



PENDLETON  
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

# THE PENDLETON SCHOOL OF THEATRE

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MAGAZINE



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# WELCOME

## Welcome to The Pendleton School of Theatre.

Whatever you wish to study within production and performing arts, Pendleton is the place to be.

The department has a richly deserved national reputation for outstanding teaching practice – indeed, many of the top drama schools and dance academies come here to do masterclasses and to audition our students throughout the year.

Our teaching staff have high levels of professional performance training in the industry, and an exceptionally high standard of commitment to your success.

You can study acting, musical theatre, dance or technical theatre as vocational qualifications or as part of an A-level package at the college.

On top of this, our enrichment programme is extensive. Students come to Pendleton because they know we will give them the best chance to progress to drama schools, dance academies, technical theatre courses and top performing arts universities across the UK, USA and Europe. We simply have an outstanding track record for progression.


However, we are a firm believer that you will get as much as you put in. It is your own commitment and involvement that will shape your programme of study. That said, the opportunities here are endless.

Firstly, there is the Pendleton Season of Shows. This is a massive programme of plays, musicals, dance shows, choral concerts and public performances that spans the entire academic year. The enrichment programme includes one-on-one coaching for drama school and dance academy entrance, and group classes for all students in 'acting through song, speech and dance'.

If you aim to study technical theatre, our massive programme of productions means that you are constantly working in a professional environment.

Everyone in the department is more than happy to answer any questions about any of the courses we offer, so why not head down to one of our open events, give us a call or watch one of our Season of Shows to see what we are all about. We very much look forward to meeting you and talking through your career options and hopes for the future.

With all sincere best wishes,



Head of Pendleton Sixth Form College  
Centre of Excellence for Performing  
Arts





# CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

## There is plenty to make a song and dance about when it comes to Pendleton Sixth Form College's Centre of Excellence for Performing and Production Arts

**T**HE BEACON AWARD winning department is nationally acclaimed for producing some of the finest performers, directors, and production staff in the business. They are known for their spectacular Season of Shows and their high calibre of student talent.

Their reputation for teaching and learning is undisputed thanks to the experienced and dynamic teachers, who have over 70 years' experience as examiners and moderators for leading exam boards, and with The British Academy of Dramatic Combat. Five have Masters' Degrees in Performing Arts Practice, from the likes of RADA, LIPA and the University of Sheffield, and their industry links provide unique opportunities for their students.


The department also boasts an exceptional track-record for progression, with students going on to both study at prestigious schools and star in noteworthy productions.

Pendleton itself have their own, prestigious Higher Education course, giving students who have excelled at the college the opportunity to stay on and continue their studies.

Current students are given unique opportunities throughout their course of study to further help them with their next steps. From dedicated out-of-class tutoring to help them with auditions and drama school applications, to guest speakers and masterclasses from the best in the business.

This is not to mention the opportunities to perform in one of the college's three choirs and audition for productions as part of the all-famous Season of Shows which continues to be a success.





THE **FACILITIES** AT PENDLETON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE ARE AMONGST **THE BEST** IN THE REGION AND INCLUDE TEN PURPOSE-BUILT **DANCE AND DRAMA** STUDIOS, STATE-OF-THE-ART **LIGHTING** AND **SOUND EQUIPMENT** AND ACCESS TO **TV STUDIOS** AT **MEDIACITYUK**.

NAMED AFTER TWO OF SALFORD'S **GREATEST ACTORS**, THE ONSITE, **BEN KINGSLEY** AND **ECCLESTON** THEATRES ARE UTILISED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THEIR **SEASON OF SHOWS**, WHICH THIS YEAR INCLUDED **THE HISTORY BOYS**, **DAISY PULLS IT OFF** AND **LES MISÉRABLES**.

#### FACILITIES COMPRISE OF:

- THE 260 SEAT **ECCLESTON THEATRE**, EQUIPPED WITH THE LATEST INDUSTRY STANDARD SOUND AND LIGHTING
- 100 SEAT **BEN KINGSLEY THEATRE**
- **FOUR DANCE STUDIOS** WITH SPRUNG FLOORS, MIRRORS AND BALLET BARRES
- **SIX PERFORMANCE STUDIOS**
- **MUSIC SUITE**
- **OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE SPACE**
- **REHEARSAL ROOMS**
- **POPULAR MUSIC SUITE**
- **FILM AND MEDIA ROOM**

— FACILITIES —



# HALL OF F



TOM GLYNN-CARNEY

Tom made his film debut in the three-time Academy Award-winning film, Dunkirk. He took a leading role alongside the likes of Cillian Murphy, Tom Hardy, Harry Styles and played the on-screen son of BAFTA Award-winner, Sir Mark Rylance, in the Christopher Nolan blockbuster. The film grossed in excess of \$527 million worldwide, making it the highest-grossing World War II film of all time.

Tom also starred in the West End production of The Ferryman in 2017 and BBC military drama The Last Post in the same year.

He won the Emerging Talent Award at the Evening Standard Theatre Awards for his performance.

“I SPENT TWO FORMATIVE YEARS AT PENDLETON. THESE TWO YEARS WERE SOME OF THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE.”  
- TOM GLYNN-CARNEY

SEE PAGE 23 FOR MORE ON TOM'S INCREDIBLE JOURNEY.

WE ARE EXTREMELY PROUD OF THE SUCCESS OF OUR FORMER STUDENTS AND MAINTAIN CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS WITH MANY OF THEM, FOLLOWING THEIR CAREERS AND USING THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION OF ACTORS, DANCERS, DIRECTORS, AND TECHNICIANS.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW MEMBERS OF THE PENDLETON PERFORMING AND PRODUCTION ARTS HALL OF FAME:



CHRIS JOHNSON

Chris is primarily a voice actor and presenter and started presenting on the CBBC Channel in 2010. His first TV appearance was on BBC Three introducing Family Guy and he was the voice of Dennis the Menace in the 2013 series of Dennis the Menace and Gnasher.

Chris has also appeared on the CBeebies Channel and his voice has been featured in various video games, including the Doctor Who game.



FAYE BROOKES

Faye is best known for playing Kate Connor in the ITV soap Coronation Street.

She made her West End debut playing Sandy in Grease and then went on to take the leading role in the musical production of Shrek, and the part of Elle Woods in the UK tour of Legally Blonde.



# A M E



JOE GILL

Joe left college and walked into a successful career on one of the nations most beloved soaps, Emmerdale, where he became a household name.

"WHATEVER YOU GO INTO, WHAT YOU LEARN AT THIS COLLEGE IS INVALUABLE. LISTEN TO EVERYTHING YOUR TEACHERS SAY BECAUSE EVERYTHING YOU WILL LEARN ON THIS COURSE WILL SET YOU UP FOR THE FUTURE."

- JOE GILL TO CURRENT STUDENTS

SEE PAGE 29 TO HEAR MORE FROM JOE.

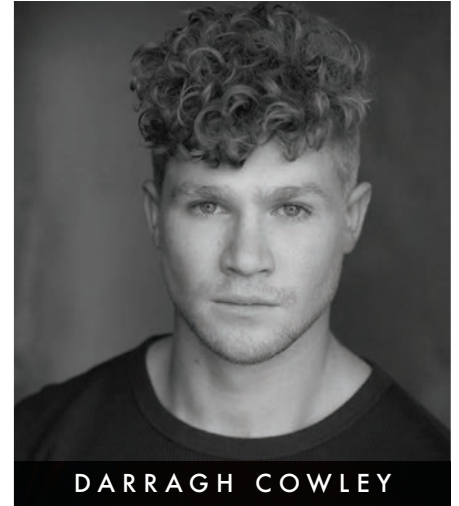


ADAM BARLOW

"PENDLETON GAVE ME THE BASIC TOOLS I NEEDED TO BE AN ACTOR. IT ALSO GAVE ME THE CONFIDENCE TO BELIEVE IN MYSELF BY REALLY FOCUSING ON MY STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES AS A PERFORMER. I OWE A LOT TO THAT PLACE!" - ADAM BARLOW

Adam has an extensive history in theatre. He has appeared in shows across the country including the UK tour of War Horse, the production Love on the Dole at Salford's Lowry, The Old Woman Who Lived In a Shoe at the Powerhouse Theatre, London, and other production's everywhere from The Royal Albert Hall and The Bolton Octagon, to The Duke's Lancaster and The New Vic Theatre, Newcastle.

He has also appeared in Coronation Street and has film credits in various motion pictures.



DARRAGH COWLEY

Darragh graduated from the Guildford School of Acting in 2018 and has a wealth of experience on the stage including playing the leading role in Spring Awakening at The Hope Mill Theatre in Manchester.

"PENDLETON IS STILL VERY CLOSE TO MY HEART, MY TIME THERE IS VERY DEAR TO ME. I SPENT A GLORIOUS TWO YEARS THERE WITH SOME PEOPLE WHO I STILL CONSIDER MY CLOSEST FRIENDS, AND WILL STAY THAT WAY FOR YEARS TO COME. I SIMPLY COULDN'T HAVE ASKED FOR MORE."

- DARRAGH COWLEY

## OTHER NOTABLE ALUMNI

Coronation Street's Catherine Tyldesley, award-winning actress Michelle Keegan and Hollywood actor Benedict Wong. This is on top of dozens of West End stars and TV performers.



## EXPERT TEACHING

# STAFF

The college is extremely proud of its experienced and dynamic teachers, who have over 70 years' combined experience as examiners and moderators for leading exam boards, and with The British Academy of Dramatic Combat. Five have Masters' Degrees in Performing Arts Practice, from the likes of RADA, LIPA and the University of Sheffield, and their links provide unique opportunities for their students.

**Opposite are a handful of our wonderful team:**





**GIDEON CLEAR**  
ACTING TEACHER

Gideon trained at the Mountview Theatre School graduating with a First Class Honours Degree in Acting. He has had an extensive career working professionally as an actor in theatre, television and radio, most notably with United Productions for the BBC, the British Film Services, Really Useful Theatres and Oneword Radio.

Gideon also worked as an Associate Director, casting for, directing and producing bespoke theatre presentations and training workshops for the likes of the BBC, Channel 4, London Underground and the Ministry of Defence.

He has worked at Pendleton Sixth Form College for over 10-years.



**NICOLA HAZELDINE**  
ACTING TEACHER

Nicola is not only a part of our outstanding and experienced teaching staff, but she is also part of the college's incredible alumni. In fact, Nicola was one of the students studying on the first ever BTEC Performing Arts Course at Pendleton.

She has come a long way since then. Following her time at Pendleton, Nicola went on to study BA Hons Contemporary Theatre and Performance at Manchester Metropolitan University and then for her Professional Graduate Diploma in Education from the University of Bolton. She is also a LAMDA trained professional.

As a professional actor, she has made countless TV, film and theatre appearances including appearances in Shameless and BBC drama Doctors.



**EMMA LINGARD**  
DANCE TEACHER

Emma trained professionally at the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA), and upon graduating she worked as a freelance dance artist, teacher and choreographer.

Emma's career highlight has been creating her own company in 2011 called 'The Master Class Experience' (TMCE) a pre-Vocational training experience for young people, led by professional dancers within the industry. This ran successfully for four-years and saw students progress into conservatoire training and professional work. After the success of TMCE Emma followed her passion for teaching and undertook a PGCE specialising in Further Education and training. She has a range of performance experience and has worked as a dancer in music videos, fashion shows and even a feature film.



**KEVIN ROWNTREE**  
CURRICULUM LEADER

Kevin trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and the University of Leeds, and has since worked with a number of prominent theatre companies including Trestle Theatre Company and English Touring Theatre. His work as a fight director, and the fact he is a qualified instructor of stage combat, has meant Kevin has had the opportunity to work within the film industry as a special action performer. On top of this, he has taught acting, movement and stage combat at colleges, universities and drama schools across the UK including E15, Mountview and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. He has even set up his own theatre company specialising in contemporary productions of world theatre.



**LES WILLIAMS**  
ACTING TEACHER

After graduating from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, Les worked professionally as an actor and director. He was part of two UK tours and even lived and worked in Louisiana, USA, to work with Le Petit Theatre Company on the musical production 'The King and I', as an associate director.

On his return, Les turned to teaching and found a new passion. In his time teaching acting and drama, he has worked in Italy, for Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts and now Pendleton Sixth Form College.

He has a Master's Degree and two PGCE teaching qualifications.



**GRAHAM WILKINS**  
TECHNICAL THEATRE TEACHER

Graham completed a BA Honours Degree in 3D Design back in 1987 while he worked at Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff, which was his first introduction to contemporary performance. Graham then went on to work as a freelance designer working on theatre, interior and retail projects, which eventually developed into him having his own design and manufacturing company.

Throughout his career he has worked as a designer alongside teaching. He has worked throughout the UK and Europe on theatre productions and trade exhibitions. Clients have included Hewlett Packard, Harrods, British Gas and Clarins.

# COURSES

Within the Performing Arts Department students are able to study a range of qualifications, from BTEC to A-level, all the way up to a Higher National Certificate (HNC) qualification.

## PENDLETON FUTURE PROFESSIONALS' PROGRAMME

The Pendleton Future Professionals' Programmes are a selection of elite courses of study, delivered in addition to A-level subjects on the directed study day of each week. The programmes give students the opportunity to receive one-on-one support from specialist teachers, take part in additional qualifications, apply for work placements and be considered for scholarships.

If you choose to study an A-level in drama or dance, you may be eligible for admission into the Future Creatives Programme. As part of the offer, you will be given the opportunity to attend Tap Fest UK, run by professionals within the industry, including dancers from the West End. You will also be given the opportunity to complete The Arts Award, managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England.

### A-LEVEL DRAMA

DEVELOP YOUR CREATIVE, INTERPRETATIVE, CRITICAL AND PRACTICAL SKILLS WHILST DISCOVERING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE WHEN IT COMES TO THE WORK OF SIGNIFICANT THEATRICAL PRACTITIONERS.



### A-LEVEL DANCE

EXPLORE JAZZ AND CONTEMPORARY DANCE SIDE-BY-SIDE IN PRACTICAL AND THEORY LESSONS. YOU'LL BE GIVEN EXTENSIVE PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES, WILL LEARN DISCIPLINED TECHNIQUES AND ALL ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF DANCE.



### BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN DANCE

TRAIN TO A PROFESSIONAL, INDUSTRY STANDARD, WHILST UNDERPINNING THE PRACTICE OF DANCE WITH ACADEMIC RIGOUR. EMPHASIS IS PLACED ON PHYSICAL PRACTICE, CHOREOGRAPHY AND PERFORMANCE OF DANCE.



### BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN ACTING

A PRACTICAL AND ENLIGHTENING, ONE-YEAR COURSE THAT OFFERS STUDENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN THE KEY PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF THE ACTING PROFESSION.



### BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN MUSICAL THEATRE

TRAIN IN ALL ASPECTS OF MUSICAL THEATRE. THE COURSE COMBINES THREE MAJOR PERFORMANCE AREAS: ACTING, DANCING AND SINGING.



### BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN TECHNICAL THEATRE

THIS COURSE PROVIDES A PRACTICAL AND CHALLENGING INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL THEATRE. YOU WILL FOCUS ON FIVE PRINCIPAL AREAS: STAGE MANAGEMENT, LIGHTING, SOUND, STAGING AND VISUAL IMAGERY FOR LIVE PERFORMANCES.



# "OUR STUDENTS WIN PLACES AT LEADING DRAMA, MUSIC AND DANCE SCHOOLS"

We help students find the pathway that is right for them. Whether that is going to drama school, university, staying on with us for higher level study or going straight into employment. Our track record for progression is excellent.

Every year more and more of our students are successful in applying to drama and dance schools such as:



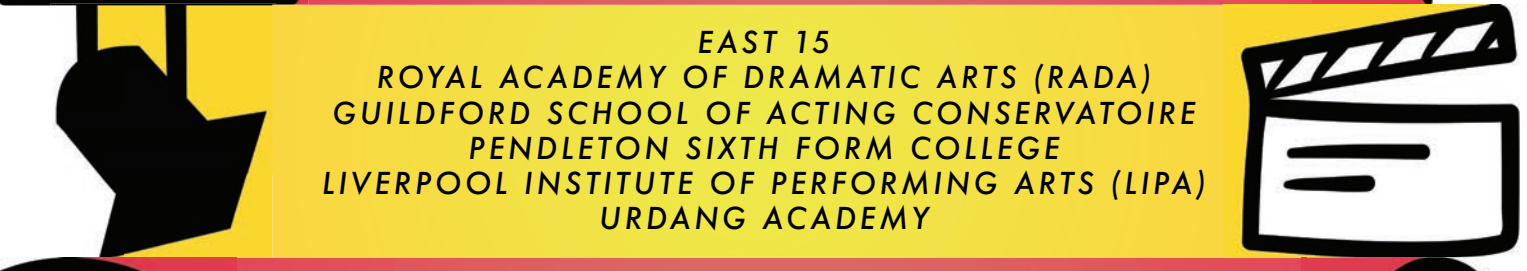
HAMMOND BALLET SCHOOL  
NORTHERN BALLET SCHOOL  
NEW YORK FILM ACADEMY  
ACADEMY OF LIVE AND RECORDED  
ARTS (ARLA)



GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE  
LONDON CENTRE OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC  
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ARTS  
MOUNTVIEW ACADEMY OF THEATRE ARTS



BRISTOL OLD VIC THEATRE SCHOOL  
ARDEN SCHOOL OF THEATRE  
LABAN CONTEMPORARY DANCE CONSERVATOIRE  
NORTHERN SCHOOL OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE  
DOREEN BIRD COLLEGE



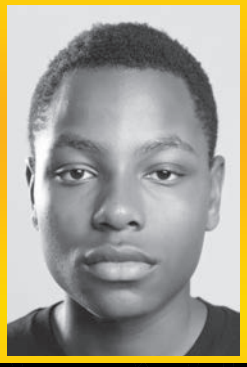
EAST 15  
ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ARTS (RADA)  
GUILDFORD SCHOOL OF ACTING CONSERVATOIRE  
PENDLETON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE  
LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE OF PERFORMING ARTS (LIPA)  
URDANG ACADEMY



LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC ART (LAMDA)  
ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DRAMA  
CENTRAL SCHOOL OF SPEECH AND DRAMA  
ARTS EDUCATIONAL

Because of the high number of our students who win places at top drama schools and the high quality of their work, we are now able to offer auditions for some drama schools on site at Pendleton Sixth Form College. These include:

- ALRA
- Arts Educational
- Guildford School of Acting Conservatoire
- Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts
- Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts
- Royal Welsh College



## JOJO BALONGO

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)

Jojo is going on to start BA (Hons) in Performing Arts (Film, TV and Stage) at Buckinghamshire New University in September

*"I've really enjoyed my time at Pendleton! It's been a lot of fun and I have developed more than I ever thought in everything from naturalistic acting, mask performance, film and TV and physical theatre acting, especially. Teachers have pushed and helped me develop myself as an actor. I'm very thankful for this, it has helped me move on to the next step in my training."*

# CL O 20

## LOUISE GAFFNEY

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)

Louise will be staying on at Pendleton to study on the HNC Performing Arts Musical Theatre Course.

*"I have decided to stay on and study at Pendleton because I feel like I have learnt a lot in such a supportive environment. The college has helped me grow as a performer and gain confidence in aspects I wasn't originally comfortable with. Everyone in the department is so friendly and caring and there to help you in any way possible."*



## LUKE HODKINSON

Studied A-level Dance

Luke has been offered a place at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance to study a BA (Hons) in Dance

*"Pendleton has an excellent reputation for performing arts. They really helped me with all stages of my application into dance school. From weekly sessions aimed at strengthening my applications to the advice given to help with preparation for interviews and auditions."*

## JOE HUGES

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)

Joe will begin his training at Bird College of Dance in September on the BA (Hons) in Dance and Theatre Performance

*"Pendleton has greatly helped me improve upon my singing, acting and dancing which no other college could do, which in turn has helped me progress towards my dream of performing on the west end."*



## AMELIA KENWORTHY

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)

Amelia was offered a place at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts to study BA (Hons) Acting

RADA is a world-leading training facility for drama.

*"Pendleton absolutely had the best course in acting. The college has great facilities and the staff are extremely supportive. I've particularly loved the Film and TV Unit as I really gained insight into what goes on behind the camera."*

# ASS F 18



## ANDILE MABHENA

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Dance)

Andile will be continuing his training at The Urdang Academy on the BA (Hons) in Professional Dance Course

*"This course has taught me everything I know about dance today. Before applying to this course, I never really had any training in dance so the intensity was phenomenal. The most enjoyable thing about the course was meeting new people passionate about the craft, pushing and driving themselves to become better. This made us feel like a family. I am proud to say that I will be continue my training at Urdang this September."*

## AARON SHAW

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)

Aaron has been offered a place at East 15 Acting School to study a Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts

*"The acting programme at Pendleton has been a real rollercoaster of a journey. From starting the course to finishing it, it's amazing to see how much of a different person I have become. I have learnt so many different things and I accredit this to the fantastic teachers on this course. I have made some amazing memories and lifelong friends and couldn't recommend this programme enough!"*



## KATE THORNHILL

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)

Kate is going on to study a Foundation Degree in Acting at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts

*"The acting course at Pendleton has really made me grow in confidence not only as a person but as a performer too. I believe I now have the skills and tools to start building the foundations of my career. I cannot thank the teachers enough for giving me the training I needed."*

## JOE WELLMAN

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting)

Joe's been offered a place at East 15 Acting School to study a Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts

*"I think the course at Pendleton is the very best you can get in terms of Further Education in the performing arts. The staff can't help enough, and the effort and talent of fellow students never cease to amaze me. I just want to say a huge thank you to everyone at Pendleton for pushing me and giving me a platform to learn and further my education in the field I hope to be working in for a very long time to come."*

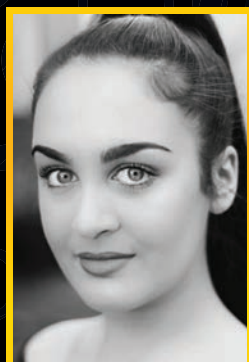


## CHARLOTTE WEBSTER

Studied BTEC Extended Diploma in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre)

Charlotte will continue her training in musical theatre at the Performance Preparation Academy, PPA, in Guildford on the BA (Hons) in Musical Theatre Course

*"Pendleton has helped me become so much more confident as a performer and as a person. I've made friends with life and won't forget what these special two years."*



# WHAT EXTRA CAN LIFE A PEN

Just some of the incredible departmental enrichment this year has included special guest speakers and masterclasses, as well as multiple trips, visits and live shows. Here are some of the highlights from throughout the academic year:

## Trips and Visits:

- Theatre visit to The Royal Exchange to see Cosmic Scallies
- Theatre workshops at Edge Hill University
- Visit to Arden Theatre School to watch Romeo and Juliet
- Trip to see Brief Encounter by the Kneehigh Theatre Company
- Trip to see Hedda Garbler and take part in a workshop at The Lowry
- Greater Manchester Police Training, corporate role-play experience
- Choir members took part in a residential at The University of Cambridge

## Events

- Tap Fest UK

## Live Performances

- Auditions for the Pendleton Season of Shows
- Children's theatre performances in primary schools

## Masterclasses and Guest Speakers

- Audition masterclass with the Central School of Speech and Drama
- Associate Director Masterclass with The National Theatre
- Joe Gill, Emmerdale Actor and Alumni, industry talk
- Tom Glynn-Carney, Dunkirk Actor and Alumni, audition masterclass
- Acting with voice audition classes
- Masterclass from Darren Morgan, DNA Performance Resource
- Talk on job roles with Walk the Plank
- Debate with special guests Julie Hesmondhalgh (Coronation Street) and Chris Johnson (CBBC)

## Competitions

- The Greater Manchester Skills Group Competitions for Performing Arts



“IT WAS AN ABSOLUTE JOY TO WORK WITH PENDLETON’S CHOIRS ON THEIR VISIT TO QUEENS’ COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE. AS ALWAYS, THE ENORMOUS ENTHUSIASM OF THE SINGERS WAS INFECTIOUS, BUT NO LESS IMPRESSIVE WAS THE DEDICATION AND DISCIPLINE THEY BROUGHT TO THEIR PERFORMANCES, BE IT CLASSICAL CHORUSES OR MUSIC THEATRE NUMBERS. AS PRELIMINARY PREPARATION BEFORE ACTING SCHOOL, THERE CAN BE NO BETTER TRAINING IN THE COUNTRY.”

- Dr Tim Brown, Emeritus Director of Music, Clare College, The University of Cambridge

AT

# PENDLETON

## OFFER YOU?

### THE CHAMBER CHOIR

The Chamber Choir was founded in 2005 and is made up of over 20 students. The choir meets every week during term time to rehearse the very best music from the Renaissance to the present day – both acappella and with our orchestra.

The choir performs annual concerts at The University of Cambridge – Girton, Clare and Queens’ Colleges have all been the venues for major performances since the choir was formed.

This is preceded by an annual residential at The University of Cambridge and masterclasses by some of the top fellows and choral trainers from the university and in the UK. The choir has toured France, Romania and extensively within the UK and performs major concerts at some of the North West’s major choral venues.

### THE CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

The Contemporary Choir was founded in 2006 and is also made up of over 20 singers. The choir performs pieces from the 20th and 21st century, specialising in gospel, rock and pop, metal and classical music arrangements. The pieces are arranged specifically for the vocal talents within the choir. The choir also takes part in the annual residential visit to The University of Cambridge and performs a major schedule of concerts with The Chamber Choir throughout the academic year.

### THE CONSORT OF VOICES

Founded in 2014, this is a specialist choir of around 10 singers drawn from the voices of the Chamber Choir and Contemporary Choir. The choir members are extremely quick at sight-reading new material and at holding individual parts, so they have an extensive repertoire of acappella music and complex harmonic arrangements.

They perform classical, religious, musical theatre, jazz and pop music from the Arts Nova period to the present day.



### THE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

The Pendleton Shakespeare Company is an ensemble group committed to promoting the works of William Shakespeare both in college and across the local community. Since its conception, it has performed many of the Bard’s most popular plays including *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Merchant Of Venice*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Twelfth Night* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

In 2009 the company started to tour local schools and colleges and has grown year-on-year, giving students their first taste of the life of an actor on the road. Many years have concluded with an outdoor performance at Heaton Park.

# CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF THE ECCLESTON THEATRE

**I**T'S BEEN 10 YEARS since Pendleton Sixth Form College's largest theatre, The Eccleston, was officially opened. To celebrate they took things back to where they began, with a performance of the world-renowned, 'Les Misérables', the first show to be performed in the theatre a decade ago.

Named after one of Salford's greatest actors, Christopher Eccleston, the 260 seat Pendleton theatre has hosted countless productions and shows.

The theatre is the setting of the college's spectacular 'Season of Shows' and has been the backdrop of everything from musicals to masterclasses, dance shows to debates, symphonies to showcases.

Hundreds of students started their professional careers in this very theatre and some of the best in the business have directed productions here. It holds some of the most sophisticated technical equipment, sound and lighting apparatus, and provides the perfect setting for all of the college's performing and productions arts students to learn - whether they are centre stage, or building it.

Neil Bennett, Head of the Centre of Excellence for Performing and Production Arts at Pendleton, was involved in the initial design of The Eccleston, when he first worked for the college. He said: "I am absolutely thrilled to be able to celebrate the 10th anniversary of The Eccleston Theatre here at Pendleton - especially as I was one of the team that helped design the inner dimensions structures of the theatre and rehearsal spaces in the beginning.

"A stunning piece of musical theatre"

## NORTH WEST END





**"AFTER I FOUND OUT THAT THE ECCLESTON THEATRE OPENED WITH A PRODUCTION OF LES MISÉRABLES IN 2008, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FITTING TO CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT, THE COLLEGE AND THE THEATRE BY PRODUCING A BRAND NEW VERSION OF THE SHOW." - JOE MEIGHAN**

Neil continued: "Even more thrilling is to celebrate the anniversary with the show that opened the theatre, *Les Misérables*, and to celebrate 10-years since we last did it here in The Eccleston and nearly 20-years since I myself conducted it at The Point Theatre, Dublin with Colm Wilkinson as Jean Valjean.

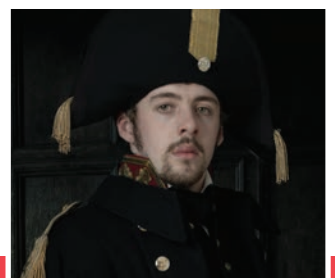
"Our students have done a superb job and thanks to our outstanding staff who have directed, choreographed, designed sets and everything else down to technical aspects and wardrobe, it was another spectacular week of theatre at Pendleton."

The department revived the legendary musical for staff, students and the people of Salford in May of this year, exactly 10-years after its debut.

Joe Meighan, Associate Theatre Director at Pendleton, said: "After I found out that The Eccleston Theatre opened with a production of *Les Misérables* in 2008, I thought it would be fitting to celebrate the achievements of the Performing Arts Department, the college and the theatre by producing a brand new version of the show."



The production also marked the closing of this year's Season of Shows at Pendleton, with the new season opening in September with a new cohort of students.



**"This was a raw and up-close-and-personal production, given a new lease of life, with an energy and passion that is sometimes lacking from the perhaps 'tired' professional version; and with a cast of talented and passionate performers, this was a powerful and emotional roller-coaster of a show."**

**Reviewer - Matthew Dougall, Review of *Les Misérables***

# PENDLETON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE'S CHAMBER CHOIR VICTORIOUS AT SALFORD CHORAL FESTIVAL 2018

**P**ENDLETON SIXTH FORM College's Chamber Choir came out on top at this year's Salford Choral Festival, being named as overall winners and receiving honours for their performance.

The festival was put on by MAPAS, Salford's Music and Performing Arts Service, and saw adult choirs from across Salford sing-off in an attempt to be crowned the city's ultimate choir. The competition takes place every year with different categories for school/ college choirs and for adult choirs.

Pendleton is home to three, professional, student-led choirs: The Contemporary Choir, The Chamber Choir and The Consort of Voices, all of whom competed in the adult category for the first time this year. They participated alongside seven other Salford based choral groups including the well-known Salford Choral Society and the Ordsall A Cappella Singers. The Chamber Choir were the only group to

receive honours in the competition and not just highly commended, walking away victorious on the day, much to the delight to the student members.

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*"To see the progression of the choir since our first rehearsal is amazing, and to fight off all the competition from across Salford was a wonderful feeling."*

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Performing arts student, Zachariah Frieze, said: "I am thrilled to have won in the adult choir section at the MAPAS Choral Festival with The Chamber Choir. We have worked extremely hard in rehearsals and I think this reflects our win. It was a fun day and it was lovely meeting people from the Salford community - winning was just an added bonus."

Owen Bolton, former Rose Bridge High School, said: "To see the progression of the choir since our first rehearsal is

amazing, and to fight off all the competition from across Salford was a wonderful feeling. Winning would have been a great achievement for any of the choirs - but to be the youngest choir in the competition was the icing on the cake."

Freya Humberstone said: "The competition was such a great experience as it gave all of us more opportunity to get public performance practice, and also the chance to be adjudicated based on both technique and performance skills in terms of group singing."

Both choirs are run as an extra-curricular activity at Pendleton Sixth Form College and perform at numerous showcases, events and occasions. Earlier this year The Consort of Voices took to the stage at the college's annual Apprenticeship Awards during National Apprenticeship Week, and have also completed a residential at Queens College, The University of Cambridge.



**THE CHAMBER CHOIR**



**K**IRA MCPHERSON, who has just completed her studies on the Performing Arts Extended Diploma in Dance at Pendleton Sixth Form College, has been chosen as the first recipient of the Manchester Arena Memorial Award and Scholarship, from the Soroptimist International of Manchester Organisation.

Soroptimist International Manchester is part of Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland, and is an organisation that works at a local, national and international level to help improve the lives of women and girls across the globe.

Following the horrific attack at the Manchester Arena the group decided they wanted to do something in memory of the victims, which is when the Manchester Arena Memorial Award was born.

Rose Marginson, Soroptimist International Manchester's past President, said: "Soroptimist International Manchester was set up to help women and girls have a better life and achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations and have an equal voice.

"In the days following the terror attack we wanted to do something in memory of the victims. As an organisation, we do not have a substantial amount of money so instead of adding to the memorial fund we felt it was fitting to help a local, young girl achieve her dream in performing arts instead.

"We were delighted to then present Pendleton's Kira McPherson with our first award of £250 to go towards her auditions. She was chosen by the Performing Arts Team for her achievement and passion for dance and has now accepted a place at Urdang Academy in London."

College staff said Kira was chosen for her 'infectious energy and motivational approach to work'. Kira said: "The money I have been awarded will benefit me in my future by helping me pay for university essentials and extra classes to further my training whilst living in London over the next three years - I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity."

The organisation plan to continue to give an award each year for at least 5-years to a Pendleton Sixth Form College student.

## IS THE PERFORMING ARTS INDUSTRY A MERITOCRACY? CELEBS AND STUDENTS DEBATE

**C**HE WIGFIELD-TURNER, first-year BTEC Performing Arts Acting student at Pendleton Sixth Form College, pulls off not one, but two outstanding debates including students and local celebrities, Julie Hesmondhalgh and Maxine Peak.

Che, whose efforts have been described as 'outstanding' by departmental staff at the college, conducted the debates as part of the Trinity College London Arts Awards. The award will be offered to all students taking part in the Future Creatives Programme at Pendleton next year.

Students from the Performing Arts Department practised their live action debating whilst exploring the important topic, is the performing arts industry a meritocracy? A meritocracy is when a group of people have progressed and gained power based on merit, talent and ability as oppose to wealth, class or privilege.

Coronation Street's very own Hayley Cropper, real-name Julie Hesmondhalgh, joined Che and her classmates for the discussion in the college's famous Eccleston Theatre. Julie was very strongly against the argument that the industry is a meritocracy saying: "Why should some work 10 times as hard, how is that meritocracy, there is not an equal starting point."

She also made the very strong point that, "7% of the population go to fee paying, private schools. That is a tiny, tiny percentage of the population. But, 93% of British Oscar winners were privately educated".

Students for and against the statement also put forward their arguments and were given the opportunity throughout the hour-long debate to rebuttal each other. Members of the audience, which was made up of other performers from the department as well as other groups including The Politics Department and The Debating Society, were also invited to take the microphone and have their say.

Arguments for the statement, the performing arts industry is a meritocracy, included the argument that anyone who wants to do well within the industry has the opportunity to do so should they work hard and do whatever they can to achieve their goals. However the opposing team contended that drama school admission, travel to and from auditions and additional support and training is all costly, making it easier for those with more financial support to excel.

Following the successful debate earlier this year, another has been conducted since, this time with special guest Maxine Peak. Maxine was just as impressed with the debate and the students from Pendleton as Julie was and described Che as 'wonderful stating it was 'a pleasure to share the stage with you'.



**R**EBEKKA OPDAL CHRISTIANSEN had no idea what to expect when she came to study performing arts at Pendleton Sixth Form College. Having completed her auditions via video, she hadn't visited the college, or even Salford, when she decided it was the place for her.

She said: "Pendleton was absolutely my favourite college. The course on the website, the videos, they all looked so professional and I can't believe the percentage of students that go on to great drama schools, or into the industry."

Rebekka's first experience in England, and only before moving to Swinton, Salford, was a visit to London, watching shows like the Lion King on the West End - something which fuelled her passion for performing all the more.

"The UK is so good for musical theatre and the performing arts community is much bigger. I think that's why I've never once felt homesick; I feel more like I'm coming home, coming to a family of performers."

"In Norway I almost felt lonely in my hobby. I can count on one hand the number of people my age, in my hometown, who wanted to perform musical theatre. In the UK there are hundreds of us all studying the subject!"

Rebekka was able to make her dream of studying performing arts in the UK a reality thanks to an exchange programme put on by her college in Lillehammer, and MyEducation, an organisation that offers student exchange programmes for young people.

# REBEKKA OPDAL CHRISTIANSEN

## WHY I MOVED FROM NORWAY TO STUDY AT PENDLETON PERFORMING ARTS

"It's normal for students in Norway to go to English speaking countries to study on an exchange programme. I really wanted to come here to improve my English, as I might decide one day to go to drama school in the UK. But also, in Norway I didn't have the opportunity to do a combination of singing, dancing and acting whilst studying. That wasn't an option as it is here.

"In Norway I felt stuck, there just wasn't the right course for me, but now I feel as though everything is right. After all, this is all I've ever wanted to do. It's my passion. Here at Pendleton, I can concentrate on performing."

After just 8-weeks on the course, and in the country, Rebekka not only felt completely at home, but also as if she has grown immensely in her field.

"I believe I have grown so much more than I ever could have in a year at home. The performing arts community and provisions here are so much bigger. In some ways Pendleton has everything universities in Norway do for the subject.

"Plus, the teachers here, they take you seriously. They know you have dreams and goals and they help you, believe in

you and support you. They make sure you know it's going to be hard, but they also make it fun. Its hard work but it is worth it."

And she can't believe the opportunities she is getting at Pendleton.

***"Pendleton was absolutely my favourite college. The course on the website, the videos, they all looked so professional and I can't believe the percentage of students that go on to great drama schools, or into the industry."***

"I thought I was going to have to pay for training at expensive dance studios and in exclusive theatre groups to get the most out of being here and studying here, but everything is at college. There are so many opportunities; from performing in the Christmas show, to Tap Fest UK, the choir and not to mention the extensive Season of Shows you can audition to be a part of. And as long as you are open minded, and take any opportunity that comes your way, this is really the best place to be."

Rebekka still isn't sure what she wants to do after she finishes studying, but certainly

feels being here now has increased the possibilities for her.

"In addition to being a professional performer I might want to be a playwright or director even - I don't know. I still don't know if I want to perform in Scandinavia or an English speaking country, but hopefully after studying here I can do either or both.

"Although, one thing I do know is musical theatre in Norway is growing and I want to take what I have learnt back there and share my knowledge with that growing community."

And as to how has she found the big move: "Manchester is the same size as Oslo, Norway's capital, so I feel like I've gone from home to home. There has been no culture shock. In the North of England, everyone is so friendly, it's an open community.

"The first day at college was scary, especially having to speak English spontaneously, but I made friends on day one.

"It's definitely been better than I expected - it couldn't be any better!"



# PENDLETON'S PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT WELCOMES BACK TWO FAMILIAR FACES

**P**ENDLETON SIXTH FORM College's Performing Arts Department welcomes back Neil G Bennett as the new Head of The Centre of Excellence for Performing Arts, and college alumni Joseph Meighan who has been appointed Associate Theatre Director.

The department is nationally acclaimed for producing some of the finest performers in the business. They are known for their spectacular Season of Shows and their high calibre of student talent, and now the Beacon award winning department has brought back two familiar faces; former staff member Neil, and former student Joseph Meighan, to help continue their success.

Neil and Joe join an already impressive creative team at the college. Between them they will be responsible for 'The Pendleton Season of Shows'; the calendar of professional productions put on for the general public in which students can audition to be a part of.

They will also be responsible for the extensive enrichment activity that surrounds the students' studies. The pair will be using their broad industry experience to assist with acting, musical theatre, dance and technical theatre auditions for drama schools and dance academies as well as managing the college choirs.

Both Neil and Joe have a breadth of knowledge to share with students at the college, thanks to their fruitful careers.

Neil, a professional organist, completed scholarships at Chetham's School of

Music and The University of Cambridge. He then began a professional career as a conductor of choirs and orchestras, and was musical director at The Players' Theatre in London's West End.

During his extensive career with the American Musical Company of New York and the Broadway Musical Company, Neil lived in New York and arranged and conducted musicals for productions in the USA and Europe.

Since leaving Pendleton some years ago, Joe has had a successful career too, as a theatre director and actor. After studying at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, Joe went on to direct productions including Les Misérables, Romeo and Juliet, The Phantom of the Opera and GHOST. He is also the artistic director and founder of MYT Productions in Manchester, a youth theatre group.

Neil Bennett said, upon his return: "Joe and I are thrilled to be working together in such a vibrant and dynamic performing arts community, and we look forward to wonderful collaborations ahead."

**BOTH NEIL AND  
JOE HAVE A  
BREADTH OF  
KNOWLEDGE TO  
SHARE  
WITH THEIR  
STUDENTS AT THE  
COLLEGE, THANKS  
TO THEIR FRUITFUL  
CAREERS.**



**JOSEPH AND NEIL**

**SUCCESS FOR  
PENDLETON  
PERFORMING ARTS!**



**LUCCA CHADWICK-PATEL**



**OWEN BOLTON**



**ZACHARIAH FRIEZE**

**T**HREE PENDLETON SIXTH FORM College students are accepted into the Guildford School of Acting, one of the most highly regarded theatre schools in the UK.

**Lucca Chadwick-Patel**, Owen Bolton and Zachariah Frieze have all been accepted into the prestigious school, situated at the University of Surrey.

Lucca, former Culcheth High School pupil, said: "I'm absolutely over the moon to have been accepted into such a prestigious school, it was my top choice school and to be given the opportunity to train there for the next three years still hasn't sunk in. Musical theatre has always been my passion so this really is a dream come true.

"None of this would be possible without my fantastic teachers and the whole Performing Arts Department at Pendleton. Their continued support and hard work really is a credit to the college. GSA only accepts around 36 people a year, and the fact that three Pendleton students have got in from the first recall of the year really is a credit to the fantastic staff and teaching that Pendleton provides."

**Owen Bolton**, former Rose Bridge High School pupil said: "I couldn't believe it when I was given a place at GSA - it's my biggest achievement to date. Being offered a place at a drama school is one thing, but to be offered a place at your dream school is a whole different ball game - it's been quite a surreal experience.

"Over the past year and a half at Pendleton, I have been given specialist

training by some of the best teaching staff available in the country. They are well equipped to support students in pursuing their careers in musical theatre. They are a real credit to the college - I 100% wouldn't be where I am without being taught by them.

"Prior to enrolling at Pendleton, I had never danced a step in my life and the thought of a ballet or tap class scared me to death. But, since joining the college I soon realised that the training on offer was too good of an opportunity to miss. Dance is now a big part of my life and I wish to pursue it as a career."

*"Guildford School of Acting is one of the most prestigious drama schools in the country."*

**Zachariah Frieze** was the third student to have been given a place at the school, he said: "Words can't describe how I feel about being accepted into The Guildford School of Acting for their prestigious, professional BA Musical Theatre Course. Getting into this school was always my main goal.

"Having never really trained in musical theatre before college, the staff at Pendleton have truly helped me in all aspects of performance including singing, acting and particularly dancing. I started at Pendleton with no dance experience and have left with a level of technique and flexibility to now start professional training."

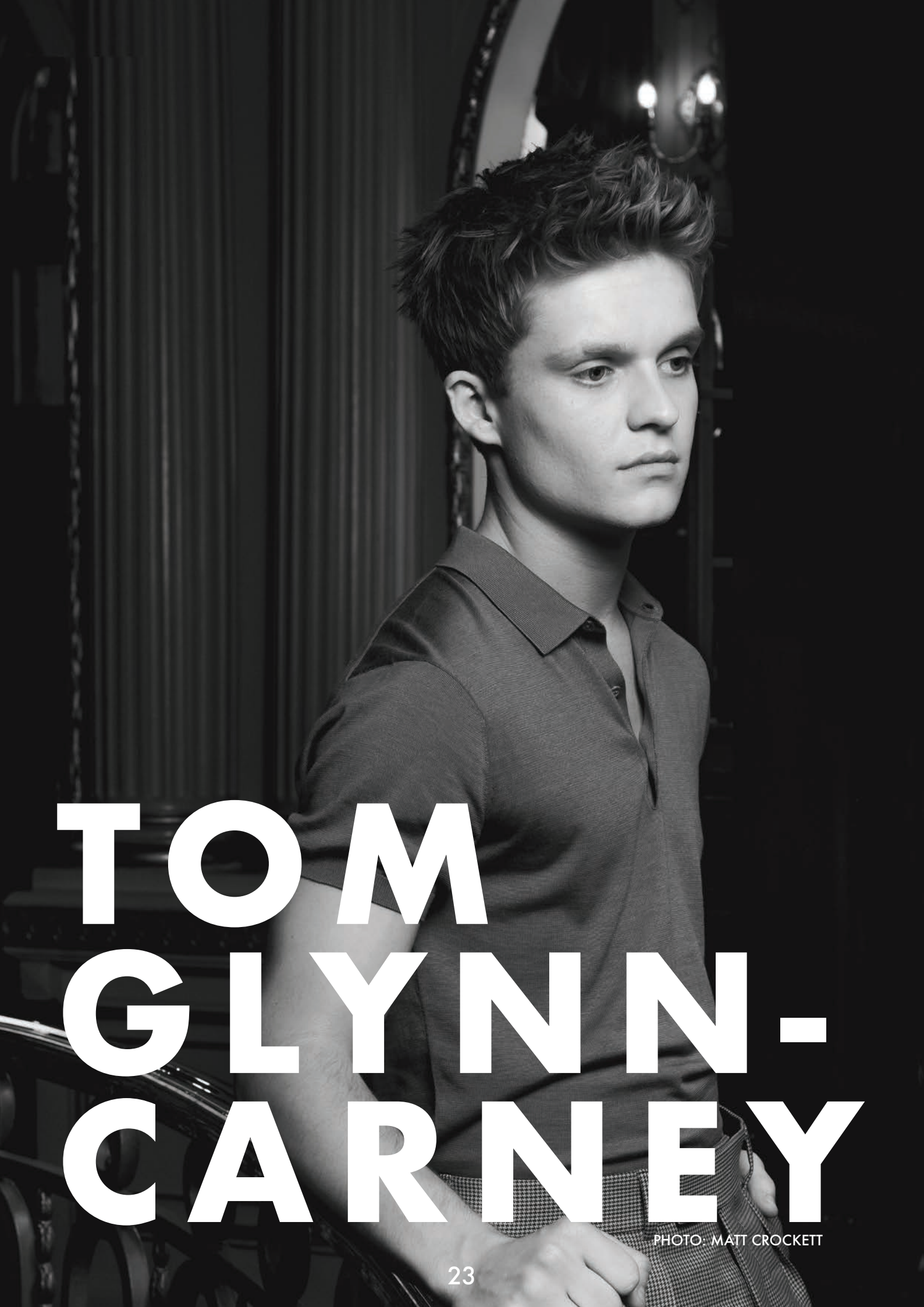
"Additionally, I have been lucky enough to be cast in four of Pendleton's amazing Season of Shows, which allow you to put your training into practice."

Teaching staff at the college are thrilled with the news and are extremely proud of the success of their students. Neil Bennett, Head of the college's Centre of Excellence in Performing and Production Arts, said: "Guildford School of Acting is one of the most prestigious drama schools in the country and all our teaching staff and students are thrilled at the news that three of our musical theatre students have already gained places there.

"Congratulations to Lucca, Owen and Zac on this wonderful achievement!"



**OWEN BOLTON**



# TOM GLYNN-CARNEY

PHOTO: MATT CROCKETT



# WHO IS TOM GLYNN-CARNEY?

## THE SALFORD STUDENT WHO SWAPPED THE HALLWAYS OF PENDLETON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, FOR A CAREER ON THE BIG-SCREEN.

**T**OM GLYNN-CARNEY, former Pendleton Performing Arts student, made his big-screen debut in the box office hit, *Dunkirk*. Starring alongside the likes of Tom Hardy, Harry Styles and Cillian Murphy.

Since then Tom has landed a leading role on the West End's, *The Ferryman*, and a starring role in the BBC military drama *The Last Post*.

The 23-year-old attended Cannon Slade School in Bolton before studying at Pendleton, in Salford. The model student left college with a triple distinction star in performing arts, the highest possible grade someone studying for a vocational qualification can receive. He then went on to study at the prestigious Guildhall School of Music and Drama, in London, before embarking on a successful, film, TV and theatre career.

Tom said: "I can't help but feel like I've won a lottery with every job I've had. I have learnt a lot from some of the greatest actors and directors of our generation, and to be able to say that aged just 23, is still difficult for me to comprehend."

But despite his early successes, Tom is eager to remain level-headed and close to his heritage. He said: "I hope that with a bit of northern humour and grounded, humble approach, I will continue working with my heroes and continue to have some pretty cool stories to tell."

Tom's first experience in television was in a cameo role in the BBC's *Casualty* in 2013, but it wasn't long before he hit our big screens as Peter Dawson in Christopher Nolan's, award-winning war drama, *Dunkirk*.

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*"I spent two formative years at Pendleton. These two years were some of the best years of my life."*

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*Dunkirk* grossed over \$527 million (more than £396 million) worldwide and received eight Academy Award nominations, going on to win Oscars for Best Sound Editing, Best Sound Mixing and Best Film Editing. The movie also received eight nominations at the Critic's Choice Awards, eight nominations at the British Academy Film Awards and three nominations at the Golden Globes. It has been critically acclaimed and described as one of the greatest war films ever produced.

The film, set in 1940, depicts the evacuation of Allied soldiers during World War 2, from the beaches of Dunkirk. Peter Dawson, played by Tom, is the son of Mr Dawson, portrayed by Academy and BAFTA Award winner, Sir Mark Rylance. Mr Dawson, a civilian, sets out by boat to rescue soldiers stranded at Dunkirk, with his son and their teenage friend George, in tow. Following on from his success in *Dunkirk*, Tom has also taken a leading role in the

West End as Shane Corcoran in the Jez Butterworth play, *The Ferryman*. The show opened at the Royal Court Theatre last year.

He then went on and won the Emerging Talent Award at the Evening Standard Theatre Awards for his performance in the play.

The success doesn't stop there. Filming has now commenced for the new Netflix feature film, *The King*. The Netflix original, based on the work of William Shakespeare, will see Tom starring alongside some of Hollywood's biggest stars including Robert Pattinson, Lily-Rose Depp and Ben Mendelsohn, with Brad Pitt amongst producers.

The young star will also play the role of Christopher Wiseman in the biographical drama of Tolkien, based on the life of Lord of the Rings writer, J.R.R Tolkien. The film, which also stars Lily Collins and Nicholas Hoult, is expected to hit big-screens later this year.



# STICKING TO HIS ROOTS

Tom, who is a self-confessed 'humble Northerner', feels extremely blessed for his accomplishments so far and thanks those who have helped him along the way, including Pendleton Sixth Form College, where he studied.

He said: "I am under no illusion that I am extremely lucky and fortunate. I am immensely grateful for the people, opportunities and establishments, including Pendleton, which have assisted me in achieving some very exciting things so far.

"I have a lot to thank Pendleton Sixth Form College for. The college was largely responsible for the position I am in today. It provided me with skills I use every day, socially and professionally. I met some of my best friends at Pendleton and will always be grateful for that.

"I will remain a keen supporter of it's future, growth and development."

Staff and current students from the college are extremely proud of Tom's achievements. Lucy Huntbach, Head of Performing Arts at Pendleton Sixth Form College, said: "Tom was an enthusiastic and hardworking student who grasped every opportunity to develop his skills and perfect his performance techniques.

"We are tremendously proud of his achievements to date, not least his incredibly powerful performance alongside Sir Mark Rylance in Dunkirk. An extremely moving and impressive film debut. The performing arts team continue to watch Tom's career progress alongside many of our department alumni."

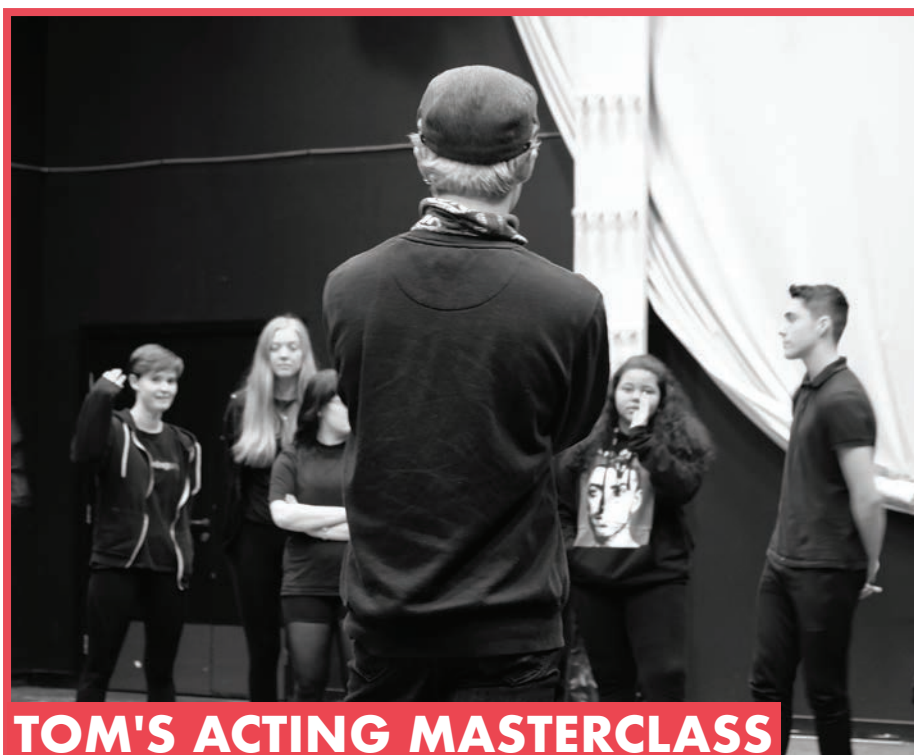


**JOE, TOM & NEIL**

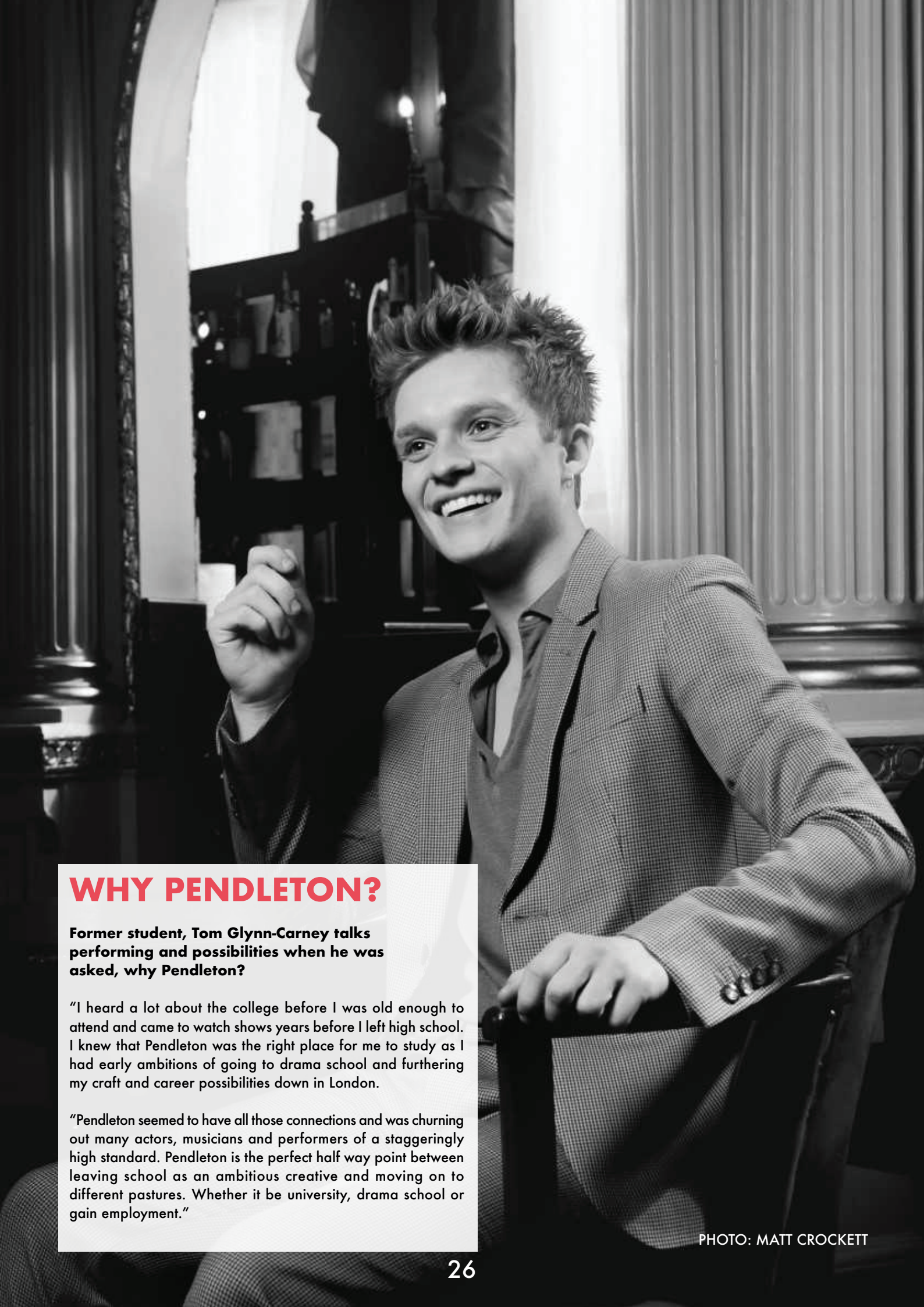
Tom is eager to remain close to his roots. He still holds strong connections with Salford and the college, and visited Pendleton to put on an acting masterclass for current students, helping them to get through the challenging and competitive audition process for drama and performance school admission.

During his visit, Tom spent time with his former mentor and current Head of the Centre of Excellence for Performing and Production Arts, Neil G Bennett, as well as his former classmate, Joseph Meighan, who is now Associate Theatre Director at Pendleton.

In his inspiring introduction to students, he said: "I spent two formative years at Pendleton. These two years were some of the best years of my life."



**TOM'S ACTING MASTERCLASS**



## WHY PENDLETON?

**Former student, Tom Glynn-Carney talks performing and possibilities when he was asked, why Pendleton?**

"I heard a lot about the college before I was old enough to attend and came to watch shows years before I left high school. I knew that Pendleton was the right place for me to study as I had early ambitions of going to drama school and furthering my craft and career possibilities down in London.

"Pendleton seemed to have all those connections and was churning out many actors, musicians and performers of a staggeringly high standard. Pendleton is the perfect half way point between leaving school as an ambitious creative and moving on to different pastures. Whether it be university, drama school or gain employment."

PHOTO: MATT CROCKETT

# Course Feature: Why walk when you can Dance?

**T**HE FAMOUS SAYING goes, 'dance like nobody is watching', but once your studying A-level Dance at Pendleton Sixth Form College, one thing is for sure, you'll want everyone watching when you dance. Why? We strive to improve confidence, charisma, your talents and technique, all whilst nurturing your academic abilities.

**"Opportunity dances with those already on the dancefloor."**  
– H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Dance enables you to be whoever you want to be. The A-level Dance course is for those who have a passion for dancing – whether they want to become a dancer in the future or not. The subject opens doors into many different industries and pathways and will have you dance into your chosen career with grace and charisma.

What the course aims to do is give you the skills you need to succeed.

You'll practice:

**D**iscipline **A**utonomy **N**aturalistic technique **C**reativity and **E**xpression

All skills needed for an array of courses and professions.

## *Skills For Success*

To dance, you must have physical strength and athleticism, and studying dance at A-level will prepare you perfectly for any career where you need to be physically fit.

Dancers also demonstrate discipline and dedication in all they do. Whether it is their extensive practicing, their sheer determination to be better, even their consideration of diet and nutrition which must always be deliberated. By studying this subject and pushing yourself on this course, you'll have evidence for both to use in your university applications and on your CV, ensuring you stand out from the crowd.

Another incredibly important skill is professionalism. On the A-level Dance course we teach our students to a professional standard, you'll be asked to perform in shows and audition for them and our incredible industry links mean you'll be dealing with professionals within the industry too. All of this requires a great deal of professionalism and maturity, something which will greatly increase your opportunities after college.

The extensive performance programme will grow your confidence, you'll learn to perform with poise and never be short of self-assurance.



# Why Dance?

The opportunities when you study A-level Dance are vast. You will work hard, belong to a team, perform, be creative, watch dance, study dance, feel great and grow in confidence.

The curriculum is a mixture of academic study and practice. Students take weekly jazz and contemporary technique classes as well as creative and theory sessions.

As part of the Performing Arts Department, extra-curricular activity is a given. From having the opportunity to perform in the Season of Shows, to being able to take part in Tap Fest UK which is hosted by the college. You'll have the chance to go for scholarships, audition for dance schools and perform until your heart is content.

Faye Heywood, who has just completed her first year on the course, has had the opportunity to play the lead in two dance productions already since starting at Pendleton, including *Daisy Pulls it Off* and *Wonder Woman: Origins of a Legend*.

She said: "A-level Dance has really helped me this year. I have noticed a difference in my technique and strength due to the training and body conditioning we do in class. Also, learning about different practitioners has widened my knowledge of the dance world and given me inspiration for my performance and movement style."

"I love performing. There are so many highlights of the year including the shows I have been involved in and lucky enough to play the lead role in. I think A-level Dance gave me the confidence to try for these shows and succeed in auditioning. I would recommend this course as it is so personal and all the feedback and training has really helped me to better myself as a dancer."

## Success stories to make a song and dance about

We have an incredible track record of students going onto prestigious dance schools and students going onto study other subjects at respected universities. As well as an incredible portfolio of alumni.

### Jennifer Doolan

Jennie left Pendleton almost a decade ago and has a whirlwind career ever since. Now with her own local dance school, the young performer has danced in music videos, on television and travelled to America and Spain thanks to her craft.

After completing her studies at Pendleton, Jennie, a former A-level Dance student, went on to study Dance Making and Performance at Coventry University. After graduating in 2013, she then went back to her former school, Prestwich High School, to teach.

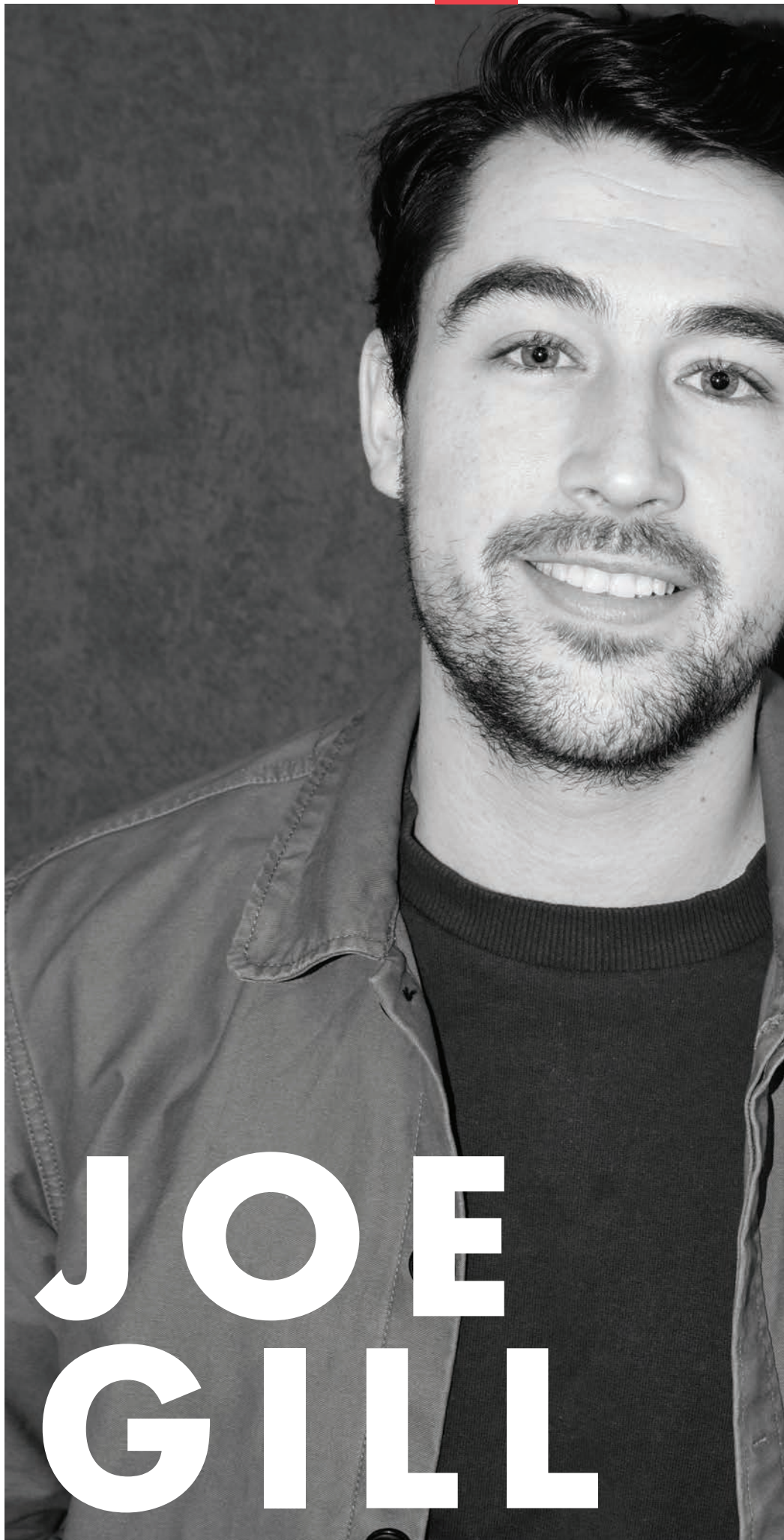
However, it wasn't long before Jennie was offered an opportunity of a lifetime. Whilst on holiday in America, she met Beyoncé's backing dancers who encouraged her to come to New York to study further. Jennie applied and was later accepted into a dance programme at the Broadway Dance Centre. She packed up and moved to the Big Apple for seven months of intensive training.

She said: "Every day I was gaining knowledge from the best of the best. I managed to do some amazing performances in New York including a performance at Symphony Space Performing Arts Centre in Manhattan and I also did a commercial with Paula Abdul in Central Park."

On returning from America, Jennie got a job at Salford Reds as a Lead Dance Artist - teaching in schools and choreographing for school performances at half-time on match days. But this wasn't her true passion. She said: "On returning to Manchester in 2016 I decided I wanted to create my own dance school in the area in which I grew up. I wanted to give back to the children of my community and create a fun safe environment showing them that anything is possible."

"It's then that I started JD DANCE. We provide dance classes for children up to 16-years-old at a local community centre in Lower Broughton. We have been open for 18-months now and in that 18-months we just continue to grow bigger and bigger, currently with around 50-60 children at our school."

**"FOLLOW  
YOUR  
GUT" SAYS  
FORMER  
PENDLETON  
STUDENT  
JOE GILL  
WHOSE  
INSTINCT  
LED HIM  
INTO A  
4-YEAR  
CAREER ON  
EMMERDALE**





# "FOLLOW YOUR GUT"

**J**OE, WHO STUDIED BTEC Performing Arts Acting, left college and walked into a successful career on one of the nations most beloved soaps. But, earlier this year he was back where it all began to talk to current performing arts students about his journey into the world of TV and film, as well as giving some of his own advice about their futures.

He said: "I remember when I was exactly where you are now. There are so many routes to take, some of you might be considering drama school, some of you might be considering going on to act, some might not want to be actors at all and some might not know, and that's all ok.

"But, whatever you go into, what you learn at this college is invaluable. Listen to everything your teachers say because everything you will learn on this course will set you up for the future."

It was acting teacher Gideon Clear who invited Joe in to speak, after teaching him just a handful of years ago. He wanted to show current students that getting into the industry is achievable and hoped to educate them about the different routes available to them.

Gideon said: "As a college we push progression, but there are three different types of progression. We have our own university course for those who want to continue training at Pendleton, there is university, in our case drama school, or you could go straight into work within the industry, and we push all three as viable options for students.

"Joe went straight into a career and he has done extremely well for himself, he didn't end up going to drama school - neither did many other successful alumni."

Joe added: "I chose not to go to drama school. What I did, and I always believe you should do this, I followed my gut. I had these different options in front of me, but by following my gut I ended up landing a job in Emmerdale and I spent four years there."

Joe became a household name playing Finn Barton on the British soap and is now pursuing other roles.



**JOE WITH ACTING STUDENTS**

# FORMER PENDLETON PERFORMING ARTS STUDENT IS NAMED AS ONE OF MANCHESTER'S '30 UNDER 30'

**S**AM LATHWOOD, 26, who studied musical theatre at Pendleton almost a decade ago, has been named in A Magazine's '30 UNDER 30' feature. The magazine selects 30 young people each year that they believe are the 'best of the best in our city', and Pendleton's very own Sam has made the cut for 2018.

The actor and model has come a long way since his time at Pendleton, with a successful theatre career under his belt and a part singing on the official Disney soundtrack for the upcoming movie, *Mary Poppins Returns*. Following his time at college he secured a place at the prestigious Arts Educational School and soon went on to perform in the West End. But, even a decade on, Sam still credits his time at Pendleton as 'the beginning' for him and gives even more recognition to the time and energy the teaching staff put into his education, which he describes as being 'worth its weight in gold'.

Here is what Sam had to say about his career, college life and this new accolade:

## How does it feel to be recognised as one of Manchester's '30 UNDER 30'?

"Crazy! When I was approached I couldn't believe it. I was absolutely over the moon to have even been considered, and the reception and feedback I've received since the article was published has all been so lovely and positive."

## What's been the biggest highlight from your career so far?

"I'm so lucky to say I have achieved dream jobs since graduating from The Arts Educational School, London, in 2012. Receiving the phone call from my agent offering me my first West End job in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* at The Theatre Royal

Drury Lane was pretty cool. Being able to perform back in my hometown with musicals *Hairspray* and *Elf* was also wonderful, especially having the support of family, friends and teachers in the audience. It has made me very excited about returning this year with *Matilda* at The Palace Theatre.

"But, I think a huge highlight was being asked to be a part of the new Disney movie *Mary Poppins Returns*. Getting to record an original Disney movie soundtrack with music that nobody else has heard yet was extremely special. As was finding yourself singing this music whilst sat next to Emily Blunt, Meryl Streep and an entire team from Disney. It was definitely one of those 'pinch me' moments."

## How did your time at Pendleton help you get where you are today?

"Though I had danced and acted regularly from an early age, Pendleton really was the beginning. From my first induction day whilst I was still in year 11 at The Swinton High School, to the day I started the two year musical theatre course, it made me realise how much I wanted to act, sing and dance every day for the rest of my life."

## What was your highlight from your time here?

"I have so many highlights from being at Pendleton, but, for me personally, it was getting to work so closely with the teachers. The staff at Pendleton gave each student something more valuable than anything else they could offer, their time. Yes there was encouragement and enthusiasm but the time and energy that was put in to helping you progress and grow was worth its weight in gold.

"Having teachers who encouraged and believed in me helped my confidence grow."


## What advice would you give to one of the current students who might be looking to you for inspiration for their own career?

"I had some feedback from my first drama school audition at 17-years-old which said 'some people are born to do this, others try too hard to try to do this. Sam should consider changing his career plan to something he's better at'. My advice would be no matter what people tell you, keep doing what you're doing. If you love something enough that it's all you can see yourself doing then take all of the 'knock backs' as 'bounce backs' and spring yourself deeper into your craft. It is not a race. Don't let other people's successes damage your own journey, things happen at different times for different people and that's ok.

"Work hard, stay focused, stop worrying and always strive for more."





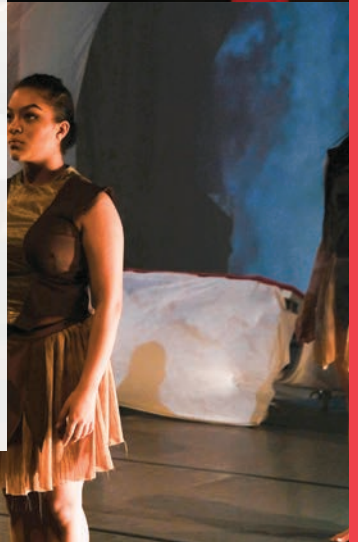
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THE ECCLESTON THEATRE 7PM



30th April - 4th May 2019

Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by CHARLES HART Additional lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Book by RICHARD STILGOE & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

Based on the novel 'Le Fantôme de l'Opéra' by GASTON LEROUX

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THE ECCLESTON THEATRE

21st - 24th MAY 2019 7PM

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By William Shakespeare

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Outdoors in The Pendleton College Quad

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BOOK BY JAMES LAPINE

25TH - 28TH JUNE 2019 7PM

THE BEN KINGSLEY THEATRE

Pendleton Sixth Form College Dronfield Road Salford M6 7FR

TICKETS: £10 https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/scperformingproductionarts/events



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Do you hope to follow in the footsteps of some of our incredibly successful alumni?

Want to continue your voyage into the performing arts industry with the guidance of our expert staff and teachers?

Or perhaps you have a passion you'd like to further ignite and hope to nurture in our state-of-the-art theatres? If so, here are your next steps:

I'm considering studying at Pendleton Performing Arts but would like some more information before I apply.

I've heard everything I need to know and want to secure my place on a course at Pendleton's Centre of Excellence for Performing and Production Arts.

Take a look at our prospectus online at [www.salfordcc.ac.uk](http://www.salfordcc.ac.uk) or order one by calling 0161 631 5000. Alternatively, why not talk to one of our Admissions Team on the above number, who would be happy to help.

Come along to one of our open events or come and see one of our incredible Season of Shows. Go to: <http://pendletonperformingarts.salfordcc.ac.uk> for more.

Decided on which course you'd like to study? Fill out an application form online at or call to request one to be sent out. Alternatively, find one at the back of the Pendleton Sixth Form College school leaver course guide.

Within weeks of making your application you will receive an acknowledgement letter and shortly after will be invited in for an audition.

Audition time! All of our students must pass an audition to gain a place in our award-winning department, but, this is nothing to be worried about. We make our audition days fun and exciting - bringing out the best in you and helping you determine which course will suit you best. During the day you will perform an individual audition and also take part in a range of classes and activities. For your individual audition, you will need to prepare a two minute piece of work. What you prepare depends on the course(s) that you are applying for and you will get detailed information about this when your audition date is booked. You will also have an interview during your audition day.

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