

PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1188662

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-03-19

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

Contact

Address Palace Theatre
Oxford Street
Manchester
M1 6FT

Phone 00000000

Website manchesterpallaceandoperahousetrust.com

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION, APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTS, PARTICULARLY THE ART OF THEATRE IN ALL ITS ASPECTS AND OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES AND IN SUCH WAYS AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES OF THE CIO MAY DECIDE

Activities: To re-ignite Manchester's long love affair with two of its oldest and most famous theatrical buildings. Through creative learning, community engagement and heritage programmes, we will open up and transform the Palace Theatre & Opera House into the places where a new generation of Mancunians can play, learn, explore and discover what theatre and performance means for them.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bolton
- Bury
- Manchester City
- Oldham
- Rochdale
- Salford City
- Stockport
- Tameside
- Trafford
- Wigan

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£198	£2,733	-	-
2024-03-31	£12,927	£7,144	-	-
2023-03-31	£14	£59	-	-
2022-03-31	£0	£0	-	-
2021-03-31	£10,000	£5	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Chloe McMackin		2024-01-30
Elizabeth McCarthy-Nield		2024-01-30
Hollie Coxon		2021-08-01
Julian Woolford		2021-08-01
Laura Whitehurst		2024-01-30
Peter Robertson		2021-08-01
Thomas Aaron Kirk		2021-08-01

PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1188662

Accounts



PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report and Financial Statements

Year ending 31st March 2025

Charity Number: 1188662

Palace Theatre
Oxford Street
Manchester
M1 6FT

Trustees

Name	Date of appointment
Pippa Campbell	19 July 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Hollie Coxon	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Thomas Aaron Kirk	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Elizabeth McCarthy-Nield	30 January 2024
Chloe McMackin	30 January 2024
Claire Louise Rick	01 August 2021 (resigned 31 July 2024)
Peter Robertson	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Laura Whitehurst	30 January 2024
Julian Woolford	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Kui Man Gerry Yeung OBE DL	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)

Purpose of the CIO

The PT&OH Trust (the Trust) is an independent trust working to advance education, arts and culture by supporting educational and participatory activities inspired by the programmes, history and heritage of the Palace Theatre & Opera House Manchester.

Our mission is to enrich the lives of the people of Greater Manchester through a range of inspirational learning experiences at two of the city's most iconic theatres.

We believe in the transformative power of the Arts and want as many people as possible to experience the magic of live theatre and performance.

ATG Entertainment is the owner and operator of the Palace Theatre & Opera House. ATG Entertainment supports the work of the PT&OH Trust through providing access to its facilities, producing a Creative Learning programme which delivers on the Objectives of the Trust as outlined in its constitutional documents, and liaising with the Trust through attendance at regular meetings.

Objectives:

- Open up the two historic theatres to local people through increasing daytime access and creating dynamic educational heritage projects.
- Deliver a programme of educational and participatory activities for people of all ages, inspired by the theatres' touring productions musicals, drama and dance.
- Increase the opportunities for schools, students and young people, to learn more about the business of theatre, the creative and technical production processes and industry careers.

- Build our online presence, to further expand our reach and support the identification of new revenue streams to achieve an unrestricted fundraising target.
- In accordance with our equal opportunity best practice, to optimise the experience for anyone with health, disability or additional learning requirements or for those who may need financial assistance and/or socially accompanied visits

Achievements

Charitable Activities

This period includes significant growth and development of the Trust in the respect of the recruitment and induction of an additional three new Trustees, who bring with them a wealth of relevant experience that will help take us to new heights in the realms of fundraising, marketing and youth engagement.

In addition to our new Trustees, Ashleigh Williams joined the Palace Theatre & Opera House as Sales & Development Manager, and her arrival will also bring further support to the Trust in the respect of corporate sponsorships and partnerships.

The Trust has been able to continue support for some participation and outreach activities at the theatres in line with its mission. The Trust has also been able to support some subsidised places for young people from underprivileged backgrounds to join 'Masterclass' sessions held at the theatres during school holidays. These Masterclass sessions help young people to develop their skills through musical theatre focussed activities.

Following the success of these masterclasses, the theatres also hosted its very first Work In Theatre programme. Work in Theatre is a nationwide careers programme associated with Get Into Theatre, which seeks to improve access to theatre career pathways and information for underprivileged and underrepresented young people and emerging artists across England, Scotland and Wales. The Work in Theatre initiative has been developed in consultation with secondary school teachers across the UK, following feedback that young people's varying needs across the regions are not being met by the current 'one-size-fits-all' approach to theatre work experience opportunities. This was hosted in the Easter holidays and was met with huge demand, and funding allowed us to recreate the event on a smaller scale again in the May half term with 10 more students. And the aim is to continue in this merit and look to expand the programme further year on year.

The Trust also continued to cultivate its relationship with Manchester City Council this year. For Manchester Day, the theatres secured a stall and used this as an opportunity to signpost our Creative Learning activity supported by the Trust. Approximately 900 young people were engaged throughout the day.

Some key statistics from the theatres' Creative Learning Programme for the year are also included below:

Overall Number of Participants	4162
Total Number of Sessions	158
Total Number of Targeted Audience Development Tickets Distributed	2008
Total Number of Creative Learning produced Shows	14
Total Number of Audiences for Creative Learning Produced Shows	294
Total Number of Schools engaged	18
Total Number of Tours/Talks	38

Fundraising

Another major milestone for the Trust in this year was securing an agreement with the theatres to utilise the venues to raise the profile of the Trust and undertake public fundraising with their audiences. The theatres began to pilot fundraising for the Trust at bars and retail points in the last quarter of the year. Additionally, in February 2025, throughout the run of *Dear Evan Hansen* at the Palace Theatre, the Trust also secured the opportunity to have an on stage call out from the cast post show, directly encouraging patrons to donate to the Trust to fund activities to support the next generation of performers or arts professionals. This proved successful. Furthermore, the engagement from the venue front of house teams was the true testament of our results in this activity. Following this pilot, we have worked alongside venue teams to gain feedback and will continue in this trajectory going forward, looking for further collaborative opportunities to fundraise and also raise awareness of the Trust and its mission.

Governance

Trustees sourced an external facilitator to host a Vision Day on 28th January 2025, where we revisited our purpose and updated our mission and vision.

The Trust also undertook the formal process of inviting relevant Trustees to commence a second term and five Trustees agreed to this. Following the resignation of Claire Rick, Thomas Kirk was therefore voted in and appointed as our new Chair.

Note on Finances

This year, we have invested into the future of the Trust to enhance its profile and activities for the future. This included the Vision Day held in January 2025, and the creation of new marketing assets designed and produced to support our in-venue fundraising efforts. Work has also begun on the creation of our own dedicated website. Additionally, our new Chair, Thomas Kirk also undertook Safeguarding Lead training. A grant from Manchester City Council has also been carried forward to support activities in future years.



We researched several grants provided by the GMCA to support this activity, however we were unfortunately not successful in applications we found suitable at this time. A grant from Manchester City Council has however been carried forward to support activities in future years.

Future plans

Following our successful Vision Day in January 2025, work has continued driving the growth of the Trust. A new annual plan is currently in the works and will be heavily influenced by the Vision Day activity on strategy and planning for the future that was collectively contributed to.

Work has also been undertaken on the Trust website. We will utilise this online presence to further expand our reach across Greater Manchester, sharing case studies of our activity carried out to date, and providing a useful tool to signpost the impact to potential donors.



Receipts and payments accounts			
For the period from	1-Apr-24	To	31-Mar-25

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Bank interest	198	-	-	198	27
Donations	-	-	-	-	900
Grant - Relaxed Young Company	-	-	-	-	5,000
Grant - Greatest City Project	-	-	-	-	7,000
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	198	-	-	198	12,927
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	198	-	-	198	12,927
A3 Payments					
Bank fees	60	-	-	60	15
Trustee expenses	114	-	-	114	179
Trustee training	78	-	-	78	150
Vision Day	1,609	-	-	1,609	-
Marketing & Comms	873	-	-	873	460
Grant paid - Relaxed Young Company	-	-	-	-	5,000
Grants paid other	-	-	-	-	1,340
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,734	-	-	2,734	7,144
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
None	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,734	-	-	2,734	7,144
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,536	-	-	- 2,536	5,783
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	8,733	7,000	-	15,733	9,950
Cash funds this year end	6,197	7,000	-	13,197	15,733

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Held at bank	8,733	7,000	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	8,733	7,000	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1188662

Accounts



PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report and Financial Statements

Year ending 31st March 2024

Charity Number: 1188662

Palace Theatre
Oxford Street
Manchester
M1 6FT

Trustees

Name	Date of appointment
Pippa Campbell	19 July 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Hollie Coxon	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Anthony Hallwood	17 March 2020 (resigned 01 May 2023)
Chris Keady	01 August 2021 (resigned 14 August 2023)
Thomas Aaron Kirk	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Elizabeth McCarthy-Nield	30 January 2024
Chloe McMackin	30 January 2024
Claire Louise Rick	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Peter Robertson	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Laura Whitehurst	30 January 2024
Julian Woolford	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)
Kui Man Gerry Yeung OBE DL	01 August 2021 (second term commenced 01 August 2024)

Purpose of the CIO

The PT&OH Trust (the Trust) is an independent trust working to advance education, arts and culture by supporting educational and participatory activities inspired by the programmes, history and heritage of the Palace Theatre & Opera House Manchester.

Our vision is to bring the Palace Theatre & Opera House back into the heart of the city and the lives of its people. To re-ignite Manchester's long love affair with two of its oldest and most famous theatrical buildings.

We will open up these theatres and what goes on in them. We will transform them into the places where a new generation of Mancunians can play, learn, explore and discover what theatre and performance means for them.

ATG Entertainment is the owner and operator of the Palace Theatre & Opera House. ATG Entertainment supports the work of the PT&OH Trust through providing access to its facilities, producing a Creative Learning programme which delivers on the Objectives of the Trust as outlined in its constitutional documents, and liaising with the Trust through attendance at regular meetings.

Objectives:

- Open up the two historic theatres to local people through increasing daytime access and creating dynamic educational heritage projects.
- Deliver a programme of educational and participatory activities for people of all ages, inspired by the theatres' touring productions musicals, drama and dance.

- Increase the opportunities for schools, students and young people, to learn more about the business of theatre, the creative and technical production processes and industry careers.
- In accordance with our equal opportunity best practice, to optimise the experience for anyone with health, disability or additional learning requirements or for those who may need financial assistance and/or socially accompanied visits

Achievements

This period has seen the first significant fundraising successes for the Trust following its remobilisation after the pandemic. Most significantly, two grants were secured during the course of the year from Manchester City Council to support specific projects.

As a consequence of this success and some other fundraising, the Trust has been able to begin support for some participation and outreach activities at the theatres in line with its mission.

Most notably, the Trust have funded a new group: Relaxed Young Company, at the Palace Theatre for young people aged 13 - 18 on the autism spectrum. Introductory taster sessions engaged 15 young people in musical theatre activities during school holidays, before going onto host "core" sessions for 8 young people who became regular members. This group provided key support to a group of young people, in particular with developing skills in drama, confidence, teambuilding and friendships.

The Trust has also been able to support some subsidised places for young people from underprivileged backgrounds to join 'Masterclass' sessions held at the theatres during school holidays. These Masterclass sessions help young people to develop their skills through musical theatre focussed activities.

During this period, the development of the Trust's activities has been mirrored by, and has helped to foster, the ongoing development of the wider Creative Learning programme at the theatres.

A particular highlight of the wider programme this year was 'Eduham' Hamilton Schools' Performance at the Palace Theatre on Tuesday 6 February 2024. This performance was not open to the general public, and aimed to welcome young people aged 14+ to see Hamilton who otherwise would not have the opportunity. Following the performance, there was a 20 minute Q&A session led by a member of the company, as well as a technical demonstration which revealed the inner workings of the show which gave students an invaluable insight into theatre careers and support Gatsby Benchmarks 4 and 5. In total, the event accommodated c.1250 young people from across Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

Some key statistics from the theatres' Creative Learning Programme for the year are also included below:

Overall Number of Participants	5036
Total Number of Sessions	143
Total Number of Targeted Audience Development Tickets Distributed	1585
Total Number of Creative Learning produced Shows	7
Total Number of Audiences for Creative Learning Produced Shows	1320
Total Number of Schools engaged	69
Total Number of Tours/Talks	42

The Trust also undertook a targeted round of Trustee recruitment during the course of the year, which was focussed on needs identified during a Skills Audit. This led to the appointment of three new Trustees in January 2024.

Finally, the Trustees collaborated in the creation of an Annual Plan for the 24-25 year.

Note on Finances

The Trust has made important progress in its financial activities this year. It has begun active fundraising, and seen particular success in being awarded two grants from Manchester City Council. In turn, the Trust has been able to commence making its own grants in order meet its own objectives, by supporting participation and engagement work at the theatres during the course of the year.

Future plans

Since the end of the period in question, the Trust has been working to deliver its Annual Plan, with activity particularly focussed on fundraising, communications, and youth engagement.

The Trust is also working with the theatres' Creative Learning team to plan activities which will be funded by the second grant which it received from Manchester City Council during the course of the year, to deliver a retrospective legacy programme to commence next academic year.

With the resignation of Trust Chair, Claire Rick, in July 2024, Thomas Kirk has recently taken over as Chair of the Trust.

The Trustees are planning a Vision Day on 28 January 2025, to continue to develop and refine their work.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Palace Theatre & Opera House Trust

1188662

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

1-Apr-23

To

31-Mar-24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Endowment funds		Total funds		Last year	
	to the nearest	£	to the nearest	£	to the nearest	£	to the nearest	£	to the nearest	£
A1 Receipts										
Donations	-		900		-		900		-	
Grant - Relaxed Young Company	-		5,000		-		5,000		-	
Grant - Greatest City Project	-		7,000		-		7,000		-	
Bank interest	27		-		-		27		14	
	-		-		-		-		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	27		12,900		-		12,927		14	
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).										
None	-		-		-		-		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
Sub total	-		-		-		-		-	
Total receipts	27		12,900		-		12,927		14	
A3 Payments										
Bank fees	15		-		-		15		59	
Trustee expenses	179		-		-		179		-	
Trustee training	150		-		-		150		-	
Grant paid - Relaxed Young Company	-		5,000		-		5,000		-	
Grants paid other	-		1,340		-		1,340		-	
Marketing & Comms	460		-		-		460		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
Sub total	804		6,340		-		7,144		59	
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)										
None	-		-		-		-		-	
	-		-		-		-		-	
Sub total	-		-		-		-		-	
Total payments	804		6,340		-		7,144		59	
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 777		6,560		-		5,783		45	
A5 Transfers between funds	-		-		-		-		-	
A6 Cash funds last year end	9,510		440		-		9,950		9,995	
Cash funds this year end	8,733		7,000		-		15,733		9,950	

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Held at bank	8,733	7,000	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	8,733	7,000	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1188662

Accounts



PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report and Financial Statements
Year ending 31st March 2023
Charity Number: 1188662

Palace Theatre
Oxford Street
Manchester
M1 6FT

Trustees

Name	Date of appointment
Thomas Aaron Kirk	01 August 2021
Hollie Coxon	01 August 2021
Pippa Campbell	19 July 2021
Kui Man Gerry Yeung OBE DL	01 August 2021
Julian Woolford	01 August 2021
Anthony Hallwood	17 March 2020 (second term commenced 01 August 2022)
Chris Keady	01 August 2021
Claire Louise Rick	01 August 2021
Peter Robertson	01 August 2021

Purpose of the CIO

The PT&OH Trust (the Trust) is an independent trust working to advance education, arts and culture by supporting educational and participatory activities inspired by the programmes, history and heritage of the Palace Theatre & Opera House Manchester.

Our vision is to bring the Palace Theatre & Opera House back into the heart of the city and the lives of its people. To re-ignite Manchester's long love affair with two of its oldest and most famous theatrical buildings.

We will open up these theatres and what goes on in them. We will transform them into the places where a new generation of Mancunians can play, learn, explore and discover what theatre and performance means for them.

ATG is the owner and operator of the Palace Theatre & Opera House. ATG supports the work of the PT&OH Trust through providing access to its facilities, producing a Creative Learning programme which delivers on the Objectives of the Trust as outlined in its constitutional documents, and liaising with the Trust through attendance at regular meetings.

Objectives:

- Open up the two historic theatres to local people through increasing daytime access and creating dynamic educational heritage projects.
- Deliver a programme of educational and participatory activities for people of all ages, inspired by the theatres' touring productions musicals, drama and dance.
- Increase the opportunities for schools, students and young people, to learn more about the business of theatre, the creative and technical production processes and industry careers.

- In accordance with our equal opportunity best practice, to optimise the experience for anyone with health, disability or additional learning requirements or for those who may need financial assistance and/or socially accompanied visits
- Launch a new Youth Theatre & Young Company within the buildings, enabling opportunities for young Mancunians to perform, produce and see musical theatre and dance.

Achievements

Having remobilised towards the end of the previous financial year following the Theatres reopening from the pandemic, the focus of the Trust in this period has been on establishing systems and processes to allow its activities to flourish.

The Trustee group held an externally facilitated Away Day in July which had the following aims:

- To enable the Trustees to get to know one another better and engender greater clarity on the expectations of their role as Trustees;
- To understand the relationship between the Trust, ATG and the Theatres;
- To support the Trustees in understanding the Creative Learning and Development work being carried out by the team and to clarify how they might support this work moving forward;
- To begin to articulate set clear short/ medium term strategic priorities and goals for the work of the Trust over the coming two years.

As a consequence of the Away Day, two 'Task & Finish' groups were created focussing on Governance and on Fundraising, which continued to progress these areas of work throughout the remainder of the year.

A Memorandum of Understanding was also been put in place with ATG, so that the Trust is equipped to begin work on making our vision and mission a reality.

Following the Away Day, the Trust also appointed two of its existing members as Chair and Secretary, for initial terms of 12 months.

With the appointment of the new role of Creative Learning Producer for Manchester, ATG made significant progress in the establishment of a year-round Creative Learning Programme for the venues which will be the key focus for the Trust's support. The Producer developed a business plan and piloted a range of new activities for the theatres, which are closely aligned to the Trust's vision and objectives. The new Theatre Director and CL Producer reached out to other culture and education sector organisations operating in the city region, in order to help define a remit for the Palace

& Opera House's Programme that is complementary to those already in existence, and to explore potential partnership opportunities.

Some key statistics from the first year (between April 2022 and March 2023) of the Creative Learning Programme are included below:

Programme Area	Workshop / Session	Talk	Tour	CL Produced Performance	Projects where participants also saw a show	Total Number of Participant Sessions	Total Number of Funded Places
Creative Generation	20	12	4	5	6	47	755
Community	10	4	15	1	9	32	13
Talent	18	0	11	2	0	54	164
Total	47	18	30	8	10	133	932

Preschool (0-4)	Infants (5-7)	Junior School (8-11)	Secondary School (12-15)	Sixth Form / College (16-18)	HE / Vocational (18+)	Young Adult (Under 26)	Other Adult (Over 26)	Senior (Over 55)	Undisclosed	TOTAL Number of Individual Participants
	62	429	1799				147		226	2663
		1	1	117	8	2	11	31	744	915
		25	75	24	30				226	160
0	62	455	1875	141	38	2	158	31	1196	3732

Note on Finances

Due to lack of externally facing activity as outlined above, the sole outgoing was banking charges totalling £59, and income consisted of bank interest of £14.

Future plans

Since the end of the period in question, the Trust has been able to begin actively fundraising to support its Objectives, and has now had its first success in securing a £5,000 grant from Manchester City Council's Youth, Play and Participation team to deliver a Relaxed Youth Theatre Project.

The Theatres' Creative Learning Programme has also continued to grow and develop, with activity levels already ahead of the previous year at the time of writing. Projects and partnerships in development or delivery phases include:

- Schools' partnership programme
- English National Ballet
 - o Schools' Programme in collaboration led by Liverpool Empire which is engaging schools across the M62 corridor with ballet. 2 Greater Manchester Schools Are taking part.
 - o Ballet workshop on stage on Saturday 21 October for 16+
- Hamilton is playing at the Palace Theatre from November - February
 - o Establishing good connections with Cameron Macintosh Foundation who will be delivering activities:
 - Schools' performance (potential for 2000 Mancunian children to see Hamilton at a reduced rate through their schools)
 - Additional project opportunities to replicate success we had with previous large scale productions such as Lion King
 - Opportunities to collaborate with organisations locally, such as CONTACT
- Work In Theatre Project (ACE funded, partnership programme with Get Into Theatre)

The Trust is also continuing to develop its policies and procedures, and will be recruiting for additional Trustees to fill any skills gaps in the coming year. An Annual Plan for the 24-25 year will also be developed by the Trustees.

PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1188662

Accounts



PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report and Financial Statements
Year ending 31st March 2022
Charity Number: 1188662

Palace Theatre
Oxford Street
Manchester
M1 6FT

Trustees

Name	Date of appointment
Thomas Aaron Kirk	01 August 2021
Hollie Coxon	01 August 2021
Pippa Campbell	19 July 2021
Kui Man Gerry Yeung OBE DL	01 August 2021
Julian Woolford	01 August 2021
Anthony Hallwood	17 March 2020 (second term commenced 01 August 2022)
Chris Keady	01 August 2021
Claire Louise Rick	01 August 2021
Peter Robertson	01 August 2021

Purpose of the CIO

The PT&OH Trust (the Trust) is an independent trust working to advance education, arts and culture by supporting educational and participatory activities inspired by the programmes, history and heritage of the Palace Theatre & Opera House Manchester.

Our vision is to bring the Palace Theatre & Opera House back into the heart of the city and the lives of its people. To re-ignite Manchester's long love affair with two of its oldest and most famous theatrical buildings.

We will open up these theatres and what goes on in them. We will transform them into the places where a new generation of Mancunians can play, learn, explore and discover what theatre and performance means for them.

ATG is the owner and operator of the Palace Theatre & Opera House. ATG supports the work of the PT&OH Trust through providing access to its facilities, producing a Creative Learning programme which delivers on the Objectives of the Trust as outlined in its constitutional documents, and liaising with the Trust through attendance at regular meetings.

Objectives:

- Open up the two historic theatres to local people through increasing daytime access and creating dynamic educational heritage projects.
- Deliver a programme of educational and participatory activities for people of all ages, inspired by the theatres' touring productions musicals, drama and dance.
- Increase the opportunities for schools, students and young people, to learn more about the business of theatre, the creative and technical production processes and industry careers.

- In accordance with our equal opportunity best practice, to optimise the experience for anyone with health, disability or additional learning requirements or for those who may need financial assistance and/or socially accompanied visits
- Launch a new Youth Theatre & Young Company within the buildings, enabling opportunities for young Mancunians to perform, produce and see musical theatre and dance.

Achievements

As a result of Covid-19, the Palace and Opera House remained closed from March 2020 (when the CIO had been established) until August 2021. Whilst it was therefore impossible for the Trust to deliver activities during this period, an open and thorough Trustee recruitment process was successfully undertaken which led to the appointment of eight new Trustees, who bring with them a wealth of knowledge, experience, connections and energy to further the Objectives of the Trust.

The theatres mobilised to reopen from September 2021, although they were initially required to operate within the protocols of Covid-19 guidance. Separately, ATG's Palace and Opera House's Theatre Director, Sheena Wrigley, stood down in August 2021(?). The Theatre Director position remained vacant until January 2022, during which time Trust activities remained largely on hold, given ATG's need to re-establish operational practices in the venues, and the Trust's need to establish with the incoming Theatre Director how its own operations would interact with the theatres'. A formal meeting of Trustees did take place on 4th November 2021, which provided an opportunity for the new Trustees to connect with each other as well as with ATG representatives.

Robin Hawkes arrived in post as Theatre Director for ATG in late-January 2022. He proceeded to connect with the Trustee group, and the Trust began to remobilise ahead of the first in a series of more regular meetings, commencing on 28th April 2022.

Subsequently, ATG also appointed Grace Cameron as its first Creative Learning Producer for the Manchester venues. Grace began in post on 14th March 2022, with a remit to plan and deliver a year-round programme of participatory and engagement activities for the theatres, which should include acting as a delivery partner for the Trust's activities.

Note on Finances

Due to lack of activity as outlined above, the sole outgoing was a £5 banking charge.

Future plans

The board of Trustees is now fully established, with a formalised Constitution, and a regular pattern of quarterly meetings. Following an away day in Summer 2022, the Trustees have recently appointed Claire Rick as the Board's first Chair for an initial twelve-month term, and have established Task and Finish Groups with remits for Governance and Fundraising.

Trustees have also begun to draw on the experience of other trusts ATG venues work alongside, in particularly the Sunderland Empire Theatre Trust, to further develop ways of working and replicate any models of best practice.

A Memorandum of Understanding has also been put in place with ATG, so that the Trust is equipped to begin work on making our vision and mission a reality.

Since the appointment of the new role of Creative Learning Producer for Manchester, ATG has made significant progress in the establishment of a year-round Creative Learning Programme for the venues. The Producer has developed a business plan and piloted a range of new activities for the theatres, which are closely aligned to the Trust's vision and objectives. The new Theatre Director and CL Producer have together reached out to other culture and education sector organisations operating in the city region, in order to help define a remit for the Palace & Opera House's Programme that is complementary to those already in existence, and to explore potential partnership opportunities.

The intention of the Programme is that activities and projects will enable anyone who is curious about what we do to come and explore our unique theatres, gain a greater insight into the productions, develop their own creative talents, and give access to workforce of industry professionals. It will focus on three key areas:

'Creative Generation' – projects with schools to support creativity across the curriculum to support the mental health & wellbeing of pupils and teachers.

'Community' – Working in partnership to create work, space, or projects to address a specific need and demand locally. This could include working with older residents or those with mental health challenges or supporting a local artist collective with space to meet or work in.

'Talent pipeline' – Support and nurture the next generation of performers and industry workforce through our weekly youth theatres, holiday projects, masterclasses, and careers insights events.

There will be a strong focus on working with visiting show producers to support the delivery of wrap-around activities linked to and inspired by the shows in the Palace & Opera House to help connect with new and existing audiences.

Diversity and inclusion will carry specific targets in our planning, increasing engagement with those from underrepresented groups within our participants and freelance team.

The Trust will focus on transformational projects which will have the greatest impact, open up and welcome less advantaged groups and bring the theatres back to the heart of the city.

PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1188662

Accounts



PALACE THEATRE & OPERA HOUSE TRUST

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report and Financial Statements
Year ending 31st March 2021
Charity Number: 1188662

Palace Theatre
Oxford Street
Manchester
M1 6FT

Trustees

Name	Date of appointment
Thomas Aaron Kirk	01 August 2021
Hollie Coxon	01 August 2021
Pippa Campbell	19 July 2021
Kui Man Gerry Yeung OBE DL	01 August 2021
Julian Woolford	01 August 2021
Anthony Hallwood	17 March 2020
Chris Keady	01 August 2021
Claire Louise Rick	01 August 2021
Peter Robertson	01 August 2021

Purpose of the CIO

The PT&OH Trust (the Trust) is an independent trust working to advance education, arts and culture by supporting educational and participatory activities inspired by the programmes, history and heritage of the Palace Theatre & Opera House Manchester.

Our vision is to bring the Palace Theatre & Opera House back into the heart of the city and the lives of its people. To re-ignite Manchester's long love affair with two of its oldest and most famous theatrical buildings.

We will open up these theatres and what goes on in them. We will transform them into the places where a new generation of Mancunians can play, learn, explore and discover what theatre and performance means for them.

ATG is the owner and operator of the Palace Theatre & Opera House. ATG supports the work of the PT&OH Trust through providing access to its facilities and liaising with the PT&OH Trust through attendance at regular meetings to help ensure the carrying out of the PT&OH Trust's objectives as outlined in its constitutional documents.

Objectives:

- Open up the two historic theatres to local people through increasing daytime access and creating dynamic educational heritage projects.
- Deliver raft of new educational and participatory activities for people of all ages, inspired by the programme of West End and Broadway musicals, drama and dance.
- Increase the opportunities for schools, students and young people, to learn more about the business of theatre, the creative and technical production processes.

- In accordance with our equal opportunity best practice, to optimise the experience for anyone with health, disability or additional learning requirements or for those who may need financial assistance and/or socially accompanied visits
- Launch a new Youth Theatre & Young Company within the buildings, enabling opportunities for young Mancunians to perform, produce and see musical theatre and dance.

Achievements

As a result of Covid-19, the Palace and Opera House were closed from March 2020 (when the CIO was established) until August 2021. Therefore, activity and output was put on hold for the entirety of the period this report covers.

Note on Finances

A donation of £10,000 was received from the Michael Bishop Foundation. Due to lack of activity as outlined above, the sole outgoing was a £5 banking charge.

Future plans

Both theatres re-opened in August 2021 and at the same time a full board of Trustees was successfully appointed following an open and thorough recruitment process, with applicants drawn from across the cultural, heritage, education and business communities.

This board is now fully established and following the re-opening of both theatres, will start to work on making our vision and mission a reality. As part of inducting these trustees, we will draw on the experience of other trusts ATG work alongside to establish our ways of working and replicate any models of best practice.

Our first action is to establish a dedicated Creative Learning department within the Manchester Theatres and through that department to develop a full-time creative learning and community programme inspired by the Palace Theatre & Opera House, the programme and heritage of the two theatres. Recruitment for the post is live as of January 2022.

We aspire to play a significant role in our local cultural ecology and in connecting these historic theatres to the communities in which they sit.

New programmes and projects will enable anyone who is curious about what we do to come and explore our unique theatres, gain a greater insight into the productions, develop their own creative talents, and give access to workforce of industry professionals.

Therefore, we will be focusing on three key areas:

‘Creative Generation’ – projects with schools to support creativity across the curriculum to support the mental health & wellbeing of pupils and teachers.

‘Co - Creation’ – Working in partnership to create work, space, or projects to address a specific need and demand locally. This could include working with older residents or those with mental health challenges or supporting a local artist collective with space to meet or work in.

‘Talent pipeline’ – Support and nurture the next generation of performers and industry workforce through our weekly youth theatres, holiday projects, masterclasses, and careers insights events.

There will be a strong focus on working with visiting show producers to support the delivery of wrap around activities linked to and inspired by the shows in the Palace and Opera House to help connect with new and existing audiences.

Diversity and inclusion will carry specific targets in our planning, increasing engagement with those from underrepresented groups within our participants and freelance team.

The Trust will focus on transformational projects which will have the greatest impact, open up and welcome less advantaged groups and bring the theatres back to the heart of the city.