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September 2004

## GOLDMAN SACHS AWARDS ITS SECOND ANNUAL LAMDA SCHOLARSHIP

The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), announces that **Goldman Sachs International**, a leading investment bank, has awarded its second Arts Scholarship to an acting student from the Academy. Paul Shelford, aged 20 from Swindon in Wiltshire, won the prestigious £5,000 scholarship following his audition at the firm's UK Headquarters in Fleet Street.

In addition to supporting Paul through his final year at the Academy, Goldman Sachs is also a Corporate member of LAMDA's Friends scheme, the *LAMDA Angels*, which plays an essential role in supporting the Academy's work. As Corporate Archangels, Goldman Sachs has already donated £10,000 to LAMDA's *Student Hardship Fund*, a fund set up to ensure students in financial difficulty are able to continue their studies.

Commenting on the scholarship, Victoria Legge-Bourke, Executive Director for Cultural and Social Affairs said, Goldman Sachs has had a close association with both visual and performing arts for a long time and we are keen to support projects of merit and excellence. LAMDA is among the very best drama schools in the world and we are proud to play an active role in nurturing exceptional young talent, such as Paul, at grass root level.

Having recently been selected to join the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama (CDD) - a premier division in performing arts training established by the government, LAMDA has reinforced its status as a leader in its field and is now hard at work raising funds to refurbish its new home in West London. Playing a key part in this campaign is LAMDA's epic **140 mile Sponsored Walk** from Stratford-Upon-Avon to London which kicks off on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September and is intended to raise £100,000 for the Academy. The whole LAMDA community will be involved, including Paul and his fellow students who will be completing a 10 mile historical jaunt around theatrical London on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September to support the cause.

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