

November 2009



Arts Council England – Member Appointment

Margaret Hodge, Minister for Culture and Tourism has appointed **Sir Nicholas Kenyon** as National Member of the Arts Council England board. His term will run from 3 November 2009 to 2 November 2013

Biographical Note

Sir Nicholas Kenyon became Managing Director of the Barbican Centre in October 2007. He was Director of the BBC Proms from 1996 to 2007.

As a music critic he wrote for *The New Yorker*, *The Times* and *Observer*, and was editor of *Early Music* 1983-92. He was appointed Controller of BBC Radio 3 in 1992, and was responsible for the award-winning seasons *Fairest Isle* and *Sounding the Century*. He then oversaw the BBC's programming for the Millennium and ran the BBC's Live Events and TV Classical Music departments, which mounted the Queen's Jubilee concerts of 2002. He has continued to write and lecture on the arts, publishing books on Mozart, Simon Rattle, the BBC Symphony Orchestra and early music. He has been a Visiting Fellow of All Souls College Oxford. He is a board member of English National Opera and Sage Gateshead, a Governor of Wellington College, and a Trustee of the Dartington Hall Trust.

He was knighted in the 2008 New Year Honours; he is married with four children and lives in London.

Background

1. Arts Council England develops and promotes the arts across England, acting as an arms length body from the Government. DCMS recently announced an increase in funding for Arts Council England by 3.3% above inflation over the next three years, taking its total grant in aid to £467m in 2010-11. In addition, Arts Council England is expected to have £500m to distribute from the National Lottery between 2009 and 2012. This provides the bedrock of support for the arts in England.
2. This appointment is not remunerated, reasonable travel and subsistence may be claimed.
3. The appointments process was carried out in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice for Public Appointments. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. Nicholas Kenyon has not undertaken any political activity during the past five years.