring, and full of opportunity.

Building on WOXPAF's mission of inclusion and artistic excellence, the festival goes beyond performance—it's about creating a vibrant, collaborative community. By uniting schools, drama clubs, local theatre groups, and individual performers, we aim to spark new partnerships, celebrate local talent, and foster lasting connections among those who share a love of the stage.

This event fills a long-standing gap in Oxfordshire's cultural calendar. It's a space where voices are heard, stories are shared, and creativity thrives through the magic of live performance.

## Inclusive by Design

To make this vision real, we're embedding inclusion and accessibility into every aspect of the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre:



**Financial support** through fee waivers and bursaries ensures cost is never a barrier to participation.

**All abilities and experience levels are welcome**, with a non-competitive format focused on personal growth and confidence.

**Accessibility is a priority**—from venue selection to programme design—so everyone can take part fully and comfortably.

**This is a festival where everyone belongs, and every voice is valued.**

Building on our commitment to inclusion and community, the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre will be a vibrant two-day celebration of the performing arts in West Oxfordshire. Designed to showcase local talent, support artistic and personal growth, and bring people together, the festival offers creative experiences that are open, accessible, and inspiring.

## Adjudicated Festival Classes

At the heart of the festival are our inclusive, adjudicated performance classes. These sessions invite performers of all ages and abilities to share their work in front of a supportive audience and a professional adjudicator, who provides written feedback focused on personal growth. The classes are non-competitive, with certificates awarded on merit rather than rankings. Participants can perform individually or as part of a group in categories such as solo monologues, duologues, ensemble drama scenes, poetry recitals, original writing, and extracts from Shakespeare.

## Skills-Based Workshops

Interactive sessions open to all, offering practical training in areas such as vocal technique, improvisation, and audition preparation—designed to build confidence and support lifelong learning.

## Community Showcase

A celebratory evening featuring short performances from local schools, theatre groups, and community organisations—highlighting the creative energy and talent of West Oxfordshire.

As a provisional member of the British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech, we're proud to be part of a respected network of UK and international festivals. This affiliation gives us access to expert adjudicators and national best practice—ensuring professional standards from day one. With Oxfordshire's rich creative talent, a dedicated platform like ours is long overdue, and we're excited to put our region on the national stage.



# WHY SUPPORT US?

Delivering this festival takes more than passion—it requires resources and collaboration. The Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre is a transformative celebration of creativity, inclusion, and community. Your support will help us deliver a professionally run, accessible event that nurtures local talent and brings people together through the power of the performing arts.

## Your Support Will Help Us:

### Champion Inclusion

- Low entry fees and bursaries ensure everyone can take part, regardless of financial background.

### Deliver Excellence

- Funding provides expert adjudicators, engaging workshops, and professional venues—without passing costs to participants.

### Celebrate Local Talent

- Give Oxfordshire's creative voices a platform to be seen and heard.

### Connect Communities

- Bring together schools, families, artists, and local organisations—fostering pride and collaboration.

### Develop Lifelong Skills

- Help participants gain confidence, communication, and creative skills that support education and careers.

### Create a Lasting Impact

- Your support establishes the festival as an annual event with growing regional influence.

### Make Every Experience Count

- From certificates to a welcoming atmosphere, we ensure every participant feels valued.

# Your support creates a lasting impact—helping us establish a sustainable annual festival that champions creativity, inclusion, and community—and we'll make sure it's recognised.

We understand that sponsors and donors want their support to be meaningful—not just for the festival, but for themselves too. That's why we offer clear, visible benefits in return. Beyond funding an accessible, professionally run event, you'll gain benefits that matter to you and your organisation.

## What You Gain by Giving

### Make a Real Impact

Help remove barriers to participation, making the arts accessible to all—regardless of background or income.

### Be Seen and Celebrated

Your name and brand will be acknowledged in printed programmes, our website, and social media—connecting you with a vibrant, engaged local audience.

### Align with Meaningful Values

Show your commitment to inclusion, education, and cultural enrichment—values that resonate with socially conscious communities.

### Tailored Recognition

From public acknowledgements to opportunities to present awards or attend events, we offer flexible ways to celebrate your support.

### Build Local Connections

Join a network of individuals, businesses, and organisations working together to uplift Oxfordshire's creative communities.

# FUNDING NEEDS

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To keep the festival accessible to as many people as possible, we've deliberately kept participant entry fees and audience ticket prices low—just enough to cover essential costs like venue hire, adjudication, and administration. However, delivering a high-quality, inclusive event still requires substantial resources. That's why we're actively seeking funding and sponsorship to support the festival's launch and establish it as a sustainable annual celebration of local talent. With additional support, we can offer fee waivers to those facing financial barriers, expand our programming, and ensure the festival continues to grow and thrive in the years ahead. Here's what it takes to deliver a festival that's accessible, inspiring, and professionally run:

## 01 — Festival Delivery



- Venue Hire – £2,500
- Professional Adjudicator Fees – £1,200
- Workshop Leader Fees – £1,000
- Printed Materials (posters, programmes, certificates) – £1,000
- Bursary Fund – £1,000

## 02 — Operations and Admin



- BIFF Membership – £400
- Insurance and Licenses – £500
- Refreshments for Festival volunteers, workshop leaders and adjudicators – £300
- Contingency – £1,000

## 03 — Digital Infrastructure



- Website – £220
- Email Marketing – £110
- Play and Perform Festival platform – £200

**To make it happen, our funding goal is**

**£10,500**

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***If we secure additional funding, we aim to introduce trophies that celebrate growth, skill, and effort, and enhance accessibility with features such as BSL interpretation and sensory-friendly spaces.***

# HELP US MAKE IT HAPPEN

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There are many meaningful ways to support the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama and Musical Theatre. Whether you're a business, individual, or organisation, your involvement helps us deliver a high-quality, inclusive event that celebrates creativity and strengthens community connections.

## DONATE

Every contribution—big or small—helps us deliver an inclusive, professional festival.

## SPONSOR AN AWARD

Celebrate talent with trophies, certificates, or bursaries for outstanding performers.

## ADVERTISE IN OUR PROGRAMME

Promote your business to a wide local audience through our printed event materials.

## HELP COVER CORE COSTS

Support essentials like insurance, website hosting, and volunteer training.

## ENABLE ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL

Support BSL interpretation, sensory-friendly spaces, and mobility assistance.

## BACK OUR VOLUNTEERS

Provide resources and recognition for the team that keeps the festival running.

## PARTNER CREATIVELY

Have a unique idea? We welcome bespoke sponsorships tailored to your goals.

## SPONSOR KEY FESTIVAL FEATURES

Fund vital areas like venue hire, adjudication, or accessibility to shape the event.

## SUPPORT THE ACCESS FUND

Ensure cost is never a barrier by contributing to our bursary scheme.

# NEXT STEPS

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Thank you for taking the time to learn about the Oxfordshire Festival of Speech, Drama & Musical Theatre and the vision behind WOXPAF. We hope our commitment to inclusion, creativity, and community connection has inspired you.

You've seen our vision—now let's make it happen together

If our mission resonates with you, we'd love to hear from you. Whether you're considering a donation, sponsorship, partnership, or simply exploring ways to get involved, your support can make a real and lasting impact.

Let's work together to create a festival that uplifts voices, nurtures talent, and brings people together through the transformative power of the performing arts.

**Join us in creating an unforgettable celebration of creativity, inclusion, and community.**

## Connect With Us



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