

ARTS BRIDGE CHARITY

ANNUAL REPORT AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

Charity Registration No: 1158002



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Charity Registration Number: 1158002

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY

Charity Reg. No: 1158002

Registered Office: 15 Lauriston Apartments
Ambleside Close London
London
N17 6FF

Directors:

The Charity's Trustees during the year to 31st May 2023 and to date were:

Yolanda Vazquez – Chair (interim)
Amelia Henderson
Tarnia Mason
Yuchen Zhang

Independent Examiner
Antoinnette Kudjoe-Flood
Community Accountants Ltd
111 Harbour Way
Folkestone
CT20 1NA

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and adheres to a Foundation Model Constitution.

Trustee recruitment is in the following stages:

- Discussion within board meetings about additional skills needed on the board which would be useful in supporting ABC's development.
- Compiling a list of contacts who possess these skills.
- Inviting contacts to observe a board meeting.
- Follow up meeting with the chair to discuss their interest in becoming a trustee.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity commission on public benefit.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the CIO are:

1. To advance education for the benefit of the public by using the performing arts to educate pre-schoolers and school pupils in England, with particular focus on those living in poverty.
2. To advance the education of teachers in the use of the arts as a means of educating by providing continued professional development support to enable them to develop their skills and build their confidence in this area of teaching.
3. To promote learning for pleasure by people no longer in full time employment in England, with particular focus on those over the age of 65 years, through continued development of their individual capabilities, competencies, skills and understanding of the performing arts.

Summary of Main Activities

During the accounting period, Arts Bridge Charity (ABC) were involved in our first professional theatre production and tour. We also delivered our first completely remote community project. As well as our first nature/ environment focused art project.

Root to Rise

Arts Bridge was awarded funding from Arts Council England to deliver an intergenerational, arts-based nature project from July 2022.

Children, elders, local artists and gardeners collaborated to regenerate the gardens of a residential care home (Protheroe House, N17) into a vibrant creative hub. Learning about the environment, taking part in nature craft workshops and developing their creativity through fun workshops.

The project had two strands:

1. Renovation - Renovating the gardens and outdoor spaces of a Tottenham care home.
2. Creation - Supporting the elders and local children to explore their creativity.

Renovation:

Two professional gardeners collaborated with residents to rejuvenate the outdoor spaces of the care home.

Weeding, designing and planting to creatively showcase the gardens. Initially the residents were going to take on a

consultant role for the gardening - leaving the physical labour to the ABC team - but they were so keen to physically take part that the residents were invited to help with light gardening activities.

Creation:

Nature craft practitioners led sessions during which the elders made various items including: bird feeders: ornaments made from dried flowers and fruit; Christmas wreaths using real plants. They also learnt about composting.

A local spoken word artist delivered poetry workshops for the elders. The poems created in these sessions and the items created in the nature craft sessions provided the stimulus for local children to creatively respond to - e.g. through dance, physical theatre, poetry, drama etc.

The project culminated in an informal sharing of work for an invited audience of friends and family in the garden of Protheroe House care home. The sharing took place as part of a garden party, which saw the children perform their devised piece whilst residents, friends and family enjoyed refreshments together.

Wellness Warriors 2023

Funded by Mayor of London's *Building stronger Communities Fun*, ABC delivered a rollout of a project we first piloted in 2021.

Developed as a way to support children during the COVID-19 UK lockdowns, the first iteration of Wellness Warriors was a totally remote, 6 week project in collaboration with Welbourne Primary School, N17.

Working with the children of key workers who still had to attend school, the weekly, 30 min sessions aimed to give children the tools to understand and identify their emotions and then develop a 'wellbeing toolkit' of activities that they could draw upon to regulate their moods. Providing them with a safe space to talk about their emotions during a time when they might be too scared to do so in fear of adding more stress to the adults around them and empowering them to manage their mental wellbeing.

Although the ethos of the project remained the same, the rollout saw the project change in some significant ways.: These adaptations were in response to changing circumstances, allowing the project to have an even greater impact.

- Duration - the project was increased from 6 weeks to 12 weeks.
- Session duration - increased from 30 minutes to 1 hour.
- Location - the sessions changed from being remote only to taking place in person at Chestnuts Primary School, N17.
- Participants - the pilot involved working with 6 x Key Stage 2 children but the rollout involved all Year 3 and Year 4 classes at a 1.5-form entry school. Totalling 90 pupils.

Anecdotal feedback from class teachers reported a significant improvement in pupils wellbeing and interactions at school - more cohesive interplay, being able to work in different groups without conflict and less instances of pupils 'acting out' or 'acting in'.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont.)

Now that this new in-person format has been developed, Wellness Warriors will now continue to be a key offer for ABC going forward.

Windrush 75

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the SS Windrush from the Caribbean to the UK, ABC was commissioned by Bernie Grant Arts Centre to deliver two community projects - Windrush Portraits and School Takeover.

Windrush Portraits:

ABC partnered with Bernie Grant Arts Centre and Tottenham photographer, Steve Bright, to create a series of portraits of local Windrush Generation elders.

100's of people responded to a call out looking for local elders to be involved in the project. After reading their stories, the applicants were whittled down to 14 people.

They were invited to a shoot day at Bernie Grant Arts Centre during which they:

- had their hair and makeup done by a professional makeup artist.
- were interviewed about their reasons for coming to the UK and the harsh realities of life when they arrived.
- Took part in a professional photoshoot.

The images of the 14 elders were displayed in the foyer of Bernie Grant Arts Centre alongside images of the elders from when they first arrived in the UK and audio recordings of them sharing stories about adjusting to their new lives. The elders were invited to attend a VIP gala event at Bernie Grant Arts Centre for the opening of the exhibition.

Windrush 75 Schools Takeover (20th & 23rd June 2023)

ABC delivered Windrush workshops to every Chestnut Primary School class group - from Year 1 (4-5yrs) to Year 6 (10-11yrs).

Firstly, Years 3, 5 and 6 came to Bernie Grant Arts Centre and took over the building for the day. 180 pupils came to the Centre and took part in a carousel of Windrush-themed arts activities using all the spaces available at Bernie Grant Arts Centre. The workshops delivered covered the following specialisms:

- Singing
- Storytelling
- Dance
- Drama
- Physical Theatre
- Spoken word

Then, the ABC team went to Chestnuts Primary School to work with Years 1, 2 and 4 (180 pupils). Throughout the day, each class was visited by an ABC practitioner who delivered a Windrush-themed workshop - receiving 6 workshops in total.

Upcoming projects:

Pajoma/Collective (formerly 'Access All Areas')

ABC has received funding from Cockayne Foundation and The Woodward trust to create a youth theatre company.

'Pajoma' is a Swahili word meaning 'inclusive/collective'.

Pajoma/Collective is an innovative new project for ABC uniting d/Deaf, Disabled and non-disabled (DD&N) young creatives from 'hard-to-reach' communities, 18- 25yrs, to form a young people's inclusive theatre company, specialising in integrated theatre meaning the access elements are woven into it.

Receiving masterclasses from industry professionals from similar backgrounds, training, guidance and creative freedom to develop a fully-integrated theatre experience for d/Deaf and visually impaired theatre goers. Investigating the aesthetics of access, the young creatives will work with audio describers, BSL interpreters, captioners as well as directors, choreographers & writers to devise an exciting, bold accessible theatre piece.

Pajoma/Collective will create a new generation of creatives empowered with the skills to make creative access a key element of their future work. This 16 week project has four phases:

- Phase 1 (April 2024) - Workshop auditions
- Phase 2 (June) - Exploring creative access
- Phase 3 (July) - Theatre-making / Rehearsals
- Phase 4 (August) - Performances & Q&As.

Bernie Grant Arts Centre (BGAC) and world-renowned Almeida Theatre will support ABC to promote Pajoma/Collective to local youth / community groups in areas with high poverty, low income families & a high percentage of Black, Asian and other ethnic minorities. Graeae, Deafinitely Theatre, D-Live and Stagetext - all d/Deaf and disabled-led arts organisations - have confirmed their support and will help to recruit d/Deaf and disabled young creatives.

An external evaluator will assess Pajoma / Collective's impact and the recommendations in their report will provide vital guidance for future iterations of the project which will be an ongoing key offer from ABC across communities.

Achievements and Performance

Root to Rise

Project outputs:

- 40 elder community members will participate in 4 x 1 hour nature craft workshops
 - There was a 250% increase in this figure - with the elders participating in a total of 14 hours of nature craft workshops from July 2022 to January 2023.
- 80 children will participate in 4 x weekly, nature-themed arts masterclasses.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont.)

- A total of 78 children attended the masterclasses.
- 10 elder community members will participate in 5 hours of outdoor gardening activities supported by a professional gardener.
 - There was a 170% increase in this figure - with 27 elders participating in the gardening sessions. The care home had been conservative with the predicted numbers as they had concerns with how many elders would cope with / be interested by the physical exertion. However, there was a huge interest.
- 15 children will perform in 2 x site specific performances within care home grounds.
 - There was a 13% increase in this figure - with 17 children in the site-specific performances.

Project Outcomes:

- 20 children will be able to express knowledge about and understanding of environmental issues.
 - Post-workshop feedback from pupils showed that this figure was 95% (76 children)
- 20 children will see an improvement in attitudes towards elderly people and their community.

Post-workshop / post-project participant feedback forms, anecdotal feedback from parents and ABC practitioners reveal that 55% (44 children) demonstrated improved attitudes.

- 20 care home residents will see an improvement in their attitude about how they are perceived by young people and their community.
 - Post-project participant feedback forms, anecdotal feedback from care home staff and ABC practitioners reveal that 64% (26 residents) have demonstrated improved attitudes.
- 20 care home residents will feel less lonely / isolated within the community as a result of the project.
 - Feedback from elders revealed that 84% of those involved (35 residents) felt less isolated as a result of taking part in the project.
- In our original application to Arts Council England we stated that 'RtR is designed to empower participants. Instead of feeling isolated or disconnected by these turbulent times, they can take ownership over how they respond to external stresses - proactively creating a welcoming safe space for them to play, connect and explore their creativity. Quality looks like all RtR participants having an enriching experience that allows them to discover hidden creative depths, feel connected to their local community and empowered.'
 - With this criteria in mind RtR was a highly successful project as it surpassed all of these overall aims.

Wellness Warriors 2023

- We engaged with 90 Haringey primary school pupils aged 7 - 9 years old.

The participants and their class teachers:

- Anecdotally reported increased self-esteem and confidence as a result of the project.
- Participated in 12 x creative wellbeing workshops led by ABC.
- Developed an understanding of the 'zones of regulation'
- Created a 'toolkit' of wellbeing activities that they can use to regulate their emotions.

Windrush Portraits

We engaged with 14 Windrush Generation elders and their families. The elders involved in the project:

- Experienced their first professional photoshoot including professional makeup artist.
- Featured in their first professional exhibition.
- Received jpg images and professionally printed hard copies of their images.
- Connected with other black Windrush Generation elder residents of Haringey.

Anecdotal feedback from visitors to the exhibition revealed a greater sense of respect and compassion for the Windrush Generation elders. Anecdotal feedback from participants highlighted a renewed sense of pride in their achievements and a boost in self-esteem after seeing their portraits displayed publicly.

Schools Takeover

The schools takeover saw ABC engage 360 pupils aged 4 - 11 years old.

Each pupil:

- Participated in 6 x 1 hour Windrush-themed workshops.
- Explored each of these specialisms:
 - Singing
 - Storytelling
 - Dance
 - Drama
 - Physical Theatre
 - Spoken word
- Used the arts to learn about the Windrush Generation, develop compassion for their bravery and celebrate their legacy.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Financial Review

In 2022-2023, the charity engaged in more activities compared to the previous year. The charities activities were financed mainly by grants and donations. Income was increased to £19,696 compared to £11 in the previous year. Expenditure was also higher at £17,980 compared to £2,035 in the previous year resulting in a surplus of £1,716 compared to a deficit of £2,024 in 2021-2022.

Reserves Policy

Arts Bridge Charity's reserves policy states that reserves of £2500 are required due to the following:

- a) The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project.
- b) Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover absence.
- c) A source of income, e.g. a grant, not being renewed. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations.
- d) Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. plans for a major asset purchase or to a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched-funding'.
- e) The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.

For the 2022-2023 financial year, the charity met its reserves target.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in February 2017), (The SORP).

In particular, charity law requires the Trustees, if they prepare accounts on an accruals basis, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- Prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. 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.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Bright'.

Full Names Amanda Bright

Position CEO

Date 10 January 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the financial statements of Arts Bridge Charity for the year ended 31 May 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act
- follow the procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 S 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of S396 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.

Date : 10 January 2024

Antoinnette Kudjoe-Flood BA MAAT
111 Harbour Way
Folkestone
CT20 1NA

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)
INCLUDING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources		2023	2023	2023	2022
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		18	-	18	11
Charitable activities		4,478	15,200	19,678	-
Total	3	4,496	15,200	19,696	11
Resources expended					
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		2,076	15,904	17,980	2,035
Total	4	2,076	15,904	17,980	2,035
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		2,420	(704)	1,716	(2,024)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		2,420	(704)	1,716	(2,024)
Other gains/(losses)		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		2,420	(704)	1,716	(2,024)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,395	-	4,395	6,419
Total funds carried forward		6,815	(704)	6,111	4,395

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MAY 2023**

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	6	20,502	15,795
Total current assets		20,502	15,795
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(14,392)	(11,400)
Net current assets		6,111	4,395
The total net assets of the charity		6,111	4,395
Restricted funds			
Restricted Funds		-	-
Unrestricted Funds		6,111	4,395
Total charity funds		6,111	4,395

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102))

- (b) Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:
- The charity has entitlement to the funds.
 - Any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity.
 - There is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable.
 - The amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

The charity received grants in respect of its activities. Income from grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met, then these amounts are deferred.

Other income includes income earned from events and activities to raise funds for the charity. Income is received in exchange for supplying goods and services in order to raise funds and is recognised when entitlement has occurred.

Investment income is included when receivable.

- (c) All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- (d) The Charity has not prepared a Cash Flow Statement for the year as required by FRS 1 because the Charity has relied on the exemption available for small undertakings.

- (e) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects of charity at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the Trust's work or for specific artistic projects being undertaken by the Trust.

- (f) Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and Creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

2. GOING CONCERN

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist.

ACCOUNTING NOTES

3 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations	18	-	18	11
Charitable Activities	1,434	-	1,434	-
Total	1,452	-	1,452	11

Charitable income from funders

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Grants				
Arts Council England	-	12,000	12,000	-
Greater London Authority	-	3,200	3,200	-
Peabody Community Foundation	2,044	-	2,044	-
The Woodward Trust	1,000	-	1,000	-
Total Grants	3,044	15,200	18,244	-
Total Incoming Resources	4,496	15,200	19,696	11

**4 EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES-
DIRECT SPENDING**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Project Delivery Consultants	-	15,249	15,249	200
Venue and Marketing	402	-	402	402
Total direct spending	402	15,249	15,651	602

ACCOUNTING NOTES (cont.)

Support costs for charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Administrative overheads				
Software	392	-	392	347
Insurance	275	-	275	222
Sundry	407	655	1,062	263
Total support costs	1,074	655	1,729	833

Other Expenditure - Governance costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	300	-	300	300
Reporting Accountant fees	300	-	300	300
Total Governance costs	600	-	600	600
Total Resources Expended	2,076	15,904	17,980	2,035

DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS AND EXPENSES

A total of £Nil (2022: Nil) was paid to the Director Amanda Bright during the year.

ACCOUNTING NOTES (cont.)

BANK

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at Bank	20,502	15,795

CREDITORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	14,392	11,400