

LONDON FIREBIRD ORCHESTRA

England & Wales · Charity number 1151014

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [08392959](#)

Registered 2013-02-28

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

Contact

Address London Firebird Orchestra
Fora
Douglas House
131-151 Great Titchfield Street
London
W1W 5BB

Phone 07920282397

Email info@FirebirdOrchestra.com

Website <http://www.londonfirebird.com>

Activities

Objects: 4.1 THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING:(A)THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE ARTS GENERALLY AND MUSIC PARTICULARLY, BY THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF AN ORCHESTRA (AND OTHER MUSICAL GROUPS AS APPROPRIATE FROM TIME TO TIME) AND:(I)THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND OTHER MUSICAL AND RELATED EVENTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC;AND(II)THE PRESENTATION OF EVENTS FUSING MUSIC WITH COMEDY AND OTHER ART-FORMS IN ORDER TO MAKE CLASSICAL MUSIC MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THOSE WHO MAY PREVIOUSLY HAVE FELT EXCLUDED;(B)THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, BY:(I)PRINCIPALLY INVOLVING IN THE ORCHESTRA YOUNG MUSICIANS AND RECENT GRADUATES FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMIES AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS, TO ENABLE THEM TO GAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE OF PERFORMING IN PUBLIC AND AS PART OF AN ENSEMBLE; AND(II)PROVIDING AN INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC AND THE MAKING OF MUSIC TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN WORKSHOPS AND SIMILAR PARTICIPATIVE EVENTS;(C)THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, BY:(I)PROVIDING PRACTICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT, INCLUDING GRANTS, BURSARIES AND SPONSORSHIP, TO YOUNG MUSICIANS OR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN MUSICAL EDUCATION OR TRAINING OR INSTITUTIONS OR BODIES PROVIDING SUCH EDUCATION OR TRAINING;AND(II)ESTABLISHING COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN THE ORCHESTRA OR PARTICIPATING IN MUSICAL EDUCATION OR TRAINING.

Activities: The advancement of art and science of music through the management of an orchestra featuring musicians of the younger generation and the presentation of public concerts.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-02-28	£83,904	£89,795	-	-
2024-02-29	£83,670	£73,138	-	-
2023-02-28	£70,403	£79,723	-	-
2022-02-28	£56,798	£57,025	-	-
2021-02-28	£35,054	£35,566	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DAVID BATY		2013-02-07
James Christopher Saunders		2024-10-30
Marc Corbett-Weaver		2013-02-07
Michael Manning Clark		2014-02-05
PHILIP EDWARD ROWLEY		2013-02-07
RORY GRAHAM		2013-02-07
Stephen David Wilson		2024-10-30

LONDON FIREBIRD ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1151014

Accounts

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Report of Activities for the year ending 28 February 2025

During the period five orchestral concerts, one chamber concert and one Firebird for Schools concert, took place. Music by Hadyn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Dvorak, Grieg, Massenet, Bizet, Sibelius, Ravel, Prokofiev, Gershwin and Yury Revich was performed by the orchestra. Firebird's two Principal Guest Conductors, George Jackson and Michael Thrift, conducted the concerts and a new conductor Thomas Payne joined once too. The orchestra collaborated with an excellent range of soloists including Martin James Bartlett, Edoardo Grieco, Amiri Harewood, Benji Lock, Francesco Massimino, Lorenzo Nguyen, Yury Revich and Charlotte Saluste-Bridoux. Two student pianists performed piano concertos at a private concert. A chamber ensemble – Trio Concept - gave a recital. All performances took place at St George's Hanover Square. An audience of 200 schoolchildren from five central London state schools enjoyed a tailor-made concert for children narrated by the actor Robert Bathurst.

Income was maintained at similar levels to that of the previous period. One concert took place at just before the start of the period, the costs for which were expended during the period and income for which arrived in the previous period. The number of performers, and the level of support offered to them, rose during the period. Concert expenses increased slightly. It became possible to create audiovisual recordings more regularly too. A small deficit was incurred at the year-end contrasting with the surplus in the previous period.

Once again players took part in a Christmas charity event at a London hotel. The creation of audio-visual recordings at concerts returned to being a regular activity, after a lull during the previous period when it had been harder to secure an engineer on a regular basis.

Future plans include developing the orchestra's chamber platform to feature a larger ensemble and involved a narrated concert, a concert in Oxford, a collaboration with the London Chamber Music Society, a collaboration with Yury Revich's Festival Nights series and further schools concerts.

November 2025

David Baty (*Chairman*), Marc Corbett-Weaver (*Artistic Director*),
Michael Manning Clark, Roderick Graham, Philip Rowley, James Saunders, Stephen Wilson
Trustees of London Firebird Orchestra

For further information about London Firebird Orchestra please visit: www.LondonFirebird.com

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Financial Statements for the year ending 28 February 2025

Notes		Year to 28 Feb '25	Year to 29 Feb '24
	Income	£	£
1	Concert income	18,350	18,276
2	Engagement fees	1,850	1,850
3	Voluntary income	51,593	51,149
4	Gift Aid	12,111	12,395
	Total Income	<u>83,904</u>	<u>83,670</u>
	Expenses		
5	Payments to performing artists	56,763	42,073
6	Concert expenses	27,177	26,945
7	Recordings	1,332	315
8	Promotion	2,767	2,203
9	Insurance	1,590	1,469
10	Bank charges	166	133
	Total Expenses	<u>89,795</u>	<u>73,138</u>
	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<u>(5,891)</u>	<u>10,531</u>

Notes

- 1 Ticket sales and other income generated by the orchestra's own productions.
- 2 Fees paid by external promoters in respect of the orchestra's performances.
- 3 Gifts donated to support the orchestra's work.
- 6 Venue hire, hire of percussion equipment and other musical instruments, hire or purchase of sheet music, catering and ancillary expenses, management and production costs

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2025

	Year to 28 Feb '25	Year to 29 Feb '24
ASSETS		
	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	22,701	28,592
Total current assets	<u>22,701</u>	<u>28,592</u>
Current liabilities	0	0
Total current liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Assets	<u>22,701</u>	<u>28,592</u>
 CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Reserves brought forward	28,592	18,061
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	(5,891)	10,531
Total Reserves	<u>22,701</u>	<u>28,592</u>

LONDON FIREBIRD ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1151014

Accounts

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Report of Activities for the year ending 29 February 2024

During the period five orchestral concerts and two chamber concerts took place. Music by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Sir Edward Elgar, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Yury Revich and Ruth Gipps was performed by the orchestra. Firebird's two Principal Guest Conductors, George Jackson and Michael Thrift, conducted the concerts. The orchestra collaborated with a stunning range of fantastic soloists including Jonathan Leibovitz, Maciej Kulakowski, Yury Revich and Harris Tsz-Chun Leung. Two student pianists performed piano concertos at a private concert. Two chamber ensembles – the Trio de Beauvoir and the Avalon Trio - gave recitals featuring piano trios by Haydn, Beethoven, Fanny Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and Gabriela Lena-Frank. Shortly after the period ended a further Firebird for Schools Concert took place. Overall, the wide-ranging repertoire enabled Firebird's young musicians to explore works by living composers, female composers and lesser-known pieces alongside well-established classics.

Audience numbers continued to increase, alongside voluntary income. The size and number of donations from the Friends and Benefactors of the orchestra rose happily. Players took part in just one engagement during the period, at a Christmas charity event. A restructuring at the music department of a local university led to a reduction in engagement requests from there. Temporarily, the orchestra produced fewer audio-visual recordings of concerts due to the lack of availability of its AV team. Activity in this area restored itself after the period. As is typical well over half of expenditure amounted to payments to performing artists. Most of the concerts took place at St George's Hanover Square in central London. One concert took place at Kings Place in Kings Cross as part of a collaboration with the London Chamber Music Society. This was originally to have taken place during the coronation weekend, but was successfully rescheduled.

The period ended with a healthy surplus. Future plans include increasing the orchestra's offering to its players and a busy forthcoming concert season.

November 2024

David Baty (*Chairman*), Marc Corbett-Weaver (*Artistic Director*),
Michael Manning Clark, Roderick Graham, Philip Rowley, James Saunders, Stephen Wilson
Trustees of London Firebird Orchestra

For further information about London Firebird Orchestra please visit: www.LondonFirebird.com

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Financial Statements for the year ending 29 February 2024

Notes		Year to 29 Feb '24	Year to 28 Feb '23
	Income	£	£
1	Concert income	18,276	16,929
2	Engagement fees	1,850	3,345
3	Voluntary income	51,149	40,057
4	Gift Aid	12,395	10,072
	Total Income	<u>83,670</u>	<u>70,403</u>
	Expenses		
5	Payments to performing artists	42,073	44,118
6	Concert expenses	26,945	29,966
7	Recordings	315	1,885
8	Promotion	2,203	2,220
9	Insurance	1,469	1,400
10	Bank charges	133	134
	Total Expenses	<u>73,138</u>	<u>79,723</u>
	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<u>10,531</u>	<u>(9,320)</u>

Notes

- 1 Ticket sales and other income generated by the orchestra's own productions.
- 2 Fees paid by external promoters in respect of the orchestra's performances.
- 3 Gifts donated to support the orchestra's work.
- 6 Venue hire, hire of percussion equipment and other musical instruments, hire or purchase of sheet music, catering and ancillary expenses, management and production costs

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Balance Sheet as at 29 February 2024

	Year to 29 Feb '24	Year to 28 Feb '23
ASSETS		
	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	28,592	18,061
Total current assets	<u>28,592</u>	<u>18,061</u>
Current liabilities	0	0
Total current liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Assets	<u>28,592</u>	<u>18,061</u>
 CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Reserves brought forward	18,061	27,381
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	10,531	(9,320)
Total Reserves	<u>28,592</u>	<u>18,061</u>

LONDON FIREBIRD ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1151014

Accounts

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Report of Activities for the year ending 28 February 2023

This period is the first full fiscal year since the pandemic that was not impacted by any covid restrictions. The costs of seven largescale orchestral concerts fell within the period. These account for the rise in turnover and expenses. Concerts took place in in March 2022, two concerts in June 2022, a further Firebird for Schools concert in June 2022, September 2022, October 2022 and early February 2023.

Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Bruch, Saint-Saëns, Grieg, Dvorak, Ravel, Prokofiev, Avro Pärt and Yury Revich was performed. Firebird's two Principal Guest Conductors, George Jackson and Michael Thrift, conducted the concerts. The orchestra collaborated with a stunning range of fantastic soloists including Emmanuel Bach, George Harliono, Yury Revich, Maciej Kulakowski and Firebird's Artistic Director, Marc Corbett-Weaver. A further Firebird for Schools concert was presented by Ian Hislop and attended by over 300 children from seven different schools. Plans for a new Firebird Chamber Platform were also formed and the first chamber concerts scheduled. Audience numbers increased substantially from the covid years reaching capacities of between 200-300 attendees.

The increased number of concerts and their increased capacity naturally led to a substantial increase in concert income. Income from donations rose steadily too. The high reserves at the end of the previous period were spent on concert activities. Well over half of expenses were payments to performing artists. This high level of expenditure naturally resulted in a deficit, while income levels strengthened since the complications of covid, enabling the orchestra to return to full strength. The Board was also able to increase the level of support it offers performing artists too, which also accounted for the rise in expenditure in this area.

November 2023

David Baty (*Chairman*), Marc Corbett-Weaver (*Artistic Director*), Michael Manning Clark, Roderick Graham, Philip Rowley
Trustees of London Firebird Orchestra

For further information about London Firebird Orchestra please visit: www.LondonFirebird.com

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959

Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Financial Statements for the year ending 28 February 2023

Notes		Year to 28 Feb '23	Year to 28 Feb '22
	Income	£	£
1	Concert income	16,929	5,043
2	Engagement fees	3,345	1,017
3	Voluntary income	40,057	38,591
4	Gift Aid	10,072	12,127
	Total Income	<u>70,403</u>	<u>56,798</u>
	Expenses		
5	Payments to performing artists	44,118	29,450
6	Concert expenses	29,966	22,469
7	Recordings	1,885	1,425
8	Promotion	2,220	2,220
9	Insurance	1,400	1,379
10	Bank charges	134	82
	Total Expenses	<u>79,723</u>	<u>57,025</u>
	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<u>(9,320)</u>	<u>(227)</u>

Notes

- 1 Ticket sales and other income generated by the orchestra's own productions.
- 2 Fees paid by external promoters in respect of the orchestra's performances.
- 3 Gifts donated to support the orchestra's work.
- 6 Venue hire, hire of percussion equipment and other musical instruments, hire or purchase of sheet music, catering and ancillary expenses, management and production costs

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959

Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2023

	Year to 28 Feb '23	Year to 28 Feb '22
ASSETS		
	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	18,061	27,381
Total current assets	<u>18,061</u>	<u>27,381</u>
Current liabilities	0	0
Total current liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Assets	<u>18,061</u>	<u>27,381</u>
 CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Reserves brought forward	27,381	27,608
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	(9,320)	(227)
Total Reserves	<u>18,061</u>	<u>27,381</u>

LONDON FIREBIRD ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1151014

Accounts

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Report of Activities for the year ending 28 February 2022

At the start of the period the UK was in the middle of a long period of lock-down. By May 2021 the orchestra was able to perform again and in fact gave concerts at St George's Hanover Square in May, June, September, October and February during the period, as well as an audio-visual recording project at St Johns Smith Square at which a sponsor recorded Mozart's Piano Concerto no. 20 in D minor. Following government guidelines and liaising carefully with the venues, appropriate safety measures were put in place for all performances.

Music by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Wagner, Delius and Copland was performed. Firebird's two Principal Guest Conductors, George Jackson and Michael Thrift, conducted the concerts. The various restrictions meant that only two soloists performed concertos during the period – the violinist Emmanuel Bach and cellist Jamal Aliyev. At the concerts in May and June 2021, a small socially-distanced audience of around 30 guests attended. By September 2021 this increased, with between 70 and 100 guests attending the final three concerts of the season. All performances were recorded so that those who could not attend could enjoy watching at home.

Engagement income reduced significantly, as the orchestra's principal external engager was unable to organise events because of the pandemic. Also, the orchestra's children's project 'Firebird for Schools' had to be postponed to the subsequent period because the various schools who usually attend were unable to come to a concert at which different schools would mix together.

Naturally, the reduced attendance numbers led to concert income remaining lower the pre-pandemic levels (though still higher than the previous period). Happily, voluntary income returned close to its pre-pandemic level. Income from gift aid added to this and covered both this period and the previous one (during which no claims had been made). Once again, around half the orchestra's expenditure formed payments to performing artists.

Notwithstanding considerable challenges, the year concluded with a reserve only marginally reduced.

November 2022

David Baty (*Chairman*), Marc Corbett-Weaver (*Artistic Director*), Michael Manning Clark, Roderick Graham, Philip Rowley
Trustees of London Firebird Orchestra

For further information about London Firebird Orchestra please visit: www.LondonFirebird.com

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959

Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Financial Statements for the year ending 28 February 2022

Notes		Year to 28 Feb '22	Year to 29 Feb '21
	Income	£	£
1	Concert income	5,043	2,485
2	Engagement fees	1,017	5,373
3	Voluntary income	38,591	27,196
4	Gift Aid	12,147	-
	Total Income	<u>56,798</u>	<u>35,054</u>
	Expenses		
5	Payments to performing artists	29,450	18,190
6	Concert expenses	22,469	13,141
7	Recordings	1,425	1,045
8	Promotion	2,220	1,955
9	Insurance	1,379	1,137
10	Bank charges	82	98
	Total Expenses	<u>57,025</u>	<u>35,566</u>
	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<u>(227)</u>	<u>(512)</u>

Notes

- 1 Ticket sales and other income generated by the orchestra's own productions.
- 2 Fees paid by external promoters in respect of the orchestra's performances.
- 3 Gifts donated to support the orchestra's work.
- 6 Venue hire, hire of percussion equipment and other musical instruments, hire or purchase of sheet music, catering and ancillary expenses, management and production costs

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2022

	Year to 28 Feb '22	Year to 29 Feb '21
ASSETS		
	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	27,381	27,608
Total current assets	<u>27,381</u>	<u>27,608</u>
Current liabilities	0	0
Total current liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Assets	<u>27,381</u>	<u>27,608</u>
 CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Reserves brought forward	27,608	28,120
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	(227)	(512)
Total Reserves	<u>27,381</u>	<u>27,608</u>

LONDON FIREBIRD ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1151014

Accounts

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Report of Activities for the year ending 28 February 2021

At the start of the period the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis began to unfold. The orchestra was due to perform at Kings Place in March 2020 at a concert which had to be cancelled at short notice, in view of UK government restrictions. In spite of a lack of concert income, fortunately, sufficient reserves made it possible to offer cancellation payments to all performing artists involved with this production. The first lockdown period concluded in summer 2020. By the early autumn it seemed possible for concerts to be organised again but with safety measures in place – the precise details of which evolved over time and were subject to change without notice. An initial concert planned for September 2020 had to be cancelled at very short notice, whilst regulations were clarified and safety measures fine-tuned. Once again the orchestra made cancellation payments to all the performers. These payments, like those of earlier in the year, seemed particularly important at a time of great challenge for those in the performing arts.

Happily two further concerts took place successfully in the autumn of 2020 – one each in October and November. The first was enjoyed by a socially-distanced audience with a heavily reduced maximum capacity. By the time of the second, live audiences were no longer permissible so the concert was filmed for subsequent broadcast instead. In fact, all performances that have taken place during the pandemic have been filmed and released online so that those who could not attend in person could enjoy them at home. These recordings have also been made available to the musicians involved to enable them to showcase their work. By Christmastime the UK went into a long period of lockdown once again and it was not until May 2021 that the orchestra could start to play again, so this concludes the performing activities of the period.

Naturally the heavy reduction in concert activity and audience capacity led to a substantial fall in concert income. Nevertheless payments to performing artists remained at their usual percentage – around 50% of expenditure. A further fall is seen in Voluntary Income. This is partly due to there being two sponsored concerts in the previous period – a concert at St George’s Hanover Square, which unusually attracted direct sponsorship, and a Firebird for Schools Concert which was heavily subsidised by two large donations. None of the various sponsorship contributions continued into the current period, as no productions were produced in their various categories. In addition, a small proportion of the orchestra’s Friends & Benefactors Society were unable to maintain their support at the usual level, while the majority continued their support.

Income from engagement fees fell slightly. A largescale concert at Middlesex University, planned for March 2020, was cancelled. However the university supported the orchestra by making cancellations payments, again to help artists at a difficult time.

Notwithstanding these considerable challenges, the year concluded with a reserve only marginally reduced.

November 2021

David Baty (*Chairman*), Marc Corbett-Weaver (*Artistic Director*), Michael Manning Clark, Roderick Graham, Philip Rowley
Trustees of London Firebird Orchestra

For further information about London Firebird Orchestra please visit: www.LondonFirebird.com

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959

Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Financial Statements for the year ending 28 February 2021

Notes		Year to 28 Feb '21	Year to 29 Feb '20
	Income	£	£
1	Concert income	2,485	14,674
2	Engagement fees	5,373	6,078
3	Voluntary income	27,196	39,891
4	Gift Aid	-	5,726
	Total Income	<u>35,054</u>	<u>66,369</u>
	Expenses		
5	Payments to performing artists	18,190	39,228
6	Concert expenses	13,141	20,714
7	Recordings	1,045	960
8	Promotion	1,955	2,265
9	Insurance	1,137	362
10	Bank charges	98	159
	Total Expenses	<u>35,566</u>	<u>63,688</u>
	Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>(512)</u>	<u>2,681</u>

Notes

- 1 Ticket sales and other income generated by the orchestra's own productions.
- 2 Fees paid by external promoters in respect of the orchestra's performances.
- 3 Gifts donated by private individuals to support the orchestra's work.
- 6 Venue hire, hire of percussion equipment and other musical instruments, hire or purchase of sheet music, catering and ancillary expenses, management and production costs

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959

Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Balance Sheet as at 28 February 2021

	Year to 28 Feb '21	Year to 29 Feb '20
ASSETS		
	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	27,608	28,120
Total current assets	<u>27,608</u>	<u>28,120</u>
Current liabilities	0	0
Total current liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Assets	<u>27,608</u>	<u>28,120</u>
 CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Reserves brought forward	28,120	25,439
Surplus for year	(512)	2,681
TOTAL RESERVES	<u>27,608</u>	<u>28,120</u>