



PRESS RELEASE

Date: 16 June 2008

Singing Star Shines at Crystal Chandelier Summer Conference

Singing, screen and stage star Toyah Willcox is the special guest speaker at the Crystal Chandelier's Summer Conference at the Riviera Centre in Torquay on Wednesday, June 18.

The Crystal Chandelier is a £2.5million project, co-ordinated by Learning South West and funded by the European Social Fund, to ensure there are enough teachers in the South West to meet the maths and English (known as Skills for Life) needs of adult learners.

The conference, titled 'The Secret of the Crystal Chandelier', is a celebration of the project's success. Since its launch in 2005 the project has supported more than 1,500 teachers in the region to undertake professional qualifications.

Throughout Toyah's highly successful and diverse career she has maintained a deep interest in social issues and is particularly passionate about education. Conference delegates will hear from Toyah about her school years and how her dyslexia affected her educational experience and career.

Toyah said: "It is never too late to learn and learning should be a lifelong friend. The Crystal Chandelier project has supported teachers to help adult learners, of all ages and backgrounds, to improve skills that can really help them achieve their potential."

In a career spanning over 30 years Toyah has had 13 top 40 singles, recorded 20 albums, written two books, appeared in over 40 stage plays, made 10 feature films and presented hundreds of television programmes from 'The Good Sex Guide Late' to 'Songs Of Praise'.

Paula Jones, Crystal Chandelier Project Manager and Learning South West's Deputy Chief-Executive, said: "The secret of the Crystal Chandelier's success lies in the extensive partnerships and networks the project has developed and the passionate commitment of colleagues from across the region."

ENDS

For further information please contact PROs Beth Jerrett on 07969355459 or email jerrettbeth@yahoo.co.uk or Nick Cashin on 01823 365445 or email nick_cashin@learning-southwest.org.uk.

Photo and Interview Opportunity

Toyah Willcox and Crystal Chandelier Project Manager Paula Jones will be available for photos and interviews at 12:45. Please confirm your attendance with Beth in advance of the conference.

Notes to Editors

- Find out more about Learning South West at www.learning-southwest.org.uk.
- Find out more about The Crystal Chandelier at www.crystalchandelier.org.uk.
- The project covers Devon, Somerset, West of England, Wiltshire and Swindon, Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole and Gloucestershire.