

Charity Reg No: 1124839

POLLYANNA TRAINING THEATRE

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

POLLYANNA TRAINING THEATRE

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POLLYANNA TRAINING THEATRE

Report of the Trustees **For the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number
1124839

Principal address

Raine House
Raine St
London
E1W 3RL

Telephone number
07949 792570

Trustees

Ms Joann Condon
Ms Amanda Day
Ms Kaye Colman
Ms Jody Dempsey
Ms Aoife Tighe

Independent Examiner

Earl & Grey Accountants
Suite 14/2G
Docklands Business Centre
10-16 Tiller Road
London E14 8PX

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT


Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Risk management:

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 25/01/24 and signed on its behalf by:

* 
.....
Trustee

POLLYANNA TRAINING THEATRE

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Pollyanna Training Theatre

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out in pages three to seven.

Respective responsibilities of trustee 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that a 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 report

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 disclosure in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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 statements below.

Independent Examiners' Statement

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which in our opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Opinion

In my opinion the financial statement as prepared give a true and fair view of the charity's state of affairs as at 31st March 2023 and that the incoming resources and their application in the year then ended have been properly prepared in accordance with general direction given by the Charities Commissioner.

.....
Razaul Kabir ACCA/IFA/MIPA
Earl & Grey Accountants
Suite 14/2G
Docklands Business Centre
10-16 Tiller Road
London E14 8PX

Date:

POLLYANNA TRAINING THEATRE**Income and Expense**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

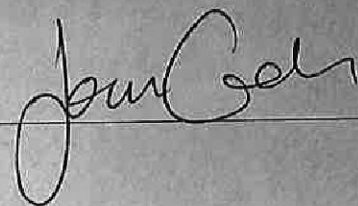
Income	£	£
Unrestricted funds (Donations)	100125	
Restricted Funds (Grant)	-	
Total Income		<hr/> 100125
Expenses		
Staff	45403	
Rent	31170	
Insurance	1636	
Equipment, Trips & Project Costs	12829	
Repairs and maintenance	364	
Tel & Internet	4096	
Accountancy	900	
Legal & other professional	144	
Travel	3707	
Software	560	
Sundry	274	
Total Expense		<hr/> 101083
Total Surplus/Deficit		<hr/> (958) <hr/>

POLLYANNA TRAINING THEATRE

Balance Sheet

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	<u>31-Mar-23</u>	
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Fixed Assets		-
Current Assets		
Debtors	5,365	
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>14,196</u>	
	19,561	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>-</u>	
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>19,561</u>
Net Assets		<u><u>19,561</u></u>
Funds Represented by:		
Excess of Income over Expenditure/(Surplus) for March 2023		(958)
Balance B/fwd		<u>20,519</u>
Total funds C/fwd		<u><u>19,561</u></u>

* 

Chairperson

Treasurer

Approved on:

25/01/24

Annual Report

March 2023

Principal's Message

Classes and course are running at full capacity, however as a result of the cost-of-living crisis, we are finding that more and more families need financial assistance (free places) on our courses.

Our fees are much lower than other organisations and are in place to cover our tutor costs and premises rental and building expenses.

We are also finding there is a huge rise in children and young people suffering from anxiety and mental health issues, many children are incredibly anxious about school, feeling nervous, overwhelmed, and unsettled resulting in poor attendance. Through our sessions we are focusing on confidence, self-esteem and emotional wellbeing through extensive improvisation work such as role play of different scenarios and how our decision-making process can affect them, equipping our beneficiaries with tools to help them overcome day to day life and challenges.

The locality that we operate from is incredibly diverse in every way but particularly socio-economically, with over 60% of our beneficiaries from low income disadvantaged backgrounds, living in multigenerational overcrowded homes, struggling to make ends meet – our aim is and always has been that this should not be a barrier to accessing extracurricular education.



Summary and purpose of Charity

Pollyanna teaches children from the ages of 3-18, in a range of classes run by industry professionals. They believe that theatrical training is not only to develop a new generation of actors, singers and dancers, but also to; develop confidence & social skills, encourage children to feel a sense of achievement & most crucially, to have fun!

Pollyanna is unique, we are not part of a franchise, there has only ever has been one Pollyanna. This means we are able to tailor each class to the individual needs and the dynamic of the children attending rather than following a term plan that may not suit.

At Pollyanna one of the biggest things we foster is Confidence - It's no secret that children and young people are impressionable. They learn what they observe and what they are taught. As they grow up, they form opinions and beliefs about themselves and their place in the world. This is why it's so important to create a positive self-image for them from an early age. Children who have confidence and self-esteem develop a strong foundation for their future. They are more resilient and happier, which makes them better able to handle difficult situations. Performance arts can help children explore their creativity and develop new skills for life.



*'Thank you very much Alex and Angie and all the Pollyanna team.
It is really great to see how your hard work pays off in amazing performances you
produce every year and how children's confidence grows every year :)
I remember Ola hiding behind before to now play one of the main characters! It was
just truly amazing to see
I hope you can get some well-deserved rest soon.
Thank you again'*

*xxx
Iwona*

Summary of activities

Highlights of this past year

Twenty full scale performances with children aged 4-11 years each playing to audiences of over 100 people. Our Teenage groups (age 11-16years) took part in Shakespeare workshops and staged 6 full scale performances.

Our Summer courses for 5-11 years were themed around 'Myths and Legends' and 'Summer Carnival' - each week the children devised and created their own piece of theatre, we then shared our performance with family and friends on the Friday afternoon of each week, alongside creating amazing artwork such as Dragons Eggs, Kites with Ribbons, Binoculars, and designing our own T-shirts.

Our Teenage Summer Course created a radio play, they learnt how to write a script, use editing software, create sound effects, and worked with a vocal coach to create characters and perform and record their script.

Half-term Poetry and Art workshops for age 5-11 years.

Sunday Dance workshops for age 5-11years - one day dance workshops with themes such as 'Encanto', 'Frozen', 'Descendants', 'Matilda' - working with a dance professional participants learnt the dance moves and choreography to these favourite musicals.



We currently teach after school drama sessions at Hermitage School, St Peters London Dock School, St Annes and Guardian Angels School and Bigland Green School. This is an essential part of our income stream and also a great way to reach and help other children through drama sessions.

Achievement of performance

Our Summer performance was *The Book & The Bottle* – a musical specifically written for young people. All students loved working towards this production and the excitement and energy during rehearsal and performances was palpable, many precious memories were created and being able to perform in front a live audience again was wonderful.

Our teenage courses performed 'Bright.Young.Things', and a devised piece that the cast collectively created. Summer Holiday Courses were very well attended with over 150 children and young people taking part in drama, dance, singing and creative arts Monday to Friday 10am to 4.00pm over a three week period.

*'Dear Alex
We just had to write and tell you what a wonderful time we had with your production of Cinderella, which seemed to have everything anyone could need for entertainment, thanks to its talented young cast and your own production team.
In fact, I personally felt that I could happily swap anything the West End had to offer for such an experience!
Best Wishes, David and Family*

Over the past year we have worked directly with 1100 children and young people, providing 800 hours of tuition in drama and creative arts, in addition to this we have provided 252 hours of afterschool drama sessions within 4 primary schools in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Our work in the Community and events

Each year we produce and deliver the Wapping Great Christmas Fair and Tree Lighting, this is a full scale event with over 500 families and local people in attendance, features include a Father Christmas Grotto and presents for all children, free face painting, arts and crafts, food and beverages – the day culminates in our Tree Lighting, over the years we have been fortunate to have had many well known residents such as Rupert Grint, Helen Mirren and Michaela Coel in attendance. We received funding for this event from Tower Hamlets Homes and Docklands Estate Agents.

Over the past year we have also produced and delivered community parties for the Queens Jubilee and the Kings Coronation, both events were for the whole community and we were delighted to have had in excess of 300 attendees.

Our new Open Mic night was hugely successful and offered the opportunity for local people to share their talents, this varied from singing, to stand up comedy and impressions, a really social evening for the whole family, we aim to hold our next Open Mic event in early Spring 2024.



*'Thank you to you all for being wonderful people and inspiring confidence in the children!
Happy Christmas see you in the New year.'
Louise*

Volunteer Support

We are fortunate to have a small group of regular volunteers, who are able to assist during events and performances, these consist of parents ex-students who are all subject to volunteer DBS checks.

*Thank you so much, it was such a wonderful day, Esme loved being part of it all. All of the team did such an incredible job.
Thanks again!
Catherine*

Description of charities trustees

Trustees:

Joann Condon – Chairperson

Joann is a respected actress working in tv, film and theatre for over 30 years, alongside this Joann is also a qualified counsellor, she has lived in London's East end all her life, and has in depth knowledge of the area, she understands the diversity, strengths, weaknesses and challenges that are faced by our community.

Kaye Colman - Trustee

Kaye is a licensed children's chaperone working in the entertainment industry – she is also a native east ender and works extensively within the City of London corporation.

Amanda Day - Trustee

Amanda has worked in the third sector community for the past 15 years, she has comprehensive knowledge of policies, legislation and event management, she is an active local stakeholder and well respected for her charitable work within the community.

Aoife Sanchez Tighe - Trustee

Aoife works extensively in the financial sector, she has knowledge and experience of corporate charitable donations and fundraising, she is a parent of children aged between 8 and 16 years.

Jody Dempsey - Trustee

Jody was a primary school teacher for 12 years working in schools within Tower Hamlets and Newham – she has detailed first hand knowledge of the issues children are facing, with a particular focus on education and pastoral needs post pandemic. Jody now works for LBTH overseeing children being home educated or educated whilst working in the entertainment industry

The charity operates with a board of 5 trustees, the trustees over see all major decision making with day to day management by the school principal (Angela Kindell) and centre manager (Alexandra Kind) who report directly to the board of trustees.

Tutors and Staff

We have many long term freelance staff members – all of whom have been through full DBS disclosures.

*'Hi Alex, Angie and Clare.
No, thank you for all that you do.
You're all miracle workers.
Thank you again.'
Tedla*

In February 2022 we were inspected by OFSTED, Inspectors were very happy with the school, policies and the setting and we were happy to have achieved this. Angela Kindell and Alexandra Kind remain as School Principal and Manager.

Funding

St George – Summer Holiday programme

Lloyds Foundation – small unrestricted funding

Portal London – Arts Award Course

Courses for children aged 2.5-11years are charged per term for which parents\family\carers pay.

We always endeavour to keep these fees to a minimum in order that they remain affordable. Our studio hire in the daytime or out of our regular class hours continues and is a vital source of income for us.



'Every morning my son asks 'Is it Pollyanna today'? with a big smile.'
Sophie mum to Ben aged 6 years

Year End comment:

As an organisation we continue to adapt and evolve to help children, young people and families with their changing need. This can be challenging but we continue to strive to offer the best possible performance and creative arts activities for young people and children within Tower Hamlets.



'My daughter joined your classes after arriving from Turkey, she couldn't speak any English, after one term she has progressed so much, she is singing, speaking clearly and with so much confidence - thank you!'
'We are very grateful, Yuce'