

# **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

Charity number 1136384

A Company limited by guarantee number 07184925

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**for the year ended 31 March 2023**



**gmcas**

Greater Merseyside Community  
Accountancy Service

# **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

## **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023**

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**Prepared by the Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service**

# **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

## **Trustees' report continued**

### **Review of progress and achievements**

Liverpool Arab Arts Festival (LAAF) was founded in 1998 by Taher Qassim and members of Liverpool's Yemeni community. Their aim was to increase awareness and appreciation of Arab arts and culture through participatory workshops introducing authentic music, language and dress to young people.

LAAF has since grown into a leading UK Arab arts organisation still driven by this ethos.

### **Objectives and Activities:**

The objectives are:

1. To advance the education of the public in Arab arts but not exclusively by the promotion and staging of regular Arabic arts festivals and events in Liverpool
2. The advancement of the arts culture and heritage through the support encouragement and showcasing of Arabic artists and artisans.

In setting objectives and policies to achieve them, the Board give due consideration to guidance issued by the Charities Commission to ensure that such policies achieve the requirement to give public benefit.

### **Governance and Development**

Liverpool Arab Arts Festival's Board of Trustees bring a wealth of skills and experience in the arts and cultural industries, charitable sector, media, public health, digital development, environment, law and business development. They draw on their diverse local, national and international connections to advocate for LAAF. Trustees all have lived experience of Arab culture, having established deep connections to diverse international communities built on trust and respect. The Board have, and continue to undertake a range of training to support them in overseeing the organisation.

Trustees are kept regularly up to date via Board papers on specific areas of Management responsibility, governance or topics related to the nature of the charity's activities. The Board of Trustees meet quarterly and administer the charity and delegate policy and operational duties to the Director and staff team. Additional themed subgroup meetings are led by dedicated Board members and key staff who drive forward organisation strategic and operational development plans.

This year, Board members and staff have met on a regular basis and held subgroup meetings to plan the organisations strategic and operational priorities for 2023 – 2026. Board members have taken responsibility for leading on and embedding Arts Council Investment Principles of Ambition and Quality, Environmental Responsibility, Dynamism and Inclusivity and Relevance. A Board Away Day in September 2023 enabled Trustees to reflect and map out organisational plans for the coming year.

## Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

### Trustees' report continued

#### Notable Achievements

- Awarded Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding with an uplift to increase festival capacity and new commissions.
- Received continuation funding from Culture Liverpool.
- Secured Youth Music Funding for a new innovative programme for young people.
- Continued LAAF communities and Cultural Education Programme with the support of QFI, Granada Foundation and PH Holt.
- 10-day International festival featuring 112 artists and 31 events
- Increased International profile and new networks with visits to Lebanon and Egypt
- Securing British Council support for 2023-24 Port Cities project
- Conducted staff pay review, structure and recruitment of new posts.
- Board members and Staff participation in training and skills development.

#### 2023 Festival

Liverpool Arab Arts Festival 2023 was held between Thursday 6 – Sunday 16 July 2023. This year marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the organisation was founded in 1998. It was the 21<sup>st</sup> annual festival in Liverpool.

The theme for 2023 was **حكاوي Hakawati**, which means storyteller, and describes a person who can draw people in with their tale. Storytelling has a strong tradition in Arab culture.

The festival featured 112 artists from across the Arab region and beyond in 31 authentically Arab events, ranging from large family celebrations to intimate artist-led workshops.

We invited Arab artists and those of Arab heritage to explore how their stories have shaped them, how they are crafting their own stories through song, theatre, dance, performance, literature and visual art, and how it relates to modern Arab identity.

#### Festival Events

##### Music

The festival formally launched on Friday 7 July with a gig by British-Somali singer-songwriter **Aar Maanta** at Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room. Aar was a headliner at last year's Family Day and was warmly received. The programming built on this, and in dialogue with representatives from Liverpool's Somali community.

Emerging musical talent **Nxdia** was booked to support Aar. Nxdia blends Arabic and English seamlessly in bright but introspective pop tracks. The alternative-pop singer-songwriter from Manchester was born in Egypt, and her early memories growing up in Cairo are of living next to a cinema, an early inspiration for her creativity.

The award-winning Syrian composer and musician, **Maya Youssef** brought her globally acclaimed album, *Finding Home*, to the festival in what was a stunning and intimate performance with the Maya Youssef Ensemble and the Ensemble of St Luke's. The event was sold-out with a highly engaged audience.

## Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

### Trustees' report continued

#### Performance

We booked three consecutive nights at Unity Theatre during the second week of the festival.

Writers **Ahmed Masoud** and **Farah Chamma** presented an experimental new performance, presented *Passports, Mo Salah, Jinn and Other Complicated Things* both live and digitally, work exploring Palestinian identity beyond borders at Unity Theatre. Originally pitched as a live performance featuring both artists, Farah Chamma was unfortunately unable to perform due to personal reasons. The performance was redeveloped with audio/visual producer, Llev, to reflect new status.

*Self-Entitlement* by **Mahmoud El Haddad**. Former LAAF Board member and Festival Programmer, Anahid Kassabian, started conversations with Haddad in 2018/19. This performance was a delayed presentation which the LAAF creative team supported over the course of 18-month. The piece was a powerful performance and extremely well-received. During his stay in Liverpool, Haddad also delivered a workshop '*An introduction to Raks Baladl*' at VideOdyssey.

*what the dog said to the harvest* was a groundbreaking call for climate justice drawing on opera, dance, spoken word, immersive sound and film. Featuring **Ilsa Ixxx**, **Jasmin Kent Rodgman** and an ensemble of 13 other creatives, this powerful multimedia performance captivated audience. Presented in association with Shubbak and Bagri Foundation.

While attendance for all events was around 40-50 capacity, each event were extremely well-received with strong positive audience feedback. This demonstrated challenge of midweek programming, but also raised the question regarding budget with key weekend dates.

#### Visual art

The highlight of the visual art programme was the launch of *And still, it remains* a newly commissioned film from LAAF by the artist filmmakers Arwa Aburawa and Turab Shah.

Between 1960 and 1966, France tested and detonated a series of nuclear bombs in the Algerian desert. These explosions poisoned the land with radioactive material, inflicting devastating – and permanent – ecological and humanitarian harm. In 2021, radioactive sand from the Sahara was blown from the Algerian desert back to France by sweeping winds. This meteorological event served as a reminder that the environmental legacies of colonialism cannot be forgotten or contained. Filmed in a village in the Algerian Sahara, the work features interviews with residents who are surrounded by ancient rock art and the legacies of these tests. Exploring their own migration to the area, and the impacts of the nuclear tests, Aburawa and Shah's film asks how people live with the afterlife of toxic colonialism? The commission was supported using funds from Arts Council England.

#### Comedy

After a hiatus of over 5-years, we featured a comedy night as part of the festival programme. **Arts Canteen** presented a special edition of *Arabs Are Not Funny*, featuring **Esther Manito**, **Fatima El-Ghorri**, **Farah Sharp** and **Talal Karkouti**. The event packed out the Royal Court Studio with a richly diverse audience and electric atmosphere, highlighting the appetite for comedy events.

## Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

### Trustees' report continued

#### Film

In partnership with SAFAR Film Festival, we held the UK premiere of **The Last Queen** in Storyhouse in Chester on Sunday 9 July. This was the first festival event held outside of Liverpool, and our first in Chester. Attendance was low for the film, with warm weather potentially impacting walk-ups.

#### Literature / spoken word

We held Mona Kareem's poetry event **I Will Not Fold These Maps** at LUSH Liverpool. The event was a touring event with the Poetry Translation Centre in London. 16 highly engaged attendees for a vibrant event. The mix of English and Arabic questions was welcome, but highlighted need for an interpreter to support the speakers as not to place additional burden on the speakers.

Literature events continue to average between an audience between 10-20 during festival periods. However, these events represent an important bridge between English and Arabic languages.

We were also pleased to support the launch event for *Our Dreams of Jasmine* is a multi-lingual publication, and co-produced sound piece, containing a collection of love poems selected by women with experience of migration and written by artist **Jessica El Mal**. The event was in collaboration with sound producer Yasmeen Soudani, musician and vocalist Rita Kamale, co-producers Sohaila Mirzai, Shefaa, Aliya, Ayana, Fatimeh Al Sabty, Reem Alazemi, Fatima Aidarous, Soulaif Al Kort, and literary translator Noussaiba Roussi. An Associate event with At The Library.

#### The British-Yemeni Society 30th celebration event

We were honoured to be hosting the first **British-Yemeni Society** meeting outside of London during this year's festival. 2023 marks the 30th anniversary since the British-Yemeni Society was founded. An afternoon of exhibitions by **Oxfam** and **Claire Dunn** and an enlightening talk in celebration of Yemen by **Ianthe Mary MacLagan**, were held at the Quaker Meeting House, Liverpool.

#### Street performance

**Taroo** by **Company Zid / Said Mouhssine** is a Parkour and circus comedy show telling stories from streets all over the world. With a fusion of acrobatics, Chinese pole and urban street moves, this show is not all that it seems. The performance took place in front of large crowds at Liverpool ONE, although inclement weather meant the second performance was unable to take place. Presented in association with Crying Out Loud and Shubbak Festival.

#### Family and Participation

The first weekend at **World Museum Liverpool** was a successful afternoon. World Museum team were highly supportive from the beginning, resulting a highly successful afternoon. Workshops included: Yalla Nerky: Interactive Storytelling with **Hadl Badi** for children aged 4-8 years, Henna Hands family workshop with **Layla Gibliru**, three Dabke sessions with **Fares Farraj**, a comedy workshop with **Esther Manito**, and MENA Beats taster session DJ workshop.

## **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

### **Trustees' report continued**

We returned to Bluecoat for an afternoon of music, hands-on workshops and storytelling for families. Unfortunately, the day was hit by wet weather conditions, which meant the cancellation of planned outdoor DJ sets in the garden. Dabke with Fares Faraj, storytelling with **LibLib Publishing** and music workshops with **Ahmed Mukhtar** and **Ruba Hillawi**.

Family Day closed the festival on Sunday 16 July at Sefton Park Palm House. Despite unseasonably strong winds and rain resulting in outdoor tents and activities being cancelled, the event was once again a huge success with a fantastic atmosphere. Artists and partners featured included: **The Ayoub Sisters**, **Simo Lagnwal Gnawa London**, **Abdelkader Saddoun**, **Nawarra Dancer**, **Yemeni Band**, **Jacques Malchance**, **Liverpool Arabic Centre**, and presentations for *A Day In the Life* poetry competition in partnership with **Liverpool Hope University**.

### **Volunteers**

We value having the support of 16 festival volunteers who gave their time to collating audience feedback surveys, event stewarding and support and audience liaison.

Once again, LAAF's Board continue to significantly provide their time, expertise, experience and support throughout the year: thank you to **Afra Qassim** (Chair), **Hamdan Dammag** (Vice Chair), **Layla Maghribi**, **Taher Qassim** and **Sarah Scally**. Thanks to outgoing Trustee **Zoe Lafferty** for her excellent contribution to the organisation and programme during her time with LAAF.

### **Cultural Education Programme**

Funded by QFI and Granada Foundation, LAAF Cultural Education Programme continues to contribute to increasing paid work opportunities for Arab creatives who are underrepresented in the arts and cultural industries, raises awareness of Arab arts and cultural, contributing to anti-racism by increasing understanding and appreciation of Arab people and the diaspora and supporting Arab people gain a sense of belonging and cultural pride.

The Cultural Education Programme has worked with 6 artists to develop workshops to be delivered in Primary and Secondary schools in the Liverpool City Region. Artist genres include music, dance, visual art, poetry/spoken word and storytelling.

### **New Income and Funding**

Our core artistic, community engagement and education programmes were funded by Arts Council England, Culture Liverpool, Liverpool City Council, Granada Foundation, QFI, Al Omar Family and PH Holt Foundation.

We were delighted to be awarded Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation status between 2023-26. This includes a funding uplift to support organisational growth and artistic commissioning in the period.

LAAF's *MENA Beats* project will offer dedicated opportunities for young people aged 12 – 25 to experience the basics of DJing and music production from experts. It aims to provide young people of Arab heritage to develop DJing skills, mixing Western and Arab music to create contemporary sounds that are representative of their generation. Funded by Youth Music, weekly workshops and specialist sessions will be held across 2023 and 2024.

*Port Cities* is a new international visual arts project by Liverpool Arab Arts Festival in partnership with the British Council. We will commission four Arab visual artists to develop new artwork that will explore the future of port cities of Liverpool and within the Middle East and North Africa region. We received £68,000 for this project. It will run from September 2023 – December 2024. This project will be the flagship project for our 2024 festival.

# **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

## **Trustees' report continued**

### **Partnerships**

The festival programme was delivered in close partnership with 28 organisations and partners across the UK and internationally. This support allows us to provide artists with the platform to reach audiences in Liverpool and beyond.

In the next year, we are exploring new International partnerships to build on recent visits. Taher Qassim visited Lebanon for the British Council's In Between Festival in November 2022. Head of Programme attended Arab Arts Focus and D-CAF in Cairo in October. Both visits led to new international partnerships and increased visibility for the organisation in the region.

Liverpool Arabic Centre (LAC), our community partners, planned and delivered arts and cultural activities during LAAF family day. We will be working with LAC and Merseyside Somali Association to deliver Youth Music Funded *MENA Beats* Project.

Following the success of last year, we have continued to work in partnership with Liverpool Hope University on a second edition of *A Day In the Life* Poetry competition for aspiring Arab writers.

### **Marketing and Digital Reach**

UK and International media coverage. Key media platforms included BBC Radio 3 and 6, BBC News, The National.

The festival secured 34 pieces of individual print, online and radio coverage from UK and international media platforms including BBC Radio 3 and 6, BBC News, The National, and Liverpool Echo.

LAAF website received 23,084 individual visits and 32,572 sessions (1 April 2022 – 10 October 2023).

Social media figures continue to increase across all platforms: Facebook Page Followers: 10,464. Instagram Followers: 3,152. Twitter Followers: 3,638. TikTok Followers: 250. YouTube Subscribers: 220

### **Environmental Responsibility**

We continue to place strong emphasis on developing our commitment to Environmental Responsibility in all strands of our work. For the second year running, our outdoor festival events in our July were impacted by intense and seemingly weather conditions. This is significant and reflects the speed of climate breakdown.

As part of our Arts Council England Investment Principles plan, we developed a new Environmental Responsibility strand. This will lead the actions of the organisation moving forward, including improvements to policy and procedures.

We hosted two climate works as part of our 2023 festival: Arwa Aburawa and Turab Shah's new commission *And still, it remains*, and the performance of *what the dog said to the harvest*. All exhibitions were made using recycled or reusable materials.

For an international festival, we were proud that most artist travel in 2023 was made by train within the UK. This was due to working with UK-based artists, partners on tours and ways to limit the carbon emissions related with travel. We continue to prioritise holding meetings on Zoom and phone.

The data from our 2023 festival will provide the first robust dataset related to audience travel since the Covid-19 pandemic. The analysis of these findings will support us to improve our environmental messaging, venue bookings and reducing the carbon impact of audience travel.



# **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

## **Trustees' report continued**

### **Going Forward LAAF Aims to:**

- Strengthen our artistic programme by commissioning new cross-artform works that demonstrate international ambition.
- Support artist in touring commissioned work reaching new audiences.
- Continue our support for emerging artist and creatives with training and development programmes and commissioning of new work.
- Continue to develop our community engagement work and create artistic programmes with and for our communities and young people.
- Take our Cultural Education Programme to schools in Liverpool City Region and beyond.
- Support new team members in settling in the organisation and support new and existing staff and board members to access training and development opportunities.

## **Statement of Directors' responsibilities**

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial accounts for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP

make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

prepare the financial statements 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 that disclose 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 Companies Act 2006. 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.

Approved by the Board on 14th December 2023 and signed on behalf of the directors by:



Tahar Qassim  
Trustee

## Reference and Administrative Details

### Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

Charity number 1136384

A Company limited by guarantee number 07184925

The trustees, who are the directors of the company for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present their report and financial statements together with the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Name	Position	Dates
Afrah Qassim	Chair	
Hamdan Dammag	Vice Chair	
T Qassim MBE		
Ms Zoe Delemere Lafferty		resigned 23rd September 2023
Sarah Scally		
Layla Maghribi		

#### Method of appointment

Recruitment of new trustees is open, and focused on creating a diverse and effective Board

#### Registered address

The Bluecoat  
School Lane  
Liverpool  
L1 3BX

#### Bankers

HSBC  
99-101 Lord Street  
Liverpool  
L2 2AH

#### Independent examiner

Jane Williams MAAT  
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service  
Beacon Building  
College Street  
St Helens  
WA10 1TF

#### Governing document

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 10th March 2010 as Liverpool Arabic Arts Festival and registered as a Charity on 16th June 2010.

The company was renamed Liverpool Arab Arts Festival on 21st February 2013. The governing instruments under which the charitable company operates comprise the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9th February 2010 together with the policies made from time to time by the Trustees.

Trustees provide governance of the organisation as unpaid volunteers. The board of trustees meets quarterly and administers the charity the board approve policy that is then implemented by the Director and the rest of the team. In addition to quarterly meetings LAAF trustees provide voluntary support to the operational team which enables the organisation to fulfil its aims and objectives.

LAAF values volunteer support and ensures the festival offers opportunities for people to gain experience in Volunteers are given the opportunity to gain experience in festival management, events production and marketing, translation, finance and general events administration.

#### Objects of the organisation

The objects of the charity are to advance the education of the public in Arabic arts but not exclusively by the promotion and staging of regular Arabic arts festivals and events in Liverpool and;

the advancement of the arts culture and heritage through the support encouragement and showcasing of Arabic artists and artisans.

In setting objectives and policies to achieve them, the Board give due consideration to guidance issued by the Charities Commission to ensure that such policies achieve the requirement to give public benefit.

## **Reference and Administrative Details**

### **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

**Charlty number 1136384**

**A Company limited by guarantee number 07184925**

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees have reviewed cover for operational activities for three months. Based on current commitments LAAF will retain £30,000 in reserve and £10,000 to cover any exceptional cost or circumstances. Remainder of the unrestricted fund balance is allocated to festival and project running cost.

#### **Accountant**

**Jane Williams**

**Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service**

Beacon Building

College Street

St Helens

WA10 1TF

#### **Approval**

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the trustees on 14th December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

## **Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out on pages 12 to 20

### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The 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 an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, 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
- ☐ 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 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 statement below.

### **Independent examiner's 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- ☐ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

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

Jane Williams  
MAAT  
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service  
Beacon Building  
College Street  
St Helens  
WA10 1TF

14th December 2023

**Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(Including Income & Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	(4)	8,462	-	8,462	500
Income from charitable activities	(5)	114,024	49,535	163,559	231,894
Other Incoming resources	(6)	3,344	-	3,344	2,003
Investment Income	(7)	3	-	3	1
<b>Total Incoming resources</b>		<b>125,833</b>	<b>49,535</b>	<b>175,368</b>	<b>234,398</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities	(8)	125,916	60,252	186,168	248,740
<b>Net incoming / (outgoing) resources</b>		<b>(83)</b>	<b>(10,717)</b>	<b>(10,800)</b>	<b>(14,342)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(83)</b>	<b>(10,717)</b>	<b>(10,800)</b>	<b>(14,342)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
<b>Total funds as at 1 April 2022</b>		<b>61,122</b>	<b>26,035</b>	<b>87,157</b>	<b>101,499</b>
<b>Total funds as at 31 March 2023</b>	(8a)	<b>61,039</b>	<b>15,318</b>	<b>76,357</b>	<b>87,157</b>

The above statement includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.  
All activities are regarded as continuing.  
Comparative figures for the previous year by fund type are shown in Note 15.  
The Notes on pages 14 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

# Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

Charity number 1136384

A Company limited by guarantee number 07184925

## Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2023

		2023	2023	2023	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors and prepayments	(11)	6,699	-	6,699	10,607
Cash at bank and in hand	(12)	58,566	15,318	73,884	82,969
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>65,265</u>	<u>15,318</u>	<u>80,583</u>	<u>93,576</u>
<b>Current liabilities:</b>					
<b>amounts falling due within one year</b>					
Creditors (due within one year)	(13)	4,226	-	4,226	6,419
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>4,226</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,226</u>	<u>6,419</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>61,039</u>	<u>15,318</u>	<u>76,357</u>	<u>87,157</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted Funds		-	15,318	15,318	26,035
Unrestricted funds		61,039	-	61,039	61,122
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u>61,039</u>	<u>15,318</u>	<u>76,357</u>	<u>87,157</u>

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) confirm that for the year ended 31 March 2023

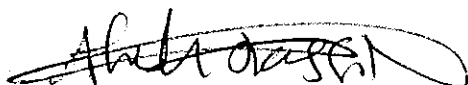
the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and

the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act

the trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

The notes on pages 14 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts, which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, were approved by the trustees on 14th December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Afrah Qassim  
Chair

**Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2023**

		2023 Total £	2022 Total £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
Net income/(expenditure) per SOFA		(10,800)	(14,342)
Depreciation		-	-
Investment income		(3)	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(5)	3,908	13,510
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		(2,193)	1,491
		<u>(9,088)</u>	<u>659</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Investment income	(6)	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
		(9,085)	659
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash:</b>		<u>82,969</u>	<u>82,310</u>
<b>Total cash as at 1 April 2022</b>		<u>73,884</u>	<u>82,969</u>
<b>Total cash as at 31 March 2023</b>			

The notes on pages 14 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

# **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

## **Notes to the accounts**

**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **1 Basis of preparation**

These accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention,

**1.1** with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s), in accordance with:

- (a) The Charities Act 2011
- (b) The Companies Act 2006
- (c) The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland: FRS 102
- (d) Accounting & Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP FRS 102) (effective January 2015)

**1.2** The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102

**1.3** The trustees consider that there are not material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

### **2 Accounting Policies**

#### **2.1 Fund accounting**

- (a) Unrestricted funds are those that can be expended at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objects of the charity.
- (b) Restricted funds are those that may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor, or when funds are raised for specific purposes.
- (c) The purposes of the funds are shown in Note 8a.

#### **2.2 Income**

- (a) Income is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the income; receipt is probable; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- (b) Where income has related expenditure (e.g. projects), the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.
- (c) Bank interest is recognised when credited to the account.
- (d) Gift Aid, where appropriate, is recognised in the same accounting period as the donation to which it relates.
- (e) Income, which is subject to conditions that the charity has yet to fulfil, or which is specifically for use in a future accounting period, is treated as deferred income.

#### **2.3 Expenditure and liabilities**

- (a) Expenditure is recognised on the accruals basis.
- (b) The charity is not registered for VAT, thus all costs are shown inclusive of VAT charged.
- (c) Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay out resources.
- (d) Governance costs include the costs of preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the cost of trustee meetings and the cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.



# **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**

## **Notes to the accounts**

### **for the year ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **2.4 Tangible Fixed Assets**

(a) Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £250. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at their value on receipt.

Rates of depreciation

Building Improvements: 20% straight line basis to nil

Fixtures and fittings: 15% straight line basis to nil

Equipment: 20% straight line basis to nil

#### **2.5 Debtors**

(a) Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

(b) Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

#### **2.6 Cash**

(a) Cash comprises bank deposits repayable on demand and any short-term highly liquid investments with a maturity date of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### **2.7 Creditors**

(a) Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount, usually the invoice amount.

(b) Accrued charges are normally valued at their settlement amount.

#### **2.8 Taxation**

The charity is not liable to Income tax or capital gains tax on its charitable activities.

### **3 Transactions with trustees and related parties**

No trustees received any expenses (note 13) during the accounting period.

Owing to the nature of the charity's activities and the composition of the board of trustees (being drawn from local statutory and voluntary organisation), it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a trustee may have an interest. All transactions in which a trustee may have an interest are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the charity's financial regulations and expenditure procedures. No transactions were identified which should be disclosed under FRS 102.

**Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**4 Donations and legacies**

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Donations	8,462	-	8,462	500
	<u>8,462</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,462</u>	<u>500</u>

**5 Income from charitable activities**

	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Arts Council Funding	112,024	-	112,024	112,024
Culture Liverpool Investment	-	14,250	14,250	14,250
LCRCA: Generations for Change	-	-	-	12,437
Yemen In Conflict	2,000	-	2,000	5,248
Granada Foundation	-	2,000	2,000	-
The Space CIC	-	8,618	8,618	-
PH Holt	-	5,000	5,000	-
DCMS: Cultural Recovery Fund	-	-	-	38,787
Arts Council: Lottery Project Grants	-	-	-	39,148
Qatar Foundation International	-	19,667	19,667	10,000
	<u>114,024</u>	<u>49,535</u>	<u>163,559</u>	<u>231,894</u>

**6 Other incoming resources from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Box Office	3,344	-	3,344	2003
	<u>3,344</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,344</u>	<u>2,003</u>

**7 Investment Income**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Bank Interest Received	3	-	3	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

# Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

## Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2023

8a Restricted funds summary	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
Culture Liverpool Investment	(805)	14,250	14,257	-	(812)
DCMS: Cultural Recovery Fund	(5)	-	-	-	(5)
Granada Foundation	53	2,000	2,000	-	53
LCRCA: Generations for change	7,218	-	7,218	-	-
Qatar Fdn International	14,234	19,667	17,638	-	16,263
The Space CIC	-	8,618	8,634	-	(16)
PH Holt	-	5,000	4,998	-	2
University of Liverpool	5,340	-	5,507	-	(167)
	<u>26,035</u>	<u>49,535</u>	<u>60,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,318</u>

### Purpose of restricted funds

Culture Liverpool contribution towards the Liverpool Arab Arts Festival.

Granada Foundation provided funding towards cultural workshops in schools.

Qatar Foundation International provided funding for schools cultural development project.

University of Liverpool funded our Yemen in conflict national project.

Arts Council Lottery Project Grants Live and Digital Project.

Department of Digital Culture, Media and Sport, Culture Recovery Fund. Safeguarding LAAF's cultural offer during Covid 19.

9 Staff Costs	2023 £	2022 £
Gross Wages and salaries	80,792	104,342
Social security costs	1,708	4,590
Pension contributions	1,239	1,751
	<u>83,739</u>	<u>110,683</u>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

2023	2022
<u>2.7</u>	<u>2.7</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year

**Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

<b>10 Debtors and prepayments</b>	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	6,699	10,607
	<u>6,699</u>	<u>10,607</u>
<b>11 Cash at bank and in hand</b>	2023	2022
	£	£
Current accounts	73,196	82,403
Credit card	-	(182)
Reserve account	708	705
Cash in hand	(20)	42
	<u>73,884</u>	<u>82,969</u>
<b>12 Creditors and accruals</b>	2023	2022
	£	£
Creditors	4,226	6,419
	<u>4,226</u>	<u>6,419</u>
<b>13 Trustee remuneration and expenses</b>	2023	2022
	£	£
Total amount paid	<u>2,812</u>	<u>96</u>

During the period two trustees received out of pocket expenses (2022: 1)

During the period the board approved for one trustee to receive payment to support the production of a digital project. The project required specialist skills set to complete the project within a tight deadline and this was agreed as the best option.

**14 Guarantees**

As at 31st March 2023, 6 members had given a guarantee of £10 each in the event of the company winding-up. Total: £60 (2022: 6 members, £60)

**Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**  
**Comparative Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(Including Income & Expenditure Account)**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**16 Comparative Income and expenditure by fund type**

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>				
Income from donations	8,462	500	-	-
Income from charitable activities	114,024	117,272	49,535	114,622
Other incoming resources	3,344	2,003	-	-
Investment income	3	1	-	-
<b>Total Incoming resources</b>	<b>125,833</b>	<b>119,776</b>	<b>49,535</b>	<b>114,622</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	125,916	115,468	60,252	133,272
<b>Net incoming / (outgoing) resources</b>	<b>(83)</b>	<b>4,308</b>	<b>(10,717)</b>	<b>(18,650)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(83)</b>	<b>4,308</b>	<b>(10,717)</b>	<b>(18,650)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds as at 1 April 2022	61,122	56,766	26,035	44,685
Total funds as at 31 March 2023	61,039	61,074	15,318	26,035