

Canterbury Festival

15-29 OCTOBER 2011

Kent's International Arts Festival

www.canterburyfestival.co.uk



NEWS RELEASE

22 August 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YOUR FESTIVAL NEEDS YOU!

Preparations are progressing well for October's arts extravaganza, the Canterbury Festival. Tickets are selling fast, and the small staff team are frantically tying up last minute organisational details. The performers who are invited to Canterbury are assured of a warm welcome and a comfortable stay as the Festival team make all their arrangements for travel, accommodation and even special diets. This has a beneficial knock-on effect on local hotels and restaurants, as most of the artists stay for at least one night in Canterbury.

But the team needs help. Festival Director Rosie Turner explains, "We plan everything meticulously in advance but when it comes to the Festival fortnight, not even my amazingly hard-working staff can be in two places at once! Without the help of an army of volunteers we would find it impossible to offer the level of customer care and the warm Canterbury welcome for which we are famous. We want to appeal to anyone over 18 years of age who has an interest in music, theatre or simply working with people, to consider signing up to join our team. Helping at the Festival is great fun, and extremely rewarding – especially when you hear the sound of clapping from a happy audience."

Volunteers are needed to help staff 'front of house' – to take tickets at the doors, sell programmes and usher audiences to their seats. In many cases there are opportunities to meet the performers, hear some rehearsals, and certainly enjoy all the buzz of life backstage. Volunteers are supported at all times by the Festival staff and training is given to ensure that everyone has a safe and happy experience at the events.

“Several of our most experienced volunteers are now retiring after years and years of service. We urgently need to recruit and train some new helpers as the Festival expands. It’s a fantastic way to meet people, great for the CV and frankly – we can’t do it without you! Please help to make Canterbury Festival 2011 a storming success.”

Full details of all Festival events and venues plus information on how to get involved as a volunteer can be found on the Festival’s new website

www.canterburyfestival.co.uk or contact Kerry Barber

kerry@canterburyfestival.co.uk / 01227 452 853 for details of how to apply.

Ends.

Canterbury Festival | 15-29 October 2011 | www.canterburyfestival.co.uk

For Festival information contact:

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Notes to Editors:

- Canterbury Festival 2011 runs from 15-29 October in and around Canterbury, Kent.
- Full details of the programme of events are available in the Festival brochure, online at www.canterburyfestival.co.uk and from the Festival Office.
- Tickets are available online at www.canterburyfestival.co.uk or from the Festival Box Office in the Canterbury Visitor Information Centre (The Buttermarket) in person or by phone 01227 787787.
- The new Festival website launched on 18 July includes an RSS feed interested members of the media can subscribe to, ensuring updates to the press section of the website reach them as they happen.
- As a passionate supporter of regional arts and culture, Canterbury Christ Church University is proud to be the five-year Partner and Principal Sponsor of the Canterbury Festival. The University is the number one choice for local people looking to study at university in Kent. In 2012, Christ Church celebrates its 50th anniversary and, as a home to world-leading research and internationally recognised teaching in music, it will open its new St Gregory's Centre for Music to local communities and national audiences.