MEDIA RELEASE

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ARTS COUNCIL FUNDING AWARDED FOR NEW WORKS BY HIGHLY SPRUNG

Highly Sprung, a leading physical theatre company working exclusively with children and young people, is delighted to announce that it been successful in gaining Arts Council England funding to support its latest original project, ExtraDimensional.

The Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant scheme, a programme aimed at supporting arts, museums and libraries projects, is funded by the National Lottery. The fund is designed to support thousands of individual artists, community and cultural organisations across England.

This grant marks a continued investment in Highly Sprung, which was incorporated as a charitable organisation in 2018, from Arts Council England. This latest investment will help Highly Sprung to develop and tour ExtraDimensional, a twelve-month programme of physical theatre, to reach and inspire over 4,000 young people across the West Midlands and parts of the North.

Sarah Worth, Artistic Director, said “We are absolutely thrilled to have been awarded this grant from Arts Council England. Securing financial support from funding bodies is a highly competitive business so receiving this investment is a real badge of honour, which demonstrates that Arts Council England regard our work as being of the highest quality.

The Arts Council Grant will help Highly Sprung to develop and deliver ExtraDimensional a project which offers children and young people the opportunity to participate in, create and see three new pieces of work, Seen but Never Heard, Up, Up and Away and City Beat.

Sarah added: “ExtraDimensional is a celebration of our art-form, bringing work to new audiences of children and young people age 7-19.”

‘Seen but Never Heard’ partners with Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre and 10 secondary schools. ‘Up, Up and Away’ a new touring performance for 7-11-year olds with workshops touring to arts venues across the country. ‘City Beat’ is an immersive science and arts digital theatre experience in partnership with the University of Warwick, ThinkTank Birmingham and Culture Coventry (Herbert Art Gallery and Transport Museum).

For more details about Extra Dimensional and Highly Sprung visit [insert weblink]

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**Editors Notes:**

Highly Sprung is known for creating theatre that empowers children and young people to make sense of themselves and the world around them by helping them to explore and express their unique creativity and identity and to discover their own voice. Best know for Urban Astronaut, which has toured over 40 venues in the UK and internationally, and the UK’s only Physical Theatre youth festival The Physical Fellowship, Highly Sprung works with over 10,000 children and young people and perform to audiences of more than 60,000 every year.

Highly Sprung’s brand of physical theatre is playful and inventive, but also unashamedly provocative and poignant. We take theatre beyond words, creating award-winning outdoor and indoor performances that tell stories of our histories and our futures primarily through movement, gesture and dance. Stories inspired by humanity, science and the complex world around us. Stories inspired by young people.

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