



The Association of English Singers & Speakers

Honorary Presidents

*Sir Thomas Allen CBE Michael Chance CBE Sir Nicholas Hytner
Graham Johnson OBE Dame Cleo Laine CBE Niven Miller
Patricia Routledge CBE Professor Robert Saxton*

Registered Charity No. 1106279

www.aofess.org.uk

April 2015

The Trustees of the AESS are:

Graham Trew – Chairman – Chief Executive Officer for the day-to-day running of the Association until the AGM on April 12th – Sarah Leonard takes over as Chairman from April 12th 2015

Stephen Varcoe – Vice Chairman

Carol English – Secretary

Susan Field – Treasurer

Patricia Williams – Membership Secretary

Jean Hornbuckle

Sarah Leonard

Stephen Miles

Carolyn Richards

Jane Roberson

Joyce Lorinstein

Jonathan Courage

The AESS is a Charitable Unincorporated Association

Trustees

The Trustees constitute the Committee of the Association and as such make all the decisions for the Association that do not need ratifying as part of the Constitution.

New Trustees/Committee members are proposed and seconded in time for the Annual General Meeting and voted for by those attending. They would already be members of the Association. Any changes to the Constitution can only be proposed and ratified at this meeting provided one month's notice has been given to the secretary.

Aims and Objectives

The AESS funds educational events such master-classes /workshops/ concerts and four national competitions, covering an age range from 13 to 32 years, which reinforce its central aim of helping young performers to communicate in both English song and speech. Events are funded from sponsorship and from subscriptions. The Association has a good relationship with all Music Colleges who normally provide venues free of charge. The Association occasionally charges for events but students always enter free. We have a major sponsor of our National Senior English Song Competition for Music Students who is Patricia Routledge CBE. Her charitable trust has guaranteed funds of £5000 per annum until 2016, but if by any chance these ceased, the subscription income would sustain the income for one year while a new sponsor was found. The Courtney Kenny Award is sponsored by pianist and entertainer Courtney Kenny, to the sum of £2500. The Junior Recital Prize is sponsored by Catherine Lambert for £500, with Coral Gould providing a third prize of £100 and Graham Lines £200 for the best speech element. Both Courtney Kenny and Catherine Lambert have made long-term provision for their sponsorship. The Fell Musical Theatre Prize of £1000 is sponsored by the Toni V Fell Charitable Trust. The AESS has no liabilities. All officers/trustees are voluntary and there are no premises.

Achievements 2014-2015

March 2014 – Final of the Courtney Kenny Award at Tonbridge School.

March 2014 – Entertainment from AESS Chairman, Graham Trew and pianist, David Williams.

March 2014 – A talk to members from Roderick Swanston.

April 2014 – February 2015 – 10 AESS Junior Trophies plus a £25 prize held by British and International Federation -affiliated Festivals.

May 2014 – Final of the Patricia Routledge National English Song Competition at the Royal College of Music.

June 2014 – Final of the Fell Musical Theatre Prize at the Sylvia Young School.

June 2014 – A tribute to composer Michael Head – Eastbourne.

November 2014 – Final of the Catherine Lambert Junior Song Prize at the Purcell School.

March 2015 – Final of the Courtney Kenny Award at Tonbridge School.

April 2015 – Entertainment from AESS member and sponsor, Courtney Kenny.

April 2015 – A talk to members from Sir Thomas Allen.

Educational links continue with the Incorporated Society of Musicians, Jackdaws Educational Trust, Concordia and the Association of Teachers of Singing. Links are also maintained with all past winners of the competitions. There will be nationwide preliminaries and finals for the four AESS song competitions, with feedback given to each competitor at every stage. The £25 cash prize for ten British Federation Festivals to sponsor a junior speech and song class has been continued and may be extended to include more Festivals in the future. Sponsorship has been given to the 'Betty Roe Society' towards a CD of the composer's music and to AESS member, Greg Tassell for a concert and 'pod-cast' recording of English Song. Funds have also been granted to the 'London English Song Festival', the 'London Song Festival' and 'Song in the City'. Sarah Leonard will give a masterclass at the Purcell School in line with the prize awarded to the winner of the AESS Junior Competition. The publication of the final three volumes of 'A Century of English Song', delayed last year, will hopefully occur in the near future.