



Dear Friend,

Audiences, critics and awards juries tell us that Sheffield is now at the forefront of British theatre. It gives me enormous pleasure to know that you too have been a part of that success story. Thank you so much for visiting the Crucible and supporting our work.

The finest creative talents of this generation - people like Kenneth Branagh, Joseph Fiennes and Sir Derek Jacobi - realise that working in Sheffield offers them not only the highest standards of production but also the opportunity to engage with a warm and welcoming community. Together, we are writing the latest chapter of a history that began more than thirty years ago when the people of the Sheffield had the vision to build the unique performing space that is the Crucible Theatre.

I am now taking this opportunity to write to you and a small number of our American friends to share our vision for the future. We are launching an ambitious project that will revolutionise everything about the Crucible except the masterpiece that is Tanya Moiseiwitsch's stage and auditorium design. Our dream is for a Crucible with better facilities throughout:

- new rehearsal spaces
- improved access for people with disabilities
- meeting and hospitality suites
- dedicated education spaces

The future fundraising task is enormous. In an exciting development we are now able to offer the Crucible's American friends a leading role in our future plans. The Crucible has been granted 501(c)(3) status through the American Fund for Charities, enabling your gift to be tax deductible.

I hope you will be among our greatest ambassadors and help us realise our dream for a new Crucible that puts the theatre at the centre of the community and most importantly of all, enhances the work we do on our stages.

With my warmest thanks.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael Grandage -'.

Michael Grandage
Associate Director, Sheffield Theatres

Now is the time to act so that future generations of theatregoers can feel the exhilaration of live performance that we all enjoy today.

Sheffield Theatres relationship with law firm Nabarro Nathanson is an award-winning example of how business and the arts can work together. Based initially on production sponsorship, the partnership has grown into one which now permeates both organizations.

To date, Nabarro Nathanson's financial support has contributed to some of the most successful productions in the Crucible's history – including **Edward II**, **Richard III**, **The Tempest** and **A Midsummer Night's Dream** - with a total audience of more than 150,000 people.

They have also supported some of our award-winning projects to ensure that access to this artistic excellence is shared throughout our community – ensuring that young people from some of the city's most disadvantaged areas can experience live theatre of the highest quality, often for the first time.

To continue with this kind of work – and to be yet more ambitious in the future – we need a building that is fit for purpose and one that complements its ever improving surroundings in the heart of our city.

We have been supported in the past by valued corporate and individual partners. We have also been supported by some of the finest creative talent this country has to offer. Now we're asking you to add your name to that list.

We do not underestimate the work involved in the realization of our Crucible dream in the coming years. But with your help it is a story that will continue to excite our audiences for many years to come.



Joseph Fiennes



Derek Jacobi with Michael Grandage at the 2003 Crucible Gala

Our aspirations are shared by all of the artists who visit Sheffield - including many actors who want to stand up and be counted because they share a belief in and fondness for the Crucible.

"Everybody wants to work at the Crucible quite simply because there is no other theatre company in Britain at the moment with a better reputation for the quality of its work. It has a unique relationship with the local community of Sheffield but at the same time its national profile is second to none. There's nowhere like it".

Robert Demeger

"The inspiration for me to come up to Sheffield was predominantly to do with Michael Grandage and also the reputation that Sheffield has amongst theatre actors like myself. It was a very important destination for me. It rivals all the best theatres and companies in the country and that is a momentum that should be sustained. So please support the Crucible".

Joseph Fiennes

"The link between the artistic community in the Crucible and the community of Sheffield is incredibly strong. It's an inspiring place to work. It's an exceptional theatre producing extraordinary work. I very much encourage you to lend your support to the Crucible in Sheffield".

Victoria Hamilton

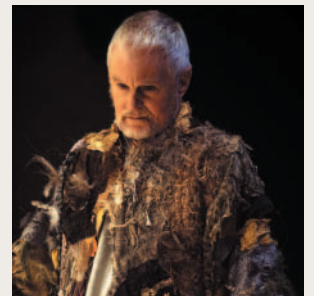
"I've had the very good fortune and privilege of working at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, where I had the chance to play Richard III. The Crucible is a very very exciting place to play. It was a fantastic experience for us where the audience were really part of the event. When you sit in the Crucible, those great three sides and walls of people when it's full up are absolutely fantastic. There's a great intimacy, for all of that size, between the performer and the audience.

"The Sheffield Crucible gave me a fantastic creative experience. It's a fantastic resource, a fantastic part of the cultural life of the city. It benefits enormously from your support and I hope that you will continue to give it because it's a great place to do plays".

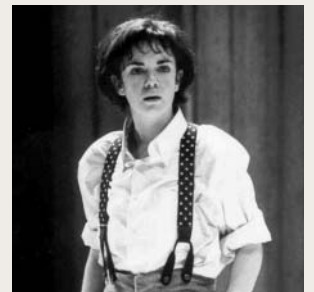
Kenneth Branagh



Kenneth Branagh



Derek Jacobi



Victoria Hamilton



Donation form

Donor Information (please print legibly)

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____

Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Company or Foundation Name if applicable _____

Amount of Donation, if cash _____

Description of Donation, if shares or property _____

(Checks should be in dollars payable to The American Fund for Charities. For other donations please contact Chapel & York Limited).

Charity Information

The Crucible Theatre
(Sheffield Theatres Trust).

Contact: Angela Galvin,
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T: +44 (0)114 201 3832

F: +44 (0) 114 249 6003

E: a.galvin@sheffieldtheatres.co.uk

You should send this form direct to The Crucible Theatre.

Thank you

Your gift will carry the Crucible's established role as an artistic leader and educator into the next decade and beyond.

All gifts of **\$500** or more will be acknowledged with a certificate of thanks signed by the Chair of Sheffield Theatres' Board of Trustees, Sir Norman Adsetts OBE.

Gifts of **\$2500** or more will receive an exclusive CD-rom featuring details of the fundraising campaign and video messages of support from Kenneth Branagh, Robert Demeger, Joseph Fiennes, Victoria Hamilton, Tom Hollander and Una Stubbs. This CD-rom is exclusively available to supporters of the campaign and will not be issued for general sale. (Value: \$60)

Gifts of **\$5000** or more will receive a personal invitation for one guest to join Michael Grandage and his guests of honor at the 2004 Gala event. (Value: \$500)

Gifts of **\$30,000** or more receive a production sponsorship package with negotiable benefits including branding/naming opportunities, performance tickets and opportunities to meet the cast. (Value: \$6,000)

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You should send this form direct to The Crucible Theatre.

The American Fund for Charities is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization. Donations to The American Fund are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The American Fund for Charities

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Sheffield Theatres is a Registered Charity No.257318

If you are unable to make a gift at this time but would like to be kept informed about the Crucible campaign and exciting plans for a major US production in 2005 please reply to a.galvin@sheffieldtheatres.co.uk or write to Angela Galvin at the Crucible Theatre.

Information for Donors

The first \$15 of your donation will be allocated to The American Fund's core costs. An additional \$50 will be allocated for donations of shares of stock. The American Fund can accept donations of stock and shares. The policy of the American Fund is to sell stock it receives. The value of stock may increase or decrease and therefore the sale may realise more or less than the value when the stock was given to The American Fund. Please contact Chapel & York Limited for brokerage details. [The American Fund for Charities will send you the receipt you require for your tax return.](#) Donations must be received by the end of the month preceding a quarterly board meeting in order for a grant based on your donation to be considered at that meeting. Board meetings will be February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15.