

SOUTHPAW DANCE PRODUCTIONS

CHARITY NUMBER 1198031

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Southpaw Dance Productions

SOUTHPAW DANCE PRODUCTIONS

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Trustees	Jill McKinney (Chair) Alex Brabbs Prof John Girkin Michelle Hudson Rob Lawson Paul Long Hannabiell Saunders Huey Nhan-O'Reilly (resigned) Ella Belsham (resigned) Katherine Pearson (resigned) Lois Stonock (resigned)
Executive	Robby Graham (Artistic Director) Lorna Fulton (Executive Director)
Address	Sheepfolds Stables Easington St Sunderland SR5 1BA
Accountants	T R Dixon and Co Ltd Chartered Certified Accountants Statutory Auditors 1A Dinsdale Place Jesmond Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1BD

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Southpaw Dance Productions' (Southpaw) charitable object is:

The promotion of the arts, in particular the art of dance, for the public benefit by educating and raising awareness of the diversity of participatory art forms, through means including the development and delivery of programmes of cross-artform workshops, events and performances.

Activities

The charity receives core funding from Arts Council England as a National Portfolio Organisation: activities are detailed here according to the NPO activity plan

Activity 1 - We will establish regular weekly sessions with communities and organisations across Sunderland at our new studio, contributing to community development, wellness and participation

Partnerships were established with Change the Game, Sunderland United AFC Foundation of Light, Let Your Soul Grow CIC, Wise Mentoring UK (working with NEET participants), and Sport England. Weekly workshops were delivered in community spaces in Southwick and a spring programme of workshops for young people (Origins) and adults (Ignite) launched within our new studio. Building on earlier sessions focused in Southwick, we expanded our recruitment process to work with local organisations: VCS North, Culture House, Culture Start, Cultural Spring, Sunderland Culture, Sunderland Council, the Sheepfolds, and Sunderland College to expand reach and impact.

Activity 2 - We will co-create one community engagement production with communities in Sunderland that explores lived experiences and responds to local community issues

Southpaw was awarded funding through the Culture House Creative Partners programme to pilot AMPLIFY, a new community performance company that amplifies the voices of Sunderland residents. The AMPLIFY pilot project was successfully delivered with 50 participants attending eight workshops with two Work in Progress performances aligned with the Culture House Creative Partner programme. Community consultation was undertaken throughout the creative process. Funding was secured through the Culture House Opening commission to continue AMPLIFY sessions leading to further performance in 25/26.

Activity 3 - We will work with families in Sunderland to create and develop a new show combining technology and performance

Development took place for the family show; the theme of climate displacement was identified. A work in progress performance with community consultation and development took place with two movement and technology workshops with Sunderland College students. A script was produced in collaboration with young people and planning took place for further development in 25/26 including fundraising for creation and onward touring.

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Activity 4 - We will develop our digital capabilities with tech companies, HE/FE, & communities to pilot digital work using immersive tech, develop audiences across new mediums and explore alternative touring models

Two innovation partners were engaged and digital development started on responsive projection, AR, motion capture, and mixed reality headsets in live performance capacity. Further development on Digital Roadmap was undertaken through an immersive scale-up mentoring programme (Creative UK funded) and the Arrow programme, a national funding programme with this project delegated to the University of Sunderland.

Activity 5 - We will deliver in partnership with local HE / FE / CAT courses in dance to deliver specialist modules, as well as partnering with Northern School of Contemporary Dance to establish placement opportunities and develop career pathways

The 23-24 NSCD placements completed their programme with a shared show for artists. Two new NSCD placement students were recruited and supported Southpaw in Belfast for community development and performance of Shift, in partnership with Du Dance Belfast. The NSCD placements developed and performed AURA at the Cultural Spring anniversary and performed as part of the professional cast for the AMPLIFY pilot performance. There was a sharing of AURA with stakeholders, including the Stockton International Riverside Festival Director. Both placement students achieved distinction grades during their time with Southpaw. Sunderland College students were integral in developing the AMPLIFY performance, including live performance experience, voiceover recordings used within the pilot performance, and community consultation on the new family show.

Public benefit

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which requires all charities to be able to demonstrate that they are established for public benefit and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission. The Trustees believe that the charity meets both of the key principles.

Principle 1 - There must be an identifiable benefit, or benefits

The trustees are satisfied that the charity is delivering its charitable object and is delivering benefits in terms of increasing opportunities for engagement with and participation in arts and culture.

Principle 2 - Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public

The trustees are satisfied that the general public is benefiting from access to opportunities to see and participate in art and culture and also that a specific section of the public (working class communities in Sunderland) are benefiting.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, the constitution of a CIO.

Charitable purpose

Southpaw Dance Productions' (Southpaw) charitable object is:

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The promotion of the arts, in particular the art of dance, for the public benefit by educating and raising awareness of the diversity of participatory art forms, through means including the development and delivery of programmes of cross-artform workshops, events and performances.

Trustees

The charity must have a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of 13. Trustees serve for three year terms to a maximum of three terms. The Trustees aim to ensure that the Board has the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. New Trustees are inducted by the Chair of the Board and are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of the charity's activities. No trustee received payment for services to the charity in this financial year.

Board meetings

The Board meets a minimum of four times per year face to face or via video conference. It also conducts some business via email. The agenda and written reports are prepared and circulated in advance of each meeting. The Trustees exercise their duties and responsibilities with appropriate care and diligence.

Management

Day-to-day operation of the charity is delegated to the co-CEOs (Artistic Director and Executive Director) within the constraints of the annual budget set by the Trustees.

Employees and volunteers

The company employed four full time members of staff during the year. The general volunteers are members of the public who assist on productions.

Risk management

The Trustees of the charity regularly review the major governance, operational and financial risks which the charity faces as part of its annual business planning process and confirm that systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

Southpaw Dance Productions' risk management strategy comprises the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate identified risks, such as a risk register and an annual review of the strategic risks the charity may face. At time of writing, the major perceived risks to Southpaw Dance Productions are outlined below:

- i. Trustee oversight: the decision by some trustees to step down may lead to gaps in skills and knowledge needed for high quality board assurance. Board development is underway.
- ii. Financial controls: the departure of the Executive Director means that the Artistic Director took on many of the functions of the ED role leading to challenges to capacity. A new ED is now in post and reviewing all operational aspects of the charity.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The outturn for the year is an unrestricted surplus of £47,815 (2024: surplus £16,599), leaving a balance on Unrestricted Funds at 31 March 2025 of £47,815

Reserves policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's need for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission. The Trustees aim to hold a level of Unrestricted Reserves that provides sufficient financial resources to meet the operating costs of Southpaw Dance Productions for three months. Their current estimate of the amount required for this purpose is approximately £35,000.

They also aim to retain a further £25,000 of Unrestricted Reserves, to enable the charity to respond flexibly to any issues, one-off financial requirements or appropriate initiatives that might be identified outside of its annual budgeting process. The targeted level of reserves to be retained for the above purposes is therefore considered to be a figure of £60,000. The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves shown in the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025 are £47,815 (2024: £7,079). Of these reserves, £24,689 were represented by Fixed Assets (2024: £3,269 leaving £23,126 available as Unrestricted Free Reserves (2024: £3,810) This policy is reviewed by the Trustees on an annual basis as part of the charity's budgeting processes.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties regarding the charity's ability to continue for the foreseeable future.

FUTURE PLANS

The Trustees have ensured a thorough strategic review of the charity's mission and vision, and in 2025/26, the priorities are to:

- Deliver largescale commissions: RIDE in Bradford for City of Culture, and STEAM for the 200th anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington railway
- Secure one more largescale commission
- Develop new touring work
- Board development
- Deliver the ACE-funded Capital Project
- Review studio management and operations
- Improve stakeholder management and relationships
- Develop financial plan and development strategy for beyond 2028

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparation of the financial statements the Trustees should follow best practice and:

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- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- 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.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with charity law. 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 responsible for managing the business of the charity and may exercise all the powers of the charity unless restricted by the Charities Act or the constitution of the charity.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on the charity's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

DECLARATIONS

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005 by the Charities Commission England and Wales).

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 5th December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Jill McKinney (Dec 10, 2025 15:19:02 GMT).....

Jill McKinney - Chair

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Southpaw Dance Productions

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Southpaw Dance Productions

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of charity law.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2022 ('the 2022 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2022 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

T R Dixon and Co Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditors
1A Dinsdale Place
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1BD

J. A. O'Toole

Date: 11/12/2025

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Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income from						
Grants	247,303	-	247,303	230,000	24,445	254,445
Performances	36,027	-	36,207	68,288	-	68,228
Total Income	283,330	-	283,330	298,733	24,445	323,178
Expenditure						
Charitable Activities	252,114	-	252,114	291,654	14,925	306,579
Net Income	31,216	-	31,216	7,079	9,520	16,599
Gross Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Movement	31,216	-	31,216	7,079	9,520	16,599
Fund Balance BF	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance CF	47,815	47,815	47,815	7,079	9,520	16,599

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Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	24,689	3,269
Current assets			
Debtors	5	5,287	2,695
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>34,905</u>	<u>16,808</u>
		40,192	19,503
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>(17,066)</u>	<u>(6,173)</u>
Net current assets		23,126	13,330
Total net assets		<u>47,815</u>	<u>16,599</u>
Capital and funds of the charity			
Unrestricted income funds		47,815	16,599
Restricted funds		-	-
Total charity share capital and funds		<u>47,815</u>	<u>16,599</u>

The Trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under the Charities Act 2022

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Charities Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

Jill McKinney
Jill McKinney (Dec 10, 2025 16:19:02 GMT)

Jill McKinney
Chair

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Southpaw Dance Productions
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared 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:

(FRS 102) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK

(FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022.

Income and recognition policies

Income derives from performance income

- The charity has entitlement to the funds.
- Any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met 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.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Restricted funds are funds which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at a rate calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Property, plant and machinery	15% Straight line basis
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Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is determined using the first in first out method. The carrying amount of stock sold is a expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with immediate access.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price), less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts. Loans and other financial assets are initially recognised at transaction price including any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

Creditors

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

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2 Number or employees	2025	2024
	£	£
Average number of employees during the financial period	4	4
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
3 Operating profit	2025	2024
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	<u>2,181</u>	<u>365</u>
4 Tangible fixed assets		Premises, Plant and equip
		£
Cost		
At 1 April 2024		8,529
Additions		18,976
Surplus on revaluation		-
Disposals		<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2025		<u>27,235</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2024		
Charge for the year		365
		2,181
On disposals		<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2025		<u>2,546</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025		<u>24,689</u>
At 31 March 2024		<u>7,894</u>

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5 Debtors	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Debtors	4,957	2,093
Vat	<u>330</u>	<u>602</u>
	<u>5,287</u>	<u>2,695</u>

6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,520	2,793
Other creditors	<u>15,546</u>	<u>3,380</u>
	<u>17,066</u>	<u>6,173</u>

8 Analysis of movement in funds

	£	£	2025
	Unrestricted	Restricted	£
			Total
As at 1 April 2024	283,330	0	283,330
Net income(expenditure)	(252,114)	(0)	(252,114)
As at 31 March 2025	<u>31,216</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>31,216</u>

9 Related party transactions

During the year the company charged £0 by way of expense loans to Southpaw Dance Company Limited

During the year the company received contributions of £2,093 towards repayments of expenses from Southpaw Dance Company Limited

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from the company or a related entity.

10 Capital Commitments

At the year end the company had no commitments.

11 Ultimate controlling party

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Southpaw Dance Company Limited.
Company number 096898048

12 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

Southpaw Dance Productions TAR 2024-5

Final Audit Report

2025-12-10

Created:	2025-12-10
By:	Robby Graham (catherine@southpaw.org.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAQBdID3zOxnU8k8Q22nKa8n6AFVEQTGWP

"Southpaw Dance Productions TAR 2024-5" History

-  Document created by Robby Graham (catherine@southpaw.org.uk)
2025-12-10 - 3:47:46 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to jill.mckinney@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com for signature
2025-12-10 - 3:50:31 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by jill.mckinney@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com
2025-12-10 - 4:18:31 PM GMT
-  Signer jill.mckinney@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com entered name at signing as Jill McKinney
2025-12-10 - 4:19:00 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Jill McKinney (jill.mckinney@sunderlandsoftwarecity.com)
Signature Date: 2025-12-10 - 4:19:02 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
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