

LEWISHAM YOUTH THEATRE LTD

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ending 31st August 2023

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 02135342

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 297075

**Frank S Lachman
16b North End Road
Golders Green
London
NW11 7PH**

Legal and Administrative Information

31st August 2023

Company Registered Number	02135342	
Registered Charity Number	297075	
Registered Office	142-144 Lewisham High Street London SE13 6JG	
Patrons	Phaldut Sharma Lucian Msamati	
Directors and Trustees	Genine Whitehorne	Chair
	Thomas Toomse-Smith	Treasurer
	Edison Huyn	Appointed 25th September 2023
	Edward King	
	Freneka Mumford	
	Jamiel Thomas	
	Mairi Hayes	
	Tyreke Leslie	Appointed 15th December 2022
	Salmah Iqbal	Resigned 31st July 2023
	Stella Jeffrey	Resigned 15th December 2022
	Natalie Beeraje	Resigned 1st September 2022
	Danielle Moseley	Resigned 1st September 2022
Company Secretary	Victoria Shaskan	
Independent Examiner	Frank S Lachman Chartered Accountant 16B North End Road London NW11 7PH	
Bankers	Co-Operative Bank 151 Lewisham High Street Lewisham London SE13 6AA	
Staff Team	Helen Stanley	Artistic Director
	Victoria Shaskan	Executive Director
	Angus Scott-Miller	Participation Manager
	Anna Smith	Production Manager
	Carys Williams	Outreach Producer (to February 2023)
	Isla McGregor	Programmes Administrator
	Molly Cox	My London Programme Manager
	Monique Day	Workshops Coordinator
	Natalie Parsons	Volunteer Coordinator
	Subira Damali	Progression Coordinator

DIRECTORS' AND TRUSTEES' REPORT

The directors/trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2023.

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 accounting 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 OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the charitable company as set out in the governing documents continues to be the promotion, improvement and advancement of education and the encouragement of the appreciation of the arts in all their aspects by the presentation of educational plays and other suitable schemes.

The main activities undertaken in relation to these purposes are the provision of participatory arts projects and performances designed to develop the skills, capacities and capabilities of mainly, but not exclusively, young people up to the age of 24 who live or learn in Lewisham.

The charity's mission statement, published in the Strategic Plan is:

All young people have a powerful voice and a right to be heard.

Lewisham Youth Theatre (LYT) nurtures and inspires young people's voices through free participatory theatre activities, helping them to develop enduring and transferable skills that lead to increased life chances and long term well-being.

We bring young people together from across the Lewisham community to create outstanding theatre in an environment of high expectations and collaboration. We work from the core belief that artistic excellence is key to expanding young people's horizons and creating lasting transformation.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The company was incorporated on 29th May 1987 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In April 2017, the Council of Management, after seeking approval from the Charity Commission for regulated changes, resolved to approve a new Memorandum and Articles in order to bring the charity's governing documents in line with current charity law.

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The guarantees of individual members are limited to £10.

The company is a registered charity, number 297075.

The appointed directors of the company are also the charity's trustees. The directors form its Council of Management and Governing Body and are empowered to act as necessary in order for the company to fulfil its objectives.

LEWISHAM YOUTH THEATRE LTD

The Directors delegate the day-to-day management of the company to the key management personnel, currently the Artistic Director and Executive Director. The directors are responsible for ensuring that management staff's decisions are in accordance with the company's objects and legal framework. Long-term organisational strategy is the joint responsibility of the directors and the management staff. Directors are responsible for ensuring that this strategy is in accordance with the company's objects, and for overseeing the effectiveness of this strategy.

Directors may be appointed by the members of the company or fellow directors at any time. New directors/trustees are provided with an induction pack outlining their roles and responsibilities as both directors of the company and trustees of the charity. They are provided with the company's governing documents and the current business plan.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

A former participant of Lewisham Youth Theatre once said, *"LYT is so much more than a youth theatre."*

Never has this been truer than in the last year. We have expanded our activity and benefit to the Lewisham community through continued exploration of our *Youth-Led Creative Hub* model, centring young people's voices across the organisation. Support from major funders, including the National Lottery Community Fund, has allowed us to widen our impact: building young creatives through our facilitator training and *Hatch* creative incubator programme, empowering young leaders through the My London Youth Social Action project and responding to urgent local need through programmes like the Wildfire! Escape Room and our Friday Social Hub sessions. We have hosted other arts and community activity, often providing a space where partners and young people can collaborate on issues of importance.

"I also want to send a special appreciation to our lovely, intelligent, confident young people for their active participation and input to some of the agenda item. They were great in articulating and highlighting the lack of provision for young people in the heart of the Town Centre. We are very appreciative of their support. This is a testament of the great work your project offers to young people across the borough and beyond."

- Local partner

These developments have shown the difference our programmes can make to both our participants and our wider community, forming the basis of our continued growth of the Creative Hub.

Our Delivery

1129 participants have taken part in 504 sessions, with 187 taking part in core activity. Activity has included:

- **Juniors 8-12s:** 75 aged 8-12, 5 peer mentors aged 12-16 and 4 Graduate Creatives aged 18-25 engaged in 78 sessions across 4 session groups. In June, the Acting Company produced *Space Girl*, a play about a young girl who travels to the moon in search of her missing father. The devising company explored themes around families' relationships, imagination and dreams in a response to *Space Girl*.
- **Juniors 12-14s:** 40 aged 12-14 and 2 Graduate Creatives aged 18-25 engaged in 38 sessions across 3 session groups.

In December, participants developed *Wildfire!* an immersive escape-room style drama exploring an urgent climate emergency in Lewisham, in partnership with STEM and arts engagement company SMASHFest UK. In April 2023, LYT helped SMASHFest produce a digital version of the *Wildfire!* experiences for public audiences in the Creative Hub.

In July, the Acting Company produced *MyLife Now*, a snap shot of LYT member's lives today, inspired by 2008 performance *My Life* and with filmed contributions from the original participants – now professionals.

- **Seniors 14-21s:** 48 aged 14-25 engaged in 82 sessions across 4 session groups. The Acting Company performed Confession Challenge at LYT, Fuse International Festival in Kingston and The Broadway Studio, Catford. 3 participants led the Acting Company process as paid assistant directors/writers alongside the Artistic Director. One 16-year old was paid as an assistant technician.

The Devising Company performed *Tales from the Lewisham Arms* - a new programme of work by young creatives, where they share their own writing and performances.

The Gradate Acting Company led a tour of performance *Live it Down* to schools and practitioner events across the borough, including the launch of Engage, a Violence Reduction Unit initiative.

- **Technical Theatre:** 34 aged 11-17 engaged in 22 sessions across 3 session groups, with 8 young people aged 13-16 going on to assist productions as tech crew.
- **Arts Awards:** 11 aged 12-16 took part in 13 sessions; 6 will achieve Bronze Arts Award Qualifications
- **Outreach:** 32 one-off drama & technical theatre sessions in schools & community settings reaching 700 participants aged 7-14
- **Members Committee and My London Youth Social Action:** 28 aged 11-18 took part in 32 sessions, including planning and running events, and representing Lewisham young people at community events like the Local Area Assembly and Lewisham launch of the Police's A New MET For London strategy.

6 of these have sat on the My London Youth Steering Group – a cross-borough youth Board leading social action projects across Lewisham & Greenwich.

- **Facilitator Training & Graduate Creatives:** 18 participants aged 16-25 received paid work experience, gaining employability skills through supporting on LYT's youth theatre projects.

In collaboration with the Albany's *A Big Conversation*, 8 of these participants also received dedicated training, mentoring and paid experience on delivering drama for wellbeing with young people affected by poor mental health. Stories of the impact of the arts on their own mental health were showcased in a campaign for more creativity in supporting young people with their mental health: <https://youtu.be/zNuB2MLNISO>

New programme developments this year:

- **Creative Hub Sessions & Events:** 57 masterclasses and workshops delivered with creative partners including: Central School of Speech & Drama Actor Trainers; All In Actors; Casting Director Cerri Bedingfield; Collective Acting Studio; London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA); National Youth Theatre; Outside Edge; Theatre Centre; Frantic Assembly; SMASHFest; Trinity Laban; Albion Theatre, Stage Combat specialist Lydia Fitzwilliams; Actors Lucian Msamati; and Patrice Naiambana led acting masterclasses.

In February, we hosted Celebrate Storytelling - A storytelling workshop led by Helen Stanley and launch of a storybook, written by 9-year old LYT member Isis Damali, with Q&A and book signing.

- **Social Hub:** 60+ young people aged 11-17 attended 15 after school drop-in sessions. Approximately 40-50 attended each session, with a majority coming from St Matthews Academy. Supported by 3 paid graduates, and 2 members of staff, young people played social games and creative activities, took part quizzes and open mics.

- **HATCH:** A new creative project that gives Young Creatives aged 18-25 the opportunity to develop their own creative practice: as writers, performers, directors and producers, through creative development sessions. Young artists showcased their work at a 3-day festival at LYT's Creative Hub in August.

- **Creative Futures:** As an extension of our previous Opening Doors programme and in collaboration with London Borough of Culture, we hosted a Creative Futures event, featuring 3 masterclasses and a Q&A panel run by our Member's Committee with professional creatives: Oladipo Agboluaje (playwright), Rosie Townshend (producer); Mojisola Elufowoju (director) and Patrick Bullock (designer). A video of the event can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/jZdWBNxgo9M?si=gihj08NrMQul-XdH>

MEETING OUR STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

We continue to track key performance indicators as set out in our Strategic Plan 2017-2022 against each of our Strategic Objectives. A full strategic plan can be downloaded from our website:

<http://www.lewishamyouththeatre.com/publications/>

Strategic Objective 1: Improving transferable life skills of Lewisham young people

Participation Indicators:

- 187 young people aged 8-24 took part in LYT's core projects
- 312 young people aged 8-25 took part in drop in activities and one-off workshops
- 906 young people participated in outreach sessions
- 593 audience members attended 8 youth theatre performances
- 76% of this years' participants disclosed significant disadvantage, across a range of needs.
- 98% of participants in sustained projects have taken part in 3 or more sessions, with 80% taking part in 10 or more sessions.
- 61% of 'workshop' project participants went on to join a next step performance project within the year.

Participant Self-Assessment Indicators:

- **Social/Emotional Skill:** 92% of all evaluation respondents reported a significant increase in at least one social/emotional skill (confidence, teamwork, communication and emotional literacy)
- **Creative Skills:** 80% of all evaluation respondents reported an increase in their creative skills

Qualitative Feedback:

"The decision-making process [i.e. youth-led nature of the project] really boosted his confidence and creating the character helped him express himself in a way he couldn't easily do before joining JYT1...I haven't seen him so happy in ages and after an unsettling couple of years suffering bereavements and various illnesses, it was wonderful seeing him being part of something that he loved." – Parent, 8-11s group

"It has made me more confident with what I am capable of and helping me who I am."
– Performer, 12-14s group

"Doing something that [my child] enjoys really makes all the difference to their mental health, and sense of well-being and engagement in life...School engagement improved and an ability to articulate what's going on for them has been improving over the course of the projects." – Parent, 12-14s group

"I felt really supported and safe here, and it's amazing to finally find a queer-freindly and neurodivergent safe space (they're hard to come by even nowa-days)." – Technical Theatre & Senior 14-17s participant

Strategic Objective 2: Increased ambition and access to further opportunities

Participation Indicators:

- 111 young people performed, worked backstage in productions or delivered their own workshops
- 85% of participants in sustained projects have completed their project
- 74 young people took part in approximately 91 hours of one-to-one mentoring, including support to complete their Arts Award Qualification.
- 17 young people received support to access next steps at LYT and beyond
- 214 young people engaged in 54 interactions with professional theatre companies including trips to see theatre, backstage tours, masterclasses and panel discussions with industry professionals
- 408 community members & young people attended 4 performances & events at the Creative Hub
- 6 young people completed the Bronze Arts Award qualification and 6 young people received AQA Unit Award Accreditations

Participant Self-Assessment Indicators:

- **Resilience:** 82% of all evaluation respondents indicated an increase in resilience, saying they had significantly improved at 'following through with my plans' and/or that they had gained 'more pride in myself'.
- **Ambition:** 83% indicated an increase in ambition. 64% said they had significantly improved in 'knowing what I want and working to
- **Leadership:** 69% indicated an increase in leadership capabilities. 63% said they had improved at 'helping others to do their best', 46% of all respondents reported they had gained the 'ability to lead others'.

Qualitative Feedback:

"It has given me a lot more insight into possible career opportunities in theatre and more interest in lighting design... I have already signed up for the Senior Acting course so I can put my passions into practice" – Technical Theatre & Senior Acting Participant

"I enjoyed making new friends, having fun and improving my skills. I liked how even with hard times I think our show still looks great. The outcome of sharing my ideas, skills and friends has been really good." – Participant, Juniors 8-11s group

"LYT provides opportunities to discover talent and career potential in all areas of creative performance industries to young people who might never otherwise discover they could succeed in them. It widens the pool of expertise in an industry of significant economic importance to London & the UK." – Parent, Junior 12-14s group

"I really enjoyed working as a team and seeing myself grow as a facilitator...I feel more confident in my leadership skills and generally feel less anxious talking to people and giving instructions... It has made me a more confident person and led me to believe in myself more and what I bring to the table." – Trainee Facilitator

"I'm taking control of my creative future!" – HATCH Young Creative

Volunteering: This year, 17 volunteers and placement students gave up their time to support on our projects.

40 youth theatre members volunteered as part of Members' Committee, peer mentors on projects, technical and backstage crew, or took part in work experience.

"I enjoyed being able to help and assist the children in the groups. [It] helped me understand the minds of younger kids and how they communicate with each other. I would like to be a peer mentor again and take part in more groups."
– Peer Mentor, Juniors 8-11s

Next Steps: Our direct support to connect participants to next steps and opportunities around London has meant that:

- 10 Graduate Creatives have received paid work with external arts organisations.
- Amiga, a Senior participant performed as part of the Windrush 75 Celebration at the Broadway Theatre
- Pierce, a Technical Theatre participant, received paid work as a technician with a visiting company
- Callum, a Technical Theatre participant, received an advance payment for the music he composed for Space Girl as part of the play's publication with Nick Hern

Strategic Objective 3: Sharing our expertise and working practice

*"We'd love for one of [our] new titles to be your fantastic play, **Space Girl**. I thought the play was really terrific - it's a joy to read something aimed at younger performers which offers them such rich opportunities to flex their skills, and celebrates the powerful resilience and imagination of children! We'd be very proud to welcome the play - and you! - to the Nick Hern Books list."*

- Associate Editor, Nick Hern Books

Publication of *Space Girl*: We are thrilled that the play *Space Girl* written by Helen Stanley with music by LYT participant Callum Webb and produced by our Junior Acting Company in 2023, will be part of Nick Hern Books' Multiplay Drama Initiative.

Training & Exchanges: We have exchanged with partners to highlight our own work, while supporting a wider adoption of quality youth-led practice. Activity under this objective includes:

- **'Creating Work with Young Audiences'** training delivered with BRIT School Applied Theatre class, culminating in their students performing a piece of children's theatre at LYT for 84 primary school children
- **'Impact of Youth-Led Practice'** Training delivered with National Lottery Community Fund and BBC Children in Need
- **'Performing for Young Audiences'** Training delivered with All In Actors foundation students
- **Live It Down** – a Forum Theatre play performed by our Graduate Acting Company for Lewisham's Social Work Conference and the launch of Engage, a cross-borough violence reduction initiative
- **The Parched Lands Teacher Pack** - Working with Lewisham Council's Climate Team, we published a teachers pack and delivered a workshop with their Student Climate Network as a legacy of our 2022 production of 'The Parched Lands'.

REFERRAL PARTNERSHIPS: LYT continues to receive referrals through local partnerships. This year, our partners have included:

Local Primary Schools: Forster Park, Gordonbrock, John Stainer, Kender Primary, Rushey Green, St Marys, St. Saviour's, Launcelot, New Woodlands

Local Secondary Schools: Abbey Mannor, Bonus Pastor, Deptford Green, New Woodlands, Prendergast Ladywell, Sedgehill, Sydenham School

Community Referral Partners: AFRIL, Baseline, CAMHS, Early Help Team, Family Thrive, Job Centre, Lewisham Social Care, Redthread, South London & Maudsley NHS, Young Carers Lewisham, Lewisham Virtual Schools

MY LONDON PARTNERSHIP: LYT leads this project to seed social action across Lewisham and Greenwich alongside partners Charlton Athletic Community Trust, Metro Charity, Tramshed and Trinity Laban. The Youth Steering Group, made up of participants from 7 partner organisations, produces quarterly youth events to share learning and build stronger youth networks for social action in South East London.

SHARING OUR CREATIVE HUB: We have also shared the Creative Hub with the following community and arts partners in need of rehearsal and event space: Angel Dust (residency and performance); Climate Action Lewisham, CRIPTic Arts, Lewisham Young Mayor's Team, Lewisham Central LAA, LandSec Design Champions, MET Police, METRO Charity, SMASHFest UK and Teatro Vivo.

"A huge thank you to you, the other staff members and most importantly the young people from the Members Committee on your Youth Leadership Board involved in making the [New MET for London] community event a success. [T]heir welcoming, friendly nature was fantastic...and that led to a great networking environment where conversations were free flowing – just perfect!"

– MET Neighbourhood Superintendent

Strategic Objective 4: Sustainable Resources

Staff Training: During the year, staff undertook training in Mental Health First Aid; Mental Health Awareness; First Aid at Work; Safeguarding; Arts Awards; Adverse Childhood Experiences; Pupil Referral Units; Understanding and Managing Behaviour; Social Media; Creative Writing; Participatory Architectural Improvements to Community Spaces; Bid Writing; Mentoring; Managing Effective Teams; Trauma Informed Practise; LGBTQ+ Awareness; The Manosphere And The Rise Of Online Misogyny.

Increased & Sustained Resourcing: The organisation remains in a strong financial position moving into the 2023/24 financial year, with strong funding and commissioning partnerships. We are grateful for the support of new and returning donors for the next year:

- National Lottery Community Fund – for a 5-year grant towards the Youth-Led Creative Hub strategy
- Arts Council England – for their support towards the HATCH creative incubator project
- City Bridge Foundation – for their support towards our youth voice activities
- Garfield Weston Foundation – for their support towards the Youth-Led Creative Hub strategy
- Skinners Company – for their support towards the Facilitator Training programme
- People's Society Trust – for their support towards the Backstage Theatre programme

LEWISHAM YOUTH THEATRE LTD

We particularly want to thank LandSec who have provided the retail unit on Lewisham High Street rent and rates free - an in-kind donation is estimated at a cost of £187,000.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

In the last year, we welcomed staff member Anna Smith as our Production Manager. We also worked for a short period with consultant Becky Smith, who helped us to develop the systems and health & safety procedures for the Creative Hub space.

In February 2023, Carys Williams left LYT to become Participation Manager with Big House Theatre. We're excited that the vacant role of Outreach Producer will be taken on by former student placement Maizy Wright in September 2023.

Our Council of Management (Board of Trustees) welcomed new member and LYT graduate Tyreke Leslie before he joined the RSC for their summer production of 'As You Like It'.

We thank Sally Iqbal who stepped down from the Board due to external commitments.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

A New Creative Hub: In Autumn 2023, we will move into a new building at 436 Lewisham High Street. Drawing our experience in our current unit, we will work with our Members' Committee and local partners including Youth Build and Public Works architects to return this disused space to vibrant community use.

New Leadership: In December 2023, long-time Artistic Director Helen Stanley will leave LYT to pursue a freelance career. We will welcome a new Creative Director, Filiz Ozcan, who will work with our CEO Victoria Shaskan to drive forward the vision for a Creative Hub centring youth voices at all levels.

New Social Action: Our Members' Committee will lead a new social action campaign – the Case for S.P.A.C.E. (Switching Perceptions and Creating Environments). They will bring together a Task Force of local young people and adult change makers to campaign for more youth-led spaces in Lewisham and to switch perceptions of young people in public spaces through a petition and a public performance.

New Programmes: We will expand and embed new training programmes, particularly giving young people more dedicated leadership training and experience as young directors, peer mentors, technicians, producers and writers. Bringing different age groups together, we will start to develop a new series of plays following the same set of characters at different ages as they respond to urgent issues facing young people today.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

LYT has had another positive year, managing to end the year with a surplus of £13,348. We have continued to enjoy support from a wide range of public and private sponsors. This year we raised £403,111 through grants, donations and charitable activities. This fundraising success allowed us to spend £347,652 (cash expenditure) on our own charitable activities and distribute £42,111 of partnership funding from the Mayor of London to our four My London partners.

On top of the cash income and expenditure, we have secured in-kind support towards our premises estimated at £187,000, bringing our total income to £590,111.

The charity remains in a good financial position, with £176,761 of funds carried forward to the next financial year.

RESERVES POLICY

Unrestricted Designated funds carried forward (shown in notes 9 and 10) are monies allocated to projects going forward. The Trustees deem these funds available for use in the following year's operational budget as a contingency towards the project and running costs of the next year. This policy allows the charity to plan and deliver a cohesive annual programme to meet the needs of our service users should fundraising not meet expected targets.

As of 31 August 2023, the Trustees designate £56,761 of carried forward funds to projects in the 2023/24 financial year.

The charity endeavours to maintain a level of non-operational reserves that will enable it, if the situation arises that funding is curtailed, to carry on its activities whilst alternative sources of funding are obtained. Total carried forward funds currently total 6 months running costs, with non-operational Reserves (defined as carried forward funds not designated) at the level of £120,000 currently totalling approximately 4 months of the overall 2022/23 cash expenditure. The directors consider this to be an appropriate level of reserves as at 31 August 2023 as a contingency against statutory obligations.

The movement in reserves is shown in note 8 to the accounts.

INDEMNITY

The company holds Trustees and Directors Indemnity insurance, which indemnifies directors against any liability incurred in that capacity, up to £100,000.

FUNDING AND INCOME SOURCES

Income sources, names of funders and designation of funds are shown in Notes 2 and 3 to the accounts.

All income and resources are used for the direct delivery of the organisation's charitable activities or for the support costs associated with this delivery, in order to further the key objectives of the charity.

ACCOUNTANTS

Frank Lachman has agreed to offer himself for re-election as Independent Examiner to the company at the forthcoming AGM.

INVESTMENTS

The charity has no investments.

RELATED PARTIES

The charity has relationships with other charities on a project-by-project basis. None of the trustees receive remuneration or benefitted financially from their work as trustees/directors of the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager of the charity and a contractor must be disclosed to the full Council of Management.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The directors/trustees consider the company to remain a going concern for the period of 12 months from the date the accounts are signed, as such the accounts have been prepared on that basis. The company undertakes periodic reviews for different areas of risk including insurance cover, health and safety in the workplace and during work with participants, safeguarding children, financial affairs, personnel practices and ICT technology.

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. This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Section 419(3) of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES

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

Genine Whitehorne	Chair
Thomas Toomse-Smith	Treasurer
Edison Huyn	Appointed 25th September 2023
Edward King	
Freneka Mumford	
Jamiel Thomas	
Mairi Hayes	
Tyreke Leslie	Appointed 15th December 2022
Salmah Iqbal	Resigned 31st July 2023
Stella Jeffrey	Resigned 15th December 2022
Natalie Beeraje	Resigned 1st September 2022
Danielle Moseley	Resigned 1st September 2022

This report was approved by the board on

and signed on its behalf by



Treasurer and Trustee
Thomas Toomse-Smith
Lewisham Youth Theatre Ltd

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 31st August 2023 which are set out on pages 12 to 20 .

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.

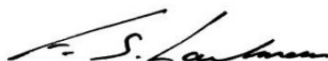
Independent examiner's report

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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
Chartered Accountant
Independent Examiner

16b North End Road
London NW11 7PH

LEWISHAM YOUTH THEATRE LTD

**Statement of Financial Activities
(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31st August 2023**

		Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds		Total Funds	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds		Total Funds
	Notes	Revenue £	Designated £	Reserves £	2023 £	Revenue £	Designated £	Reserves £	2022 £
Income									
Donations and legacies	2	338,012	229,823	-	567,835	257,226	184,284	-	441,510
Bank interest		-	1,118	-	1,118	-	-	89	89
Charitable activities	4	-	21,158	-	21,158	-	400	-	400
Total income		338,012	252,099	-	590,111	257,226	184,684	89	441,999
Expenditure									
Charitable Activity Costs	3	338,388	238,375	-	576,763	259,850	126,776	-	386,626
Total expenditure		338,388	238,375	-	576,763	259,850	126,776	-	386,626
Net income/expenditure		(376)	13,724	-	13,348	(2,624)	57,908	89	55,373
Reconciliation of funds									
Total funds brought forward		-	63,413	100,000	163,413	-	37,175	70,865	108,040
Transfers between funds		376	(20,376)	20,000	-	2,624	(31,670)	29,046	-
Total funds carried forward	9	-	56,761	120,000	176,761	-	63,413	100,000	163,413

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 14 to 20 form part of these accounts.

LEWISHAM YOUTH THEATRE LTD

Balance Sheet at 31st August 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Debtors	7	339		43,100	
Cash at bank and in hand		267,967		231,905	
Total current assets		<u>268,306</u>		<u>275,005</u>	
Creditors due within one year	8	<u>91,545</u>		<u>111,592</u>	
Net current assets			176,761		163,413
Net assets			<u>176,761</u>		<u>163,413</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted Funds			-		-
Unrestricted Funds - Designated			56,761		63,413
- Reserves			120,000		100,000
Total charity funds	9		<u>176,761</u>		<u>163,413</u>

For the year ended 31 August 2023 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

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

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for:

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

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime under Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the directors on 11th December 2023, and signed on their behalf by



Genine Whitehorne - Chair

Thomas Toomse-Smith - Treasurer

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st August 2023**

1 Accounting Policies

(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.

As a small company, Lewisham Youth Theatre has not presented a cashflow in these accounts on the basis of the small company exemption under FRS102, section 7.

Lewisham Youth Theatre 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 297075) 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.

(g) Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are written down over the useful life on a fixed line basis. Computers are deemed to have a four year life

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st August 2023

2 Grants and donations

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2022 £
Support In Kind						
- Landsec	-	187,000	187,000	-	82,348	82,348
- Mishcon De Reyas	-	-	-	-	2,664	2,664
Grants for General Running Costs						
- LB of Lewisham - Main Grant	-	30,000	30,000	-	32,500	32,500
Grants and Donations						
- National Lottery Community Fund	80,820	75	80,895	72,274	-	72,274
- Children In Need	20,500	-	20,500	-	-	-
- Haberdashers Benevolent Fund	3,600	-	3,600	3,000	-	3,000
- <i>Greater London Authority</i>						
Young Londoners Fund	-	-	-	4,500	-	4,500
My London	70,000	-	70,000	52,100	-	52,100
Foundation For SocGLA	-	-	-	2,310	-	2,310
Culture At Risk	-	-	-	7,600	-	7,600
- Creating Connections- Young Mayor	1,970	-	1,970	-	-	-
- People's Society Trust	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
- Lee Charity of William Hattcliffe	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
- Sir William Boreman Foundation	4,500	-	4,500	-	-	-
- Henry Smith	28,500	-	28,500	28,000	-	28,000
- Burberry Foundation	-	-	-	-	15,000	15,000
- Garfield Weston	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-
- <i>LB of Lewisham</i>						
We Are Lewisham	-	-	-	2,500	-	2,500
Additional Restrictions Grant	-	-	-	-	6,000	6,000
Creative Change	-	-	-	4,600	-	4,600
NCIL Borough Wide	15,000	-	15,000	3,750	-	3,750
NCIL Lewisham Central	28,000	-	28,000	8,440	-	8,440
- Hillcote Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
- Chesire Community	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
- Arts Council England	29,986	-	29,986	26,874	-	26,874
Donations						
- Individual and Corporate Donors	2,186	7,748	9,934	340	5,772	6,112
Deferred Grants brought forward	70,950	2,917	73,867	101,888	42,917	144,805
Deferred Grants carried forward	(58,000)	(2,917)	(60,917)	(70,950)	(2,917)	(73,867)
	338,012	229,823	567,835	257,226	184,284	441,510

Support in Kind comprises

	2023	2022
Rent and rates	187,000	82,348
Legal support	-	2,664
	187,000	85,012

LEWISHAM YOUTH THEATRE LTD
**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st August 2023**

	Restricted	Unrestricted		Restricted	Unrestricted	
			2023			2022
Deferred Grants brought forward						
LB of Lewisham						
Growth Builders	-	-	-	-	25,000	25,000
Additional restrictions	-	-	-	13,714	-	13,714
Main Grant	-	2,917	2,917	-	2,917	2,917
NCIL Borough Wide	7,500	-	7,500	-	-	-
Greater London Authority						
Culture At Risk	2,100	-	2,100	-	-	-
My London	36,300	-	36,300	-	-	-
Hoare Trustees	-	-	-	7,183	-	7,183
Burberry Foundation	-	-	-	15,000	-	15,000
Foundation For SocGLA	-	-	-	8,400	-	8,400
Little Lives UK	-	-	-	1,500	-	1,500
Baring Foundation	-	-	-	25,610	-	25,610
People's Community Trust	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
My London	-	-	-	10,481	-	10,481
Lee Charity of William Hattcliffe	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
Haberdashers Benevolent Fund	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	17,050	-	17,050	-	-	-
Hillcote Trust	-	-	-	-	15,000	15,000
	70,950	2,917	73,867	101,888	42,917	144,805

	Restricted	Unrestricted		Restricted	Unrestricted	
			2023			2022
Deferred Grants carried forward						
LB of Lewisham						
Main Grant	-	2,917	2,917	-	2,917	2,917
NCIL Borough Wide	-	-	-	7,500	-	7,500
Greater London Authority						
Culture At Risk	-	-	-	2,100	-	2,100
My London	10,000	-	10,000	36,300	-	36,300
Lee Charity of William Hattcliffe	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Haberdashers Benevolent Fund	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Arts Council England	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-
BBC Children In Need	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	17,050	-	17,050
People's Society Trust	25,000	-	25,000	-	-	-
Hillcote Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-
	58,000	2,917	60,917	70,950	2,917	73,867

3 Charitable Activity Costs

	Support Costs		Charitable Activity Costs		Governance	Total
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Costs £	2023 £
Direct costs						
Staff costs	3,605	7,410	199,750	37,976	1,926	250,667
Project Costs						
Freelance Fees	2,100	-	28,262	-	-	30,362
Production Costs	-	-	4,819	-	-	4,819
My London Partnership *	-	-	42,111	-	-	42,111
Theatre tickets	-	-	270	-	-	270
DBS Checks	-	-	508	-	-	508
Workshop Materials and Costs	-	-	411	-	-	411
Travel and subsistence	-	-	1,201	-	-	1,201
Theatre and space hire	-	-	-	-	-	-
Volunteer Expenses	-	-	460	-	-	460
Graduate Creatives Apprenticeships	-	-	17,589	281	-	17,870
Accreditation costs	-	-	250	-	-	250
Equipment and software	-	-	1,713	358	-	2,071
Support in Kind	-	187,000	-	-	-	187,000
Support costs						
Accountant's fee	-	-	-	-	1,900	1,900
AGM, Council of Management and Annual	-	26	831	26	-	883
Telephone, internet and postage	-	-	1,101	580	-	1,681
Documentation	-	-	1,418	150	-	1,568
Organisational Promotion and travel	-	-	828	65	-	893
Operational/Service costs	-	-	1,316	-	-	1,316
Insurance	-	-	958	301	-	1,259
Subscriptions	-	-	2,243	76	-	2,319
Refreshments	-	-	61	3	-	64
Printing and Stationery	-	-	980	245	-	1,225
Bank fees	-	52	-	-	-	52
Light, power, heating and cleaning	-	-	25,603	-	-	25,603
Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total 2023	5,705	194,488	332,683	40,061	3,826	576,763

* Funding from the Greater London Authority for the My London programme was dispersed to project delivery partners: Charlton Athletic Community Trust, METRO Charity, Tramshed and Trinity Laban.

3 Charitable Activity Costs

2022 Comparatives	Support Costs		Charitable Activity Costs		Governance Costs	Total 2022
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs						
Staff costs	900	11,925	187,691	20,570	2,345	223,431
Project Costs						
Freelance Fees	-	-	29,429	-	-	29,429
Production Costs	-	-	2,391	-	-	2,391
Partnership payments	-	-	623	-	-	623
Theatre tickets	-	-	437	10	-	447
DBS Checks	-	-	452	-	-	452
Workshop Materials and Costs	-	-	847	-	-	847
Travel and subsistence	-	-	1,353	-	-	1,353
Theatre and space hire	-	-	611	-	-	611
Volunteer Expenses	-	-	107	-	-	107
Graduate Creatives Apprenticeships	-	-	7,850	-	-	7,850
Accreditation costs	-	-	150	-	-	150
Equipment and software	-	-	939	336	-	1,275
Support in Kind	-	85,012	-	-	-	85,012
Support costs						
Accountant's fee	-	-	-	-	1,900	1,900
AGM, Council of Management and						
Annual report costs	-	-	351	555	248	1,154
Telephone, internet and postage	-	-	1,683	417	-	2,100
Documentation	-	-	768	-	-	768
Organisational Promotion and travel	4,039	-	1,234	433	-	5,706
Insurance	-	-	237	1,569	-	1,806
Subscriptions	-	-	1,522	518	-	2,040
Refreshments	-	-	20	18	-	38
Printing and Stationery	-	-	1,495	-	-	1,495
Bank fees	-	38	47	-	-	85
Light, power, heating and cleaning	1,375	-	13,299	457	-	15,131
Rent	-	-	-	425	-	425
Total 2022	6,314	96,975	253,536	25,308	4,493	386,626

4

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	2023	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Workshops and commissions	-	21,158	21,158	-	400	400
	-	21,158	21,158	-	400	400

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st August 2023

5 Employees	2023 £	2022 £		2023 No.	2022 No.
Wages and Social security costs	231,387	207,215	Administration	2	2
Staff Pension costs	4,831	4,162	Tutors	8	8
Employers NI	14,449	12,054		10	10
Freelance fees	30,362	29,429			
	<u>281,029</u>	<u>252,860</u>			

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the year. (2022 none)

6 Tangible Fixed Assets	Computers £	Total £
Cost at 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023	<u>1,059</u>	<u>1,059</u>
Depreciation at 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023	<u>1,059</u>	<u>1,059</u>
Written down value at 31st August 2022 and 31st August 2023	-	-

7 Debtors	2023 £	2022 £
Income receivable	-	-
Trade debtors	<u>339</u>	<u>43,100</u>
	<u>339</u>	<u>43,100</u>

8 Creditors due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	13,165	31,343
Deferred Grants	60,917	73,867
Partnership Funding	10,501	-
Accruals	6,962	6,382
	<u>91,545</u>	<u>111,592</u>

9 Reconciliation of Movement in Funds

		Balance at 1st September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st August 2023 £
Restricted Funds		-	338,012	(338,388)	376	-
Unrestricted Funds	- Designated	63,413	252,099	(238,375)	(20,376)	56,761
	- Reserves	100,000	-	-	20,000	120,000
		<u>163,413</u>	<u>590,111</u>	<u>(576,763)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,761</u>

The above funds comprise:

Reserves: these are monies representing approximately 4 months of overall budget costs in the 22-23 year, which can be used by the Trustees at their discretion for any purpose and which have not been designated by them previously.

Designated Fund: are monies the Trustees have allocated to projects moving forward, which will be released for use in the 2023/24 operational budgets

Transfer of any remaining funds between restricted and unrestricted general has been made following successful completion of projects to the satisfaction of funders in order to ensure the long-term sustainability of the charity.

10 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Net Current Assets £	Fixed Assets £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted Funds:				
Designated	56,761	-	56,761	63,413
Reserves	120,000	-	120,000	100,000
	176,761	-	176,761	163,413

11 TRUSTEES

No trustee received remuneration for services provided to, or reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of, the company while a trustee/director during the year.

No trustee resigned in the year and took paid employment with the company