EAST LONDON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1203349

Details

Other names	ELSF
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	12459062
Registered	2023-06-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Flat 4 Endlebury Court 2 Endlebury Road London County (optional)
Phone	07818225806
Email	info@elsf.uk
Website	www.elsf.uk

Activities

Objects: (A) TO ADVANCE THE ARTS IN EAST LONDON AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, IN PARTICULAR THE DRAMATIC AND PERFORMING ARTS, BY PRODUCING AND STAGING PERFORMANCES OF THE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.(B) TO ADVANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND APPRECIATION OF THE DRAMATIC AND PERFORMING ARTS, INCLUDING STAGE PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTION, BY PROVIDING APPRENTICESHIP SCHEMES AND WORKSHOPS, AND BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRODUCTION OF AMATEUR PERFORMANCES, INCLUDING SCRIPT WRITING, ACTING, MUSIC PERFORMANCE AND PRODUCTION AND 'BACK STAGE' ELEMENTS OF STAGECRAFT.

Activities: To advance the arts in East London and surrounding areas and other areas the trustees deem fit, in particular the dramatic and performing arts, by producing and staging performances of the works of William Shakespeare.To advance public education and appreciation of the dramatic and performing arts, including stage performance and production, by providing apprenticeship and training schemes

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-02-28	£64,620	£76,982	-	-
2024-02-29	£60,323	£58,645	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Elizabeth Mary Shaw	Chair	2023-06-01
Anna Ruth Jordan		2023-06-01
Danielle Elise MOSELEY		2023-06-01

EAST LONDON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1203349

Accounts

EAST LONDON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL LTD

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

28th February 2025

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 12459062

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1203349

Frank S Lachman
31 Fairview Way
Edgware
Middlesex
HA8 8JE

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.

Legal and Administrative Information

28th February 2025

Company Registered Number	12459062
Registered Charity Number	1203349
Registered Office	Flat 4 Endlebury Court Endlebury Road London E4 6QE
Directors and Trustees	Elizabeth Mary Shaw Danielle Elise Moseley Anna Ruth Jordan
Examiner	Frank S Lachman Chartered Accountant 31 Fairview Way Edgware Middlesex HA8 8JE

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.

Directors and Trustees Report

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 28th February 2025.

Directors Responsibilities

Company Law which is also applicable to charitable companies in England and Wales requires the directors, who are also trustees of the company, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the results of the company for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors/trustees are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors/trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Principal Activity and Charitable Objects

To advance the arts in East London and surrounding areas and other areas the trustees deem fit, in particular the dramatic and performing arts, by producing and staging performances of the works of William Shakespeare.

To advance public education and appreciation of the dramatic and performing arts, including stage performance and production, by providing apprenticeship and training schemes and workshops, and by providing opportunities for people of all ages to participate in the production of amateur performances and creative engagement activities, including acting, directing, music performance, movement performance, craft-making, and producing of theatrical performances and 'back stage' elements of stagecraft.

Organisation and Constitution

The company was incorporated on 12th Febuary 2020 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Company Registartion number 12459062

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The guarantees of individual members are limited to £1.

The company is a registered charity, number 1203349.

The directors of the company form its Committee of Management and Governing Body and are empowered to act as necessary in order for the company to fulfil its objectives. Directors may be appointed by the members of the company or fellow directors at any time.

Registered Office: Flat 4, Endlebury Court, Endlebury Road, London E4 6QE

In February 2024 the company became a Registered Charity.

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.

Key Activities:

Performances and key community Engagement activities:

In the year 2024-2025, ELSF successfully toured *Much Ado About Nothing*, presenting live theatre to audiences across 14 outdoor parks and community venues throughout East London. This initiative provided accessible arts experiences to communities with limited exposure to live theatre.

Engagement Programme & Education
Alongside the tour ELSF continued to run an extensive community engagement included extensive partnerships across East London, with over 150 local councils, schools, and cultural organisations involved.

Key metrics include of activities:

- 39 Performances - low cost tickets, family discounts
- Including 5 pay-what-you can
- 15 venues inc. 4 new venues
- 305 young children participated in workshops, and 450 students attended school matinees.
- Expanded from Waltham Forest, Redbridge, Hackney to also includeNewham, Haringey & Bromley to Houslow & Islington.
- 4500+ tickets sold
- Young Company: 22 Young Company members, 3x projects since January 2025 including abridged performance of Much Ado About Nothing, pre-show monologues performed before professional production of As You Like It, duologue showcase. Autumn term project underway: abridged performance of As You Like It.
- 510 x 3-11 year olds took part in mask-making workshops
- 2 x School matinees + pre-show workshops, £3.50 per student
- 2 Community Casts in Newham, Walthamstow 35 local people featured in 16 performances (free to participate, expenses covered)
- Apprentice Actor, paid role for aspiring 18-24 year old - currently undergoing mentoring with ELSF for drama school auditions and successfully secured an agent and employment with ELSF Young Company & Act Out
- 40+ Volunteer Ushers
- Partnered with 150+ Community Partners & Local Businesses
- 23 Professional paid roles

Financial Review
Overview:

Financial Overview

For the year ending February 28th 2025, the charity's financial performance reflects strong engagement with the community and successful delivery of its artistic and educational initiatives.

Income:
The charity generated a total income of **£83,540** an increase compared to **£69,844** last year.

Expenditure: Total expenditure for the year was £76,982 reflecting costs associated with the production of performances, the running costs and set-up of The Young Company, workshops, and community engagement activities.

Net Position: The charity's net assets for 2024-2025 were £26,319

Our reserves are in line with our policy, ensuring financial stability for future projects and initiatives, including, participatory & educational engagement activities for young people and local residents and the Shakspeare productions.

ELSF's funding sources include:

- Ticket income from 'Much Ado about Nothing' and Young Company participation
- Arts Council England Project funding
- LBWF Ward funding
- John Armitage Trust Foundation funding
- In-kind support from key community partners, including free or reduced-cost rehearsal space, outreach, and marketing support

Reserves Policy: Our reserve balance remains strong at £26,319 , supporting our ability to plan for future productions, continue our community engagement programmes and outreach, and weather any unexpected challenges.

Future Funding Sources
To ensure long-term growth and financial stability, ELSF is focusing on the following funding strategies:

- **Expansion of summer Annual Tour to include additional venues in Leytonstone, Newham and The Old Royal Observatory**: ELSF plans to expand the tour to an additional new venues, focussing on areas with limited access to theatre, increasing both income potential and audience reach to support our ongoing activities.
- **Grant Diversification:** ELSF continues to actively pursue a broader range of grants, specifically those focused on arts education, youth development, and community arts, from charitable trusts and foundations.
- **Arts Council England Funding**: ELSF anticipate further support from ACE
- **Strengthening Local Partnerships**: The charity is committed to developing deeper partnerships with local councils and community organisations to sustain and expand our activities.

Risk Management
Risks:

1. Relevance of Shakespeare and Quality of Productions: While Shakespeare is widely studied, it may be perceived as outdated or inaccessible to some audiences.
2. Community Engagement: Engaging diverse underrepresented communities and attracting new participants to the Young Company could be a challenge
3. Ensuring Quality and Inclusivity of New Youth and Education Activities: It is important to ensure that the Young Company and other educational activities are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive for new participants.
4. Logistical and Environmental Risks: Outdoor performances and expansion into new venues present risks such as adverse weather, cast morale, and performance endurance.
5. Financial Accessibility: Maintaining affordable ticketing and free participatory programmes while ensuring the project remains financially viable.

Mitigation Measures:

1. Relevance & Quality: ELSF 's contemporary multi-disciplined performances have garnered highly positive feedback from audiences, reviewers, schools and award nominations for its professional, high-energy productions, including 'Romeo & Juliet' (OFFIE nominee) & the Young Company performances.
2. Engagement Strategies: ELSF's extensive outreach & collaborations, alongside inclusivity training for staff, ensure that diverse communities and new Young Company participants are welcomed & supported.
3. New Youth & Education activities: ELSF prioritises inclusivity through accessible workshops, outreach to under-represented communities, and targeted marketing strategies.
4. Logistical Planning: to manage expansion and logistics of, ELSF utilises experienced teams and flexible set designs.
5. Financial Accessibility: ELSF continues to offer Pay What You Can performances, low-cost participation fees for the Young Company, free community activities, and concession tickets for students, over 65's and low-income families. ELSF also bring culture to communities' doorstep: local venues, reducing travel costs.

- ELSF experienced at running inclusive community projects – Community Casts and The Young Company - with many prior CC members/App Actors having additional needs incl: dyslexia, autism, ADHD, Tourette's, recovering alcoholic
- ELSF champion & put adjustments in place for pregnant performers: 3 pregnant women in productions since launch in 2021
- Inclusivity training for teams to ensure safe/welcoming environment for audiences/community participants

Collaborative Engagement:
ELSF engages in continuous feedback and collaboration with community partners, project participants, councils, cultural organisations, schools and funding bodies. This engagement ensures that programming is responsive to community needs and preferences.

Future Plans, Community Benefits & *Strategic Growth:*
- Expanded Tour Reach with an emphasis on areas with limited access to live performance and under-represented communities
- ELSF increased its tour footprint in 2024 by bringing Much Ado About Nothing to 15 venues, including parks and community spaces in other areas of London including Newham, Haringey, and Greenwhich
- ELSF expanded our Accessible and Inclusive Community Engagement programme to include additional Community Casts (Newham) this expansion was supported by ACE, new areas included: Newham, Bromley - enhancing accessibility and broadening its audience reach.
- Extended Reach in 2025: By 2025, the tour is expected to grow to 18 outdoor venues, , focusing on underserved areas with limited access to live theatre
- Expanding ELSF's successful Apprentice Scheme by securing funding to add apprenticeships in stage management and technical roles, increasing skill-building opportunities for young participants in diverse areas of theatre production.
- Apply for funding to additional Trust and foundations to support community projects

Legacy and Feedback Collection:
Post-project reviews, community feedback (via Jotforms and consultations), and ongoing dialogue with partners will ensure that ELSF's projects continuously evolve to align with community needs, maximising long-term benefits and engagement.

Statement of Responsibilities of Trustees
The trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees confirm that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the charity's activities and financial position for the year.

Directors and Trustees
The directors/trustees set out below have held office during the whole year of this report uniess otherwise stated:

Elizabeth Mary Shaw
Danielle Elise Moselev
Anna Ruth Jordan

Accountants
A resolution proposing the re-appointment of Frank S Lachman as Independant Examiner will be submitted at the Annual General Meeting.

Going Concern
The directors confirm that:

A going concern basis is appropriate for these accounts.
The company has sufficient reserves to continue for at least 12 months after the date of signing these accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Section 419(2) of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.

Inclusive Rehearsal, Classes Workshop Practices:

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that in compiling this report they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in compliance with the duty set out in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006

Related Parties
The charity has relationships with other charities on a project-by-project basis.

Approval
This report was approved by the board of trustees on 24th November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Elizabeth Shaw, Chair of Trustees

Signature: E. Shaw

E. SHAW

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 28th February 2025 which are set out on pages 8 to 12 .

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act 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 2011 (the '2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's report

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:

(1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

(2) the accounts do not accord with those accounting records; or

(3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

(4) 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.

Frank S Lachman FCA
Member Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

31 Fairview Way
Edgware
Middlesex HA8 8JE

Dated: **24th November 2025**

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.
Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 28th February 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
Income					
Charitable activities	2	83,540	**83,540**	69,844	**69.844**
Total income		83,540	**83,540**	69,844	**69,844**
Expenditure					
Charitable Activity Costs	3	76,982	**76,982**	58,645	**58,645**
Total expenditure		76,982	**76,982**	58,645	**58,645**
Surplus for the year		**6,558**	**6,558**	**11,199**	**11,199**
Funds brought forward		19,761	**19,761**	8,562	**8,562**
Funds carried forward	7	26,319	**26,319**	19,761	**19,761**

The statement of Financial Activities reflects the results of continuing activities for the year.

There were no recognised gains or losses other than the net outgoing resources for the year.

The net outgoing resources for the year have been calculated on the historical cost basis.

The notes on pages 10 to 12 form part of these accounts.

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.
Balance Sheet at 28th February 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	4		9,408		-
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		28,287		20,511	
Total current assets		28,287		20,511	
Creditors falling due within one year	5	11,376		750	
Net current assets			16,911		19,761
Net assets			**26,319**		**19,761**
The Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	6.		26,319		19,761
Total Charity Funds			**26,319**		**19,761**

a) For the year ended 28th February 2025 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

(b) No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

(c) The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:

i. ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386; and

ii. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

(d) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime, and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the . company

Approved by the directors on 24th November 2025 , and signed on their behalf by

Elizabeth Shaw, Chair of Trustees E. Shaw

E. SHAW

The notes on pages 10 to 12 form part of these accounts.

1 Accounting Polices

(a) 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2022) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd. 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).

(b) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income from grants, whether capital or revenue grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants has been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

(c) Expenditure
All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. 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.

Costs are allocated to a category either because such costs are directly incurred in relation to such category, or because they are support costs in respect of which an apportionment has been made between the categories.

Support costs consist of infrastructure costs for salaries, premises, office administration. Such costs are apportioned on a reasonable and consistent basis to the various categories with a view to determining, as accurately as possible, the total resources expended for each category. The basis of apportionment used is either a function of staff time applied to a given activity, or an estimate of the proportion of costs associated with the same, or a combination of both.

Direct and Support costs are separately shown by natural classification in Note 5 to these accounts for each category of cost.

(d) Taxation
The company as a registered charity (number 1203349) is exempt from taxation on most investment income insofar as it is applied for charitable purposes. The company is also exempt from taxation on capital gains.

(e) Debtors

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

(f) 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.

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 28th February 2025

2 Charitable activity	**Unrestricted Funds**	**2025**	**Unrestricted Funds**	**2024**
Project Grants and donations				
Arts Council England	8,920	8,920		
Sundry	10,000	10,000	-	-
	18,920	18,920	-	-
Young Company fees	10,408	10,408	-	1,572
Ticket sales, fees, commissions, co-productions	54,212	54,212	67,208	68,272
	83,540	83,540	67,208	69,844

3 Charitable activity costs	**Support Costs Unrestricted**	**Charitable Activity Costs Unrestricted**	**Governance Costs**	**Total 2025**
Charitable Activity Costs				
Travel, hotels and PDs	557	-	-	**557**
Young Company Directors fees	8,925	-		**8,925**
Creative fees	52,446	-	-	**52,446**
Merchandise and Production consumables	2,808	-	-	**2,808**
Venue fees and expenses	7,038	-	-	**7,038**
Insurance	697	-	-	**697**
Marketing and advertising	119	-	-	**119**
Support costs				
Examination fee	-	-	750	**750**
Statutory fees	-	-	34	**34**
Charitable donations	-	-	488	**488**
Softeware and web hosting	470	-	-	**470**
Depreciation	-	-	2,352	**2,352**
Administration	285	-	13	**298**
Total 2025	**73,345**	**-**	**3,637**	**76,982**

	Support Costs Unrestricted	**Charitable Activity Costs Unrestricted**	**Governance Costs**	**Total 2024**
Charitable Activity Costs				
Travel, hotels and PDs	-	36	-	**36**
Young Company Directors fees	-	1,200		**1,200**
Creative fees	-	47,367	-	**47,367**
Merchandise and Production consumables	-	3,260	-	**3,260**
Venue fees and expenses	5,742	-	-	**5,742**
Support costs				
Examination fee	-	-	750	**750**
Statutory fees	-	-	13	**13**
Administration	277	-	-	**277**
Total 2024	**6,019**	**51,863**	**763**	**58,645**

The company did not employ any staff during the year. (2024 None)

East London Shakespeare Festival Ltd.
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 28th February 2025

4 Fixed Assets

	Motor Vehicle	2025
Additions in year	11,760	11,760
Cost 28th February 2025	**11,760**	**11,760**
Depreciation		
Charge for the year	**2,352**	**2,352**
Depreciation 28th February 2025	**2,352**	**2,352**
As at 28th February 2025	**9,408**	**9,408**

5 Creditors due within one year

	2025	2024
Deferred income	8,866	-
Other creditors	1,760	-
Accruals	750	750
	11,376	**750**

6 Reconciliation of movement of funds

		Funds at 1st March 2024	Income	Expenses	Funds at 28th February 2025
Unrestricted Funds					
	Designated	19,761	83,540	(76,982)	26,319
		19,761	83,540	(76,982)	26,319

The above funds comprise:

Designated Fund: These are funds designated for future projects in the following year.

7 Analysis of assets over funds

		Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2025	Total 2024
Unrestricted Funds:					
	Designated	9,408	16,911	26,319	19,761
		9,408	16,911	26,319	19,761

8 Trustees

During the year, none of the trustees received any remuneration from the charity and no expenses were reimbursed to any of them.

E. Shaw

E. SHAW

Accounts

EAST LONDON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL LIMITED

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

29th February 2024

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 12459062

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1203349

Frank S Lachman
31 Fairview Way
Edgware
Middlesex
HA8 8JE

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited

Legal and Administrative Information

29th February 2024

Company Registered Number	12459062
Registered Charity Number	1203349
Registered Office	Flat 4 Endlebury Court Endlebury Road London E4 6QE
Directors and Trustees	Elizabeth Mary Shaw Danielle Elise Moseley Anna Ruth Jordan
Examiner	Frank S Lachman Chartered Accountant 31 Fairview Way Edgware Middlesex HA8 8JE

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited

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To advance the arts in East London and surrounding areas and other areas the trustees deem fit, in particular the dramatic and performing arts, by producing and staging performances of the works of William Shakespeare.

To advance public education and appreciation of the dramatic and performing arts, including stage performance and production, by providing apprenticeship and training schemes and workshops, and by providing opportunities for people of all ages to participate in the production of amateur performances and creative engagement activities, including acting, directing, music performance, movement performance, craft-making, and producing of theatrical performances and 'back stage' elements of stagecraft.

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The company is a registered charity, number 1203349.

The directors of the company form its Committee of Management and Governing Body and are empowered to act as necessary in order for the company to fulfil its objectives. Directors may be appointed by the members of the company or fellow directors at any time.

Registered Office: Flat 4, Endlebury Court, Endlebury Road, London E4 6QE

In February 2024 the company became a Registered Charity.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that in compiling this report they have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in compliance with the duty set out in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006.

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited

Directors and Trustees Report

Key Activities:

Performances:

In the year, ELSF successfully toured Romeo and Juliet, presenting live theatre to audiences across 14 outdoor parks and community venues throughout East London. This initiative provided accessible arts experiences to communities with limited exposure to live theatre. Key metrics include:

- Total Performances: 38
- Audience Reached: 3,800 attendees
- Workshops: Mask-making sessions engaged 560 children (ages 3-11).
- School Matinees and pre-shows workshops: 600 students (ages 7-16) attended heavily reduced shows
- Community Ensemble: 16 local residents joined the professional cast in 10 performances in London Borough Waltham Forest (LBWF, actively engaging with theatre production.
- Apprenticeships and Work Experience: 3 paid apprentices and 2 work experience students supported various roles within the tour.
- Community Partnerships: ELSF collaborated with over 150 local businesses and organisations, providing 21 paid professional roles.

Community Engagement Programme & Education

ELSF's community engagement included extensive partnerships across East London, with over 150 local councils, schools, and cultural organisations involved. Highlights include:

- Young Audiences: 260 young children participated in workshops, and 600 students attended school matinees.
- Community Cast: Local participants engaged in workshops and performances, fostering deeper community ties.
- Professional Development: 3 paid apprentice roles and 2 work experience positions provided practical training in theatre.

Launch of ELSF's Young Company (Ages 7–17)

The ELSF Young Company launched with 25 young participants, who attended weekly, inclusive workshops designed to build skills in acting, performance, and theatre-making.

- Performance Opportunities: Participants performed an abridged A Midsummer Night's Dream as an end-of-term sharing.
- Professional Connections: Young Company members accessed industry connections through apprenticeships, rehearsals, and professional events, encouraging growth as young artists and building connections within the theatre community.

Financial Review
Overview:

Financial Overview

For the year ending February 29 th 2024, the charity's financial performance reflects strong engagement with the community and successful delivery of its artistic and educational initiatives.

Income:
The charity generated a total income of £69,844 a [increase] compared to £67,208 last year.

Expenditure: Total expenditure for the year was £58,645 , reflecting costs associated with the production of performances, the running costs and set-up of The Young Company,workshops, and community engagement activities.

Net Position: The charity's net assets for 2024 were £19,761 and for 2023 were £8,562.
Our reserves are in line with our policy, ensuring financial stability for future projects and initiatives, including, participatory & educational engagement activities for young people and local residents and the Shakspeare productions.

ELSF's funding sources include:

- Ticket income from 'Romeo & Juliet' and Young Company participation
- LBWF Ward Funding
- LBWF council Fellowship Square funding
- In-kind support from key community partners, including free or reduced-cost rehearsal space, outreach, and marketing support

Reserves Policy: Our reserve balance remains strong at £19,761 , supporting our ability to plan for future productions, continue our community engagement programmes and outreach, and weather any unexpected challenges.

Future Funding Sources
To ensure long-term growth and financial stability, ELSF is focusing on the following funding strategies:

- Expansion of summer Annual Tour: ELSF plans to expand the tour to an additional 6 venues, increasing both income potential and audience reach to support our ongoing activities.
- **Sponsorship:** Positive discussions are ongoing with local businesses that share ELSF's values, with several showing interest in sponsoring productions and community initiatives
- **Grant Diversification**: ELSF continues to actively pursue a broader range of grants, specifically those focused on arts education, youth development, and community arts, from charitable trusts and foundations.
- **Arts Council England Funding**: ELSF anticipate further support from ACE
- **Strengthening Local Partnerships:** The charity is committed to developing deeper partnerships with local councils and community organisations to sustain and expand our activities.

Risk Management
Risks:

1. Relevance of Shakespeare and Quality of Productions: While Shakespeare is widely studied, it may be perceived as outdated or inaccessible to some audiences.
2. Community Engagement: Engaging diverse underrepresented communities and attracting new participants to the Young Company could be a challenge
3. Ensuring Quality and Inclusivity of New Youth and Education Activities: It is important to ensure that the Young Company and other educational activities are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive for new participants.
4. Logistical and Environmental Risks: Outdoor performances and expansion into new venues present risks such as adverse weather, cast morale, and performance endurance.
5. Financial Accessibility: Maintaining affordable ticketing and free participatory programmes while ensuring the project remains financially viable.

Mitigation Measures:

1. Relevance &; Quality: ELSF 's contemporary multi-disciplined performances have garnered highly positive feedback from audiences, reviewers, schools and award nominations for its professional, high-energy productions, including 'Romeo &; Juliet' &; the Young Company performances.
2. Engagement Strategies: ELSF's extensive outreach & collaborations, alongside inclusivity training for staff, ensure that diverse communities and new Young Company participants are welcomed & supported.
3. New Youth &Education activities: ELSF prioritises inclusivity through accessible workshops, outreach to under-represented communities, and targeted marketing strategies.
4. Logistical Planning: to manage expansion and logistics of, ELSF utilises experienced teams and flexible set designs.
5. Financial Accessibility: ELSF continues to offer Pay What You Can performances, low-cost participation fees for the Young Company, free community activities, and concession tickets for students, over 65's and low-income families. ELSF also bring culture to communities' doorstep: local venues, reducing travel costs.

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited

Directors and Trustees Report

Inclusive Rehearsal, Classes Workshop Practices:

- ELSF experienced at running inclusive community projects – Community Casts and The Young Company - with many prior CC members/App Actors having additional needs incl: dyslexia, autism, ADHD, Tourette's, recovering alcoholic.
- ELSF champion & put adjustments in place for pregnant performers: 3 pregnant women in productions since launch in 2021
- Inclusivity training for teams to ensure safe/welcoming environment for audiences/community participants

Collaborative Engagement:
ELSF engages in continuous feedback and collaboration with community partners, project participants, councils, cultural organisations, schools and funding bodies. This engagement ensures that programming is responsive to community needs and preferences.

Future Plans, Community Benefits & Strategic Growth:

- Expanded Tour Reach with an emphasis on areas with limited access to live performance and under-represented communities:
  - ELSF increased its tour footprint in 2024 by bringing Much Ado About Nothing to 17 venues, including parks and community spaces in other areas of London, this expansion was supported by ACE, new areas included: Newham and Bromley and London, enhancing accessibility and broadening its audience reach.
  - Extended Reach in 2025: By 2025, the tour is expected to grow to 20 outdoor venues, including two beyond London, focusing on underserved areas with limited access to live theatre

- Expansion of ELSF's successful Apprentice Scheme by securing funding to add apprenticeships in stage management and technical roles, increasing skill-building opportunities for young participants in diverse areas of theatre production.
- Apply for funding to additional Trust and foundations to support community projects

Legacy and Feedback Collection:
Post-project reviews, community feedback (via Jotforms and consultations), and ongoing dialogue with partners will ensure that ELSF's projects continuously evolve to align with community needs, maximising long-term benefits and engagement.

Directors and Trustees
The directors/trustees set out below have held office during the whole year of this report unless otherwise stated:

Elizabeth Mary Shaw
Danielle Elise Moseley
Anna Ruth Jordan

Accountants
A resolution proposing the re-appointment of Frank S Lachman as Independant Examiner will be submitted at the Annual General Meeting.

Related Parties
The charity has relationships with other charities on a project-by-project basis.

Going Concern
The directors confirm that:
A going concern basis is appropriate for these accounts.
The company has sufficient reserves to continue for at least 12 months after the date of signing these accounts.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Section 419(2) of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approval
This report was approved by the board of trustees on the 13th November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Elizabeth Shaw, Chair of Trustees

E. Shaw

E. SHAW 20.11.24

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited

ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 29th February 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 11 .

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act 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 2011 (the '2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's report

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:

(1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

(2) the accounts do not accord with those accounting records; or

(3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

(4) 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.

Frank S Lachman FCA
Member Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

31 Fairview Way
Edgware
Middlesex HA8 8JE

Dated: 13th November 2024

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 29th February 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
Income					
Charitable activities	2	69,844	**69,844**	67,208	**67,208**
Total income		69,844	**69,844**	67,208	**67,208**
Expenditure					
Charitable Activity Costs	3	58,645	**58,645**	58,141	**58,141**
Total expenditure		58,645	**58,645**	58,141	**58,141**
Surplus for the year		**11,199**	**11,199**	**9,067**	**9,067**
Funds brought forward		8,562	-	(505)	**(505)**
Funds carried forward	7	19,761	**11,199**	8,562	**8,562**

The statement of Financial Activities reflects the results of continuing activities for the year.

There were no recognised gains or losses other than the net outgoing resources for the year.

The net outgoing resources for the year have been calculated on the historical cost basis.

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of these accounts.

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited
Balance Sheet at 29th February 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Debtors	4	-		799	
Cash at bank and in hand		20,511		15,271	
Total current assets		20,511		16,070	
Creditors falling due within one year	5	750		7,508	
Net current assets			19,761		8,562
Net assets			19,761		8,562
The Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	6		19,761		8,562
Total Charity Funds			19,761		8,562

a) For the year ended 29th February 2024 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

(b) No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

(c) The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:

i. ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386; and

ii. preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

(d) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime, and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the . company

Approved by the directors on 13th November 2024 , and signed on their behalf by

E-SHAW

Elizabeth Shaw, Chair of Trustees

E Shaw 20.11.24

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form part of these accounts.

1 Accounting Polices

(a) 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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2022) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

East London Shakespeare Festival Limited 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).

(b) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Income from grants, whether capital or revenue grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants has been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

(c) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. 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.

Costs are allocated to a category either because such costs are directly incurred in relation to such category, or because they are support costs in respect of which an apportionment has been made between the categories.

Support costs consist of infrastructure costs for salaries, premises, office administration. Such costs are apportioned on a reasonable and consistent basis to the various categories with a view to determining, as accurately as possible, the total resources expended for each category. The basis of apportionment used is either a function of staff time applied to a given activity, or an estimate of the proportion of costs associated with the same, or a combination of both.

Direct and Support costs are separately shown by natural classification in Note 5 to these accounts for each category of cost.

(d) Taxation

The company as a registered charity (number 1203349) is exempt from taxation on most investment income insofar as it is applied for charitable purposes. The company is also exempt from taxation on capital gains.

(e) Debtors

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

(f) 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.

2 Charitable activity

	Unrestricted Funds	2024	Unrestricted Funds	2023
Project Grants and donations				
Sundry	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Young Company fees	1,572	1,572	-	-
Ticket sales, fees, commissions, co-productions	68,272	68,272	67,208	-
	69,844	69,844	67,208	-

3 Charitable activity costs

	Support Costs Unrestricted	Charitable Activity Costs Unrestricted	Governance Costs	Total 2024
Charitable Activity Costs				
Travel, hotels and PDs	-	36	-	**36**
Young Company Directors fees	-	1,200		**1,200**
Creative fees	-	47,367	-	**47,367**
Merchandise	-	3,260	-	**3,260**
Support costs				
Examination fee	-	-	750	**750**
Rent and utilities	5,742	-	-	**5,742**
Statutory fees	-	-	13	**13**
Accountancy	-	-	-	**-**
Administration	277	-	-	**277**
Total 2024	**6,019**	**51,863**	**763**	**58,645**

	Support Costs Unrestricted	Charitable Activity Costs Unrestricted	Governance Costs	Total 2023
Charitable Activity Costs				
Travel, hotels and PDs	-	120	-	**120**
Young Company Directors fees	-	-		**-**
Creative fees	-	43,508	-	**43,508**
Merchandise	-	6,338	-	**6,338**
Support costs				
Examination fee	-	-	500	**500**
Rent and utilities	3,465	-	-	**3,465**
Statutory fees	13	-	-	**13**
Accountancy	2,122	-	-	**2,122**
Taxation	-	-	2,008	**2,008**
Administration	67	-	-	**67**
Total 2023	**5,667**	**49,966**	**2,508**	**58,141**

The company did not employ any staff during the year. (2023 None)

4 Debtors

	2024	2023
Accrued income	-	-
Other debtors and prepayments	-	799
	-	799

5 Creditors due within one year

	2024	2023
Deferred income	-	5,000
Other creditors	-	2,008
Accruals	750	500
	750	7,508

6 Reconciliation of movement of funds

Unrestricted Funds		Funds at 1st March 2023	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Funds at 28th February 2024
	Designated	8,562	69,844	(58,645)	-	19,761
		8,562	69,844	(58,645)	-	19,761

The above funds comprise:

- **Designated Fund:** These are funds designated for future projects in the following year.

7 Analysis of assets over funds

		Net Current Assets	Total 2024	Total 2023
Unrestricted Funds:				
	Designated	19,761	19,761	8,562
		19,761	19,761	8,562

8 Trustees

During the year, none of the trustees received any remuneration from the charity and no expenses were reimbursed to any of them.