## Panto stars say a big Thank You for the donations to #SaveOurTheatres

The stars of the panto at the King's — Allan, Andy, Grant and Jordan have recorded a thank you video to tell the public how grateful they are for their help.

Capital Theatres, the charity which runs the King's, Festival Theatre and The Studio in Edinburgh, reported earlier today that the fundraising reached £86,900 through Crowdfunder. The fundraising was assessed at lunchtime and it was more than double the original target. You can still donate <a href="here">here</a>. Some of the rewards offered to those who donate include behind the scenes tours with the tech team or a chat with Ian Rankin on Zoom.

Fiona Gibson, CEO of Capital Theatre's said: "All of us here at Capital Theatres are very humbled by the response from the public to our appeal. We know we still have a long way to go to reopen our doors, but an incredible show of support like this, with wonderful comments and memories shared, clearly demonstrates what our theatres mean to so many. It gives us all the passion, energy and determination we need to ensure we survive this crisis through bringing back great shows to our stages when we can and to support our community throughout. A huge, huge thank you to everyone who made this possible with your incredibly generous donations. We can't wait to welcome you back over our doors when it's safe for us to do so.

"A huge thank-you too to our King's Ambassadors, our national companies Scottish Opera and Scottish Ballet and to Birmingham Royal Ballet as well as our corporate partners for their inkind support of the campaign, and to all of our stakeholders for their beautiful words of encouragement and support."

Capital Theatres is currently actively campaigning to receive emergency Government funding at the same level as other publicly supported theatres, which would allow the theatres to continue to play a vital part in Edinburgh's year-round thriving arts scene and support the local and national economy.

A <u>petition</u> calling on the Scottish Government to recognise the scale of emergency facing Capital Theatres on <u>Change.org</u> has secured 12,667 signatures to date and is still open for those looking to lend their voice to its campaign.

The money raised through the Crowdfunder is a fantastic support for Capital Theatres. Those who missed the Crowdfunder but would like to support the theatre charity's work can still donate at <a href="https://www.capitaltheatres.com">www.capitaltheatres.com</a>