

Company number 07359937

Charity number 1198895

Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH

Groundswell Arts
(Limited by Guarantee)

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Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details

Constitution

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 07359937 incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Company is a registered charity, number 1198895.

Directors and trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular trustees meetings.

The trustees during the year and since the year end, were:

Matthew Ian Burbedge
Sarah Helen Crompton
Blaise Grimes-Viort
Nick Hewlett resigned 24 February 2025
Gareth James Clayton
Natalie Sarah Merritt
Lydia Ashman

Artistic Directors/day to day management

Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells

Independent Examiners

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

Bankers

Metro Bank, One Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HA.

Registered office and operation address

Stroud Green Primary School (The Big Red Building), Woodstock Road, London, N4 3EX.

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Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with the Financial Statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The reference and administrative details set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and 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).

Objectives

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document is to advance education for the public benefit with particular reference to (but not limited to) delivering arts programming, for children and young people and providing training and professional development for teachers and educators to integrate Arts and Culture into the Curriculum and Community.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Aims

Groundswell Arts was established in 2010 as a not-for-profit organisation by founders Angeline Conaghan and Gareth Howells. In 2022 Groundswell Arts made a step change to become a charity.

We value an inclusive approach to creative learning, which supports and nurtures the wellbeing of children. Our initiatives are designed to reduce educational disadvantage and develop teachers' confidence to embed creativity and the Arts into the curriculum.

We use a range of art forms to support the wellbeing of children and their families, paying particular attention to developing children's language and communication skills, their attachment relationships, self-confidence, self-esteem, and resilience. We believe that parents and carers play a primary role as influencers and educators, and all our projects nurture this link between parents/carers and their children. We work closely with education and community settings to engage parents/carers experiencing social isolation or challenging circumstances.

Our approach and process are child-centered, responding to children's ideas and building on their innate capacity for creativity. We promote an inclusive approach to education and consider how every programme can be accessed by all learners. We encourage and empower early years and primary educators to develop and use Arts practices and skills in their work with children and young people, equipping them with the confidence to incorporate this work into their own teaching practice through peer support and training.

Strategies for achieving its aims and objectives

Where possible, Groundswell Arts aims and continues to run multi-year projects with the schools and settings it supports. This allows time for a holistic and long-term embedding of our approach. We are working towards a national profile for our approach and are seeking opportunities to expand our partnerships further across and beyond London.

We work with a pool of 25+ skilled freelance Arts practitioners to deliver a range of creative projects for 0–11-year-olds, their families, and educators, reaching on average 4,000 participants per year.

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We were successful in our application to become Youth Music's Learning Partner for their new Energiser fund with funding for the next three years the fund focuses on the voice and creative development of 2–4-year-olds and will involve curating a programme of learning for 11 National Arts organisations the fund is also for the arts beyond music. As part of this we will work with a research partner, develop a mentoring scheme, run two online yearly trainings, monthly organisation reflection meetings, and two-yearly events. This new development for the company allows us to strengthen ties across the country with a variety of large and smaller scale venues, working alongside them to support and grow a community of learning that holds Co-Creation in the early years at its centre and supports our company's development through the work we are already doing.

We have developed National relationships with organisation Blue Cabin who has piloted our project Sing Our Story working with care experienced children and carers in the Northeast of England in Redcar, Darlington, and Gateshead. We are in planning for a second pilot phase of this programme with Take Art, an organisation working in Somerset and Dorset in the Southwest of England planned for next year.

We have continued to develop our Dancing Together programme developing relationships with several funders and new local authorities in London. The programme has now expanded in Haringey, Barnet, Waltham Forest and Barking and Dagenham. We have also worked with the lead practitioner to develop more training linked to the programme which is being rolled out in Waltham Forest.

Our ongoing development of child-led theatrical projects saw the creation and delivery of the Invention Lab, science and Circus project and allowed us to again fine tune our methodology in the development of this theatrical process. We aim to tour this to 5 schools in 25-26 funding pending.

Activities

Groundswell Arts has a number of core programmes operating both in schools and the community. In the past year we have worked with 4,842 children and young people and parents, delivered 47 training and CPD sessions to educators to over 330 educators, and delivered 885 creative sessions.

Sing Our Story

Sing Our Story continues to be our flagship programme and is a bespoke song-writing project delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories.

Youth Music has continued to fund this project and we are now awaiting on the outcome of another 2 year funding. Alongside Youth Music this project has also be supported by John Lyons Charity, City Bridge Trust, Haringey Council, Edmonton Community Partnership and Haringey Creates. The project has included a national pilot in partnership with Blue Cabin in the north east of England.

This year we have delivered the project in another 16 London settings and have begun working with the Haringey Portage Service delivering the program directly with 10 families in their home.

We continue to develop trainings related to the project, delivering three training packages to childminders and EY practitioners in Waltham Forest and Barking and Dagenham each year as well as other bespoke trainings. We would like to continue to market these trainings in the future.

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The Communication Pod

Designed for the Early Years Foundation Stage, The Communication Pod uses natural resources and interactive technology, built into a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling. The Pod is an inviting space where young children can express themselves and explore different forms of writing and artistic expression. The Communication Pod programme has a strong focus on supporting children's speech and language development. This year the Pod has received support from John Lyons Charity and Barking and Dagenham Family Hubs and toured to 4 schools and 2 Libraries in Brent and 3 Libraries in Barking and Dagenham.

This funding has continued and we are aiming for a 9-week tour in Autumn 2025.

Energiser Fund – Learning Partner

As a new large-scale project for Groundswell, it was a busy year fine tuning the delivery, relationships, training and mentoring of the 11 Energiser partnership organisations.

As part of the learning support of this work we have delivered our first learning community event held in Haringey in October. We have hosted our 8 monthly online reflection session and have match 11 organisations with mentors, that have been taken place alongside the partners own project delivery. A second event at the Whitworth in Manchester has been planned for May 2025 and we delivered two online trainings in November and February. It is a significant workload and learning curve for the company, but a very exciting year and one we believe we have risen to the challenge of.

Invention Lab

Invention Lab uses physical theatre, circus, and design technology to set up a narrative that requires each class to contribute to solving a dilemma using 'Rube Goldberg' contraptions (chain reaction machines) and the school physics curriculum

During an assembly a group of 'Handy People' arrive to fix the new school bell. They take over the stage in an extremely over the top way using their circus skills and proceed to build a contraption with a bell that's out of reach with a big red control button on the other side of the room, that doesn't work.

What ensues over the following week is series of workshops and physical circus performances with KS2 classes helping the 'Handy People' to complete the machine and finally ring the bell using an elaborate mix of scientific components.

The research and development for Invention Lab was successful, and we completed final reporting to ACE for this work.

We have debriefed with the show director about the successes and challenges of the work and discussed plans for touring the programme in 2025/26.

We are aiming to tour this project to 6 schools and are also looking at other possible partnerships including one with the Park Theatre in Islington.

Lightbox

Lightbox is an interactive STEAM project that invites children into an illuminated space and encourages them to explore the use of light, dark, reflection, shadow, and colours. Light Box engages children in creative and scientific observation and investigation leading to puppetry and storytelling. We work with approximately 180-250 early years children per year on this programme.

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It was a busy year for LightBox with a new commission from the V&A Museum running a monthly accessible session for family's programme for families with SEND. Initially this programme ran until December 2024 but was then extended until December 2025. In addition to this we have run Light-Box projects at the Tate Modern as part of A New Directions – I am Festival 2025 and for Schools and Nursery commissions.

Dancing Together

Dancing Together was originally funded by Sports Unites and Peabody Housing in 2022/23 and has continued through into 2024/25 with funding through City Bridge Trust, and Haringey Community Chest, and have just received funding from London Marathon fund which will continue until 2028. Dancing Together continues to grow into a regular Groundswell Programme.

We also begun a new partnership in Barking and Dagenham Family Hubs towards the end of the year and this will continue into 2025/26. We are also offering the sessions this term at Northumberland Park Family Hub at Eric Alin Community Centre.

Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care.

Creative Music Making

We received a commission from Haringey Early Years to deliver a creative music making project for early years professional development in 15 schools between January 2024-June 2024 this was subsequently recommissioned for Jan – June 2025 again.

Let's Create

We received a commission from Haringey Family Hubs for a new programme supporting toddlers and families in the community with a focus on home learning. We used creative play and music and the theme of schemas (developmental patterns found in young children's play) to inform planning for sessions in two hubs Muswell Hill and Northumberland Park in 2024 with a further block of sessions scheduled for Wood Green Hub in 2025/26.

Training

We continue to develop CPD for Waltham Forest early years team linked to Sing Our Story with new CPD in puppetry and dance planned for 2025/26 alongside this.

We delivered online CPD for Early Years Music Scotland.

Achievements and performance

A big achievement this year for the charity was to be given the role of Learning Partner as part of the Youth Music Energiser fund with funding for the next three years. The fund focuses on the voice and creative development of 2 to 4-year-olds and will involve curating a programme of learning for 11 National Arts organisations working with the Early Sector in a variety of art forms from music to dance, drama and environments. Working alongside a research partner, we will develop a mentoring scheme, run online yearly trainings, monthly organisation reflection meetings, and two-yearly conference events.

This body of work aims to build a community of Early Years practitioners working together to build a research-based framework around the practice of Co-creation with children age 2-4.

Groundswell Arts has also continued to grow its Youth Music funded Sing Our Story project. Working with new schools' community centres and local authorities, we delivered 16 projects a year in person, online and in homes.

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We have piloted the project in partnership with Blue Cabin, (Working with care-experienced children) in the Northeast and hope to continue this relationship in 2025/26.

We received the Arts and Culture award from Haringey community collaborative – Cultural Organisation of the Year in 2024.

The Sing Our Story work has also seen an increase in support and funding from a wide range of organizations including, Haringey Creates, Edmonton Community Partnership, Rayne Foundation, City Bridge Trust.

Our new partnership with John Lyons Charity is another exciting achievement for the year.

As part of this 3-year funding we have been able to increase our delivery of work in the Brent, Camden, and Barnet with both our Sing Our Story and Communication Pod projects. This work has had a significant focus around brokering relationships with special needs schools and we continue to develop more experience and knowledge in this area.

With this support we were able to build new partnerships with schools, both mainstream and SEND and also develop a new strand of the Communication Pod project for 2 libraries in Brent.

Invention Lab for schools is a new Arts Council England funded project (funded received at the end of 2023/24 with development taking place this year. It is the latest in our development of participant led theatrical work and is our first time working with Circus and the Science (Physics) curriculum and continues to grow our body of work in this area, with a tour planned for 2025/26

The Dancing Together programme continued to grow with new funding from London Marathon Fund (covering 3yrs) & City Bridge Trust investing in the programme to continue our work with babies, toddlers and their carers, with sessions now delivered across Haringey, Waltham Forest and Barking and Dagenham.

Our work with the Light Box at the V&A was expected to end in December 2024 but has now been extended until Dec 2025. These monthly SEND sessions have been a great opportunity to work on new areas of this accessible sensory work and also open the doors to working with A New Direction on the I Am festival and our continued relationship with Castlebar School.

In February we worked with Jenn Raven and Callum Given to develop a new vision and mission statement and theory of change for Groundswell which we are fine tuning and looking to release as part of our strategic development in 2025/26 which will also be our 15th year since founding the organisation.

Funding

Our main funders this year have continued to be Youth Music, Arts Council England, and the London Marathon, with new relationships with John Lyons Charity and City Bridge Trust, with both our Haringey Giving Alleviate, and Foyle Foundation Funding coming to an end.

This was our final Year of our 3-year funding for the Sing Our Story project from Youth Music Catalyser. We have applied for another 2 years under the Catalyser fund and are awaiting an outcome.

This was the final year of a 3 year find for the Recharge Grant from Youth Music Recharge, which was to support organisations post pandemic.

This is our first year of a 3-year grant as the learning partner or Youth Music Energiser Fund.

Arts Council England – Support another new project this year and it is our hope that we can continue this relationship with a tour of this work in 2025/26.

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Our new funding relationships are with:

- John Lyons Charity – That has kindly awarded us a 3-year grant for projects to be delivered in Brent, Barnet, Camden with a focus on our Communication Pod and Sing Our Story work. This is the first year of this new relationship.
- City Bridge Trust – Has awarded us a 2-year fund, support our Dancing Together programme and Sing Our Story (Portage) development.
- Rayne Foundation – Have awarded us a 1-year fund to support work with care-experienced children in Sing Our Story with a view to developing a longer – term three-year application in the future.

We have received commissions from Haringey family Hubs and Haringey early years for Lets Create and Creative Music Making programmes.

Our Funding from both Haringey Giving – Alleviate finished this year but will hope to apply for further funding in the future.

Along with these new funds we have or will be looking to apply to Garfield Weston Foundation, Henry Smith, National Lotteries and other trusts and foundations.

Environmental Sustainability

At core our carbon footprint remains negligible: we have two full-time staff members. We have small office space and are based inside a school.

We currently work alongside the schools recycling efforts and are a member of the local scrap projects to (where possible) use recycled materials on all of our projects.

We are signed up to Julies Bicycle and use the Creative Green Carbon Calculator in planning our tours, in the hope that this will give us a better understanding for future tours of where our biggest impact is and a better understanding for planning in the future.

We are signed up with the Theatre Green Book framework and use these resources as part of ongoing good practice.

We have implemented a yearly environmental staff audit and policy review Our policy will be linked in our staff and board induction packs.

Leaders will attend training on environmental impact, and it will be a standing item in board meetings.

More widely, environmental responsibility will be linked to our social media campaigns throughout the year where we will raise awareness about different issues that may be relevant to our audience, for example supporting children with climate anxiety.

Financial review

In 2024/25 the charity has continued to build back its reserves from the previous post pandemic year and as at 31/03/2025 these are now £90,728.

Reserves Policy

The company relies on core funding from grant-aiding bodies supplemented by its generation of income from performances, commission fundraising and donations. The policy is to maintain a level of free reserves that would sustain its operation over a three-month period. These are currently lower than our target due to reserves still being built back up post pandemic and also with the timing our current funding streams finishing and starting up again. As at 31 March 2025, our free reserves are currently £45,828.

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Restricted and Designated funds

As at 31 March 2025, the company had £44,900 in restricted funds.

Its designated funds are £31,530.

Risk management

Financial controls are in place at operational and board level. Budgets are set and approved by the board who also receive quarterly management accounts. Our Artistic Director, with support from our bookkeeper and the Treasurer of the board of Trustees, manages ongoing accounts.

Our accountants are Breckman and Company, the recognised leading chartered accountancy firm in the specialised field of accountancy for theatrical organisations of all types and sizes.

We have full Employers and Public Liability insurance, Trustees' insurance and our assets are insured at £37K.

Core company costs are carefully calibrated in line with income streams, and project costs are always shared with commissioning partners to mitigate potential financial risks.

Our core structures are minimal and appropriately costed and we have free office space in Stroud Green Primary School. This allows us to maximize finance for our artistic output.

As a streamlined core with resources geared towards our creative activities, financial risk increases in periods of project delivery and requires management specific to each project.

Structure, governance and management

Groundswell Arts is a charitable company (limited by guarantee) governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. First registered as a Charity on 27 August 2010, Groundswell Arts made the step change to become a charity and amended its Articles and obtained charitable status on 10 May 2022. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

The charity's board meets on a quarterly basis to review the previous quarter and to make decisions on future matters. All key decisions on company matters are made by the Trustees.

The company has a streamlined and sustainable board structure and management core, which comprises two Artistic Directors, with project-based production support. This allows us to keep core costs to a minimum and dedicate maximum revenue towards the creative activities for the public benefit.

Related Parties

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with Groundswell Arts.

Any connection between a Trustee with a co-producer, contracted Artist or other worker must be disclosed to the full board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party.

Stroud Green Primary School provides Groundswell Arts with free office space on an ongoing basis.

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Trustees' Report

Small company exemptions

This report is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 1 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Signed by:

BBFC9FB2B10241D...
Matthew Burbedge
Trustee

Signed by:

397073BA3CC242D...
Natalie Merritt
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Groundswell Arts

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 11 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

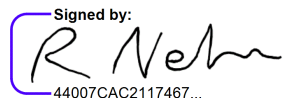
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

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

Signed by:


44007CAC2117467...

Richard Nelson FCCA

Breckman & Company Ltd

Chartered Certified Accountants

49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH

1 December 2025

Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Income and endowments from:	2						
Donations and legacies - page 12		22,100		22,100	21,600		21,600
Charitable activities:							
Theatre - page 12		65,560	164,934	230,494	59,227	198,488	257,715
Total		<u>87,660</u>	<u>164,934</u>	<u>252,594</u>	<u>80,827</u>	<u>198,488</u>	<u>279,315</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds:							
Fundraising		-	-	-	5,600	-	5,600
Charitable activities:							
Theatre - page 13		80,756	212,162	292,918	61,179	198,003	259,182
Total		<u>80,756</u>	<u>212,162</u>	<u>292,918</u>	<u>66,779</u>	<u>198,003</u>	<u>264,782</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	4	6,904	(47,228)	(40,324)	14,048	485	14,533
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		<u>38,924</u>	<u>92,128</u>	<u>131,052</u>	<u>24,876</u>	<u>91,643</u>	<u>116,519</u>
Total funds carried forward	12, 13	<u>45,828</u>	<u>44,900</u>	<u>90,728</u>	<u>38,924</u>	<u>92,128</u>	<u>131,052</u>

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

Groundswell Arts**(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income from donations and legacies		
Donations		
Other donations	500	-
In-Kind Support: Stroud Green School	21,600	21,600
	<u>22,100</u>	<u>21,600</u>
Income from charitable activities		
Theatre		
Theatre income		
Fee income	14,435	25,027
Training income	650	4,150
School matched income	-	15,000
Local authority income	15,000	15,000
Fee Income - non school	35,475	-
Other income	-	50
	<u>65,560</u>	<u>59,227</u>
Project specific funding		
Grants		
Haringey Giving	-	4,940
Foyle Foundation	-	20,000
John Lyons	-	40,000
London Marathon	2,450	17,500
Haringey Community Chest	-	9,885
Arts Council England	2,997	47,478
City Bridge	49,790	-
Youth Music	108,197	58,195
Bagheera Trust	1,500	-
Comic Relief (Groundwork)	-	490
	<u>164,934</u>	<u>198,488</u>

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Year ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds		
Fundraising and publicity of the charity	-	5,600
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	5,600
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Theatre		
Production/project costs		
Project costs	156,927	117,483
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	156,927	117,483
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Support costs - page 14	130,433	133,128
Governance costs - page 14	5,558	8,571
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	292,918	264,782
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Groundswell Arts**(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2025**

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Support and governance costs				
Support costs				
Office overheads				
Rent - in kind	21,600		21,600	
Telephone/ internet	611		440	
Insurance	1,317		1,209	
Repairs/maintenance	646		517	
Depreciation of equipment	1,144		1,925	
		25,318		25,691
Administration costs				
Salaries/support staff	91,242		93,000	
Social security costs	4,910		4,910	
Staff pension costs	2,326		2,326	
Staff training	645		314	
Staff welfare	-		350	
Website/computer/software	2,138		2,176	
Travel/transport	2,547		1,948	
Motor expenses	-		325	
Entertaining	88		573	
Printing/postage/stationery	473		467	
Advertising/marketing	-		536	
Subscriptions	81		91	
Sundries	173		106	
Charitable donations	-		50	
		104,623		107,172
Professional/financial				
Legal/professional	482		263	
Bank charges	-		2	
Bad debts	10		-	
		492		265
		130,433		133,128
Governance costs				
Accountancy	3,150		4,400	
Bookkeeping	2,408		4,171	
		5,558		8,571
		135,991		141,699

Groundswell Arts**(Limited by Guarantee)****Balance Sheet
31 March 2025**

		2025		2024	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		1,138		1,163
Current assets					
Debtors	9	3,200		4,098	
Cash at bank and in hand		104,005		136,476	
		<u>107,205</u>		<u>140,574</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(17,615)		(10,685)	
Net current assets			<u>89,590</u>		<u>129,889</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>90,728</u>		<u>131,052</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds					
- General fund	12		14,298		38,924
- Designated funds			31,530		-
Total unrestricted funds			<u>45,828</u>		<u>38,924</u>
Restricted funds	13		44,900		92,128
Total charity funds			<u>90,728</u>		<u>131,052</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.


Directors' responsibilities:

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

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 1 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Signed by:

 BBFC9FB2B10241D...
Matthew Burbedge
Trustee

Signed by:

 397073BA3CC242D...
Natalie Merritt
Chair

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Groundswell Arts

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025**

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

1.2. Going Concern

The charity is dependent on the continued support of grant aiding bodies. The trustees believe that the charity will continue to receive this support and accordingly consider that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

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1.3. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the 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 reliably measured

- Donations and legacies

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

- Charitable activities

Theatrical income - income from box office, performance fees and sundry other theatrical income is included in incoming resources in the period in which the relevant show takes place.

Project specific funding - when donors specify that donations and grants are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

- Donated services and facilities

Donated services or facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1.4. Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

- Costs of raising funds

Costs incurred in attracting donations, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

- Charitable activities

Theatre production costs - costs incurred in production and running of productions toured in the year.

- Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to theatre production costs.

- Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

1.5. Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- Designated funds - these 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 - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

1.6. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £250 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computer Equipment - Straight line over 3 years

1.7. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1.8. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.9. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10. Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value, and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.11. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually.

1.12. Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

2. Incoming resources

The total incoming resources for the year have been derived from the principal activity undertaken wholly in the UK.

3. Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,144	1,925
Independent examiner's remuneration		
- independent examination	3,150	4,400
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

4. Trustees' emoluments and reimbursed expenses

The trustees received no remuneration during the year (2024 - £nil).

The aggregated amount reimbursed to trustees during the year was £nil (2024 - £nil).

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for the year ended 31 March 2025

5.	Staff costs and numbers	2025	2024
		£	£
	Staff costs		
	Salary costs	90,000	90,000
	Social security costs	4,910	4,910
	Pension costs	2,326	2,326
		<u>97,236</u>	<u>97,236</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2024 - £nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £92,326 (2024 - £92,326).

Staff numbers

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Support/production	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

6. **Pension costs**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £2,326 (2024 - £2,326).

7. **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.

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8. Fixed assets - tangible assets	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost		
1 April 2024	12,702	12,702
Additions	1,119	1,119
31 March 2025	13,821	13,821
Depreciation		
1 April 2024	11,539	11,539
Charge for year	1,144	1,144
31 March 2025	12,683	12,683
Net book values		
31 March 2025	1,138	1,138
31 March 2024	1,163	1,163
9. Debtors	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	3,150	4,000
Other debtors	50	50
Prepayments and accrued income	-	48
	3,200	4,098
10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,151	400
Other taxation/social security	2,339	2,447
Other creditors	-	2,704
Accruals	13,125	5,134
	17,615	10,685

Groundswell Arts**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025****11. Limited by guarantee**

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1, to the company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2025 there were 6 members.

12. Unrestricted funds	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	38,924	87,660	(80,756)	(31,530)	14,298
Designated funds:					
Haringey Council Family Hubs	-	-	-	3,413	3,413
YM SOS School Fees designated	-	-	-	17,795	17,795
Tate/Lightbox	-	-	-	497	497
Haringey Council Creative Music Making	-	-	-	9,825	9,825
	<u>38,924</u>	<u>87,660</u>	<u>(80,756)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,828</u>

Haringey Council Family Hubs

Commissioned 3 x 8 week family workshops to explore 'Schemas' (Child development through play) alongside the parents and carers. Creating immersive environments around each schema theme and creating take home DIY workshops for families.

YM SOS School Fees designated

Additional match fund required buy in for schools to take part in the Sing Our Story, Youth Music Funded Project.

Tate/Lightbox

A New Direction commissioned light box project to support the 'I am festival' at the Tate Modern.

Haringey Council Creative Music Making

A council commissioned training for early years practitioners around confidence building around the use of music in settings as a tool for transitions, emotional regulation and development.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

13. Restricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Carried forward £
Youth Music	26,742	108,197	(114,892)	20,047
Arts Council England	22,557	2,997	(25,554)	-
John Lyons Charitable Trust	39,810	-	(30,692)	9,118
London Marathon Fund	3,019	2,450	(5,469)	-
City Bridge	-	49,790	(35,555)	14,235
Bagheera Trust	-	1,500	-	1,500
	<u>92,128</u>	<u>164,934</u>	<u>(212,162)</u>	<u>44,900</u>

Youth Music

Youth Music Energiser Fund - Learning Partner

To partner with Youth Music to curate the Energiser Fund focusing on the voice and creative development of 2 to 4-year-olds - supporting a programme of learning for 11 National Arts organisations working with the Early Sector in a variety of art forms from music to dance, drama and environments.

Youth Music - Catalyser Fund

To Support our Sing Our Story Programme

Sing Our Story is a bespoke song-writing programme delivered in schools, children's centres, nurseries and online. In this programme a skilled musician works with a parent/carer and their child to produce a bespoke song with music and lyrics directly inspired by the family's stories. To date we have created over 3000 unique songs for families in this programme.

Arts Council England

To support the research and development our new Circus and contraption project Invention Lab. The Invention Lab is an interactive circus performance and science workshops that use a theatrical narrative to inspire the children to development of a Rube Goldberg and complete classroom workshops around the Physics Curriculum.

John Lyons Charitable Trust

To support the development of our Dancing together & Communication project in the boroughs of Camden, Brent, Barnet. Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance. Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through groups. Mother and Baby sessions have a particular focus on postnatal wellbeing and self-care. The Communication Pod is designed for the early year's foundation stage, its is a child friendly environment that encourages play, exploration, and storytelling.

London Marathon Fund

To Support our Dancing Together programme that takes place in Children's Centres supporting both mother and baby groups and carer and toddler groups through dance. Sessions have focused on connection both between carers and children through gentle movement and creativity and through shared social connections through.

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City Bridge

To cover the costs of running the creative wellbeing sessions, including session practitioners' and a production engineer's fees, a portion of the Artistic Directors' salaries, and a contribution to overheads and administration.

Bagheera Trust

To cover the cost of new workshop and project musical instruments.

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	1,138	-	-	1,138
Net current assets	13,160	31,530	44,900	89,590
	<u>14,298</u>	<u>31,530</u>	<u>44,900</u>	<u>90,728</u>

15. Related party transactions

There were no additional related party transactions in the year.