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July 2005

GOLDMAN SACHS AWARDS ITS THIRD ANNUAL LAMDA SCHOLARSHIP

The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) announces that **Goldman Sachs International**, a leading investment bank, has awarded its third Arts Scholarship to an acting student from the Academy. George Rainsford, from Repton in Derbyshire, won the prestigious £5,000 scholarship following a demanding audition at the firm's UK Headquarters in Fleet Street.

George, a former student of Repton School, was extensively involved in student theatre whilst studying for a BA (Hons) in Drama at Manchester University. In June 2003, George became a member of the National Youth Theatre Company, performing a principal role in their production of T.S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*. He won his place on LAMDA's flagship three year BA(Hons) Professional Acting Course in the same year.

LAMDA is thrilled that Goldman Sachs awards its annual scholarship to a student to help alleviate some of their financial concerns as they enter their final year at the Academy. Expressing his sincerest thanks to the bank, George said, I am eternally grateful to Goldman Sachs for their enormous support. Winning the scholarship will make all the difference to my final year as the increase in my acting commitments will greatly decrease my income from part-time ticket tearing activities.

In addition to supporting George 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 £15,000 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 George, at grass root level.

Ends/

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