



*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](http://www.aofess.org.uk)

April 2016

The Trustees of the AESS are:

Sarah Leonard – Chairman – Chief Executive Officer for the day-to-day running of the Association. Appointed at the AGM on April 12th 2015.

Stephen Varcoe – Vice Chairman

Carol English – Secretary

Susan Field – Treasurer

Patricia Williams – Membership Secretary

Jean Hornbuckle

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, 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. 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 2015-2016

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 by Sir Thomas Allen.

April 2015 – February 2016 – 10 AESS Junior Trophies plus a £25 prize held by British and International Federation -affiliated Festivals.

May 2015 – Final of the Patricia Routledge National English Song Competition at Trinity College of Music.

June 2015 – Final of the Fell Musical Theatre Prize at The Sylvia Young School, London.

September 2015 – Unsung Heroines Day in Bath. Morning workshop by Betty Roe, afternoon concert given by members.

November 2015 – Final of the Catherine Lambert Junior Song Prize at the Purcell School.

March 2016 – Final of the Courtney Kenny Award at Tonbridge School.

April 2016 – Entertainment from AESS members Stephen Miles and Jane Roberson.

April 2016 – A talk to members by Catherine Bott.

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 to be released in 2016. Funds have also been granted to the 2015 'London English Song Festival', the 'London Song Festival' and 'Song in the City'. Member Rosamund Shelley will give a speech master class at the Junior Dpt. Of the Royal College of Music in line with the prize awarded to the winner of the 2015 AESS Junior Competition. The publication of the final three volumes of 'A Century of English Song', delayed last year, will appear in 2016. In 2017 we intend to start a speech prize aimed at student actors.

#### Risk Management and Reserves

The Trustees have considered the principle risks to which the charity is exposed. The major risk is that sponsorship for any or all of our competitions ceases. Our reserves policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to enable us to continue to fund these competitions for a period while new sponsors are sought. The Trustees are therefore of the opinion that the major risk is mitigated.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Sarah Leonard  
17 April 2016