

TROPICAL ISLES

England & Wales · Charity number 1090798

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2002-02-26

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Studio 8 & 11
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Hackney
London
N1 5SF

Phone 07985154932

Email info@tropicalislescarnival.org

Website <http://www.tropicalislescarnival.org>

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY CHILDREN IN THE ARTS (MEANING THE MUSICAL, VISUAL, LITERARY, DRAMATIC OR ANY OTHER ARTS PROVIDED IN EACH CASE THEY ARE OF RECOGNISED CULTURAL, AESTHETIC OR EDUCATIONAL VALUE), CULTURE AND TRADITIONAL VALUES OF THE AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY.B. TO FOSTER, PROMOTE AND INCREASE PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE ARTS, AND IN PARTICULAR THE ACTIVE ENCOURAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN IN TO THE CULTURAL AND SOCIAL HERITAGE OF THE AFRICAN CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY, AND SUBJECT OF ARTISTIC MERIT SO THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN PERSONS OF DIFFERENT RACIAL GROUPS MIGHT BE PROMOTED AND THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH A MULTI-RACIAL COMMUNITY HAS TO MAKE TO SOCIETY MIGHT BE ENHANCED, SPECIFICALLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

Activities: Tropical Isles is a professional award-winning carnival arts organisation with creativity at its heart. At our East London home, we design and make costumes and create performances working with children and young people, professional designers and choreographers. We believe that through carnival arts we can inspire and drive creativity, that finally contributes to the development of young people.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** HACKNEY - STOKENEWINGTON
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£189,832	£183,998	-	-
2024-03-31	£193,838	£162,699	-	-
2023-03-31	£89,933	£109,592	-	-
2022-03-31	£202,939	£189,509	-	-
2021-03-31	£116,705	£112,929	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DEIRDRE SCANTLEBURY		
JEFFERY STJEAN		
PEGGY PATRICIA MCKENZIE		2013-02-28

TROPICAL ISLES

England & Wales - Charity number 1090798

Accounts

Trustees' Report and Accounts

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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Trustees' Report and Accounts

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1090798

Legal and Administration

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity Registration Number	1090798
Trustees	Miss Deirdre Scantlebury, Mr Jeffrey St. Jean, Miss Peggy Patricia McKenzie (Treasurer and Signatory)
Management Committee	Deirdre Scantlebury (Chair) Sydney Hawthorne (Youth Representative) Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director)
Staff	Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director) Stephanie Antoine (Artistic Director) Denise Ojo (Assistant Data Analyst) Renita Christophe (Creative Programmer & Costume Tutor)
Registered Office	The Rose Lipman Building, 43 Beauvoir Road, London N1 5SS
Independent Examiner	Rolston Allen FCCA Allen Robyn & Associates Limited Chartered Certified Accountants London N7 9DQ
Banker	Barclays Bank PLC, Kingsland Holloway & Kingsland Group 3 - 5 Kingsland High Street, London E8

Trustees' Annual Report

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report with the charity's financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2025.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). The reference and administration set out below form part of this report, and the financial statement complies with current requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2015.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES:

1. To advance the education of the public, in particular, but not exclusively, children in the arts (meaning creative and performing arts) or any other arts provided in each case, they are recognised as having cultural, aesthetic or educational value, culture and traditional values of the African Caribbean community
2. To foster, promote and increase public interest in the arts, and in particular the active encouragement and development of children into the cultural and social heritage of the African Caribbean community and subjects of artistic merit so that the development of good relationships between persons of different racial groups might be promoted and the contribution which a multi-Racial community has to make to society might be enhanced, especially but not exclusively in the London Borough of Hackney and surrounding areas.

About us:

Tropical Isles is a registered Charity which aims to develop its participation events programme by providing year-round carnival arts and educational art after-school activities, with a specific focus on developing and enhancing the skills and talents of disadvantaged children and young people who may be at risk. Tropical Isles is an ambitious, fast-growing organisation determined to enhance the educational outcomes of children and young people growing up in deprived areas of Hackney. This work supports young people's ability to succeed in the formal school curriculum while giving them the opportunity to work on professionally produced creative products in an unconventional learning environment.

Aims and Objectives:

- To develop the capacity of Tropical Isles staff, volunteers and mentors to secure funding tenders and commissions, develop the quality and scale of our programmes and achieve excellence in the delivery of our activities
- To develop children and young people's literacy, confidence, and resilience. We do this by providing them with extra personalised attention in an unconventional learning environment and by giving them the opportunity to work on real-world creative art, production, and performance alongside local professionals.
- To work with our Youth Forum to document and disseminate good practice in the design, development, and execution of youth-led carnival arts products and events
- Develop partnerships and joint working arrangements with diverse community organisations in London, UK and across the world as part of cultural exchange and appreciation.
- To build on Tropical Isles' reputation as a leading organisation in London's Carnival Arts sector, developing our role as key lead artists

Ensuring Our Work Delivers Our Aims:

At Tropical Isles, we remain firmly committed to creating ground-breaking, multi-disciplinary art projects that offer fresh perspectives on everyday life, stimulate thoughtful debate, and promote positive change and social progress. Our mission is centred around engaging and empowering our community through creative expression and cultural exploration.

Our artistic activities, described below, aim to bring the arts closer to people in our borough. The focus of our youth engagement program is on developing skills in production, performance, and leadership across carnival arts, crafts, and dance. While we continue to strive to reach as wide an audience as possible, we will concentrate our efforts over the next three years on the following key objectives:

STRATEGIC REPORT

Overview

During 2024/25, Tropical Isles successfully delivered a wide-ranging programme that raised the artistic profile of emerging carnival artists while supporting children and young people (CYP) to develop creative, leadership, and career pathways. Despite significant operational challenges, particularly around participation in Notting Hill Carnival, the organisation demonstrated strong delivery, high engagement, and resilience.

The programme reached large and diverse audiences, achieved high participation and retention rates, and strengthened Tropical Isles' reputation locally and nationally through performance, education, and partnership work.

Programme Delivery and Participation

Overall Reach

- Over 2,900 children and young people engaged through workshops, performances, exhibitions, and education programmes.
- 80+ young people participated in regular weekly programmes.
- 100% attendance reported across emerging artist and youth leadership cohorts.
- 98% of participants reflected local demographics, with a strong focus on underrepresented and global majority communities.

Key Activity Areas and Achievements

- Raising the Profile of Emerging Artists National Portfolio
- 6 emerging carnival artists supported through a structured development pathway
- Training provided in:
 - Costume construction and large-scale installations
 - Performance and rehearsal practice
 - Leadership, safeguarding, and peer mentoring
- Peer mentoring model embedded: emerging artists from 2023/24 mentored 15 new participants in 2024/25.

Outcome:

Emerging artists progressed from participants to mentors, strengthening leadership capacity and raising their professional profile.

Progress Summary

- Ambition & Quality: High-quality artistic work delivered across multiple artforms; strong public outcomes (e.g., Band of the Year)
- Inclusivity & Relevance: Programmes reflected local communities; strong engagement with schools, global majority artists, and CYP from low-engagement areas
- Dynamism: Peer mentoring, leadership progression, and new partnerships (e.g., Hackney Museum, Vogue World Fund studio) demonstrated adaptive, forward-looking delivery
- Environmental Responsibility: Early sustainability actions piloted; further work planned for 2025/26

Hackney Council Creative Pathway Project – Evaluation Summary & Outcomes

Project Reach

- Participants: 33 (22 Female, 11 Male)
- Volunteers: 6
- Age Range: 13–25 years
- Participants with Disabilities or SEND: 9

Participant Feedback

- 100% reported the programme helped build their creative confidence
- 97% felt more connected to peers and their community
- 94% reported improved well-being
- 91% said they learned new, useful skills for their future
- 89% expressed interest in continuing their creative journey or starting a business

Activities Delivered

- Creative stations: Fashion Design, DJ & Dance, Podcasting, Arts & Crafts, Music Production, Hair & Beauty
- Guest speaker mentorships: Professional artists, designers, sound engineers
- Pop-up events to showcase work and sell creative products
- Work experience placements with local businesses
- Certifications: e.g., Level 2 Food Hygiene

Key Outcomes

- Creative & Entrepreneurial Development:
 - Over 25 participants developed and showcased a brand, product, or creative concept
 - 8 participants sold work or secured small commissions
 - 6 participants launched or began building an online portfolio or store
- Improved Confidence & Social Skills:
 - Participants overcame shyness, built presentation skills, and increased self-esteem
 - Growth in peer collaboration through group projects and shared outputs
- Pathways to Education or Employment:
 - 5 participants intended to pursue creative apprenticeships or further training
 - 4 participants gained work experience placements
 - 1 participant registered a microbusiness and began taking paid orders
- Inclusion & Accessibility:
 - 9 participants with disabilities/SEND fully engaged with tailored support
 - Assistive tools (e.g., Orcam Read) enabled full participation
- Mental Health & Wellbeing:
 - 94% reported improved well-being through creative expression and structured routines
 - Safe spaces helped reduce feelings of isolation and anxiety
- Sustainability Plans:
 - Continued mentorship and 3-month follow-up
 - Signposting to learning or enterprise hubs
 - Online skill-building resources
 - Ongoing volunteer and alumni engagement

Workshops, Rehearsals & Artistic Production

- Weekly sessions delivered in dance, music, costume, and rehearsal:
 - 13 rehearsal sessions engaging 35 children and young people
 - 6 Creative Pathways sessions with 20 young people weekly
- Skills development included costume design, dance/performance techniques, teamwork, confidence, and creative decision-making.

Outcome:

Participants demonstrated increased confidence, technical skill, and readiness for public performance.

Carnival Delivery and Performance

- Hackney Carnival 2024: Tropical Isles awarded Band of the Year and Design Visual Impact, with high visibility performance and strong community recognition.
- Notting Hill Carnival 2024: Organisation unable to participate due to a dispute regarding paperwork and access; all participants were fully refunded from organisational reserves. Legal action was considered but later dropped.

Learning:

The incident highlighted the need for clearer risk mitigation, contracts, and contingency planning for large-scale events.

Hackney Museum Partnership

- Delivered a carnival heritage exhibition in partnership with Hackney Museum.
- 2,729 children and young people engaged, working with 16 schools.
- Participants explored carnival history, costume, storytelling, film, and photography.

Outcome:

Significant profile-raising for carnival arts within formal education and public cultural spaces.

Vogue World Fund Grant – Dance and Creative Studio Initiative

Studio Development and Community Access

- Renovation and equipping of professional studio with flooring, mirrors, sound systems, and recording/streaming technology
- Free access for five local dance groups and ten individual artists

Artist Residency and Collaborative Programmes

- Residencies for innovative projects
- Collaborative initiatives with other arts organisations

Emerging Artist Development

- Skill-building for 22 emerging artists through workshops, collaborative productions, and public showcases

Expected Outcomes

- Increased access to performing arts for disadvantaged communities
- Development of creative and technical skills

- Stronger networks and collaborative opportunities
- Expanded public engagement and cultural participation

Hackney Activities Food Easter & Summer 2025 HAF Programme

- Supported 180 children eligible for FSM or vulnerable
- Delivered 450 activity sessions across both holidays
- Activities included physical activity, creative workshops, trips, nutrition education, and wellbeing support

Outcomes:

- 95% of children met recommended daily activity levels
- Improved confidence, social skills, and well-being
- Families benefited from reduced food insecurity and increased knowledge of local support

Feedback:

- Parent: "Knowing my child was safe, active and fed was a huge relief."
- Child: "I liked the sports and the trips – it was fun, and I didn't feel bored at home."

East End Community Fund – Summer Camp Carnival Project

- 72 young people engaged in over 48 activity sessions with 4 volunteers
- Activities included carnival arts, dance, sports, educational support, cooking/life skills
- Nutrition: daily hot meals provided
- Diverse participants: Black-Caribbean 32%, Black-African 3%, Black-British 17%, European White 24%, others 24%
- Inclusion: SEND and neurodiverse participants fully supported

Impact:

- Fostered creativity, confidence, community spirit, and well-being
- Ensured accessibility for children with additional needs

Media, Profile and Recognition

- Raised national and local profile through carnival performances, museum exhibitions, HAF, Vogue World Fund studio, and Summer Camp Carnival
- Recognised for artistic quality, youth leadership, and cultural education impact

Challenges and Organisational Learning

- Notting Hill Carnival dispute had an operational impact
- Reporting delays and Illuminate access issues required extra management time
- Trustee recruitment slowed due to bereavements

Response:

- Improved reporting systems
- Strengthened governance and board structure in 2025/26
- Active monitoring of the updated risk register

Strategic Progress and Future Direction

Tropical Isles enters 2025/26 with a strong foundation and ambitious plans for growth and impact. Key strategic developments include:

- **National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) Funding:** Successfully secured an extension of NPO status through 2026/27, with a slight increase in funding, reinforcing our capacity for high-quality artistic and educational delivery.
- **Council-Funded Projects:** Continued support for our Creative Pathways project, enabling expanded opportunities for emerging artists, young people, and the wider community.
- **Income Generation and Sustainability:** Plans to diversify and grow income streams, including partnerships, grants, and social enterprise models, to support ambitious programme delivery.
- **Capacity and Programme Growth:** Planning to increase programme capacity by 15%, expand reach, and strengthen pathways into creative careers.
- **Strategic Partnerships and Sector Development:** Engaging stakeholders to explore the formation of a Carnival Trust and the development of a Carnival Cultural Centre, securing the long-term future of carnival arts in the UK.

Through these initiatives, Tropical Isles aims to consolidate its position as a leading organisation for carnival arts, youth development, and community cultural engagement, ensuring sustainable growth, innovation, and measurable impact.

Trustee Assurance Statement

Despite significant external challenges, Tropical Isles delivered a strong year of artistic, educational, and community impact. The organisation demonstrated resilience, accountability, and a clear commitment to supporting emerging carnival artists, creative pathways for young people, inclusive community engagement, and cultural participation through programmes such as the Vogue World Fund, Hackney Council Creative Pathway, HAF, and Summer Camp Carnival.

Special Acknowledgement

The trustees express their gratitude towards the support received from funders, individuals, and other community organisations. Their unwavering support has enabled us to reach our current stage of development. We are particularly thankful to all the funders who have helped us in developing our young people and our organisation. The trustees also acknowledge the contributions of the management committee, staff, and volunteers who have demonstrated exceptional work, dedication, and loyalty to our cause.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all our staff, freelance artists, industry mentors, case officers, volunteers, participants, funders, and stakeholders for their continued support.

Looking forward to the future

Engaging more and new participants to achieve and have fun. Suitable quality activities are about giving all young people the opportunity to participate fully and to continue providing purposeful, positive activities that are popular with young people, and ensuring they enjoy their experience and have lots of fun. Making these opportunities available to participants by providing free activities is essential.

We have a strong working relationship with the Art Council of England, our key funder; our Local Authority, the London borough of Hackney; the Hackney Cultural Team; and Young Hackney. Tropical Isles will be able to continue with the programme as Tropical Isles' premises are now based at the Rose Lipman Building, Hackney, N1.

This was a very challenging year for us all, and we are pleased to announce that Tropical Isles has joined the Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation 2023-26 Investment Programme, Raising the profile of emerging carnival artists.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board meets annually, and the management committee meets monthly. There are several subcommittees covering finance, fundraising, and specific projects. The charity has a close relationship with Hackney Community Voluntary Services, which provides assistance and advice on safeguarding and business matters.

Governing Documents

The organisation became a charitable company by its constitution on 6th December 2001, which was further amended on 7th February 2002.

Charity

The organisation was registered with the Charity Commission on 26th February 2002. Registration number is 1090798.

Recruitment and Appointment of the Management Committee

The organisation shall have a Management Committee comprising not less than three and not more than fifteen persons as follows:

1. Not more than ten persons elected by the membership at the annual general meeting and
2. In addition, the management committee shall have the power to co-op up to two persons who need not be members of the organisation for their specialist skills and or knowledge of the Management Committee

Organisation Structure

The trustees ensure that our organisation has a clear strategy, are responsible for the organisation's governance in line with our stated vision, and monitor the organisation's finances and activities. With an active management committee that meets monthly and informal weekly meetings, the committee has a designated treasurer and an active chair. Its role is to provide guidance and direction and to report back to the trustees.

The artistic Director works with a team of two seasonal staff and a part-time assistant artistic director to ensure that the charity develops and delivers quality services for its service users in our care.

Related Parties.

None of the trustees received any remuneration or other benefits for their work with the charity. Any connections between a trustee or senior manager of the charity must be disclosed at a full board meeting of trustees in the same way as other contractual relationships with the contracted party. In the current year, no related-party transactions were reported. Tropical Isles has members who are related.

The amount due to Marva Antoine at the end of the financial year was £4,336 (2024 £2,336)

Risk Management

The trustees have a risk management strategy, which comprises

1. The trustees actively review the risks which the charitable company faces on a regular annual basis.
2. The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plans and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.
3. This work has identified that financial sustainability is a significant financial risk for the charity.
4. The charity also purchased a range of insurance, Trustees' induction and training

Where new Trustees are needed, they will be identified and appointed by the current Trustees. At present, there are three Trustees and five Committee Members (MC). New Trustees receive an MC Induction Pack and appropriate training on their role and functions.

Investment Policy and Performance

The Trustees consider that the day-to-day needs of the Charity make it inappropriate to invest funds for the medium to long term and therefore invests its reserves in interest deposits. The Trustees accept that the interest rates achieved during the year were in line with market rates, but will keep this under continuous review

Reserve policy

The trustees have established that unrestricted reserves should be between 3 and 6 months of expenditure. These reserves are required should there be a reduction in funding of financial resources. The current level of reserves has not met this target and strategies have been put in place to meet this target in the next three years.

Financial review

The Charity's financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 show a surplus of £5,834 - 2024: £31,185

Report of the Trustees

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with Applicable Law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice)

The Law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed required the Trustees to prepare financial Statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resource and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity from that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

1. i. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. ii. Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
3. iii. Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. iv. Prepare the financial statement on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclosure with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Accountants

The accountants, Allen Robyn & Associates Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:



Deirdre Scantlebury (Jan 16, 2026 20:27:45 GMT)

Deirdre Scantlebury

Trustee



Mr Jeffrey St. Jean (Jan 20, 2026 17:54:37 GMT)

Mr Jeffrey St. Jean

Trustee

Report of the Independent Examiner

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the Financial Statements of the Tropical Isles for the year ended 31st March 2025, which are on pages 15-16 and Notes to the Financial Statements on Pages 17-20.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit. Consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

Rolston Allen
Rolston Allen (Jan 20, 2026 18:31:50 GMT)

Rolston Allen FCCA

Chartered Certified Accountant
Allen Robyn & Associates Limited
London N7 9DQ

Statement of Financial Activities

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	NOTES	2025	2024
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Income	2	189,814	193,838
Total Incoming resources from generated funds		189,814	193,838
Total INCOMING RESOURCES		189,814	193,838
Resources Expended			
Charitable Activities	3	141,090	119,645
Support Costs	4	38,639	39,748
Governance Costs	5	4,269	3,307
Total Resources Expended		183,998	162,699
Surplus/(Deficit) Resources		5,816	31,139
Investments			
270 - Interest Income		18	46
Total Investments		18	46
Surplus/(Deficit) income after Other Income		5,834	31,185
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		5,834	31,185

Statement of Financial Position

Tropical Isles

As at 31 March 2025

	NOTES	31 MAR 2025	31 MAR 2024
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	319	319
Total Fixed Assets		319	319
Current assets			
Debtors		-	28,000
Cash at bank and in hand		43,247	2,082
Total Current assets		43,247	30,082
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors	7	25,406	18,074
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		25,406	18,074
Net current assets (liabilities)		17,841	12,008
Total assets less current liabilities		18,160	12,327
Net Assets		18,160	12,327
Funds			
Restricted Fund	8	7,868	7,868
Unrestricted Fund	8	10,292	4,459
Total Funds		18,160	12,327

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:

Miss Deirdre Scantlebury
Trustee


Deirdre Scantlebury (Jan 16, 2026 20:27:45 GMT)

Mr Jeffrey St. Jean
Trustee


Jeffrey St. Jean (Jan 20, 2026 17:54:37 GMT)

Notes to the Financial Statements

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Section 1A applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

Tropical Isles meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Investment Income

Investment income consists of net interest received during the year and accounted for as unrestricted funds.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category; where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Charitable activities

Costs of charitable activities are those costs relating to the activities carried out to meet the objectives of the nursery. These include both directly attributable costs and apportioned support costs.

Governance costs

Governance costs are the costs associated with the strategic direction of the organisation with meeting regulatory responsibilities, including apportioned support costs.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from income tax on its charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

	2025	2024
2. Income		
Art Council		
Arts Council England - NPO/IPSO	(99,250)	(99,250)
Total Art Council	(99,250)	(99,250)
Local Authority		
LB Hackney - Carnival	-	(500)
LB Hackney - HAF	-	(25,262)
Local Authority Income	(54,418)	(9,592)
Total Local Authority	(54,418)	(35,354)
Donations		
Vogue World Fund	(12,682)	(28,000)
Costumes & Accessories income	(4,271)	(8,001)
Performances and Brand performances	-	(2,500)
LB Carpole	-	(250)
jack Petchey Foundation	(900)	(600)
Donations	(3,293)	(9,884)
East End Community Foundation Grant	(15,000)	(10,000)
Total Donations	(36,146)	(59,234)
Total Income	(189,814)	(193,838)
	2025	2024

3. Charitable Activities

Artistic and Cultural Spend	8,787	4,499
Education and outreach costs	3,582	3,462
Operational Costs	2,124	1,311
Programme costs	4	20
Security Hire	2,962	3,335
Vehicle / Coach Hire	5,440	4,887
Volunteers Expenses	2,642	1,570
Salaries / ENIC	70,851	69,774
Refreshments / Catering	6,863	1,846
Equipments / Catering	-	4,874
Equipment / PA Hire	5,162	3,200
Accessories/Materials	22,699	10,198
Other Direct Activity	1,575	1,278
Sessional/Freelance Fees	8,400	9,391
Total Charitable Activities	141,090	119,645

	2025	2024
4. Supporting Costs		
Advertising & Promotion	1,981	805
It and Computer costs	-	130
Rent	29,575	25,373
Staff Training	-	10
Bank Charges	207	179
General Costs	125	479
Insurance	1,449	1,486
Marketing / PR	4,150	514
Membership and Subscriptions	205	75
Repairs & Maintenance	-	9,939
Stationery and Printing costs	947	759
Total Supporting Costs	38,639	39,748

	2025	2024
5. Governance Cost		
Accountancy fees	3,069	2,107
Examiner Fee	1,200	1,200
Total Governance Cost	4,269	3,307

	2025	2024
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6. Tangible Assets

Office equipment		
Cost		
Opening Balance	5,241	5,241
Total Cost	5,241	5,241
Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(4,922)	(3,611)
Office Equip depreciation charge	-	(1,311)
Total Depreciation	(4,922)	(4,922)
Total Office equipment	319	319
Total Tangible Assets	319	319
	2025	2024

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Short Term Loan Account	(4,336)	(2,336)
Accruals	(14,342)	(7,700)
Rounding	(1)	-
PAYE Payable	(2,532)	(1,606)
Outstanding Wages	(4,195)	(6,433)
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(25,406)	(18,074)

	2025	2024
8. Movement in Funds		
Restricted Funds		
Balance brought forward	7,868	7,868
Total Restricted Funds	7,868	7,868
Unrestricted Funds		
Balance brought forward	4,459	(26,726)
(Deficit)/Surplus		
Current Year Earnings	5,834	31,185
Total (Deficit)/Surplus	5,834	31,185
Total Unrestricted Funds	10,292	4,459
Total Movement in Funds	18,160	12,327

Detailed Income and Expenditure

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	NOTES	2025	2024
Income			
Arts Council		99,250	99,250
Local Authority		54,418	35,604
Donations		23,464	30,984
Vogue World Fund		12,682	28,000
Total Income		189,814	193,838
Gross Profit			
		189,814	193,838
Expenses			
Expenditures			
Charitable activities			
Artistic and Cultural Spend		8,787	4,499
Accessories/Materials		22,699	10,198
Education and outreach costs		3,582	3,462
Equipment / PA Hire		5,162	3,200
Equipments / Catering		-	4,874
Operational Costs		2,124	1,311
Other Staff Costs		-	-
Other Direct Activity		1,575	1,278
Programme costs		4	20
Refreshments / Catering		6,863	1,846
Salaries / ENIC		70,851	69,774
Security Hire		2,962	3,335
Sessional/Freelance Fees		8,400	9,391
Vehicle / Coach Hire		5,440	4,887
Volunteers Expenses		2,642	1,570
Total Charitable activities		141,090	119,645
Support costs			
Advertising & Promotion		1,981	805
Bank Charges		207	179
Insurance		1,449	1,486
It and Computer costs		-	130
Marketing / PR		4,150	514
Membership and Subscriptions		205	75
Rent		29,575	25,373
Repairs & Maintenance		-	9,939
Staff Training		-	10
Stationery and Printing costs		947	759
General Costs		125	479
Total Support costs		38,639	39,748

	NOTES	2025	2024
Governance cost			
Examiner Fee		1,200	1,200
Accountancy fees		3,069	2,107
Total Governance cost		4,269	3,307
Total Expenditure		183,998	162,699
Surplus/(Deficit) before interest		5,816	31,139
Investments			
Interest Income		18	46
Total Investments		18	46
Surplus/(Deficit) after interest		5,834	31,185
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		5,834	31,185

TROPICAL ISLES

England & Wales - Charity number 1090798

Accounts

Trustees' Report and Accounts

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Prepared by Allen Robyn & Associates Limited

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Trustees' Report and Accounts

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1090798

Legal and Administration

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Charity Registration Number	1090798
Trustees	Miss Deirdre Scantlebury, Mr Jeffrey St. Jean, Miss Peggy Patricia McKenzie (Treasurer and Signatory)
Management Committee	Miss Deirdre Scantlebury (Chair) Ms Sydney Hawthorne (Youth Representative) Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director)
Staff	Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director) Ms. Stephanie Antoine (Artistic Director) Mrs. Denise Ojo (Assistant Data Analyst) Ebony Antonie (Marketing and Promotion)
Registered Office	The Rose Lipman Building,43 Beauvoir Road London N1 SSQ
Independent Examiner	Rolston Allen FCCA Allen Robyn & Associates Limited Chartered Certified Accountants London N7 9DQ
Banker	Barclays Bank PLC,Kingsland Holloway & Kingsland Group 3 - 5 Kingsland High Street, London E8

Trustees' Annual Report

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their report with the charity's financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2024.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). The reference and administration set out below form part of this report, and the financial statement complies with current requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2015.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES:

1. To advance the education of the public, in particular, but not exclusively children in the arts (meaning creative and performing arts) or any other arts provided in each case, they are recognised cultural, aesthetic or educational value, culture and traditional values of the African Caribbean community
2. To foster, promote and increase public interest in the arts, and in particular the active encouragement and development of children into the cultural and social heritage of the African Caribbean community and subjects of artistic merit so that the development of good relationships between persons of different racial groups might be promoted and the contribution which a multi-Racial community has to make to society might be enhanced, especially but not exclusively in the London Borough of Hackney and surrounding areas.

About us:

Tropical Isles is a registered Charity which aims to develop its participation events programme by providing year-round carnival arts and educational art after-school activities, with a specific focus on developing and enhancing skills and talents of disadvantaged children and young people who may be at risk. Tropical Isles is an ambitious and fast-growing organisation determined to enhance the educational outlook of children and young people growing up in deprived areas of Hackney. This work supports young people's abilities to achieve in the formal school curriculum while giving them the chance to work on professionally produced creative products in an unconventional learning environment.

Aims and Objectives:

- To develop the capacity of Tropical Isles staff, volunteers and mentors to secure funding tenders and commissions, develop the quality and scale of our programmes and achieve excellence in the delivery of our activities
- To develop children and young people's literacy, confidence, and resilience. We do this by giving them extra personalised attention in an unconventional learning environment and giving them the opportunity to work on real-world creative art and production and performances alongside local professionals.
- To work with our Youth Forum to document and disseminate good practice in the design, development, and execution of youth-led carnival arts products and events
- Develop partnerships and joint working arrangements with diverse community organisations in London, UK and across the world as part of cultural exchange and appreciation.
- To build on Tropical Isles reputation as a leading organisation in London's Carnival Arts sector; developing our role as key lead artists

Ensuring Our Work Delivers Our Aims:

At Tropical Isles, we remain firmly committed to creating ground-breaking, multi-disciplinary art projects that offer fresh perspectives on everyday life, stimulate thoughtful debate, and promote positive change and social progress. Our mission is centred around engaging and empowering our community through creative expression and cultural exploration.

Our artistic activities, which are described below, aim to bring the arts closer to the people in our borough. The focus of our youth engagement program is on skills development, production, performance, and leadership skills within the fields of carnival arts, crafts, and dance. While we continue to strive to reach as wide an audience as possible, we will concentrate our efforts over the next three years on the following key objectives:

Key Objectives for the Next Three Years:

Deepening Community Engagement

- We will work towards deepening our community engagement by creating projects that not only entertain but also transform lives. By building strong relationships with local communities, we aim to create opportunities for artistic expression and personal growth, particularly for those from marginalised or underrepresented backgrounds.
- These projects will foster a sense of belonging and ownership among participants, giving them the chance to develop both creatively and socially.

Growing the Tropical Isles Brand and Public Awareness

- We are dedicated to expanding the Tropical Isles brand and enhancing public awareness of the work we do within the community. Our aim is to position Tropical Isles as a leading arts organisation in Hackney and beyond, celebrated for the transformative power of carnival arts and dance.
- Through strategic marketing, partnerships, and public events, we shall amplify our visibility and draw more people to engage in our programmes.

Brokering International Projects

- We will explore international collaborations and partnerships, brokering opportunities that enable our artists and participants to engage with various cultural contexts. These projects will provide new perspectives on our work and promote cross-cultural exchange, fostering learning, creativity, and innovation.
- By building a global network, we will raise the profile of carnival arts on the international stage and offer unique opportunities for our local artists to showcase their talents to a wider audience.

Engaging Communities with Low Participation in Arts and Culture

- We will concentrate on engaging communities in areas where participation in arts and culture is low, particularly in places where cultural infrastructure is scarce. These communities may encounter obstacles in accessing creative opportunities, and we are committed to eliminating these barriers by providing accessible and inclusive programmes.
- Our outreach initiatives will ensure that young people, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, have the chance to develop creative skills, enhance their confidence, and explore new career pathways.

Collaborative and Partnership-Based Approach

- A core element of our strategy centres on collaborating with partners across the arts, education, and community sectors. We believe in the power of partnerships to extend the reach and impact of our work. By sharing resources, knowledge, and expertise with other organisations, we can create even more meaningful and impactful projects.
- Through collaboration, we will broaden our network and leverage the skills and resources of our partners to bring new opportunities to the communities we serve.

Who Used and Benefited from Our Services:

Our programs and projects primarily serve the youth in Hackney, particularly those from underserved or disadvantaged backgrounds. In the past year, we have seen notable benefits among the following groups:

Young People (Ages 10-25)

- Through our Camp Carnival programme, young people have gained skills in dance, performance, costume-making, and carnival arts. Many participants reported improvements in physical health, mental well-being, and self-esteem.
- 97% of participants in the Camp Carnival programme reported being more physically active, while 72% indicated a reduction in stress and anxiety

Underrepresented Communities

- Our outreach programmes have endeavoured to engage young people from communities with historically low participation in the arts and culture. By providing free access to arts activities, we have eliminated financial barriers, allowing these individuals to express themselves creatively and build essential life skills.

Emerging Artists and Creatives

- We provide mentorship, opportunities for creative development, and professional guidance to young artists working in carnival arts, dance, and performance. Through our collaborations and artist residency programmes, we support their professional growth.

Local Schools

- We have collaborated with local primary and secondary schools to offer carnival arts workshops, where over 170 students gained insights into dance, costume-making, and cultural history. These workshops equipped young people with valuable skills and enhanced their understanding of cultural heritage significant of carnival traditions.

Hackney and the Wider Community

- Our programmes also benefit the broader community in Hackney, offering performances and engaging events that showcase the creative talents of young people. These events help foster social cohesion and bring together people from diverse backgrounds to celebrate diversity.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Camp Carnival Easter and Summer 2023

At Camp Carnival, based in Hackney, we welcomed 107 registered children who had the opportunity to explore and experience a diverse range of activities, all within a safe and inclusive environment. A highlight of the program was our healthy eating initiative, which was part of the Hackney Activities and Food Program (HAF), providing free meals for all children receiving free school meals during their stay.

Every day at Camp Carnival was thoughtfully designed to embrace every child, including those with additional needs, such as ADHD, Autism, Down's Syndrome, speech delays, bereavement journeys, and those managing incontinence. We ensured our activities were accessible, and our approach was inclusive of all children, making sure that no one was left behind.

One of the standout features of the camp was the introduction of Yoga sessions facilitated by a professional yoga coach who positively impacted the children. One participant even said, "Best week ever, can I do Yoga again next week? I feel relaxed!". These moments of calm and mindfulness were invaluable to the children's overall well-being.

Our activities ranged from carnival arts and crafts to mind-bending science experiments, vibrant role plays, food tasting, food posters, therapeutic sand play, and messy play. The children had the joy of mark making, t-shirt printing, dynamic carnival costume making, and even participated in a high-energy carnival parade, which invited parents into our world of inclusive fun.

We also embraced traditional outdoor activities, including team-building exercises, rounders, cricket, football, relay games, and a thrilling sports day. One of the highlights was our exciting game of dodgeball and our trips to a local park, where children had the chance to challenge their limits and explore their environment, swinging, climbing, and running freely.

Through these experiences, we celebrated difference and unity, teaching the children that no matter where they come from—whether it's their school, borough, religious background, abilities, gender, or race—we can all learn and play together. The positive atmosphere fostered by these activities allowed friendships to blossom, and many of our campers were reluctant for Camp Carnival to end.

A quote from one child sums it up best: "I'm sad Camp Carnival is over; I'm coming back next year; I'm going to miss you all!".

The camp operated with a strong focus on teamwork, and our Stars of the Week volunteers made the lunchtime experience even more enjoyable by helping set up tables and getting water bottles ready. Lunchtime conversations around healthy food were an integral part of the camp. Each day, we displayed the food menu on the wall and invited the children to design their own healthy eating posters, proudly displayed for all to see.

Our meals were carefully planned to ensure that every child's dietary needs and allergies were addressed, and we were delighted to see the children engaging with the food, often sharing their thoughts on the dishes. We made and decorated biscuits and organized a successful food tasting activity that turned into a role-playing experience of shopping at the supermarket with pretend money, tills, and shopping bags. This playful activity further embedded our healthy eating program.

We also worked in partnership with parents, providing them with healthy recipes that could be made at home with their children. The feedback we received from parents was incredibly positive, with one parent sharing, "My daughter's new fondness for Mango's and her enthusiasm in the kitchen at home to help me cook brought a huge smile to my face, thank you." It was clear from the feedback that the children had not only enjoyed the experience but had developed a deeper understanding of healthy eating.

One of the most rewarding aspects of Camp Carnival was the incorporation of children's voices into the planning process. When a child suggested, "Can we have Lego, as I really like building, I want to be an architect?" the very next day, we incorporated Lego building into our activities, allowing the children to express their creativity through construction and role-play.

Our teamwork was key to the success of the camp. When we came together, we unlocked potential for innovation, creating an environment that fostered personal growth for children and staff alike. Each individual on our team was empowered to achieve their full potential, making it clear that our collaborative efforts were vital to the success of the program.

Camp Carnival is an integral part of our Culture Programme, which focuses on health and well-being. Our aim is to empower our young community, build their confidence and self-belief, and inspire them to believe that they can be the future leaders of tomorrow. The positive feedback from children and families highlights the success of our efforts.

When we collaborate as a team, we unlock new levels of productivity and passion, and we create a nurturing environment for growth. The camp has been a resounding success, and we are proud of the impact it has had on the children we serve. As we look forward to the future, we are excited to continue building on this success and sharing our story with the broader community.

We are proud to be Camp Carnival pioneers and look forward to continuing this important work as we grow together with our children and families.

National Portfolio Organisation: Raising the Profile of Carnival Artists

Tropical Isles is proud to announce that we are in the first year of our three-year program funded through Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation initiative. This program is focused on Raising the profile of emerging Carnival artists, enhancing their skills, and expanding the scope of their performances through collaborative productions, workshops, and interdisciplinary projects. The overall goal is to create significant opportunities for emerging artists and to engage with diverse communities to showcase the cultural richness of Carnival arts.

Our work aligns with the 'Let's Create' strategy, emphasising the development of creativity in young people and artists while also fostering broader community engagement through arts and culture. Over the next three years, we will focus on the following key areas and outcomes:

Creative People

Our program engages in over 240 regular arts activities annually, with the goal of producing quality artwork alongside 335 children and young people. Our activities included both in-person and online programs for 200 young people aged 6-18 years, with special provisions for up to 25-year-olds with disabilities and neurodivergent young people. The online creative hub will feature virtual sessions in various artistic forms, such as:

- Dance
- Circuit training
- Caribbean master chef workshop

In its first year, our online program reached 1062 participants, and we aim to expand this reach significantly.

Additionally, training opportunities for emerging artists included platforms to exhibit their finished pieces within both physical and virtual exhibition spaces. Participants will have the opportunity to showcase their work in natural carnival settings, and we achieved highlight projects such as the 2 Woman King theme and the creation of 170 costumes designed by children and adults.

Cultural Communities

Through our work, communities will engage with carnival arts heritage through masquerades, parades, and street theatre, offering participants the chance to develop their creativity at every stage of life. We are committed to:

- Creating cultural activities that unite communities to enjoy, participate in, and co-create art with others in their
- Providing inclusive experiences where local people from all backgrounds can celebrate their cultural heritage.

Our work ensures that carnival arts are cherished as part of the cultural fabric of local communities and are recognised

Creative Country

As part of our wider impact, we will deliver a series of Masterclass workshops spanning 310 days. These workshops included:

- Choreography
- Mas Construction
- Costume Design

Through these masterclasses, we will provide more time, space, and resources for emerging and established artists to develop their artistic practices. We commission new works, encourage collaborations, and offer mentorship from leading figures in the creative industries.

Our program also extends internationally, sharing our work with new audiences around the world and partnering with artists from Trinidad and diverse global contexts. We place an emphasis on building resilience in emerging artists both artistically and financially, providing a foundation for long-term growth.

Partnerships and Networks

Tropical Isles is committed to supporting the capacity of grassroots organisations, particularly those facing challenges in securing funding. By providing long-term support, we help small organisations secure investment and grow sustainably. We are a recognised resource for underrepresented and underserved artists, children, and families, and our networks have expanded through collaborations with other organisations and local partners.

Our impact is felt both in the infrastructure and activity within our communities as we focus on building confidence and instilling a strong sense of identity among our young participants. We aim to connect partners across the learning and skills market and the cultural and creative sectors to address inequalities and create new opportunities.

Environmental Responsibility and Economic Value:

Tropical Isles recognises the need to position itself as a change-maker within the arts and cultural community. We are committed to:

- Improving awareness of cultural opportunities through a data-focused approach, ensuring that our decisions are informed and effective.

- Sustaining job creation for young people within the cultural sector and fostering business growth by showcasing Hackney as a cultural hub.
- Counteracting negative perceptions of local communities by creating opportunities for cultural engagement, which helps shift the narrative around local issues such as gang culture, poverty, and crime.

Our work adds significant value to Hackney's cultural landscape and contributes to the local economy, particularly as we confront the challenges posed by the current economic climate. As creative organisations move out of London due to affordability issues, we aim to retain creative talent and workspaces in Hackney, making it a thriving place for the arts.

Inclusivity, Relevance, and Dynamism:

Carnival arts often remain under-recognised despite their crucial role in showcasing social origins, cultural heritage, and economic impact. Tropical Isles takes pride in enhancing the visibility of this art form through:

- Inclusivity in our programmes, which feature diverse artists from various cultural backgrounds, including global-majority communities, and offer representation for individuals of different sexualities, ethnicities, and cultures.
- Dynamism, where we strive to be adaptable, using innovation and collaboration to address challenges and seize new opportunities for growth.
- Ambition, as we continuously aim to improve the quality of our work and involve emerging artists in groundbreaking projects that challenge conventional boundaries.

We recognise the importance of data and technology in shaping our programmes and aim to use them to improve our services and more effectively engage our participants.

East End Community Foundation Camp Carnival Easter and Summer:

East End Giving is a youth fund established by the East End Community Foundation (EECF) that provides grants to not-for-profit organisation and community groups, enabling them to deliver engaging school holiday activities and meals for children and young people in Hackney, Newham, and Tower Hamlets.

The fund focuses on offering positive group activities and food during the summer holiday for 70 children and young people aged 8-21 (up to 25 with additional needs).

The three main aims of the programme are:

- To reduce anti-social behaviour and enhance community cohesion.
- To make a positive impact on children and young people's development.

Tropical Isles Well-being Grants for young people:

Eighty-eight children and young people reported improved literacy and/or numeracy skills. At Tropical Isles Carnival, we employ various methods to assess the success of our programme. These methods include conducting surveys, using feedback forms, carrying out interviews, and making observations.

We meticulously monitor and analyse data to determine how well we are achieving our goals and objectives. We consistently evaluate the progress of our participants and report on their accomplishments. Our ultimate goal is to enhance their skills, knowledge, educational engagement, physical health, and overall well-being. We compile and scrutinise data to produce in-depth reports on the beneficial transformations we have made in their lives.

The Camp Carnival program has achieved a significant accomplishment by helping 88 children and young people improve their literacy and/or numeracy skills. They accomplished this by incorporating educational elements into their creative arts activities. For instance, costume designing required participants to read and follow instructions and measure materials, feathers, and gems, which naturally improved their literacy and numeracy skills. Choreography involved counting beats, measuring steps, or understanding movement patterns, which helped participants improve their numeracy skills. Composing music and learning to read sheet music contributed to improving their literacy and numeracy skills.

Preparing scripts, lyrics, and cues for performances, especially karaoke, enhanced their literacy skills. The program also engaged participants in dynamic learning experiences, where they had to apply their literacy and numeracy skills practically. They wrote their lyrics or scripts for performances, calculated measurements for costume materials and accessories, counted beats and followed choreographic instructions.

The program's hands-on workshops encouraged participants to participate in various artistic elements actively, which often required reading, writing, and numeracy skills to complete tasks.

The tailored approach to each participant allowed for personalised support in areas where they needed improved literacy and numeracy. Mentors and instructors provided feedback and guidance on literacy and numeracy-related tasks, facilitating skill development. The program's welcoming and supportive environment encouraged active engagement in the educational components.

Participants engaged in group activities where they discussed ideas, collaborated on projects, and learned from one another, fostering literacy and numeracy skills. Overall, the combination of creative arts activities, mentorship, and a positive learning environment feedback contributed to the reported increase in literacy and numeracy skills among the program's participants. The program's focus on active, hands-on learning is an effective way to naturally enhance these skills while fostering creativity and personal growth.

100% of Children and young people report improved physical health or wellbeing.

The Camp Carnival program has successfully improved the physical health and well-being of 100 children and young people. The program involved various physical activities such as sports, dance, and movement, contributing to better physical fitness and overall well-being. Additionally, providing healthy meals and snacks during the program promoted proper nutrition and energy levels. The program also included educational components on nutrition and healthy eating habits, which helped 90% of participants make informed choices about their diet. Engaging in creative activities positively affected the mental and emotional well-being of the participants, and the program's group activities and performances fostered social interaction and a sense of belonging. Moreover, the program's inclusive and supportive environment created a safe space for children and young people to express themselves and build self-esteem. Incorporating mindfulness and stress reduction techniques in artistic and creative activities promotes mental well-being.

Engaging in dance, choreography, and physical activities improved physical literacy, which is essential for overall health and well-being. The program motivated 99% of participants to adopt healthy lifestyle habits, including regular exercise, balanced nutrition, and proper hydration. Exposure to professional artists and mentors served as positive role models for participants, inspiring them to embrace a healthy and active lifestyle. Recognising and celebrating achievements related to physical health or artistic accomplishments boosted the well-being of 90% of participants. Encouraging 99% of participants to reflect on their physical health and well-being and their overall experiences in the program led to positive self-awareness and self-improvement.

Based on the feedback we received through observation and questionnaires, the Camp Carnival program's combination of physical activity, creative arts, education, and mentorship has improved the physical health and overall well-being of 99% of the children and young people who participated. The program's holistic approach acknowledges the connection between physical and mental health and emphasises the significance of creating supportive environments to promote overall well-being.

100% of children and young people report that they are more physically active.

The Summer Camp Carnival program accomplished a significant goal of having 100 children, and young people report being more physically active. The program achieved this outcome through various methods, such as structured physical activities like dance, sports, and movement sessions. Participating regularly in such activities encouraged 97% of the participants to be more physically active. Offering a variety of movement activities allowed 55 participants to explore different ways of being physically active, making it more enjoyable and accessible.

Professional guidance from dance tutors, artists, and mentors inspired and motivated all participants to be more physically active. Preparing for fun-day showcase performances required rehearsals and practices that involved physical movement, making participants more physically active. Engaging in team-based activities and group performances encouraged 95% of the participants to be more physically active, while positive peer influence led to increased physical activity. The program also recognised the creative arts, including dance and choreography, as an avenue for self-expression through movement.

Encouraging participants to set physical goals and challenges and recognising the connection between physical activity and personal growth can motivate them to be more active. Promoting a holistic approach to a healthy lifestyle that includes physical activity, nutrition, and mental well-being can motivate participants.

Celebrating achievements related to physical activity and encouraging reflection and goal setting also contributed to the participants' engagement. In summary, the Camp Carnival program's combination of structured physical activities, professional instruction, teamwork, and a supportive environment contributed to the participant

72% of children and young people report a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression

The Camp Carnival program has significantly reduced stress, anxiety, and symptoms of depression among 72% of children and young people. The program implemented various techniques to achieve this outcome, including artistic expression as therapy, yoga, mindfulness practices, a supportive environment, professional mentorship, collaborative learning, creative outlet, positive reinforcement, self-esteem building, emotional resilience, holistic well-being, self-expression, and feedback and reflection. The program recognised that engaging in artistic and creative activities, such as dance, choreography, music, yoga and performance, can serve as a therapeutic expression, helping alleviate stress and anxiety.

Mindfulness practices were also incorporated to promote relaxation, self-awareness, and emotional well-being. At the same time, the program's inclusive and supportive environment provided a safe space for participants to express their emotions and seek support when needed. Interacting with professional artists and mentors also offered emotional support and guidance, while collaborative projects and group activities encouraged social interaction and cooperation, reducing feelings of isolation and stress. The program also offered a creative outlet for participants to channel their emotions and thoughts, celebrating artistic accomplishments and personal growth, boosting participants' self-esteem and reducing symptoms of depression and anxiety.

Encouraging participants to embrace their unique talents and contributions also built self-esteem. It reduced negative emotions while providing them with tools to build emotional resilience and cope with stressors. It was also valuable in managing anxiety and depression. The program's holistic approach to well-being recognised the interconnectedness of physical, mental, and emotional health, focusing on overall well-being, leading to reduced stress and anxiety. Encouraging participants to express their thoughts, feelings, and experiences through creative arts provided a healthy way to manage emotions and reduce stress while reflecting on their experiences and emotional states with support from mentors and peers led to improved emotional

well-being. In summary, the Camp Carnival program's emphasis on artistic expression, mindfulness, emotional support, and a positive and inclusive environment contributed to the reported reduction in stress, anxiety, and symptoms of depression among the participants, recognising the therapeutic potential of art and creativity in supporting emotional well-being.

100% of children and young people report improved mental health or wellbeing

The Camp Carnival program has significantly impacted the mental health and well-being of 100 children and young people. Through creative arts activities like dance, choreography, music, and performance, participants can express their emotions and thoughts, improving their mental health and overall well-being. The program also fostered a supportive and safe environment, where 80% of participants felt comfortable expressing their emotions and seeking support when needed. Positive relationships with professional artists, mentors, and peers have provided positive role models and supportive connections, contributing to improved mental health.

Participants have been equipped with skills to build emotional resilience and cope with life's challenges while focusing on overall well-being and recognising the interconnectedness of physical, mental, and emotional health. Encouraging self-expression and exploring talents and passions has provided healthy coping mechanisms and emotional relief. The program's emphasis on creative expression, emotional support, mentorship, and an inclusive environment likely contributed to the participants' reported improvement in mental health and well-being.

99% of children and young people report improved social networks

The Camp Carnival program helped 90% of children and young people improve their social networks through diverse group activities like dance rehearsals, yoga, and collaborative art projects. The program's inclusive and supportive environment created a safe space for participants to build connections, regardless of background or abilities. Professional mentors and instructors inspired participants to network with individuals who share their passion for the arts, leading to expanded social networks and opportunities for emotional support. The program recognised the importance of social connections in fostering a sense of belonging and community.

East End Community Foundation: Winter Appeal and Care Package Distribution:

The East End Community Foundation (EECF) has run its Winter Appeal annually to support vulnerable residents in Tower Hamlets, Newham, Hackney, and the City. This initiative addresses the increasing challenges posed by the cost-of-living crisis, particularly for elderly individuals and families in need.

Winter Care Packages

This year, EECF is distributing 3,000 care packages to local residents, with the following tailored contents:

For Older People:

- A £20 high street voucher to assist with essential purchases and a carton box of chocolates.
- A small gift to foster a sense of care and community.

For Families:

- A £30 high street voucher to support household needs and a carton box of chocolates.
- A small gift to bring joy and comfort during challenging times.

Tropical Isles' Role

As a funding participant of EECF, Tropical Isles has been entrusted with distributing 75 care packages to individuals and families in their community. The flexibility in distribution allowed us to ensure these packages reached those in the greatest need.

Distribution Approach

The care packages were distributed through various Tropical Isles initiatives, including:

- Outreach Activities: Engaging directly with those in need within the community.
- Support Groups: Providing packages to members of regular support networks.
- Luncheons: Delivering care during gatherings for elderly service users.
- Camp Networks: Working with families and young participants of our Summer and Easter Camps to identify families in need.

Impact

The feedback from recipients has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the significant difference these packages made during a difficult period. Notable outcomes included:

- Support for Utility Bills: Elderly residents used vouchers to manage heating and electricity costs during winter.
- Household Shopping: Families utilised vouchers for groceries and essentials.
- Christmas Gifts: Some families were able to purchase small gifts for their children, providing joy during the festive season despite financial struggles.

Recognising the Community Impact

The Winter Appeal has reinforced the vital role EECF and its partners play in alleviating the pressures faced by vulnerable residents. Tropical Isles is proud to have contributed to this effort.

Black History Month Carnival Arts Schools Programme:

As part of Black History Month, Tropical Isles collaborated with six primary and secondary schools to deliver a vibrant educational programme centred on Carnival Arts. This initiative engaged 180 children, using the creative arts as a medium to explore history, culture, and self-expression.

Programme Highlights

Workshops:

- **Dance:** Children learned traditional and contemporary dance forms, emphasising the cultural roots of carnival.
- **Costume Making:** Participants designed and created their own costumes, exploring the artistry and symbolism of carnival attire.

Creative Heritage and Storytelling:

- Explored the historical abolition of slavery, Windrush stories, and the celebration of diversity.
- Highlighted the origins of Caribbean carnival as a form of resistance, resilience, and joy, linking it to modern-day celebrations.

Impact and Outcomes

Enjoyment and Inclusivity:

- Participants expressed joy and enthusiasm, fostering a sense of belonging.
- The programme celebrated diversity, creating a welcoming space for all.

Empowerment:

- Children were inspired to express themselves creatively and confidently through dance and costume-making.
- They gained a deeper understanding of cultural identity and the legacy of the Windrush generation.

Educational Value:

- Enhanced understanding of historical events such as the abolition of slavery and the Windrush experience.
- Linked history to present-day celebrations, demonstrating the evolution of community and cultural pride through carnival arts.

Vogue World Fund Grant:

Tropical Isles is thrilled to announce the receipt of an unrestricted grant from the Vogue World Fund. This funding will transform our mission to expand access to performing arts, empower local artists, and celebrate carnival culture. Below is a breakdown of our strategic plan to optimise the grant's impact.

Dance and Creative Studio Space

Studio Renovation and Setup

Infrastructure: The grant will finance renovations to establish a fully functional studio space equipped with essential items, such as:

- Appropriate flooring for dance.
- Mirrors, sound systems, and other rehearsal tools.
- Technology for recording, streaming, and editing performances.

Access and Engagement:

Community Accessibility

- Free studio time will be offered to five local dance groups and ten individual artists, ensuring access for disadvantaged communities.

- A schedule will be established to accommodate rehearsals and community programmes.
- Artist Residency Programme
- A residency initiative will support artists working on innovative projects, fostering creativity and collaboration.
- Collaborative Opportunities
- Partnerships with other arts organisations will enhance artistic development and build a vibrant, interconnected community.

Costume Design and Creation

Enhancing Processes

- Hiring three seasonal freelancers to elevate the costume-making process.
- Upgrading materials to create high-quality, visually stunning carnival costumes that reflect authenticity and artistic excellence.

Cultural Workshops and Events Community Engagement

Hosting 32 workshops, three high-profile performances, and six collaborative projects aimed at inspiring 200 young people.

- Offering hands-on experience in costume design, dance, and storytelling to foster cultural appreciation and creative development.

Outreach and Collaboration

Partnering with local schools to deliver educational workshops focusing on carnival arts and heritage.

- Encouraging creative expression among young individuals while strengthening ties within the community. **Marketing and**

Promotion

Enhancing Online Presence

- Utilising social media to promote Tropical Isles' programmes and events.
- Developing engaging content to showcase the vibrancy of our carnival culture.
- Promoting opportunities to expand outreach and awareness.

Impact Goals

By strategically allocating the grant, we intend to

- Provide disadvantaged communities with access to professional performing arts facilities.
- Engage and empower 100 local artists through collaboration and creative opportunities.
- Inspire 200 young individuals with workshops and performances.
- Celebrate carnival culture through innovative costumes, performances, and educational programmes. **Commitment to**

Authenticity and Sustainability

This initiative embodies Tropical Isles' dedication to showcasing authentic carnival culture while fostering inclusivity and sustainability. Through this grant, we are building a foundation for lasting community impact and creative excellence.

Tropical Isles: Award-Winning Performances and Band Achievements

Tropical Isles continues to excel as a celebrated Carnival band, showcasing creativity, dedication, and cultural excellence. Our performances and programs have earned us significant accolades and recognition within the Carnival arts community and beyond.

Performances and Recognition: Notting Hill Carnival 2023

3rd Place – Children's Day Theme:

"The Woman King" captivated audiences with its outstanding performance and creative presentation, earning us a prestigious third place.

2nd Place – Music on the Road:

This is a testament to our vibrant, high-energy performances and our ability to connect with audiences through music.

Hackney Youth Awards

- Youth Project of the Year – Runner-Up:

Our Camp Carnival Summer Programme was recognised for its transformative impact on children and young people. The programme, supported by Hackney Council, Arts Council England, and Well-being Grants for Young People, improved participants' lives and received outstanding feedback from parents.

Band Performances and Community Impact:

Tropical Isles is more than just a Carnival band—we are a community committed to:

- Showcasing our cultural heritage through innovative performances.
- Empowering young people by providing opportunities for creative and confident self-expression.
- Strengthening community ties through engaging and inclusive activities.
- With each performance, Tropical Isles exemplifies why we remain at the forefront of Carnival arts, delivering unforgettable experiences and inspiring future generations.

Looking to the Future: A Vision for Tropical Isles

Cultural Organisation of Excellence

Tropical Isles remains steadfast in its commitment to delivering engaging, high-quality programs that empower young people, foster creativity, and bring joy through the Carnival arts. By providing free and inclusive activities, we aim to ensure all participants, regardless of their background, have the opportunity to fully engage, grow, and enjoy their experiences.

Strategic Goals for the Next Three Years

Deepening Community Impact

- Inclusive Engagement: Expand outreach to engage new participants, particularly those from disadvantaged communities, ensuring no barriers to access the arts.
- Fun and Purposeful Activities: Design programs that inspire creativity, encourage participation, and provide memorable, joyful experiences for young people.
- Empowering Young People: Equip participants with the tools and skills to achieve personal, social, and creative success.

Expanding Growth and Collaboration

- Building Connections: Strengthen ties with local and international arts organisations, fostering cross-cultural exchanges and collaborations.
- Strategic Partnerships: Continue to work closely with key partners, including Arts Council England, Hackney Council, the Hackney Cultural Team, and Young Hackney, to sustain and grow our programmes.
- Empowering Emerging Artists: Provide platforms for new Carnival artists to showcase their talents, raise their profiles, and inspire future generations.

Elevating Arts Education

- High-Quality Delivery: Maintain excellence in all programmes, from workshops to performances, ensuring participants receive top-tier arts education.
- Mentorship Opportunities: Develop mentorship initiatives to support participants in their creative journeys, encouraging lifelong engagement with the arts.

As Tropical Isles' new base, the Rose Lipman Building in Hackney provides an exciting platform for growth. It will serve as a dynamic hub for Carnival arts, community collaboration, and creative innovation.

Recognition and Opportunities

Our inclusion in the Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation (2023-2027) program underscores our dedication to cultural excellence and innovation. This support allows us to:

- Extend our programs to new communities.
- Foster emerging talent in the Carnival arts.
- Drive creative and cultural growth in Hackney and beyond.

Acknowledgements:

Gratitude to Our Supporters

The trustees extend heartfelt thanks to our funders, individuals, and community organisations whose unwavering support has brought us to this stage of growth and achievement.

- **Special Thanks to Funders:** Your contributions have empowered our young people and strengthened our organisation.
- **Staff and Volunteers:** The dedication, skill, and loyalty of our management committee, staff, and volunteers have been instrumental in achieving our mission.
- **Freelance Artists, Mentors, and Relationship Officers:** Your expertise and guidance continue to shape the success of our programs.
- **Participants and Stakeholders:** Thank you for trusting and supporting our vision

The Road Ahead:

Tropical Isles is excited to build on the successes of this year and embrace new opportunities. With sustained funding and strategic collaborations, we aim to make a lasting impact on the cultural landscape of Hackney and beyond.

By fostering creativity, inclusivity, and excellence in the arts, we will continue to:

- Empower the next generation of artists.
- Raise the profile of Carnival Arts.
- Strengthen our community through vibrant cultural activities.

Together, we look forward to creating meaningful, long-lasting change and ensuring the arts remain accessible, dynamic, and impactful for years to come.

Report of the Trustees

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with Applicable Law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice)

The Law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed required the Trustees to prepare financial Statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resource and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity from that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

1. i. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. ii. Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
3. iii. Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. iv. Prepare the financial statement on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclosure with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Accountants

The accountants, Allen Robyn & Associates Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on. 28-1-2025

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:



Deirdre Scantlebury

TRUSTEE

Report of the Independent Examiner

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

I report on the Financial Statements of the Tropical Isles for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are on pages 17-18 and Notes to the Financial Statements on Pages 19-22.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit. Consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Rolston Allen FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Allen Robyn & Associates Limited
367 Caledonian Rd
London N7 9DQ

Approved on: 28/1/2025

Statement of Financial Activities

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	NOTES	2024	2023
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Income	2	193,838	89,933
Total Incoming resources from generated funds		193,838	89,933
Total INCOMING RESOURCES		193,838	89,933
Resources Expended			
Charitable Activities	3	119,645	92,653
Support Costs	4	39,748	22,096
Governance Costs	5	3,307	1,800
Total Resources Expended		162,699	116,549
Surplus/(Deficit) Resources		31,139	(26,616)
Investments			
Interest Income		46	3
Total Investments		46	3
Surplus/(Deficit) income after Other Income		31,185	(26,613)
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		31,185	(26,613)

Statement of Financial Position

Tropical Isles

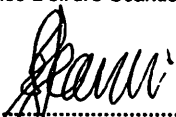
As at 31 March 2024

	NOTES	31 MAR 2024	31 MAR 2023
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	319	1,630
Total Fixed Assets		319	1,630
Current assets			
Debtors		28,000	-
Cash at bank and in hand		2,082	2,170
Total Current assets		30,082	2,170
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors	7	18,074	22,658
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		18,074	22,658
Net current assets (liabilities)		12,008	(20,488)
Total assets less current liabilities		12,327	(18,858)
Net Assets		12,327	(18,858)
Funds			
Restricted Fund	8	7,868	7,868
Unrestricted Fund	8	4,459	(26,726)
Total Funds		12,327	(18,858)

28-1-25

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28-1-25 and were signed on its behalf by:


Miss Deirdre Scantlebury


Mr. Jeffrey St. Jean

Notes to the Financial Statements

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Section 1A applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2016.

Tropical Isles meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Investment Income

Investment income consists of net interest received during the year and accounted for as unrestricted funds.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category; where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Charitable activities

Costs of charitable activities are those costs relating to the activities carried out to meet the objectives of the nursery. These include both directly attributable costs and apportioned support costs.

Governance costs

Governance costs are the costs associated with the strategic direction of the organisation with meeting regulatory responsibilities, including apportioned support costs.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from income tax on its charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

	2024	2023
2. Income		
Art Council		
Arts Council England - NPO/IPSO	(99,250)	-
ACE Project Grant	-	(10,000)
Total Art Council	(99,250)	(10,000)
Local Authority		
LB Hackney - Carnival	(500)	-
LB Hackney Main Grant	-	(14,660)
LB Hackney - HAF	(25,262)	(25,240)
Local Authority Income	(9,592)	-
Total Local Authority	(35,354)	(39,900)
Donations		
Vogue World Fund	(28,000)	-
Costumes & Accessories income	(8,001)	(145)
Performances and Brand performances	(2,500)	-
LB Carpole	(250)	-
jack Petchey Foundation	-	(900)
Donations	(10,484)	(3,402)
Gifts and Donations	-	(3,750)
Awards For All Lottery Grant	-	(9,912)
Costumes	-	(21,924)
East End Community Foundation Grant	(10,000)	-
Total Donations	(59,234)	(40,033)
Total Income	(193,838)	(89,933)
	2024	2023

3. Charitable Activities

Artistic and Cultural Spend	4,499	-
Education and outreach costs	3,462	-
Operational Costs	1,311	529
Programme costs	20	-
Security Hire	3,335	-
Vehicle / Coach Hire	4,887	6,745
Volunteers Expenses	1,570	1,863
Salaries / ENIC	69,774	53,853
Refreshments / Catering	1,846	-
Equipment's / Catering	4,874	4,277
Equipment / PA Hire	3,200	2,800
Accessories/Materials	10,198	13,573
Travel / Accommodations	-	30
Other Direct Activity	1,278	-

Sessional/Freelance Fees	9,391	8,983
Total Charitable Activities	119,645	92,653

2024 2023

4. Supporting Costs

Advertising & Promotion	805	-
It and Computer costs	130	-
Rent	25,373	17,468
Staff Training	10	-
Bank Charges	179	-
General Costs	479	-
Insurance	1,486	1,027
Marketing / PR	514	487
Membership and Subscriptions	75	-
Professional Fees	-	671
Repairs & Maintenance	9,939	2,395
Stationery and Printing costs	759	48
Total Supporting Costs	39,748	22,096

2024 2023

5. Governance Cost

Accountancy fees	2,107	-
Examiner Fee	1,200	1,800
Total Governance Cost	3,307	1,800

2024 2023

6. Tangible Assets

Office equipment		
Cost		
Opening Balance	5,241	5,241
Total Cost	5,241	5,241
Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(3,611)	(2,300)
Office Equip depreciation charge	(1,311)	(1,311)
Total Depreciation	(4,922)	(3,611)
Total Office equipment	319	1,630
Total Tangible Assets	319	1,630

2024 2023

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Short Term Loan Account	(2,336)	(17,336)
Accruals	(7,700)	(1,200)

Rounding	-	-
PAYE Payable	(1,606)	247
Outstanding Wages	(6,433)	(4,369)
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(18,074)	(22,658)
	2024	2023

8. Movement in Funds

Restricted Funds		
Balance brought forward	7,868	7,868
Total Restricted Funds	7,868	7,868
Unrestricted Funds		
Balance brought forward	(26,726)	(113)
(Deficit)/Surplus		
Current Year Earnings	31,185	(26,613)
Total (Deficit)/Surplus	31,185	(26,613)
Total Unrestricted Funds	4,459	(26,726)
Total Movement in Funds	12,327	(18,858)

TROPICAL ISLES

England & Wales - Charity number 1090798

Accounts

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Prepared by Allen Robyn & Associates Limited

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Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Registered Charity Number: 1090798

Legal and Administration

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Charity Registration Number	1090798
Trustees	Miss Deirdre Scantlebury Mr Jeffery St. Jean Miss Peggy Patricia Mckenzie (Treasurer & Signatory)
Management Committee	Miss Deirdre Scantlebury (Chair) Ms Sydney Hawthorne (Youth representative) Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director)
Staff	Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director) Ms Stephanie Antoine (Artistic Director) Mrs Denise Ojo (Assistant Data Analyst) Ebony Antonie (Marketing & Promotion)
Registered Office	The Rose Lipman Building 43 De Beauvoir Road London N1 SSQ
Independent Examiner	Rolston Allen FCCA Allen Robyn & Associates Limited Chartered Certified Accountants London N7 9DQ
Banker	Barclays Bank PLC, Kingsland Holloway & Kingsland Group 3 - 5 Kingsland High Street, London E8

Trustees' Annual Report

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their report with the charity's financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2023.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). The reference and administration set out below form part of this report, and the financial statement complies with current requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2015.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES:

1. To advance the education of the public in particular but not exclusively children in the arts (meaning creative and performing arts) or any other arts provided in each case they are recognised cultural, aesthetic or educational value, culture and traditional values of the African Caribbean community
2. To foster, promote and increase public interest in the arts, and in particular the active encouragement and development of children in to the cultural and social heritage of the African Caribbean community, and subjects of artistic merit so that the development of good relationships between persons of different racial groups might be promoted and the contribution which a multi-Racial community has to make to society might be enhanced, specially but not exclusively in the London Borough of Hackney and surrounding areas.

About us

Tropical Isles is a registered Charity which aims to develop its participation events programme by providing year-round carnival arts and educational art after-school activities, with a specific focus on developing enhancing skills and talents of disadvantaged children and young people who may be at risk. Tropical Isles is an ambitious and fast-growing organization determined to enhance the educational outlook of children and young people growing up in deprived areas of Hackney. This work supports young people's abilities to achieve in the formal school curriculum while giving them the chance to work on professionally produced creative products in an unconventional learning environment.

Aims and Objectives:

- To develop the capacity of Tropical Isles staff, volunteers and mentors to secure funding tenders and commissions, develop the quality and scale of our programmes and achieve excellence in the delivery of our activities
- To develop children and young people's literacy, confidence, and resilience. We do this by giving them extra personalized attention in an unconventional learning environment and giving them the opportunity to work on real-world creative art and production and performances long side local professionals.
- To work with our Youth Forum to document and disseminate good practice in the design, development, and execution of youth-led carnival arts products and events
- Develop partnerships and joint working arrangements with diverse community organisations in London, UK and across the world as part of cultural exchange and appreciation.
- To build on Tropical Isles reputation as a leading organisation in London's Carnival Arts sector; developing our role as key lead artists

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

Tropical Isles is committed to delivering ground-breaking, multi-disciplinary art projects that offer new perspectives on our daily lives, provoking debate and encourage constructive change and social progress.

Our artistic activities described below focuses on bringing the arts to the community of our Borough. Our youth engagement programme focus on skills development, production, performance and leadership skills on aspects of carnival arts craft and dance. Whilst we will continue to work to engage as wide an audience as possible, our energy and resources will be directed over the next three years at the following:

- Deepening the level of community engagement in our projects and delivering projects that transform lives
- Growing the Tropical Isles brand and public awareness of our work
- Brokering international projects
- Working with communities in areas which have particularly low levels of participation in arts and culture, and low provision of cultural infrastructure
- Working in a collaborative, partnership way and extending the Tropical Isles network
- Who used and benefited from our services

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievements and Performances:

April was a very exciting month with the announcement of the Queens Jubilee Announcement.

Arts Council England's Let's Create Jubilee Fund - The Queen's platinum jubilee carnival project on Friday 3rd of June 2022.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Carnival is an exciting event that showcases music, dance, drama, and costume-making. The primary objective of the carnival is to create a friendly and welcoming environment that brings together people from diverse backgrounds to experience the vibrancy and sense of community that the event has to offer. The event comprises six masterclasses and twenty "taster" workshops, during which everyone, regardless of their involvement in the carnival, will have an opportunity to develop their skills. The project involves eight organisations, and the recruitment and engagement process runs for several weeks. Schools and local community groups were encouraged to participate leading up to the celebrations.

The carnival parade and picnic held on Friday, 3rd June 2022, was a great success, featuring fantastic costumes created by eight community organisations. Two individuals with English language skills helped to reach out and involve members of collaborative partners. The organisations contributed and committed to the idea, creating costumes and iconic props to showcase along the parade route on June 3rd. There were six workshop sessions, and 55 children and young people participated in the weekly workshops, which took place three days a week. Our project was made possible with the support of local community members who helped create the application and contacted other organisations interested in participating in The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Carnival project. Despite not being involved in the arts or carnival, many partners wanted to share the experience of participating in an inclusive program. We held regular evening Zoom meetings with the eight partner members to set roles, responsibilities, and tasks to ensure that 28 workshop sessions were completed on time and that the six industry professional artists were aware that most participants were new to carnival events.

On the day of the carnival, residents from the De Beauvoir Estate and across Hackney attended sessions where they made their costumes and looked forward to wearing them for the parade. The parade had 55 carnival costumes and represented 40 community members dressed in traditional and historical attire. The De Beauvoir Women's Institute provided decorations that transformed the picnic area.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Carnival Project will continue to function as a diverse community program, bringing communities together to share knowledge and experiences in the long run.

As part of the project, 65 children, young people and families participated in a community activity for the first time.

We collected data, feedback forms, and observations by artists and conducted interviews to improve the quality of the local environment and public space. Based on our previous experience, we have gathered data to show what is possible when we enter a new space. All participants were required to sign up for each session. They had the flexibility to drop in and stay for up to four hours daily.

As a result of the project, 95 children and young people are now using local public spaces. The Rose Lipman building is situated in the middle of a road, with one side being an affluent area and the other side being a high-risk housing estate. Surprisingly, 60% of the residents were not aware that the building was open to the general public. Our studio has now become a public space for the residents to attend our free activities, which we promote through different community networks.

Eighty individuals utilised local public spaces for the first time. Additionally, 25 volunteers are maintaining these spaces.

The network members considered removing the hidden barriers between their divided community and the estates across the road as very important. They wanted to involve them more in their activities. This project offers regular opportunities to benefit children and young people from the Hackney Estate and the surrounding areas. Our data analysis showed that the project has been running for more than 13 days, including the extended weekend of the half-term bank holiday.

We learned that communication within our network group is key to identifying the support needed, sourcing additional support, and selecting the best organisations to plan and engage participants from diverse backgrounds. Each organisation's responsibility for shared expertise makes the project more manageable and inclusive, contributing to its development and programming. The project has fostered great friendships, and everyone has gained an understanding of each organisation's abilities.

"We had over 500 people waiting in the square to participate in the carnival parade. Many were dressed up in costumes and wearing carnival mas pieces representing the red, white and Blue Eagle and the Red Phoenix. We also had a music system mounted on a trolley bike, which added to the festive atmosphere. The parade followed the designated route around the De Beauvoir Estate." The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, opened the carnival, which came as a pleasant surprise. In total, more than a thousand people followed the parade for 40 minutes and enjoyed the costumes on the street. It was crucial for the network members to eliminate any hidden barriers and engage with the estates across the street to encourage their participation in the activities.

Her Majesty the Queen's platinum jubilee pageant on Sunday, the 5th of June 2022.

Decade 2000's Cast Members

On June 5th, 2022, the Platinum Jubilee Pageant of Her Majesty the Queen was held, celebrating her incredible 70-year reign. The parade took place in Saint James Park, the Mall, and Buckingham Palace and lasted for 70 minutes. "The event was a magnificent pageant that took place throughout the streets of central London. It was expected to be watched live by thousands of people and millions more around the world on-screen. The event was created to celebrate and honour Her Majesty and the people of the UK and the Commonwealth."

The Tropical Isles was a segment of the show called "Decades," which celebrated the different eras of The Queen's reign, including fashion, music, culture, milestones, and characters. Our segment represented the 2000s decade and featured 22 performers dressed in colourful costumes for the Notting Hill Carnival. We were given an additional ten days to prepare for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pageant on June 5th.

Everyone who participated in the event found it overwhelming and inspiring to be part of the Decade section, which motivated artists to showcase their work to the public. We encouraged people in our community to join us in this extraordinary opportunity, which we considered a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We believed that featuring costumes representing the Notting Hill Carnival was essential for the pageant.

Young Creative Leaders programme:

The Young Creative Leaders programme is a one-year Carnival Arts initiative designed for 80 young people aged between 13 and 18 years, with an extension of up to 25 years for young people with SEND who belong to low-income households in Hackney. 80% of the participants were People of Colour, 15% were disabled, and there was an equal gender representation among them.

The main objective of the program was to honour the rich cultural heritage of the Carnival Arts movement while also nurturing the leadership skills, well-being, and personal resilience of young people who have been adversely affected by the pandemic.

Our free program runs as an after-school project three evenings a week during term time and as an intensive full-day session three days a week during the summer holidays.

Through the project, we were able to engage a case worker who created learning and development plans for our team. These plans included specific milestones for enhancing confidence, improving teamwork skills, and building technical expertise. The caseworker provided needs-led support that covered a wide range of areas, such as healthy eating, depression, anxiety, domestic situations, substance misuse, and liaison with the youth justice system.

Twelve individuals aged between 18 and 25 received guidance on creating a CV, improving their interview skills, and advice on further education, employment, and training opportunities.

The Young Creative Leaders were exposed to a variety of art forms to develop their physical literacy through dance, visual literacy through fashion design (including costume, mask, and t-shirt design), aural skills through music-making, and film and photography.

The Black History Exhibition showcased individual achievements of the year through a gallery of photos and stage performances. 130 parents, families, and friends attended and were very impressed with what they saw and gave back amazing feedback.

Industry mentors from various fields, including architecture, baking, dance, ballet, and fashion, were present to provide guidance on career skills and competencies required for success in each industry. Six volunteer opportunities were available for peer mentors who received support and supervision while assisting younger peers to engage in sessions.

Through our creative practice, children and young people were encouraged to take creative risks, contribute to the decision-making process and reflect on their learning. This outcome was critical to addressing unheard voices, fostering greater independence, and building personal resilience.

We are pleased to report that our project has yielded positive outcomes for young people. From the beginning of the project until its presentation, active participation has increased the skillset of young people by 99%, including confidence, self-esteem, and resilience.

In addition to providing engaging cultural activities, we have also provided 1-2-1 casework, which has been invaluable to some of the more vulnerable young people we support. Based on feedback from participants, we are glad to see that the project has had a positive impact.

98% of participants have increased self-awareness of their skills deficits and the steps they need to take in order to be more active.

99% of young people have developed a clear plan to build upon a specific range of skills and attributes, which will further their chances of progression in their area of interest.

While it was challenging to provide the necessary resources to support everyone in our beneficiary group, it was also rewarding to see the increased needs being met.

Jack Petchey Awards:

The Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme is a notable program that honours remarkable young individuals between the ages of 11 and 25 all over London. The scheme involves nominating a young person by their peers from their school or youth organisation. A crucial aspect of the program is involving young people in choosing the award winners based on their dedication and efforts. Tropical Isles aim is to encourage young individuals to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of their peers.

The following are three stories of young achievers who were nominated for the Jack Petchey Achievement Awards.

Child T, age 12, received an award for making progress in his relationships with peers and family members. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, T showed respect to his peers, controlled his attitude, and focused on his passion for music. He worked with a mentor to create beats and shared his achievements with his family.

Child J, age 17, was nominated for his hard work in promoting healthy eating among low-income families. J volunteered during holiday activities and community exhibitions, cooking healthy meals that were enjoyed by everyone in the group. During the COVID-19 lockdown, J inspired younger children and young people to learn how to cook healthy meals on a budget through a series of workshops. They prepared lunches for 72 children and young people each day for 18 days during the holidays.

Child N, age 15, overcame the challenges of the pandemic to rediscover her passion for dancing. Initially hesitant to perform, N was encouraged by a friend to try again and regained her confidence within a couple of weeks. Her transformation was inspiring, and she received positive feedback for her efforts in getting back into dance and encouraging others to do the same.

Hackney Food Activities:

Hackney Holiday Food & Activities Programme

HAF is a national programme funded by the DfE aiming to give eligible children and young people free school meals, activities, and meals over a minimum of 4 hours.

Carnival Easter Camp:

Outcomes:

The families and children are highly impressed with the meals and our efforts to encourage healthier eating habits. We also reinforce life skills and rules to ensure the safety of children and prevent bullying, especially when new children join. Furthermore, the children expressed their desire for an extended Easter HAF break, which parents would welcome. Parents also requested a chance to try the meals their children eat.

The children expressed their desire for more days for the Easter Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) break, and the parents agreed.

The parents wanted to try the food that the children were eating.

A total of 31 children between the ages of 6 and 10 years attended the event every day for four days, and they all enjoyed making new friends.

The children were given snakes and a mixture of sliced fruits and vegetables to take home. This was a hit with the parents, as no child went home hungry. However, the parents needed clarification as to why their children wouldn't eat vegetables and salads at home.

To introduce the children aged 6-10 years to various career options, we brought in an industry mentor who gave a presentation on working in the Construction Industry at Quinn London. This sparked a conversation among the children about their future aspirations, leading to some interesting choices, such as a police officer, firefighter, dancer, make-up artist, and even a future book author and politician who was originally a librarian.

We received an overwhelming response from parents interested in signing up for the program; however, when we referred them to other activity providers, they faced difficulties in booking their children, or the providers did not respond to them. When we shared the list and link for the Young Hackney website, the families were happy with the process.

During our Carnival Summer Camp, we hosted a wide range of activities for children between the ages of 5 and 11 who registered with us. We organised outdoor physical activities such as football, relay races, basketball, and team-building games, which were popular among both boys and girls. We also took them to the local park.

To ensure that we provided the activities that children wanted to explore, we conducted a questionnaire where they expressed their interest in activities such as messy play, learning about dinosaurs and insects using magnifying glasses, exploring math, drawing, cooking, playing with water, dancing, engaging in role-play, exploring small world activities, science experiments, and building using Lego blocks. We also had Carnival arts and crafts activities in store for them.

Although we had a limited budget for some of the activities, we were able to request donations and purchase whatever we could to ensure that each child did not have to wait too long to participate in their desired activity. All the children appeared to be fully engaged and often requested activities to be repeated for the next day, claiming that "it's super fun." One child even said, "This

is the best Summer Camp ever." All children looked forward to being nominated for the star of the week and took on supportive roles such as tidying up and making positive friendships with other children who were playing alone.

We provided daily meals that met school food standards and complied with food preparation regulations. Parents gave us positive feedback on how the outdoor setup was arranged, with many asking for food recipes as they enjoyed the healthy snack bags each child received on their way home. We also had the opportunity for 13 children and young people from the Pembury Community Centre's summer activities to participate in the carnival arts and outdoor activities.

Parents were pleased that there were activities related to healthy eating and where to get advice. This year, we had a diverse group of children, which worked very well in creating inclusivity in our program. A total of 95 children registered over the 16 days, 67 of whom were receiving free school meals (FSMs), and 28 were non-FSMs.

We utilised the funding to provide resources for the summer holiday program, aimed at promoting a healthier, more active, character-building and engaging summer holiday for the children. Our program was supported by a professional SEND/youth sports trainer who is highly skilled and qualified in sports science. This ensured that the children received the following benefits:

- Improved healthy lifestyle

- Increased well-being

We had a successful summer camp program where children and young people were able to meet physical activity guidelines, engage in daily exercise, and have fun outdoors despite the pandemic restrictions that limited their outdoor playtime. However, we are seeking financial support to provide an even better experience for our attendees in the future. This will enable us to cover the cost of staffing and resources while also finding a larger building to accommodate a growing number of children.

As the number of children attending our camp increased, we had to employ more staff to ensure the appropriate staff-to-camper ratio. We also noticed that many children required one-on-one support, especially those with additional needs. The positive feedback we received from parents confirmed the importance of our summer camp in the community.

We found that play activities and a quiet zone supported by adults were crucial for our campers. However, due to the high number of children with additional needs, we needed more resources to support them. Many parents also needed to declare areas where their child required extra support, and we had to manage challenging behaviours.

We communicated regularly with all registered parents and asked critical questions to ensure that each child received quality care from us. We also took on children who were not on free school meals to support their families during this challenging year. In the future, we hope to provide free meals and excellent creative activities for all children.

Community activities and events:

Movement and Dance:

Weekly Soca Aerobics Dance Fitness is a fun way for community members to engage in energetic dance and fitness activities.

Weekly children's and young people's dance sessions are designed specifically for them.

Weekly Adults Dance (18+): Dance sessions tailored for 80 adults aged 18 and above.

Sound & Skills:

Weekly DJ & Skills: 30 participants. Regular sessions to develop DJ skills and musical talents.

Carnival Arts Community Masterclass: Offering a masterclass to the community, providing insights and hands-on experiences in carnival arts.

Costume design, eight sessions, 60 participants: A series of workshops is offered to provide participants with a comprehensive learning experience on creating carnival costumes.

Workshops and Creative Sessions:

Customise carnival-related items, focusing on white AF1 trainers in three sessions, each with 30 participants.

The T-Shirt Printing Fun Mas Workshop consisted of three sessions with 20 participants. During these sessions, attendees could personalise their T-shirts by creating a 3D design using various art materials.

Community Small-themed Scale Sculpture Exhibition/Performance Piece: A community-themed sculpture exhibition or performance piece created by ten participants.

Collaborative Events and Programs:

Cultural Family Fun Day (June-August 2022): A family-oriented event during the summer, offering discounted tickets for 50 Hackney residents and various activities.

Black History Month Exhibition (October-November 2022): Free tickets for 156 Hackney residents to attend the exhibition and workshop sessions to celebrate Black History Month.

These projects generated interest from local audiences and young creatives, as well as industry professionals, indicating a demand for similar future events. The activities have positively impacted our community outreach and partnership management and development.

We aim to continue delivering free creative activities for local young people and world-class theatre to our local audiences. We partnered with local organisations Foreign Affairs, Mill Co. / Rose Lipman Building, and Centre 151, and international cultural organisations Flanders Literature and the Diplomatic Representation of Flanders, supported by the Hello Again, Hackney Fund, to bring world-class theatre and creative experiences to the heart of De Beauvoir. Foreign Affairs presented a mini-theatre festival where audiences experienced plays from Finland, Denmark, France, and Spain in new English translations in their evening of international theatre, an 'intro to theatre translation' workshop, workshops for local creatives, and a free theatre-making workshop program for local young people (18-30), all at our base - the Rose Lipman building.

In the autumn, Foreign Affairs proudly presented a two-week run of *The Wetsuitman* by Freek Mariën, translated by David McKay, reaching 500+ people (also at RLB), which received a five-star review and fantastic audience responses.

Tropical Isles and Foreign Affairs provided 935 discounted activities for Hackney residents, involving children and young people. These activities brought world-class art, theatre, and creative practices to the building, animating the space and creating a vibrant cultural atmosphere. The program included a variety of workshops and events designed to engage local children, young people, and residents throughout the year. The approach to regeneration was holistic, focusing on physical, economic, cultural, and social aspects, with the aim of creating better places for residents.

List of recent events that were attended or organised by the Tropical Isles artistic team.

- Tropical Isles' Managing Artistic Director participated as a panellist in the Dance & Outdoors Symposium, which was a digital conference.
- Tropical Isles' managing artistic director is responsible for organising and delivering the Hackney Empire Carnival Gala
- Part of the "Hello Again Hackney" campaign photos
- Participation in the Notting Hill Carnival.
- Collaborated with Hackney Council staff to organise the Hackney Carnival online event, which took place at Shoreditch Town Hall.
- Dance group was invited by John Lewis Stratford Store to participate in Black History Month.
- Became Dance partnered with Nike London Dance to deliver a performance on Oxford Street.
- Provided themed Freedom Calling costumes at the Windrush Exhibition at the Queen's Park and North Kensington Libraries.
- Provided themed costumes for Freedom Calling and organised the Windrush Generation Exhibition at Westminster City Council, located at 64 Victoria Street.

Financial review

The Charity's financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023 shows a net deficit of (£26,613) - 2022:£13,430.

Reserve policy

The trustees have established that unrestricted reserves should be between 3 and 6 months of expenditure. These reserves are required should there be a reduction in funding of financial resources. The current level of reserves has not met this target and strategies have been put in place to meet this target in the next three years.

Special Acknowledgement

The trustees express their gratitude towards the support received from funders, individuals, and other community organisations. Their unwavering support has enabled us to reach our current stage of development. We are particularly thankful to all the funders who have helped us in developing our young people and our organisation. The trustees also acknowledge the contributions of the management committee, staff, and volunteers who have shown exceptional work, devotion, and loyalty towards our cause.

We would like to extend a big thank you to all our staff, freelance artists, industry mentors, mentors, case officers, volunteers, participants, funders, and stakeholders for their continued support.

Looking forward to the future

Engaging more and new participants to achieve and have fun. Suitable quality activities are about giving all the young people the experience to be involved fully and to continue to provide purposeful, positive activities popular with young people and ensuring they enjoy their experience and have lots of fun. Making these opportunities available for the participants by providing free activities is very important.

We have a very good and excellent working relationship with the Art Council of England, our key major funder, our Local Authority, the London borough of Hackney, the Hackney Cultural Team and Young Hackney. Tropical Isles will be able to continue with the programme as Tropical Isles premises are now based at the Rose Lipman Building Hackney N1.

This was a very challenging year for us all and we are happy to announce that Tropical Isles joins the Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation 2023-26 Investment Programme, Raising the profile of emerging carnival artists.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board meets yearly and the management committee monthly; there are a number of sub-committees covering finance, fundraising and specific projects. The charity has a close relationship with Hackney Community Voluntary Services, which provides assistance and advice to safeguarding and business matters.

Governing Documents

The organisation became a charitable company by its constitution on 6th December 2001, which was further amended on 7th February 2002

Charity

The organisation was registered with the Charity Commission on 26th February 2002. Registration number is 1090798.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee

The organisation shall have a Management Committee comprising not less than three and not more than fifteen persons as follows:

- Not more than ten persons elected by the membership at the annual general meeting and
- In addition, the management committee shall have the power to co-opt up to two persons who need not be members of the organisation for their specialist skills and or knowledge of the Management Committee

Organisation Structure

The trustees ensure that our organisation has a clear strategy, are responsible for the governance of the organisation in line with our stated vision, and keep a check on the organisation's finances and activities. With an active management committee, which meets once a month, as well as informal weekly meetings, the committee has a designated treasurer and active chair; the management committee's role is to give guidance and direction and report back to the trustees.

The artistic Director works with a team of two seasonal staff and a part-time assistant artistic director to ensure that the charity develops and delivers quality services for its service users in our care.

Related Parties and co-operation with other organisations.

None of the trustees received any remuneration or other benefits for their work with the charity. Any connections between a trustee or senior manager of the charity must be disclosed at a full board meeting of trustees in the same way other contractual relationships with the contracted party. In the current year, no such related party transactions were reported.

Tropical Isles has members who are related.

The amount due to Marva Antoine at the end of the financial year was £17,336 (2022 £2,336)

Risk Management

The trustees have a risk management strategy, which comprises

- The trustees actively review the risks which the charitable company faces on a regular annual basis.
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plans and the implementation of procedures designed to minimise potential impact on the charity should those risks materialised.
- This work has identified that financial sustainability is a significant financial risk for the charity.
- The charity also purchased a range of insurance

Trustees' induction and training

Where there is a need for new Trustees, these will be identified and appointed by the current Trustees. At present, there are three Trustees and five Committee Members (MC). New Trustees are provided with an MC Induction Pack and are given appropriate training relating to their role and function.

Report of the Trustees

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with Applicable Law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The Law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the Trust Deed required the Trustees to prepare financial Statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resource and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity from that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statement on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and, hence, for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Accountants

The accountants, Allen Robyn & Associates Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on 24th January 2024.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES:

Deirdre Scantlebury

TRUSTEE

Report of the Independent Examiner

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

I report on the Financial Statements of the Tropical Isles for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are on pages 16-17 and Notes to the Financial Statements on Pages 18-21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011(The 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit. Consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Rolston Allen FCCA

Chartered Certified Accountant

Allen Robyn & Associates Limited

London N7 9DQ

Approved on 30th January 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	NOTES	2023	2022
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Income	2	89,933	202,938
Total Incoming resources from generated funds		89,933	202,938
Total INCOMING RESOURCES		89,933	202,938
Resources Expended			
Charitable Activities	3	109,592	152,020
Support Costs	4	5,157	35,089
Governance Costs	5	1,800	2,400
Total Resources Expended		116,549	189,509
(Deficit)/Excess Resources		(26,616)	13,429
Bank Interest			
Interest Income		3	1
Total Bank Interest		3	1
(Deficit)/Surplus income after Other Income		(26,613)	13,430
Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the Year		(26,613)	13,430

Statement of Financial Position

Tropical Isles

As at 31 March 2023

	NOTES	31 MAR 2023	31 MAR 2022
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	6	1,630	2,941
Total Fixed Assets		1,630	2,941
Current assets			
Debtors		-	2,394
Cash at bank and in hand		2,170	16,501
Total Current assets		2,170	18,895
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors	7	22,658	14,081
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		22,658	14,081
Net current assets (liabilities)		(20,488)	4,814
Total assets less (current liabilities)		(18,858)	7,755
Net Assets		(18,858)	7,755
Funds			
Restricted Fund	8	(23,447)	3,166
Unrestricted Fund	8	4,589	4,589
Total Funds		(18,858)	7,755

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 24th January 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Miss Deirdre Scantlebury - Trustee

.....
Mr Jeffery St. Jean - Trustee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Section 1A applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2016.

Tropical Isles meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Investment Income

Investment income consists of net interest received during the year and accounted for as unrestricted funds.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category; where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Charitable activities

Costs of charitable activities are those costs relating to the activities carried out to meet the objectives of the nursery. These include both directly attributable costs and apportioned support costs.

Governance costs

Governance costs are the costs associated with the strategic direction of the organisation with meeting regulatory responsibilities, including apportioned support costs.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Office Equipment	25%
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Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

	2023	2022
2. Income		
Art Council		
Cultural Recovery Fund 2	-	(75,000)
ACE Project Grant	(10,000)	-
Arts Council - Grants for the Arts	-	(24,162)
Total Art Council	(10,000)	(99,162)
Local Authority		
LB Hackney - YOF	-	(300)
LB Hackney - Carnival	-	(17,000)
LBH Business Recovery Grant	-	(10,000)
LB Hackney - DYH	-	(22,664)
LB Hackney Main Grant	(14,660)	(31,622)
LB Hackney - HAF	(25,240)	(7,840)
Total Local Authority	(39,900)	(89,426)
Donations		
Costumes & Accessories income	(145)	-
jack Petchey Foundation	(900)	(1,850)
Donations	(3,402)	(2,500)
Gifts and Donations	(3,750)	-
Awards For All Lottery Grant	(9,912)	-
Voice for Change	-	(10,000)
Costumes	(21,924)	-
Total Donations	(40,033)	(14,350)
Total Income	(89,933)	(202,938)
	2023	2022

3. Charitable Activities

Vehicle / Coach Hire	6,745	288
Volunteers Expenses	1,863	1,984
Salaries / ENIC	53,853	93,202
Refreshments / Catering	-	1,975
Room/Studio/Venue Hire	17,468	18,042
Equipments / Catering	4,277	7,733
Equipment / PA Hire	2,800	3,956
Accessories/Materials	13,573	13,837
Travel / Accommodations	30	447
Sessional/Freelance Fees	8,983	10,556
Total Charitable Activities	109,592	152,020

	2023	2022
4. Supporting Costs		
Operational Costs	529	11,910
Insurance	1,027	-
Marketing / PR	487	4,230
Membership and Subscriptions	-	25
Professional Fees	671	18,691
Repairs & Maintenance	2,395	-
Stationery and Printing costs	48	-
Other	-	234
Total Supporting Costs	5,157	35,089

	2023	2022
5. Governance Cost		
Examiner Fee	1,800	2,400
Total Governance Cost	1,800	2,400

	2023	2022
6. Tangible Assets		
Office equipment		
Cost		
Opening Balance	5,241	3,067
Office Equipment - addition	-	2,174
Total Cost	5,241	5,241
Depreciation		
Opening Balance	(2,300)	(1,534)
Office Equip depreciation charge	(1,311)	(136)
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Office Equipment	-	(631)
Total Depreciation	(3,611)	(2,300)
Total Office equipment	1,630	2,941
Total Tangible Assets	1,630	2,941

	2023	2022
7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Short Term Loan Account	(17,336)	(2,336)
Accruals	(1,200)	(1,200)
Rounding	-	-
PAYE Payable	247	(5,065)
Outstanding Wages	(4,369)	(5,479)
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(22,658)	(14,081)

	2023	2022
8. Movement in Funds		
Restricted Funds		
Balance brought forward		
Restricted Funds	7,868	7,868
Retained Earnings	(4,702)	(18,132)
Total Balance brought forward	3,166	(10,264)
(Deficit)/Surplus		
Current Year Earnings	(26,613)	13,430
Total (Deficit)/Surplus	(26,613)	13,430
Total Restricted Funds	(23,447)	3,166
Unrestricted Funds		
Balance brought forward		
Unrestricted Funds	4,589	4,589
Total Balance brought forward	4,589	4,589
Total Unrestricted Funds	4,589	4,589
Total Movement in Funds	(18,858)	7,755

Detailed Incoming and Outgoings

Tropical Isles

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	NOTES	2023	2022
Incoming			
Arts Council		10,000	99,162
Local Council		39,900	89,426
Donations		40,033	14,350
Total Incoming		89,933	202,938
Gross Profit			
		89,933	202,938
Outgoings			
Expenditures			
Charitable activities			
Sessional/Freelance Fees		8,983	10,556
Travel / Accommodations		30	447
Accessories/Materials		13,573	13,837
Equipment / PA Hire		2,800	3,956
Equipments / Catering		4,277	7,733
Refreshments / Catering		-	1,975
Room/Studio/Venue Hire		17,468	18,042
Salaries / ENIC		53,853	93,202
Vehicle / Coach Hire		6,745	288
Volunteers Expenses		1,863	1,984
Total Charitable activities		109,592	152,020
Support costs			
Operational Costs		529	11,910
Insurance		1,027	-
Marketing / PR		487	4,230
Membership and Subscriptions		-	25
Professional Fees		671	18,691
Repairs & Maintenance		2,395	-
Stationery and Printing costs		48	-
Other		-	234
Total Support costs		5,157	35,089
Governance cost			
Examiner Fee		1,800	2,400
Total Governance cost		1,800	2,400
Total Expenditure		116,549	189,509
(Deficit)/Surplus before interest		(26,616)	13,429
Bank Interest			
Interest Income		3	1
Total Bank Interest		3	1

	NOTES	2023	2022
(Deficit)/Surplus after interest		(26,613)	13,430
Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the year		(26,613)	13,430

TROPICAL ISLES

England & Wales - Charity number 1090798

Accounts

TROPICAL ISLES

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

Charity Registration No: 1090798

TROPICAL ISLES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

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TROPICAL ISLES
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Charity Registration Number	1090798
Trustees	Ms Deirdre Scantlebury Mr Jeffery St. Jean Miss Peggy McKenzie
Management Committee	Ms (Deirdre Scantlebury (Chair) Mrs Peggy McKenzie (Treasurer & Trustee) Signatory Ms Stephanie Radford (Youth representative Marva Antonine (Managing Artistic Director) Signatory
Staff	Ms Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director) Ms Stephanie Antoine (Artistic Director) Mr Tariq Lee (Artistic Assistant)
Registered Office	The Rose Lipman Building 43 Beauvoir Road London N1 5SQ
Independent Examiner	Rolston Allen FCCA Allen Robyn & Associates Limited Chartered Certified Accountants London N7 9DQ
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TROPICAL ISLES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2022.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) The reference and administration set out below forms part of this report and the financial statement comply with current requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2015.

Charity's Objectives and Activities:

A. To advance the education of the public in particular but not exclusively children in the arts (meaning creative and performing arts) or any other arts provided in each case they are recognized cultural, aesthetic or educational value, culture and traditional values of the African Caribbean community

B. To foster, promote and increase public interest in the arts, and in particular the active encouragement and development of children in to the cultural and social heritage of the African Caribbean community, and subjects of artistic merit so that the development of good relationships between persons of different racial groups might be promoted and the contribution which a multi-Racial community has to make to society might be enhanced, especially but not exclusively in the London Borough of Hackney and surrounding areas.

About us

Tropical Isles is a registered Charity which aims to develop its participation events programme by providing year-round carnival arts and educational art after-school activities, with a specific focus on developing enhancing skills and talents of disadvantaged children and young people who may be at risk. Tropical Isles is an ambitious and fast-growing organization determined to enhance the educational outlook of children and young people growing up in deprived areas of Hackney. This work supports young people 's abilities to achieve in the formal school curriculum while giving them the chance to work on professionally produced creative products in an unconventional learning environment.

Aims and Objectives:

- To develop the capacity of Tropical Isles staff, volunteers and mentors to secure funding tenders and commissions, develop the quality and scale of our programmes and achieve excellence in the delivery of our activities
- To develop children and young people's literacy, confidence, and resilience. We do this by giving them extra personalized attention in an unconventional learning environment and giving them the opportunity to work on real-world creative art and production and performances long side local professionals.
- To work with our Youth Forum to document and disseminate good practice in the design, development, and execution of youth-led carnival arts products and events
- Develop partnerships and joint working arrangements with diverse community organizations in London, UK and across the world as part of cultural exchange and appreciation
- To build on Tropical Isles reputation as a leading organization in London's Carnival Arts sector; developing our role as key lead artists

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

Tropical Isles is committed to delivering ground-breaking, multi-disciplinary art projects that offer new perspectives on our daily lives, provoking debate and encourage constructive change and social progress.

Our artistic activities described below focuses on bringing the arts to the community of our Borough. Our youth engagement programme focus on skills development, production, performance, and leadership skills on aspects of carnival arts craft and dance. Whilst we will continue to work to engage as wide an audience as possible, our energy and resources will be directed over the next three years at the following:

- Deepening the level of community engagement in our projects and delivering projects that transform lives
- Growing the Tropical Isles brand and public awareness of our work
- Brokering international projects
- Working with communities in areas which have particularly low levels of participation in arts and culture, and low provision of cultural infrastructure
- Working in a collaborative, partnership way and extending the Tropical Isles network
- Who used and benefited from our services

Safeguarding

Tropical Isles is aware of the important role current legal requirements, national policies and guidance on health and safety and promoting the well-being of children and young people and their implications for the years, schools, and community setting. Through a range of effective policies and procedure the organisation outlines the fundamental role in keeping children and young people healthy and safe and promoting well-being. The organisation team are up to date with current legislation o child protection and safeguarding procedures.

At Tropical Isles, we aim to keep children and young people safe by adopting the highest possible standards and taking all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from harm. We undergo relevant training regarding promoting child protection and safeguarding issues.

Tropical Isles has a clear and effective policies and procedures in place that explore in-depth the necessary documentation.

Achievement & Performances

Arts Council England Cultural Recovery Fund Round 2

Tropical Isles Transition Programme.

The second round of awards will help organisations look ahead to the spring and summer and plan for reopening and recovery. After months of closures and cancellations to contain the virus and save lives, this funding will be a much needed helping hand for organisations transitioning back to normal in the months ahead.

With Covid restrictions easing over the past few months, Tropical Isles returned to in-person delivery of activities. Covid security remains a priority. We continue to update our Covid risk assessments and take them into account, working in bigger groups and enhancing cleaning & social distancing.

"We are all so excited. What an overwhelming opportunity! The lockdowns have so hard-hit children and young people, and it is vital to provide opportunities for them to learn and develop their creativity amongst other people their age.

This grant allows us to sustain our core activities and provide progression opportunities for the children and young people we have worked with between January and March this year. It will also allow us to expand the programme to more children and young people, developing their skills in producing ideas for carnival outfits, costume making and dance.

The funding enables us to launch a series of creative masterclass workshops we have developed during

the lockdown. The masterclasses include choreography, mask construction and costume design, working with professional industry artists to exhibit the finished pieces in an exhibition space both online and eventually within a natural carnival setting."

Before we were due to open our venue doors, we had to relocate due to the asbestos removal. We were able to extend our artist's development activities to a new temporary location.

We could now keep our fixed overhead low. We did not need to furlough any members or make any staffing redundancies.

Six professional artists continued to engage with 112+ children & young people, individual beneficiaries over the period and, through a variety of partners, started to deliver a range of exciting sessions for young people, including the DJ & Sound Skills project at The Halley, sessions with ballet dancer Eric Underwood.

In the lead-up to the Easter and Summer Carnival Camp holidays activities and producing the Hackney Carnival Gala alongside over 350+ professional artists and performers in the Hackney Empire. Tropical Isles continue to make grand carnival creative arts through master's class in costume design 3Dkinetics Kings and Queens.

Our reopening helped us support our professional development in our digital media, which is high-quality engagement and had an outstanding social media reach of 12576+ on Facebook and Instagram as we improved our digital artistic capabilities.

June received excellent feedback from our participants. Fascinating outcomes such as "90% of CYP have a clear plan to build upon a specific range of skills and attributes they wish to develop that furthers their chances of progression in their area of interest" impact long-term commissioning for the future.

April-June 21 will enable us to realise our ideas through creating a series of creative masterclass workshops (Choreography, Mas Construction and costume design) to exhibit the finished pieces within an exhibition space (on and offline) and eventually within a natural carnival setting and commissioning. Reopening, enhancing our offer in workshops, rehearsal spaces, to commissioning artists. Producing the Hackney Carnival Gala in the Hackney Empire with other artists allows us to create an open platform for artists to continue delivering their work.

Our commitment to educational/outreach work has created new commissions in schools, estate-led organisational partnerships for 2022-2024

DfE funded Holiday Activities and Food programme.

The programme aims to provide children and young people eligible for Free School Meal vouchers the opportunity to participate in free holiday activities. As a result of this programme, children who attend this provision began to:

- Eat more healthily over the school holidays.
- Be more active during the school holidays.
- Participate in engaging and enriching activities that support the development of resilience, character and well-being and their wider educational attainment.
- Be safe and not be socially isolated.
- Have more excellent knowledge of health and nutrition
- Be more engaged with school and other local services.

Whilst providing all the fantastic, enriching, educational and friendly fun activities contributing to health and well-being for young people and families. Although it's the holidays of 27th July and 19th August 21, it is nice to know that we can provide access to healthy free meals. We were also happy to provide healthy nutritional meals for 60 children and young people during this period and free meals for 50 FSM families to support low-income families during the school term. Ensuring the most disadvantaged children within the community can receive a free and nutritious meal each day, helping them concentrate, learn and achieve. We will also offer nutritional eating programs and put together information on health and nutrition.

From our previous Easter programme, we offered wrap-around 4 hours sessions for those children and young people who came in just before lunch and had the opportunity to have still the 4 hours of engagement activities between 10.30 am – 5.30 pm.

The summer holiday program supports providing a healthier, active, character-building, engaging summer holiday. The funding will be used to comfortably offer resources for 60 children and young people, of which 50 will receive FSMs. Activities will cover science, carnival arts and craft, sports and free flow play outdoor games.

The fund supported the professional youth sports trainer who is exceptionally skilled and qualified in sports science to ensure that young people get the following:

- Improve a healthy lifestyle.
- Contribute to health and well-being by meeting the physical activity guidelines.
- Prevention of Medical conditions
- SEND children and young people engagement
- Children with Special Educational Needs engagement

It also enables us to provide an opportunity for six qualified paid staff members and Advance DBS to ensure we have the best service for the children and youth program and individuals. We are building a duty of care to the community, supporting each young person taking part with a tailored approach to each individual whilst implementing equality and diversity in the group. We aim for our trusted staff to encourage each young person to engage with everyone and socially include themselves in all the great activities we have available. We are fostering resilience, character, and well-being along with their more comprehensive education. Ensuring safeguarding and risk assessments are adhered to and maintaining covid-19 regulations.

We engaged with more schools and local services as we continued to grow our outreach through the community.

1. What activities did you deliver?

At our Easter programme, we delivered Arts & crafts, Dance, Sports activities and games, Science, Healthy Eating and Storytime.

2. What activities were most successful?

Science (STEM) had loads of laughter. All the children seemed very well engaged and showed excitement throughout. There was a lot of teamwork and showing interest in their experiment. The cooking was also very successful – the young people enjoyed decorating biscuits for themselves and their loved ones. They got creative! Collectively, the majority of the children enjoyed all of the activities. Some of their favourites were science, dance, and cooking.

3. What activities were the least successful?

During lunchtime, children would finish eating at different times. It would have been great if we had a lunchtime activity for the children waiting on the other children to finish their food, such as board games, table tennis, and cards.

4. What changes would you make if you were running another programme in the summer?

If we were to run another programme in summer, we would make some additional changes to the sports activity. We want a wider variety of sports equipment for circuit training, skipping ropes, bats and balls, floor mats, stop clocks, hoops, balls etc. More sports equipment and more outdoor sessions would be something we would like to add on.

5. What feedback have you had from young people and parents/carers?

From the survey we carried out at the end of the project, we received terrific, encouraging feedback. Parents/Carers mentioned how happy the children returned from the sessions and are already looking forward to the next one. One parent said she was surprised her child ate lunch with us. Although it was

healthy, it was tasty! All the children expressed how friendly everyone was to each other, and mum said, "thank you very much, he has come out beaming" another said it was "well facilitated and educational" for us feedback.

Funding was available again for the summer holidays. We provided 4 hours of activity four days a week for four weeks, including a daily meal (that meets school food standards,) 1 hour of daily physical activity, enriching activities, and nutritional education.

The programme aims to provide young people eligible for Free School Meal vouchers the opportunity to participate in free holiday activities. As a result of this programme, we want children who attend this provision to:

- Eat more healthily over the school holidays.
- Be more active during the school holidays.
- Please Participate in engaging and enriching activities that support the development of resilience, character, and well-being with their wider educational attainment.
- Be safe and not be socially isolated.
- Have more excellent knowledge of health and nutrition
- Be more engaged with school and other local services.

Hackney Main Grant and Specialist 2nd year A place for Everyone.

October started positively, and we had new members join our sessions which increased by 40% compared to other term time in 2020. From the summer sessions, we started with 42 participants. In total Q3 and Q4, our participants ranged from 24, were under 16 years, 13, 16-17 years, and 13, 18-24 years across six months, where the participation of predominate 23 females and 23 males increased by 35% between the ages of 16-18 years. Through October, we registered 50 young people across the eight weeks between the ages of 12 years – 24 years who would attend twice a week for dance and music sessions and costume making.

We were delighted to create more opportunities to employ more staff, which expanded our resources to effectively monitor the small groups and keep in with the social distancing guidelines. We extended our office space to facilitate practical engagement activities by converting two big rooms into five small hire music cubicles.

Temperature checks were taken, and contact details were provided before each session started. Hand sanitiser was placed before entering the building, whilst a face mask was compulsory for them to attend. We offered a free face mask for individuals who didn't have one with them, including a one-route entry and exit system.

November was the start of the second lockdown, and we, unfortunately, had to close the sessions and activities. However, due to the impact of the national lockdown, tiny bubbles were created for vulnerable young people to provide adequate support during the tough times alongside online line sessions, support and activities.

This time, our online engagement diverted to being more creative and discussing how Covid19 has impacted young people and their families. Zoom WhatsApp support groups had to be more innovative.

During the lockdown, we stayed open and supported several young people who needed a space to get guidance and family relief.

Each week while the website was updated, we used our Instagram channel to engage in activities at home and set tasks for the participants.

Although our programme was for three days a week, we agreed to continue to offer support whenever a young person called or sent us a message. Tropical Isles needed that continuity to support those seeking

to be ready for when Covid had eased.

Many young people do not claim Universal Credit, which is a future concern for those seeking work but not using the help the Government has put in place to financially support them during these challenging times and the tools they provide to assist with job-seeking. A disadvantage we experienced was that it was challenging to offer employment and training sessions, as everyone had to stay home. In the meantime, we have been speaking to them about the Kick Start Programme and getting their CV ready for the opportunity.

Delivery of outreach activities due to the government Covid-19 lockdown and feedback guidance from the National Youth Agency (NYA) webinars, it was advised to refrain from doing any outreach activities. In January, we could only work in tiny bubbles of 6 participants at any given time for our onsite sessions, creating 1-2-1 sessions.

The development of creative activities to support participants affected by the Covid-19 meeting was limited as we were asked to stay home. Many registered participants could not attend any meetings virtually due to being unwell.

Transitioning to a blended online and in-person delivery offer, we wanted to develop an agile programme to sustain and grow our reach and engagement with Hackney-based young people and families.

The work produced has formed the basis of an ideation stage for how coming out of lockdown will be celebrated in 2021 and creating a blueprint for our delivery framework. We intend to widen our artist mentoring pool by testing new methodologies in running participatory carnival arts practice that best uses in-person and online resources.

Understanding our existing participants and areas of growth and scalability will enable us to create a participant's development plan that focuses on the organisation's delivery and redeploys resources to the most impactful areas, and ensures more excellent social value.

Lastly, due to covid, acquiring a clear strategic plan and participant development and marketing strategy enable us to set a clear set of success measures that form the basis of an evaluation framework to keep us on track.

As part of our business continuity plan, we have built-in Covid-19 contingencies to enable us to respond and adapt to fluctuations in Government safeguarding guidelines. We have produced a Covid-19 risk assessment to mitigate financial and operational risks.

We continue to extend our reach and engagement by retaining relationships with essential council services that signpost our services to children and families most adversely impacted by COVID-19.

Tropical Isles reached out to its WhatsApp support group (32 members, 6 years - 70 years and individuals and family members with young children) & our Instagram page (Music/dance group 44 young people aged 13 years -24 years). We have a waiting list of 100+ for the music and dance workshops, and we are keeping in touch and getting them to do some research for suitable music and dance moves.

We are looking at resources to bring in additional staff time for the case mentor (caseworker) to support our young people who may now be facing challenging times during the lockdown process and will require more support to achieve their ambitions, developmental goal and well-being.

The Tropical Isles programme is designed to build employability skills. It'll require both caseworker's intervention support and group work, where young people need to negotiate ideas, roles and responsibilities, as well as independent, self-directed learning, where they'll take on leadership roles such as supporting their peers. Creative risk-taking and having ideas rejected by the group are all part of the creative process. Using negotiation, listening skills, problem solving, adaptability, patience and empathy

towards others will develop social and emotional resilience, which is key to coping at work. We aim for young people to be supported once the lockdown has been eased and we are set to reopen.

During the lockdown, one of the young people, just 16 years asked if we could have a session on healthy eating since Marcus Rashford got the Government to support free school meals during the summer. In this opportunity, we find that many of the young people's parents were getting their food from the food banks, and it was well-received to see a young person in the kitchen explaining how to prepare a meal. It was good that the grant could be used to address the Covid impact on our young people and their families' challenges.

We have reassessed Tropical Isles' business model and creative programme in light of Covid-19 and beyond. Our overarching outcome is to become a more agile and resilient organisation, aligning structural, cultural, and strategic realities to our ever-evolving climate.

Reopening

The case worker can provide tailored help to participants in making informed decisions and a supported transition to staying/re-engaging with school, further education, employment, or training through 1:1 session, c.v and interview technique workshops on a needs-led basis.

This costing is based on our pre-Covid operating capacity with the anticipation that we will progress from an entirely online offer to a blended offering of online and in-person delivery to a fully operating in-person programme. We expect that whilst Government Safeguarding guidelines will have been somewhat relaxed by June '21. We continue to ensure our venue exercises additional Covid-19 safeguarding measures concerning cleaning protocols within the facilities, including the sharing and use of equipment and materials and within the format of our sessions concerning capacities and physical contact during classes.

A full COVID-19 risk assessment will be employed that covers operations and session plans that will be adapted accordingly.

Providing 54 CYP with a tangible outcome over April '21 -March '22 is critical to maintaining motivation and commitment whilst bolstering their cultural and mental well-being during a time when many will have experienced considerable disruption to their home and school life, with elevated risks of anxiety and depression.

Working towards a Carnival exhibition/performance will bring children, families and communities together that is uplifting and forward-facing in light of the new vaccine being rolled out. We have already been in consultation with Hackney Council, who are optimistic about producing some form of public carnival celebration later in the year.

Our plans provide value for money as it will employ young artists with employment, directly build the personal, social, and technical skills of 100 children and young people, and indirectly the well-being of their friends and family.

The outcome of this work to date has enabled the team to identify financial efficiencies such as new partnerships and income-generating opportunities through engaging diverse young people across the borough.

During the first lockdown, we built our digital capabilities, which enabled us to test and explore the delivery of both pre-recorded and live-streamed sessions to children, young people and families. We

also looked at how we could address digital poverty within some households by sending out art packs to 50 CYP and scheduling 1:1 slots within our venue so that participants can access necessary equipment. As the summer progressed and lockdown measures relaxed in June, we further adapted our online offer to a blended online and in-person delivery programme, which allowed small capacity sessions (i.e. bubbles).

This has given us a good grounding in what works concerning both online sessions and what further measures we need to take to maximise our ability to operate from our venue at increased capacity and look at the new KickStart Program to support our service users seeking employment opportunities. We will continue to inspire the CYP by providing them with the resources they need to become advocates for their inner selves and the community and pride in our duty to protect and empower families within the community.

Voice for Change Sports England

In 2021 we received from the Voice4Change England Covid-19 Partnership Fund, with Sport England funding.

Tropical Isles Wellbeing Project

The coronavirus Pandemic throws many unforeseen challenges in the works for everyone but even more so for families in the underrepresented.

This project promoted fitness, dance, and movement, where we focused on health and well-being, increasing confidence, life skills, and self-sufficiency.

Sixty participants of 6 years, with the oldest being 78, registered.

95% of our participants were from low-income families due to the pandemic; many claimed Universal Credit.

Exercise/ Movement and dance Implementing 14 weeks (1-day x 1 hour) weeks of 1-1 mentoring sessions to begin breaking down physical and emotional barriers our individuals are currently facing difficulties due to Covid-19.

Keep fit tutor, Soca Aerobics and dance sessions for 14 (1-day x 1 hour) weeks.

Introducing 60 children, young people, and their families to our 14-week programme complemented our innovative Sports/Physical Activity, Exercise/ Movement, and dance once a week, followed by a discussion on healthy eating and being accountable activities to initiate the inactive people to come out of their comfort zone.

The outcome includes

- Increased physical activity, health and fitness, reduced obesity levels.
- Increase social skills and greater access to fun activities in a safe environment.
- Increase among the inactive, self-confidence and self-esteem.

Although numbers don't always measure success, we have had new members join from social media and word of mouth. This tells us we are creating a place where children and people wish to invite peers.

- Rise in physical activities (Health & Fitness).
- Increase in social skills.
- Growth in the inactive, self-confidence and self-esteem.

Measuring success and impact

During the 16 weeks, we had 53 participants participating in all the joint activities.

- 100% agreed that they all participated in the 30 minutes exercise.
- 90% had fun and improved their confidence.
- 92% felt they made new friends.
- 90% felt their behaviour changed from week 3 to week 14.

There was an overwhelming response from parents divulging that their children felt seen, heard, and celebrated. The Sports/Physical Activity, Exercise/ Movement and Dance facilitated in a hard-to-reach inner London area were received well by families of young people exposed to being inactive and who do not have access to such beneficial opportunities. Children and young people responded to feedback forms enthused about the safe and exciting space created for them by the charity, which inspired them and built their confidence. The trust aims to build a long-term rapport and support system for the children who visited during the summer, and children and parents alike felt this.

Hackney Carnival commissioning in Hackney Empire

Tropical Isles CEO received their second-year commissioning as one of the shortlisted candidates. Collaborating with a team of experienced experts in delivering the ambitious project that involved curating and producing the heritage of the carnival themes chosen by the groups each year.

We were very excited that we, as the emerging carnival artists and the creative producer, could start creating, designing and making for a long-awaited performance. It was good that the carnival groups could produce this year's carnival story theme being presented by many of our local talented carnival groups.

It was also about engaging different skilled artists, costume designers, storytellers, and dancers.

We also reached an important milestone in showcasing intergenerational, diverse, and disability artists and performers in one shared covid accessible venue.

- How many individual pieces will be made to tell your story or present your theme
- Details of a King or Queen (or both) or medium to giant 3D technical puppetry for your presentation

Suzette Brissett advised choreography to participate in carnival groups and hosts Ms Paigey Cakey and Rhianna.

The impact for the groups was that they wanted to celebrate their work as carnival artists, especially as there was no parade, and if it was not going on the road. We had the opportunity to perform on the iconic stage of the Hackney Empire.

Producing, creating, and waiting for nearly two years was the highlight of the gala.

Band Leaders prepared the members to engage, get involved, and participate in the programme.

Rehearsals and meetings got the members working together.

Responsibility for ownership of share work,

Participants felt that they were excited to be performing in the Hackney Empire.

For many participants, it was their first time in costume, and on the stage, wearing a carnival costume had a get impact as this created a sense of belonging and being a part of an event that they were missing out on cultural engagements.

We are delighted and proud of the outcomes, and we could not have done this without the group's support, commitment, passion, and drive over the last couple of months.

Thirteen groups participated, with over 350 participants, volunteers and helpers on the day. The positive feedback from everyone is that we should have this event annually in the future, as well as the carnival parade.

The online streaming was a great hit. We manage to get over 10670 views. Hackney Carnival Gala 2021 - YouTube

Jack Petchey Achievements and Leadership Awards

Celebrating staff and volunteers who go 'the extra mile to support young people

The Jack Petchey Foundation Leader Awards scheme highlights and recognises the incredible commitment of adults who work with schools and youth organisations and are dedicated to supporting young people. The awards give young people a chance to say 'thank you to these incredible adults.

How Many YP Directly Benefited: 25

Difference Project Made to YP

Throughout the programme, 95% of CYP showed increased skillsets (confidence, self-esteem, resilience) through active roles in the project from inception to production and presentation.

25 children and young people registered for these activities 11-25 years.

All CYP were empowered to make informed choices about their next steps, giving them a stronger voice in their lives and contributing to shaping and developing the organisation and programme.

Energy had increased; this made them ready for physical activity, which was a beneficial factor in influencing a positive attitude.

Outputs:

- 18 young people x 9-25-year-olds attend costume & fashion design or dance sessions during the 12 weeks
- 15 young people, mainly young males x 12-22 years old, regularly participated in the least three Sound and Skills, DJ music workshop sessions
- 23 young people x 15-25 years attended a series of programmes called Carnival arts, fashion and t-shirt printing
- 15 young people x 18-23 years regularly attend at least 90% (of dance, soca Aerobics and exercise sessions. This outcome was crucial for addressing unheard voices, greater independence and building personal resilience. Being aware, we are still going through a pandemic and ensuring the facilities were cleaned, ensuring the children and young people kept to our health and safety guidelines.

Outcomes:

- 90% have increased self-awareness of their skills deficits and the steps they need to further their knowledge by being more active. CYP demonstrate higher competency in self-directed learning.
- 99% of CYP welcomed an open and inclusive environment by holding those new to joining the programme.
CYP demonstrate extraordinary leadership skills in setting and preparing the workspace, ensuring it is accessible to all and making everyone feel included.
- 90% of CYP have a clear plan to build upon a specific range of skills and attributes they wish to develop that further their chances of progression in their area of interest.
- 90% of CYP review and refine their skill through applied learning to achieve the desired effect.

Arts Council England Tropical Isles Organisational Development & Delivery final report.

Throughout the project, we were able to achieve a dual-strand project of delivery and organisational development over six months. We completed the development of running Carnival Arts workshops alongside the engagement and development of audience targets, as well as developing a strategy and applying methods aimed at the business to become more organisations and structured.

The project allowed us to overcome the extreme challenges that we faced due to Covid-19 and also gave us the boost to refresh the organisation's structure and cultural aspects. Tropical Isles continued to support the community, especially for 6 BAME artists, 87 individuals and families, by increasing the value and importance of carnival arts and its impact on well-being.

The project allowed the business to improve in various areas that needed positive change. The workshops with Make Happy allowed us to review how the company and our staff operate.

- To be an influencer in the sector
- To be the public face of our art form
- Secure match funding
- Long-term project commissions 3-4 years
- Financial beneficial commission project
- High-end engagement for community
- Increase Trustees' engagement
- Learning how to communicate.
- Changeling energy into creativity and expression through the art form.
- Social Media Development (Identify a member of the team to manage social media weekly)

Tropical Isles achieved the transition to a blended offer of online and in-person delivery, as this has become paramount to our future programmes.

87 young people participated in costume making, dance, and music, contributing to story content for online engagement. (Some going live on Instagram).

Our survey and collected feedback were very positive and showed a need for an artistic platform for what we have on offer once the lockdown has been eased.

We were providing opportunities to 20 young people who regularly attended and were able to work in tiny bubbles of 6. We had to arrange with each young person to attend the 15 weekly DJ music sessions Sound and Skills. Caribbean Soca was very popular in tiny bubbles, and this workshop went viral, reaching over 3,500 views of all ages.

Tropical Isles also became consultants and supported local carnival organisations and cultural networks, i.e. Carnival Arts Masquerade Foundation 34 memberships.

This enabled has also helped us build a valuable partnership with our local authority and Hackney Council's cultural team in developing the carnival economy part of the strategic cultural legacy for the community and the borough. It elevates artistic value, gives diverse artists the voice and recognition it deserves, and shares best practices.

It has enhanced and built our leadership skills to identify in applying to the Cultural Recovery Fund Round 2 for us to be ready for reopening when the lockdown has been lifted.

The project has supported our organisation to develop to new heights of sustainability and given us recognition as a professional organisation that specialises in a carnival art form which enables us to collaborate with more Carnival leaders and bands as opposed to previously being viewed as a competitor. Additionally, it has helped to ensure the organisation and our activities have the resources

to be resilient and build the capacity to deliver greater.

Making a commitment to longer-term initiatives such as mentoring, creating an accessible offer and environment to support the development of diverse artists and practice

Changeling energy into creativity and expression through an art form.

- Secured match funding
- Long-term project commissions 3-4 years
- Financial beneficial commission project
- High-end engagement for community
- Increase Trustee's engagement
- Encouraging new collaboration
- Social Media Development (Identify a member of the team to manage social media weekly)

We action a Visibility Action Plan.

Allowing us to update and modify the business plan as discussed

- Managing Director to share and discuss the business plan with the team.
- Enable the team to introduce their ideas
- Identify talent within the team and delegate elements of the action plan for them to take forward and own, e.g. social media management.

Tropical Isles' goals are an advantage to the community because it creates opportunities and workshops that result in positive outcomes. Our projects enable possibilities where we develop a diverse range of skills to a high quality that allows us to achieve profound results to date.

We expect that whilst Government Safeguarding guidelines will have been somewhat relaxed by June '21, we will continue to ensure our venue exercises additional Covid-19 safeguarding measures concerning cleaning protocols within the facilities, including the sharing and use of equipment and materials and within the format of our sessions concerning capacities and physical contact during classes.

A full COVID-19 risk assessment has been employed that covers operations and session plans that will be adapted accordingly.

To educate them on the elements of carnival and the life skills they can gain from being a participant. i.e. being a part of a diverse community and learning creative tools such as dance, music, arts and crafts and costume making. The project has contributed to young people's and families health and well-being.

Increase of capacity/reach more young people targeted outreach whilst making investments to remove inequality barriers and become more sustainable and less reliant on government grants.

Further training on providing a well-being package service to businesses for their staff team building and workshops, generating all-year-round sales, and marketing income from costumes and merchandising. And create a creative hub where young people and families can benefit from life skills and creative opportunities.

The longer-term impact the project has had is the continuation of developing potentially 87 young people in the community to develop personal skills/ life skills. It supported the business through covid-19 and allowed us to use the time during the lockdown to redevelop the business structure and incorporate change internally. We retrained, empowered, and facilitated workshops to better our staff skills and shared experiences.

Tropical Isles will now emerge into the corporate industry and be seen as a cultural organisation that supports the development of artistic talent, relating to their needs as artists and a supporting factor to well-being through a carnival art form.

We are reviewing our strengths, weakness, and challenges to refresh our business model.

Ensuring after 20 years, Tropical Isles activities are more robust and have the best financial resources to be resilient and build the capacity to deliver more outstanding work.

Follow-up sessions of 8 days with 'Make Happy' a creative marketing and innovative consultancy, allowed us to create our Visibility Plan to be known who we are.

- Team to manage their responsibility
- To be an influencer for the sector.
- To be the public face of our art form.
- Work in collaboration with new partners and corporate businesses, and creative Industry sector mentors
- Deliver artistic work and cultural experience that uses talent and demonstrates genuine ambition and skill in carnival arts

The programme has also helped us to improve 4 management teams, 13 artists and 3 volunteers' knowledge and skills following a review in the next 6 months.

We now have a clearer understanding of the audience development plan, marketing strategy and visibility plan that will support broader engagement with Tropical Isles in the future.

Marketing is key for participants and audience, especially as a black-led organisation profiling evidence that supports the quality of our work.

Our approach caters to the well-being of Children and Young People(CYP). This ranges from expressing in carnival arts, with the consistency of working with designers, costume making, staging massive choreography, focusing on theatrical performing arts as a factor of expression, in conjunction with our carnival-style movement with elegant bright and colourful carnival costume pieces made by our emerging artists with support from the community and industry professionals.

Our projects enable possibilities where we develop a diverse range of skills to a high quality that allows us to achieve breath-taking and profound results to date.

Tropical Isles is looking to develop and deliver its cultural outcomes yearly programme to young people and emerging artists. We anticipate starting exclusively producing and distributing creative content and experiences digitally via our online in line with current national lockdown restrictions. We will gradually move into a blended offer of in-person and online activity by July 2021.

Other highlight events:

- Dance & Symposium Panellist 8th June
- Artistic Director Organising & Delivering the Hackney Empire Carnival Gala
- "Hello Again Hackney" Campaign photos
- Young Designers Project-Young Hackney
- Waterside School (formerly Hackney New School)

- Milton Keynes Carnival
- Dance workshop with Pembury Community Centre and Black History Month Exhibition
- John Lewis Stratford Store Black History Month
- Nike London Dance Partner Oxford Street
- John Lewis Black History Month.
- Pembury Community Centre term-time dance sessions
- Advert for Britain Got Talent
- St. Peter's Church De Beauvoir Estate Mardi De Gra celebrations
- Milton Keynes 1st August 2021
- Nike Dance workshop and performance

Looking forward to the future

Engaging more and new participants to achieve and have fun. Suitable quality activities are about giving all the young people the experience to be involved fully and to continue to provide purposeful, positive activities popular with young people and ensuring they enjoy their experience and have lots of fun. Making these opportunities available for the participants by providing free activities is very important.

We have a very good and excellent working relationship with the Art Council of England, our key major funder, our Local Authority, the London borough of Hackney, the Hackney Cultural Team and Young Hackney. Tropical Isles will be able to continue with the programme as Tropical Isles premises are now based at the Rose Lipman Building Hackney N1.

This was a very challenging year for us all

Special Acknowledgement

The trustees are grateful for all the support the organisation gets from funders, individuals, and other community organisations. Their extended support made it possible for us to reach our present stage of development. In particular, we are very grateful to all the funders who support the development of our young people and our organisation. The trustees acknowledge the contributions of the management committee, staff, and volunteers, through their work, devotion, and loyalty.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR STAFF, ARTISTS, MENTORS, CASE OFFICER, VOLUNTEERS, PARTICIPANTS, FUNDERS AND STAKE HOLDERS.

Public Benefit Statement

The organisation meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of children's education in the local area and of community development objectives. The trustees have complied with the duty on section 4 of the Charity act 2006 with regards to public benefit guidance published by charities commission.

STUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board meets yearly and the management committee monthly; there are a number of sub-committees covering finance, fundraising and specific projects. The charity has a close relationship with Hackney Community Voluntary Services who provides assistance and advice to safeguarding and business matters.

Governing Documents

The organisation became a charitable company by its constitution on 6th December 2001 which was further amended on 7th February 2002.

Charity

The organisation registered with Charity Commission on 26th February 2002. Register number 1090798.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee

The organisation shall have a Management Committee comprising not less than three and not more than fifteen persons as follows:

- Not more than ten persons elected by the membership at the annual general meeting and
- In addition, the management committee shall have the power to co-opt up to two persons who need not be members of the organisation for their specialist skills and or knowledge of the Management Committee.

Organisation Structure

The trustees ensure that our organisation has a clear strategy and are responsible for the governance of the organisation in line with our stated vision and keeps a check on the organisation finances and activities. With an active management committee, who meet once a month, as well as informal weekly meetings, the committee has a designated treasurer and active chair, the management committees' role is to give guidance and direction and report back to the trustees.

The artistic Director works with the team of two seasonal staff and a part time assistant artistic director to ensure that the charity develops and delivers quality services for its service users in our care.

Related Parties and co-operation with other organisations.

None of the trustees received any remuneration or other benefits for their work with the charity. Any connections between a trustee or senior manager of the charity must be disclosed at a full board meeting of trustees in the same way other contractual relationships with the contracted party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

This is to confirm that Tropical Isles has members who are related:

- The amount due to Marva Antoine at the end of the financial year was £2,336 (2019 £6,836)

Risk Management

The trustees have a risk management strategy, which comprises.

- The trustees actively review the risk, which the charitable company faces on a regular annually basis.
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plans; and the implementations of procedure designed to minimise potential impact on the charity should those risk materialised.
- This work has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the charity.
- The charity also purchases a range of insurance.

Trustees' induction and training.

Where there is a need for to invite new Trustees, these will be identified and appointed by the current Trustees. At present there are three Trustees and five Committee Members (MC). New Trustees are provided with a MC Induction Pack and give appropriate training related to their role and function. The current level of reserves has not met the target and strategies have been put in place to meet this target in the next three years.

Financial review

The Charity's financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022 shows a net surplus in restricted funds of £33,698 (2020: £11,579) and a net deficit £20,267 in unrestricted funds (2021: deficit £7,803)

Reserve policy

The trustees have established that unrestricted reserves should be between 3- and 6-months' expenditure. These reserves are required should there be a consideration reduction in funding of financial resources.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with Applicable Law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice)

The Law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed required the Trustees to prepare financial Statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resource and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity from that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- i. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- ii. Observe the methods and principle in the Charity SORP;
- iii. Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- iv. Prepare the financial statement on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

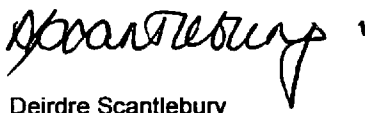
The Trustees are responsible for the keeping proper accounting records which disclosure with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the asset of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

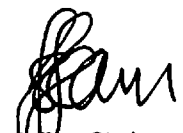
Accountants

The accountants, Allen Robyn & Associates Limited will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on 25th January 2023

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:


Deirdre Scantlebury
TRUSTEE


Jeffery St. Jean
TRUSTEE

**TROPICAL ISLES
INDEPENDENCE EXAMINERS' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

I report on the Financial Statements of the Tropical Isles for the year ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on pages 13-14 and Notes to the Financial Statements on Pages 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011(The 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Rolston Allen FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Allen Robyn & Associates Limited
London N7 9DQ
Approved on 26th January 2023.

TROPICAL ISLES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	Note	2022	2021
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets		2,941	1,534
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank and In Hand		16,500	7,182
Prepayment		2,394	-
		<u>18,894</u>	<u>7,182</u>
Liabilities			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>14,080</u>	<u>14,391</u>
		-	-
Net Current Assets		4,814	7,209
Net Assets		<u>7,755</u>	<u>5,675</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds		-9,770	10,497
Restricted Funds		17,525	16,172
		<u>7,755</u>	<u>5,675</u>

The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees on 25th January 2023 and signed on their behalf by


Deirdre Scantlebury
TRUSTEE


Jeffery St. Jean
TRUSTEE

TROPICAL ISLES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Incoming Resources:				
Arts Council - Grants for the Arts		24,162	24,162	60,945
Cultural Recovery Fund 2		75,000	75,000	-
Donations	2,151	350	2,501	4,023
Jack Petchey Foundation		1,850	1,850	500
LB Hackney - Carnival		17,000	17,000	-
LB Hackney - HAF		7,840	7,840	-
LB Hackney - YOF		300	300	7,176
LB Hackney - DHY		22,664	22,664	7,176
LB Hackney Main Grant		31,622	31,622	44,061
LB Business Recovery Grant		10,000	10,000	-
Voice for Change		10,000	10,000	-
Total Incoming Resources	2,151	200,788	202,939	123,881
Resources Expended				
Room/Studio/Venue Hire	3,000	15,042	18,042	15,575
Marketing/PR	400	3,830	4,230	265
Sessional Fees	0	10,556	10,556	20,977
Accessories/Materials	0	13,837	13,837	3,878
Vehicle/Coach Hire		288	288	-
Travel/Accommodations	32	415	447	-
Membership and Subscriptions	25	234	259	-
Volunteers Expenses	0	1,984	1,984	3,850
Salaries/Employer NI	9,410	83,792	93,202	52,975
Refreshments/Catering	0	9,708	9,708	3,004
Equipment/PA Hire		3,956	3,956	2,320
Operational Costs	3,351	8,558	11,910	8,225
Security Hire		0	0	360
Professional Fees	4,000	14,691	18,691	-
Accountancy and Payroll Fees	2,200	200	2,400	1,500
Total Resources Expended	22,418	167,090	189,509	112,929
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources				
For the Year	-20,267	33,697	13,430	10,952
Balance B/fwd as at 01/04/2021	10,497	-16,172	-5,675	- 9,451
Balance C/fwd as at 31/03/2022	-9,770	17,525	7,755	1,501

None of the charity's activities were acquired or discontinued during the year and there were no recognized gains or losses other than included in the statement of financial activities. The notes on pages 14 form part of the accounts.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Basis of preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historic cost convention and include the result of the charity's operation which is described in the Trustees' Report and all of which are continuing.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice
- Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

All amounts have been rounded up to nearest pound.

2 RESTRICTED FUNDS:

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donors. Expenditure, which meets these criteria, is identified to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

3 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incomes received or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available for general funds.

4 DESIGNATED FUNDS:

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees / Management Committee for particular purposes.

5 INVESTMENT INCOME:

Credit is taken for interest when the interest is accrued on investment

6. LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ON YEAR

	2022	2021
	-	-
Loan	2,336	2,336
	-	-
Other Creditors	11,744	12,055
	-	-
	<u>14,080</u>	<u>14,391</u>

The trustees received no remuneration in the year

TROPICAL ISLES

England & Wales - Charity number 1090798

Accounts

TROPICAL ISLES

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

Charity Registration No: 1090798

TROPICAL ISLES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

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TROPICAL ISLES
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Charity Registration Number	1090798
Trustees	Ms Deirdre Scantlebury Mr Jeffery St. Jean Miss Peggy McKenzie
Management Committee	Ms (Deirdre Scantlebury (Chair) Mrs Peggy McKenzie (Treasurer & Trustee) Signatory Ms Stephanie Radford (Youth representative Marva Antonine (Managing Artistic Director) Signatory
Staff	Ms Marva Antoine (Managing Artistic Director) Ms Stephanie Antoine (Artistic Director) Mr Tariq Lee (Artistic Assistant)
Registered Office	The Rose Lipman Building 43 Beauvoir Road London N1 SSQ
Independent Examiner	Rolston Allen FCCA Allen Robyn & Associates Limited Chartered Certified Accountants London N7 9DQ
Banker	Barclays Bank PLC, Kingsland Holloway & Kingsland Group 3 - 5 Kingsland High Street, London E8

**TROPICAL ISLES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st March 2021.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) The reference and administration set out below forms part of this report and the financial statement comply with current requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in March 2015.

Charity's Objectives and Activities:

- A. To advance the education of the public in particular but not exclusively children in the arts (meaning creative and performing arts) or any other arts provided in each case they are recognized cultural, aesthetic or educational value, culture and traditional values of the African Caribbean community
- B. To foster, promote and increase public interest in the arts, and in particular the active encouragement and development of children in to the cultural and social heritage of the African Caribbean community, and subjects of artistic merit so that the development of good relationships between persons of different racial groups might be promoted and the contribution which a multi-Racial community has to make to society might be enhanced, especially but not exclusively in the London Borough of Hackney and surrounding areas.

About us

Tropical Isles is a registered Charity which aims to develop its participation events programme by providing year-round carnival arts and educational art after-school activities, with a specific focus on developing enhancing skills and talents of disadvantaged children and young people who may be at risk. Tropical Isles is an ambitious and fast-growing organization determined to enhance the educational outlook of children and young people growing up in deprived areas of Hackney. This work supports young people's abilities to achieve in the formal school curriculum while giving them the chance to work on professionally produced creative products in an unconventional learning environment.

Aims and Objectives:

- To develop the capacity of Tropical Isles staff, volunteers and mentors to secure funding tenders and commissions, develop the quality and scale of our programmes and achieve excellence in the delivery of our activities
- To develop children and young people's literacy, confidence, and resilience. We do this by giving them extra personalized attention in an unconventional learning environment and giving them the opportunity to work on real-world creative art and production and performances long side local professionals.
- To work with our Youth Forum to document and disseminate good practice in the design, development, and execution of youth-led carnival arts products and events
- Develop partnerships and joint working arrangements with diverse community organizations in London, UK and across the world as part of cultural exchange and appreciation

- To build on Tropical Isles reputation as a leading organization in London's Carnival Arts sector, developing our role as key lead artists

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

Tropical Isles is committed to delivering ground-breaking, multi-disciplinary art projects that offer new perspectives on our daily lives, provoking debate and encourage constructive change and social progress.

Our artistic activities described below focuses on bringing the arts to the community of our Borough. Our youth engagement programme focus on skills development, production, performance, and leadership skills on aspects of carnival arts craft and dance. Whilst we will continue to work to engage as wide an audience as possible, our energy and resources will be directed over the next three years at the following:

- Deepening the level of community engagement in our projects and delivering projects that transform lives
- Growing the Tropical Isles brand and public awareness of our work
- Brokering international projects
- Working with communities in areas which have particularly low levels of participation in arts and culture, and low provision of cultural infrastructure
- Working in a collaborative, partnership way and extending the Tropical Isles network
- Who used and benefited from our services

Safeguarding

Tropical Isles is aware of the important role current legal requirements, national policies and guidance on health and safety and promoting the well-being of children and young people and their implications for the years, schools, and community setting. Through a range of effective policies and procedure the organisation outlines the fundamental role in keeping children and young people healthy and safe and promoting well-being. The organisation team are up to date with current legislation o child protection and safeguarding procedures.

At Tropical Isles, we aim to keep children and young people safe by adopting the highest possible standards and taking all reasonable steps to protect children and young people from harm. We undergo relevant training regarding promoting child protection and safeguarding issues.

Tropical Isles has a clear and effective policies and procedures in place that explore in-depth the necessary documentation.

Achievements & Performances

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, Tropical Isles adapted its delivery plan, responding to an uncertain and rapidly changing environment whilst providing a flexible, open and innovative approach to achieve its outcomes.

Although Tropical Isles are an arts organisation that focuses on carnival arts, many of their onsite sessions and events had to be rescheduled or postponed. The organisation continued to work alongside diverse community participants through its online digital sessions. They were creating weekly art short videos and Instagram engagement as part of their online professional development programme for young people and freelance artists to continue to deliver their work during these changeling times ahead.

Tropical Isles was able to modify their business model to an online service during the lockdown, so their services could be suitable and still cater to our children and prioritise young people and emerging artists' needs.

Working collaboratively, drawing on employing local freelance artists' expertise, thought of new

innovating ideas to stay connected and providing opportunities for young people to lead on projects. Keeping the wellbeing of new and existing participants and audiences and maintaining high-quality creative activities online.

Arts Council Emergency Response Fund Development and Delivery Covid -19

Hackney moves Marathon and Nike/Virgin sponsorship. Tropical Isles began to lose income from March 2020 due to the withdrawal of commissioned activities throughout the year events and festivals ranging from Mayoral participatory events. The Emergency Response funding allocation be attributed to the core operations (payroll and rent) and a further cost on materials and sundries purchased in anticipation of participatory activities. The freelance tutors were not contracted, creating a net loss in unrestricted income towards core operations.

Hackney Council's Main Grant and Specialist funding programme and Arts Council England Emergency Response Fund Covid-19 fund have created an innovative post lockdown system and strategy that continued their engagement with freelance artists, young people, and families. Focus on their health and wellbeing alongside the possible effects and experiences that may have occurred during the lockdown. A significant portion of this funding covered freelance artists and core operations. At the same time, they are putting health and safety procedures and necessary training to conduct their plans.

Tropical Isles suppressed their average engagement on their Instagram site @tropicaislescarnival, connecting with international celebrities that reposted their digital work, reaching over 71,000 views. In conclusion, to sustain their activities and commitment to the children and young people, this didn't only empower their artists, proof that quality creativity is there for them.

Case Study Feedback

"Just to say a massive thanks for the wonderful Carnival Care Package, which arrived this afternoon, as we were talking online Marva!! It really lifted my spirits, and I can imagine how it must be doing that for people all over Hackney; it is a wonderful thing."

Great British Carnival – Pioneer Face Masks

In May, the pandemic Covid-19 still had safety issues in wearing a face mask, as a face mask was still a governmental request. Tropical Isles partnered with the Great British Carnival to work with a small group of young people and staff members involved in designing, cutting, and sewing at least 550 100% cotton face masks.

Tropical Isles then sent out the finished product for the face mask to the local and regional community groups in need.

The project supported individuals and communities to protect themselves, each other, and the environment. They promote safe face mask use to individuals and communities, providing free masks and coaching to those in need.

The Great British Carnival works with the local community in Thanet, offering a wide range of activities, projects, and services that promote health, wellbeing, and inclusion for the diverse community groups in Thanet.

Promoting safe facemask use to individuals and communities and providing free masks and coaching to those in need.

Tropical Isles worked with young people who made an Instagram digital message showing the face mask stages.

Highlight

<https://www.gbcarival.co.uk/face-mask-pioneers>

Hackney Council Main Grant and Specialist 1st year programme

Tropical Isles run a two-year programme for 100 individuals aged 9-25 years living in low-income households in Hackney, of which at least 80% will be BAME and 15% disabled with an even gender mix. Working within a 2-year framework will allow staff to make a longer-term commitment to children and young people seeking continuity in their lives. The team can also plan to further ahead, bring in exciting industry partners, work towards sourcing skills enhancing opportunities for participants leading to more vital and sustainable outcomes.

As Covid-19 lockdown started to ease the organisation's positive engagement, showed new members joined their health and wellbeing sessions, which increased by 40% compared to other term times in 2019. From the summer sessions,

- They engaged with 42 participants.
- The participant's data analyst
- 24, were under 16 years,
- 13 participants age 16-17 years,
- 13, 18-24 years across six months where the participation of predominate 23 females and 23 males increased by 35% between the ages of 16-18 years. Through October, 50 registered young people across the eight weeks between the ages of 12 to 24 would attend dance and music sessions and costume making twice a week.

Tropical Isles was delighted to create more opportunities to employ more freelance staff, which expanded their resources to monitor the small groups effectively and keep in with the social distancing government guidelines. The organisation extended their office space to facilitate the practical engagement activities by converting two big rooms into five small hire music cubicles.

Temperature checks and contact details before each session started were taken, hand sanitiser before entering the building, and a face mask was compulsory for them to attend. Tropical Isles provided free face masks for individuals who didn't have one with them, including a one-route entry and exit system.

November was the start of the second lockdown, and we, unfortunately, had to close the sessions and activities. However, the impact of the national lockdown created six in group bubbles for the vulnerable young people to provide adequate support during the tough times alongside online line sessions, support, and activities.

This time around, their online engagement diverted to being more creative and discussing how Covid19 has impacted young people and their families. Zoom WhatsApp support groups had to be more innovative.

During the lockdown, they stayed open and supported several young people who needed a space to get guidance and family relief.

Each week, they redesigned the website pages, used their Instagram channel to engage in activities in the homes and set a task for their online participants.

Although their programme was for three days a week, they agreed to continue to offer support whenever a young person called or sent them a message. Tropical Isles needed to provide that

necessary continuity in support for those seeking to be ready for when Covid had eased.

Tropical Isles experienced a disadvantage. It was challenging to offer employment and training sessions because everyone had to stay at home. In the meantime, introduce the Kick Start Programme and get their CV ready for when the opportunity comes.

Many of the young people do not claim Universal Credit, and this is a future concern for those who are seeking work but not using the help the government has put in place to financially support them during these challenging times and the tools they provide to assist with job-seeking

Hackney carnival at home commissioning Hackney Carnival Digital Programme

Hackney Carnival parade may be on hold due to the pressures of Covid-19, but that hasn't stopped the borough's loyal carnival collectives from coming together to create a virtual version of the infamous festivities called Hackney Carnival at Home.

Twelve local carnival groups who regularly contribute to the annual September parade have made a collection of films that showcase creativity, and local pride Hackney Carnival is recognised.

Due to the impact of Covid-19, 2020's Hackney Carnival Street parade took on a new adaption to a series of online events throughout the summer called Hackney Carnival at Home.

Hackney's community carnival groups delivered specially created films demonstrating their talents and bringing the carnival spirit to people's homes in the run-up to the live stream Carnival weekender.

Tropical Isles created three short films that were uploaded onto various online platforms regularly, at a specific time, to generate a sense of 'collective audience' so that all could enjoy them together.

The delivery of activities that recruit new participants from Hackney/support communities affected by Covid-19 / promoting inclusiveness and diversity

- Hackney Carnival Tropical Isles Reflecting on Lockdown
- <https://www.facebook.com/hackneycarnival/videos/431120304500866>
- Tropical Isles and the pandemic Soca Aerobics
- <https://www.facebook.com/hackneycarnival/videos/317647019374404>

Curator role Hackney Health and wellbeing

Tropical Isles CEO received a commission for a two-year commitment as one of the shortlists of candidates to collaborate with a team of experienced experts to deliver the ambitious project that involves curating and providing a wealth of online content alongside directing multiple carnival groups.

The curators were:

- Marva Antoine
- Pax Nindi
- Deb Mullins and Manuela Benini (working together)

Marva Antoine

Marva is a carnival artist, fashion and theatre designer, 3-dimensional designer, and Managing Artistic Director for Tropical Isles, specialising in large scale body sculptures, events and community outreach engagement. Tropical Isles are internationally known for their innovative carnival designs, for which they have won many awards.

Recently Tropical Isles was awarded funding from ACE's Elevate fund to increase resilience and support/extend delivery of work supporting the Creative Case for Carnival.

As Artistic Director of Tropical Isles, Marva has established a creative hub of excellence for carnival designed to raise the awareness of the arts in the community and play a vital role in the regeneration of local communities. Marva has created opportunities for young participants to tour internationally through exchanges with Margate and Bielefeld in Germany.

Producer Marva Antoine

A short film on how the carnival supports health and wellbeing during Covid-19

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1831123443713224>

Thanks to:

Mayor Philip Glanville

Cllr Guy Nicholson

Hackney Cultural Team

Dog Leap Film

Paracarnival

St Joseph's Hospice

Tropical Isles

Compassionate Neighbours Project

Hackney Caribbean Elders Organisation

Jack Petchey Foundation Achievement Awards.

The Covid-19 Tropical Isles, too, found it very challenging for our young people during the lockdown. Any work they do with their young people is about helping develop and give them more significant experience for and with their young people. The funding is for young people to plan and purchase activities for the group. It has taken longer to get the Achievement Awards delivered when they want to support other young people during the Covid pandemic, which these two donated young people did, which is why they were selected.

Looking forward to the future

National Lottery Project Grant Arts Council

Tropical Isles successful application funding was to use the next six months to reassess Tropical Isles's business model and creative programme in light of Covid-19 and beyond.

Programme Delivery

Tropical Isles want to develop an agile programme to sustain and grow their reach and engagement to Hackney-based children and young people and families. They were transitioning to a blended offer of online and in-person delivery. They intend to widen their artist pool by testing new methodologies in running participatory carnival arts practice that best uses in-person and online resources. The work produced will form the basis of an ideation stage for how carnival arts will be celebrated in 2021 and create a blueprint for their delivery framework.

Tropical Isles trustees and committee members recognise the need to; adapt to a blended programme (in-person and online) of carnival-related arts engagement for young people and a more comprehensive organisational redevelopment where they reflect and test their offer. Through their programme delivery and support from Make Happy – a creative marketing and innovation consultancy, they continue to review their staffing, innovative request, and business model.

They have reassessed Tropical Isles' business model and creative programme in light of Covid-19 and beyond. Their overarching outcome is to become a more agile and resilient organisation-aligning structural, cultural, and strategic realities to the ever-evolving climate they are operating within.

Delivery of outreach activities due to the government Covid-19 lockdown and feedback guidance from the National Youth Agency (NYA) webinars, it was advised not to do any outreach activities. In January, we were only able to work in tiny group bubbles of 6 participants at any given time for our onsite sessions, creating 1-2-1 session.

Limiting the impact development of the creative activities to support participants affected by the Covid-19 as the restriction was to stay at home, and many registered participants were unable to attend any meeting virtually due to being unwell.

They regularly engage 40 young people within their onsite small group bubble activities. They are on target with the following actions.

- 20 Dance sessions –30 CYP in group bubbles of 6
- 15 DJ/music sessions -15 CYP in group bubbles of 7/8
- 30 young people Costume making King & Queen sessions -12 children and young people in group bubbles of 6
- three young volunteers assisting artists and peer mentoring children and young people.

Their Instagram sessions have been unique and challenging, with 1586 views, mainly young people present during the 30 sessions they hosted online.

A total of 23 comments over the three months they have been working on this to increase their feedback responses.

Understanding their existing audience and areas of growth and scalability will enable them to create an audience development plan that focuses on the organisation, redeploys resources to the most impactful areas, and ensures more excellent social value.

Lastly, acquiring a clear strategic plan and audience development and marketing strategy will enable them to set a clear set of success measures that will, in turn, form the basis of an evaluation framework to keep us on track.

Tropical Isles reached out to its WhatsApp support group (35 members, six years - 70 years and individuals and family members with young children) & our Instagram page (Music/dance group 53 young people aged 13 years -24 years). They are still keeping in touch and getting them to do some research for suitable music and dance moves. They have a waiting list for the music and dance workshops.

The Director and the Board of Trustees have been working on a new business model with support from Make Happy – an organisation that specialises in staff development and business modelling. The outcome of this work to date has enabled the team to identify financial efficiencies such as new fee-paying income-generating opportunities through developing corporate packages, sector consultancy and eventually new fee-paying courses.

Tropical Isles is currently developing and delivering its winter/spring programme to young people and families. They anticipate starting exclusively online in line with current national lockdown restrictions and gradually moving into a blended in-person and online activity offer in March 2021.

Tropical Isles has robust systems for both evaluation and monitoring the diversity of their employees, partners, and audiences. Over the last year, the company has ring-fenced additional time and resources for the team to participate in training, research and information sharing to accelerate their commitment to equality and diversity and specifically to confront racism in the sectors they work. The company is in the process of creating new spaces to learn – building skills, understanding, and confidence to hold Tropical Isles and the partners they work with to account - both through internal staff meetings, conversations with partners, and programming events as part of our holistic approach. This work will allow Tropical Isles to build on their current practice, developing a more detailed action plan for promoting best practices and removing barriers. Our approach must be consistent and sustainable longer-term, and that it allows us to embrace opportunities in audience development, public engagement, workforce, and leadership.

Arts Council England and Department for Digital Culture, Media and Sports (DCMS) Cultural Recovery Fund Round 2 funding

Tropical Isles was among more than 2,700 recipients to benefit from the latest round Cultural Recovery Fund.

"We are all so excited. What an overwhelming opportunity! This grant will provide a high-quality programme. Cultural Recovery Fund funding would be allocated towards sustaining core activity. Provide progression opportunities for children and young people who have been working over the Jan - March 21 and open the programme up to new children and young people. They will build costume-making and dance skills and further the ideation stage by creating pieces for the carnival. Funding between April -June 21 will enable Tropical Isles to rebrand their programme activities ideas through creating a series of creative masterclass sessions. High-end workshops in (Choreography, Music, Mas Construction and costume design, working with professional industry artists), exhibiting the finished pieces within an exhibition space (on and offline) and eventually within a natural carnival setting or commissioning.

Marva Antoine, Managing Artistic Director,"

Special Acknowledgement

The trustees are grateful for all the support the organisation gets from funders, individuals, and other community organisations. Their extended support made it possible for us to reach our present stage of development. In particular, we are very grateful to all the funders who support the development of our young people and our organisation. The trustees acknowledge the contributions of the management committee, staff, and volunteers, through their work, devotion, and loyalty.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR STAFF, ARTISTS, MENTORS, CASE OFFICER, VOLUNTEERS, PARTICIPANTS, FUNDERS AND STAKE HOLDERS.

TROPICAL ISLES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Public Benefit Statement

The organisation meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of children's education in the local area and of community development objectives. The trustees have complied with the duty on section 4 of the Charity act 2006 with regards to public benefit guidance published by charities commission.

STUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board meets yearly and the management committee monthly; there are a number of sub-committees covering finance, fundraising and specific projects. The charity has a close relationship with Hackney Community Voluntary Services who provides assistance and advice to safeguarding and business matters.

Governing Documents

The organisation became a charitable company by its constitution on 6th December 2001 which was further amended on 7th February 2002.

Charity

The organisation registered with Charity Commission on 26th February 2002. Register number 1090798.

Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee

The organisation shall have a Management Committee comprising not less than three and not more than fifteen persons as follows:

- Not more than ten persons elected by the membership at the annual general meeting and
- In addition, the management committee shall have the power to co-opt up to two persons who need not be members of the organisation for their specialist skills and or knowledge of the Management Committee.

Organisation Structure

The trustees ensure that our organisation has a clear strategy and are responsible for the governance of the organisation in line with our stated vision and keeps a check on the organisation finances and activities. With an active management committee, who meet once a month, as well as informal weekly meetings, the committee has a designated treasurer and active chair, the management committees' role is to give guidance and direction and report back to the trustees.

The artistic Director works with the team of two seasonal staff and a part time assistant artistic director to ensure that the charity develops and delivers quality services for its service users in our care.

Related Parties and co-operation with other organisations.

None of the trustees received any remuneration or other benefits for their work with the charity. Any connections between a trustee or senior manager of the charity must be disclosed at a full board meeting of trustees in the same way other contractual relationships with the contracted party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

This is to confirm that Tropical Isles has members who are related:

- The amount due to Marva Antoine at the end of the financial year was £2,336 (2020 - £6,836)

Risk Management

The trustees have a risk management strategy, which comprises.

- The trustees actively review the risk, which the charitable company faces on a regular

annually basis.

- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plans: and the implementations of procedure designed to minimise potential impact on the charity should those risk materialised.
- This work has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the charity.
- The charity also purchases a range of insurance.

Trustees induction and training.

Where there is a need for to invite new Trustees, these will be identified and appointed by the current Trustees. At present there are three Trustees and five Committee Members (MC). New Trustees are provided with a MC Induction Pack and give appropriate training related to their role and function. The current level of reserves has not met the target and strategies have been put in place to meet this target in the next three years.

Financial review

The Charity's financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021 shows a net deficit in restricted funds of £-16,172 (2020: £-27,751) and a net surplus in unrestricted funds of £10,457 (2020: £18,300)

Reserve policy

The trustees have established that unrestricted reserves should be between 3- and 6-months' expenditure. These reserves are required should there be a consideration reduction in funding of financial resources.

TROPICAL ISLES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with Applicable Law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom General Accepted Accounting Practice)

The Law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed required the Trustees to prepare financial Statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resource and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity from that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- i. Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ii. Observe the methods and principle in the Charity SORP;
- iii. Make judgement and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iv. Prepare the financial statement on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for the keeping proper accounting records which disclosure with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

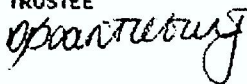
Accountants

The accountants, Allen Robyn & Associates Limited will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the trustees on 24th January 2022

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Deirdre Scanlon
TRUSTEE



Jeffery St. Jean
TRUSTEE



TROPICAL ISLES
INDEPENDENCE EXAMINERS' REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

I report on the Financial Statements of the Tropical Isles for the year ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on pages 14-15 and Notes to the Financial Statements on Pages 16.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011(The 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Rolston Allen FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Allen Robyn & Associates Limited
London N7 9DQ
Approved on 28th January 2022.

TROPICAL ISLES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

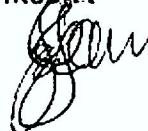
	Note	2021	2020
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets		1,534	2,300
Current Assets			
Cash at Bank and In Hand		7,182	4,013
Liabilities			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	- 14,391	- 15,764
Net Current Assets		- 7,209	- 11,751
Net Assets		- 5,675	- 9,451
FUNDS			
Unrestricted Funds		10,497	18,300
Restricted Funds		16,172	27,751
		- 5,675	- 9,451

The Financial Statements were approved by the Trustees on 24th January 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Deirdre Scantlebury
 TRUSTEE



Jeffery St Jean
 TRUSTEE



TROPICAL ISLES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL
ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Incoming Resources:				
Arts Council lottery		60,945	60,945	55,500
LB Hackney - YOF		7,176	7,176	5,000
LB Hackney - Carnival		0	0	2,700
LB Hackney - Main Grant		44,061	44,061	29,579
LB Hackney - Dalston Children Festival		0	0	200
LB Hackney - Windrush		0	0	400
Adam & Eve		0	0	7,509
Jack Petchey Foundation	500	0	500	1,500
Donations	1,234	2,789	4,023	1,819
Active Londoners		0	0	5,000
Wharton MA-CA	0		0	5,000
Total Incoming Resources	1,734	114,971	116,705	114,206
Resources Expended				
Room/Studio/Venue Hire		15,575	15,575	14,105
Marketing/PR		265	265	3709.51
Sessional Fees	6,044	14,933	20,977	5,540
Accessories/Materials	143	3,735	3,878	10,863
Vehicle/Coach Hire		0	0	6,395
Travel/Accommodations		0	0	1,081
Volunteers Expenses	2,000	1,850	3,850	1133.55
Salaries/Employer NI		52,975	52,975	44,403
Refreshments/Catering	1,326	1,678	3,004	5,991
Equipment/PA Hire		2,320	2,320	4,040
Operational Costs	25	8,200	8,225	5,716
Security Hire		360	360	1,312
Professional Fees		0	0	3,565
Accountancy and Payroll Fees		1,500	1,500	3,102
Total Resources Expended	9,538	103,392	112,929	110,956
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources				
For the Year	-7,803	11,579	3,776	3,251
Balance B/fwd. as at 01/04/2020	18,300	-27,751	-9,451	51,344
Balance C/fwd. as at 31/03/2021	10,497	-16,172	-5,675	-12,702

None of the charity's activities were acquired or discontinued during the year and there were no recognized gains or losses other than included in the statement of financial activities. The notes on pages 14 form part of the accounts.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Basis of preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historic cost convention and include the result of the charity's operation which is described in the Trustees' Report and all of which are continuing.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice
- Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

All amounts have been rounded up to nearest pound.

2 RESTRICTED FUNDS:

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donors. Expenditure, which meets these criteria, is identified to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

3 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS:

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incomes received or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available for general funds.

4 DESIGNATED FUNDS:

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees / Management Committee for particular purposes.

5 INVESTMENT INCOME:

Credit is taken for interest when the interest is accrued on investment

6 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ON YEAR

	2021	2020
Loan	- 2,336	- 2,336
Other Creditors	- 12,055	- 13,428
	<u>- 14,391</u>	<u>- 15,764</u>

The trustees received no remuneration in the year