

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101588

Details

Known as	ADF
Status	Received
Registered	2015-03-03
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address Arts & Disability Forum/University
Cathedral Quarter Workspace
109-113 Royal Avenue
Belfast
Bt1 1ff
BT1 1FF

Phone 02890239450

Email ceo@universityofatypical.org

Website www.universityofatypical.org

Activities

Purposes: The Charity's objects ("Objects") are to provide an organisation led by disabled people to increase opportunities for disabled people to engage with the arts in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, working on a pan-disability basis. And ancillary to this object, provide formal and informal learning opportunities, training, information, support, inspiration, showcases and other opportunities that:- a) Enhance both the extent and quality of: (i) the experience that disabled people have of the arts; (ii) the work produced by disabled artists; (iii) the public's experience of art created or presented by disabled artists; (iv) arts organisations' understanding of the needs and desires of disabled people (as arts consumers and practitioners); (v) showcases of excellence in art by disabled people; and (vi) collaborative working in pursuit of these aims. b) Promote use of arts by disabled people in support of initiatives aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of disabled people and as approved by the Board.

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science, The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity

How the charity works: Arts, Disability, Grant making, Human rights/equality

Who the charity helps: Language community, Learning disabilities, Mental health, Physical disabilities, Sensory disabilities, Voluntary and community sector

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£454,557	£403,362	£85,273	6

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Miss Isolde Óbrolcháin Carmody		
Mr Adam Bradley		
Mr Peter Fleming		
Ms Aisling Doherty		
Ms Christina Herdman		
Ms Ciara Smyth		
Ms Hanna Slattne		
Ms Mave Dempster O'Neill		
Ms Miriam Bacon		
Nikki Heptonstall		

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101588

Accounts

Company registration number NI051776

**ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Ms C Smyth Ms M C Bacon Ms T Carlisle Ms H M F Slattne Ms A Doherty Ms N Heptonstall Mr A Bradley Mrs M Dempster O'Neil Mr P Fleming Ms C Herdman	(Appointed 4 June 2024) (Appointed 19 June 2024) (Appointed 24 June 2024) (Appointed 25 June 2024) (Appointed 19 July 2024) (Appointed 22 July 2024)
Charity number	NIC101588	
Company number	NI051776	
Registered office	Third Floor 109-113 Royal Avenue Belfast BT1 1FF	
Independent examiner	GMcG BELFAST Alfred House 19 Alfred Street Belfast BT2 8EQ	
Bankers	Danske Bank Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS	
Solicitors	O'Reilly Stewart Solicitors 75-77 May Street Belfast BT1 3JL	

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6 - 7
Statement of financial activities	8
Balance sheet	9 - 10
Notes to the financial statements	11 - 26

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the company's Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objects for which the charity is established are to:

Provide an organisation led by disabled people to increase opportunities for disabled people to engage with the arts in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, working on a pan-disability basis.

Ancillary to the core object, is to provide opportunities, training and support to:

(i) Enhance both the extent and quality of:

- The experience that disabled people have of the arts;
- The work produced by disabled artists;
- The public's experience of art created or presented by disabled artists;
- Arts organisations' understanding of the needs and desires of disabled people (as arts consumers and practitioners);
- Showcase of excellence in art by disabled people
- Collaborative working in pursuit of these aims.

(ii) Promote use of arts by disabled people in support of initiatives aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of disabled people and as approved by the board.

The charity works collaboratively with arts funders, disabled, neurodiverse and D/deaf artists, arts companies, community groups, equality organisations, ethnic minority groups, LGBTQ groups and the mainstream arts sector, aiming to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities for D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people to participate in arts and culture on their own terms.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

University of Atypical for Arts and Disability (UofA), formerly known as Arts & Disability Forum (ADF) is a charity led by D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people to empower people of all ages work collaboratively with artists and arts sector to create positive change. The vision is of an inclusive artistic environment where D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people can be involved in the arts in any way they choose.

The work of the Charity continues to focus on:

- increase access and representation in arts by D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people;
- enhance skills for D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people;
- increase wellbeing from social connections;
- greater societal acceptance and celebration of diversity.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and performance

During the year to March 2025, UoA continued to develop blended delivery methods to engage with participants and audiences online.

Bounce Arts Festival in October 2024; programmed events in Belfast Derry City and Strabane District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

Visual arts included Artist in Residence for Bounce 2024: Brian Connolly who took over the Atypical Gallery from September to mid-October. Over 1000 visitors came to see Brian's work. Father and son duo Peter and Steven Fleming present an experimental audio-sensory experience devised especially for Bounce 2024. The Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) hosted *De mo Neamhthoil*, by artist Soso Ní Cheallaigh, through a mesmerising movement and film installation.

We welcomed artists from Ireland and Europe including theatre makers Jody O'Neill from Cork presenting her production 'Yellow' and Porcelain Delaney from Manchester performing her one-woman show 'Toilet Paper Diaries' in the Crescent Arts Centre, Belfast. Greek-British artist Mikhail Karikis joins the Void Gallery for the launch of *The Weather Orchestra*. Northern Lights present 'All who are weary and heavy-laden, I will give you rest' - a sound and movement performance with Amble Skuse from Scotland and Boško Begović, from Belgrade, in the Playhouse, Derry.

Local partners for Bounce 2024 included Rouge Encounters with a Physical Performance masterclass at Duncairn Arts Centre. Open Arts presented an array of choir and theatrical performances in the Crescent Arts Centre. An innovative Virtual Reality instrumental and sensory double-bill in the Sonic Arts Research Centre and Brain Injury Matters, showcased work developed in this partnership.

UoA partnered for the first time with the Seamus Heaney Centre at Queen's University for a literary lecture and open mic afternoon for writers. The Queen's Film Theatre hosted two films with associated talks. A Late lunch poetry event in the Playhouse introduced Nina Quigley and Elizabeth Mc Geown.

We engaged new and emerging artists through an exciting collaboration with Foyle Pride with Not Your Pity Party - an evening of unapologetically proud queer disabled art in partnership in the Nerve Centre, Derry. Comedian Ross Mitchell led six other comedians in the first ever all-autistic line up for a fantastic night in the Black Box.

Singer Victoria Geelan, one of the 2023-24 DDASF recipients performed her new show Chasing Amy with Strange New Places, her punk band at the finale event of the festival.

The D'Oyly Trust enabled the commissioning of artists for Bounce 2024 including a collaboration between poet Alice Mc Cullough and pianist Ruth McGinley that showcased at the Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre and performance artist Sinead O'Donnell who created a new work and masterclass event in the Black Box.

The **Atypical Gallery** featured a collaborative exhibition of work produced by recipients of DDASF awards in November; other exhibitors in the year included Steph Harrison, Vikki Patterson, Brian Connolly, Connection Arts, Scott Ramsey. **Ulster University Arts Graduate Awardee** Christine Kernohan was awarded a package of finance and practical support and mentoring by an experienced artist. Her exhibition took place in the Atypical Gallery.

International Residency for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists was funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland through British Council funds. It was devised in response to the exclusion experienced by d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists when participating in international residencies. Northern Ireland artist Husk Bennet will begin a residency at the queer art collective Coven in Berlin, and Flax Arts Studios in Belfast hosted German artist Chris Yohei Tokunaga in February 2024.

Disability Pride Soirée took place in July, profiling LGBTQIA+ artists who also identify as Deaf, disabled or neurodivergent.

The Sign Language Development Programme funded by the Department for Communities, enabled the delivery of sign language classes, d/Deaf awareness training and interpreter costs across our Gallery and events programme.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Digital Horizon, funded by the Santander Foundation, continued into its final masterclass season in this period; as a flagship digitalisation and finance management support initiative. A series of masterclasses were programmed including; Four new Masterclass submissions were selected through an open call for delivery in period 2024/25.

The Arts and Disability Access Awards (ADAA), a new incarnation of the scheme known as EASI. With improved programme offers in training and tailored support to arts, culture, and heritage organisations who want to make their activities more accessible. Designed and led by disabled people, it brings a wealth of experiential knowledge, and the freshest ideas about disability rights and accessibility for the arts. Six disabled and neurodivergent freelance Access Advisors were recruited and trained and engaged in the rolling out of this programme. Three core elements inc :

1. Making the Arts Accessible Training.
2. Access Audit and Improvement Plan.
3. Accessibility Information Video.

International Residency for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists: UofA working with partners in Germany and England continues to research a model of best practice for residencies for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists.

Working with Videolabs in Brighton, UoA aimed to facilitate defined access requirements for many disabled artists who are often excluded from taking part in international residencies. During the year artist residencies were hosted by partners Coven in Berlin, and Flax art studios in Belfast.

Ledger Studio introduced as a much-needed resource for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse audiences and artists. During the year, studio programming and use as a sectoral resource has proved successful. Going forward UoA anticipate potential business growth to augment income generation that will support the wider programming and overhead costs

UoA continued to support key organisations through **strategic partnerships** and the delivery of access support. We continued to implement the Arts Council of Northern Ireland Memorandum of Understanding for access services; rolled out two access support tenders for Belfast 2024 through Belfast City Council and adopted a Music Grants Programme from Belfast City Council to reach d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent musicians and audiences in Belfast.

Financial review

Strengthening the UofA financial position and procedures remains a priority. Results for the year are set out in detail on pages 8 to 26. The charity returned net income for the year of £51,213.

At 31 March 2025, the total funds of the charity amounted to £229,078 comprising restricted funds of £152,698 and unrestricted funds of £76,380.

Trustees rely on the unrestricted fund balance which is considered to be essential to provide sufficient funds to cover unforeseen costs and fulfill legal obligations of the charity if current levels of income are not maintained.

The charity continues to work closely with GMcG staff on payroll admin and the production of financial statements for the 2024-25 financial year.

For 2024-25 the principal funder was the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, with core and programming grants from exchequer and lottery funds, and Belfast City Council, Multi Annual funding and Capacity Programme support. Arts Council of Northern Ireland also sustained funding for the d/Deaf and Disabled Artists Support Fund.

Major risks

Risk management is addressed within the UofA Risk Management Strategy. The organisation has also established systems to mitigate significant risks to potential business and operational risks which the charity may face.

Senior staff supported by directors continue to review the major risks which the charity faces and believe that maintaining unrestricted reserves at the required levels to finance working capital and continue the charity's activities on a short-term basis, combined with annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will sustain resources for adverse conditions.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Staffing updates

The new Business Development Manager Laura Bradley, commenced the role the first week in April 2024. Recruitment for new staff roles took place in April-June 2024 including: Neave Wright, Creative Programming Officer (Arts Council of NI funding); Jonathan Mitchell, Access and Inclusion Manager (Paul Hamlyn Foundation funding); Sheena Kelly, Community Engagement Manager (Belfast City Council funding). The National Lottery Communities Fund supported the recruitment of a Volunteer Coordinator role and Cinzia Savonitti was selected for this role in October 2024

Freelance contracts for Finance, Administration and Marketing were extended.

Plans for future periods

There remains a focus on the need to diversify income streams. Exploring additional funding and business opportunities for unrestricted earned income. This includes increasing income through the Ledger Studio and through increasing income through the AADA scheme.

Moving forward the priority is to develop to sustain key roles including the Business Development Manager and Access and Inclusion Manager.

Structure, governance and management

The Arts and Disability Forum is the legal name of the organisation that operates as University of Atypical for Arts and Disability, and is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. The Charity is established under a memorandum of association which outlines core objectives and power. The Charity is governed by a voluntary board of Directors who operate in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Collectively board members are proficient in core governance skills: HR, accountancy, specialist areas of disability arts, marketing and product development, online education methodologies, access consultancy and disability rights.

During the year the day to day running of the organisation was designated to Chief Executive Edel Murphy.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Ms C Smyth	
Ms I Obrolchain Carmody	(Resigned 26 June 2025)
Ms M C Bacon	
Ms T Carlisle	
Mr R D Woodcock	(Resigned 22 July 2024)
Ms H M F Slattne	
Ms A Doherty	(Appointed 4 June 2024)
Ms N Heptonstall	(Appointed 19 June 2024)
Mr A Bradley	(Appointed 24 June 2024)
Mrs M Dempster O'Neil	(Appointed 25 June 2024)
Mr P Fleming	(Appointed 19 July 2024)
Ms C Herdman	(Appointed 22 July 2024)
Ms A Rashid	(Appointed 23 July 2024 and resigned 1 June 2025)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The board consists of 10 current directors. The Board can pass an ordinary resolution to appoint new Trustees. To address any skills gap the organisation continues to liaise with external partners such as Arts and Business to attract new Trustees. Formal recruitment to the board is carried out in accordance with the Articles of Association.

The CEO Edel Murphy created a new Board Recruitment pack and 7 board members were co-opted to the Board in May-July 2024.

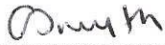
ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Small companies exemption

The report of the directors has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Ms C Smyth
Director

Date:27/11/2025'.....

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

I report on the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 26.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company 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.

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

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
- (2) the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- (3) that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

- 6 -

Alfred House
19 Alfred Street
BELFAST BT2 8EQ
DX3910 NR Belfast 50

Tel: +44 (0)28 9031 1113
Fax: +44 (0)28 9031 0777

Century House
40 Crescent Business Park
LISBURN
BT28 2GN

Tel: +44 (0)28 9260 7355
Fax: +44 (0)28 9260 1656

17 Mandeville Street
PORTADOWN
Craigavon
BT62 3PB

Tel: +44 (0)28 3833 2801
Fax: +44 (0)28 3835 0293





ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



MR NIGEL MOORE FCA

GMcG BELFAST

Alfred House
19 Alfred Street
Belfast
BT2 8EQ

Dated: 27.11.2025

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
Charitable activities	3	-	436,033	436,033	-	371,050	371,050
Other trading activities	4	4,554	-	4,554	3	354	357
Investments	5	934	-	934	660	-	660
Other income	6	13,054	-	13,054	76,433	-	76,433
Total income		<u>18,542</u>	<u>436,033</u>	<u>454,575</u>	<u>97,096</u>	<u>371,404</u>	<u>468,500</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	2,984	400,378	403,362	76,378	324,403	400,781
Total expenditure		<u>2,984</u>	<u>400,378</u>	<u>403,362</u>	<u>76,378</u>	<u>324,403</u>	<u>400,781</u>
Net income		<u>15,558</u>	<u>35,655</u>	<u>51,213</u>	<u>20,718</u>	<u>47,001</u>	<u>67,719</u>
Transfers between funds		(21,611)	21,611	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	9	<u>(6,053)</u>	<u>57,266</u>	<u>51,213</u>	<u>20,718</u>	<u>47,001</u>	<u>67,719</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		<u>82,433</u>	<u>95,432</u>	<u>177,865</u>	<u>61,715</u>	<u>48,431</u>	<u>110,146</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		<u>76,380</u>	<u>152,698</u>	<u>229,078</u>	<u>82,433</u>	<u>95,432</u>	<u>177,865</u>

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

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

		2025		2024	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		17,318		21,989
Current assets					
Debtors	14	10,798		11,922	
Cash at bank and in hand		286,235		220,334	
		<u>297,033</u>		<u>232,256</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(85,273)</u>		<u>(63,880)</u>	
Net current assets			211,760		168,376
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>229,078</u>		<u>190,365</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		-		(12,500)
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>229,078</u>		<u>177,865</u>
Net assets			<u><u>229,078</u></u>		<u><u>177,865</u></u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
The funds of the company					
Restricted income funds	19	152,698		95,432	
Unrestricted funds		76,380		82,433	
		<u>229,078</u>		<u>177,865</u>	

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.


The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements 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 incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on


.....
Ms C Smyth
Director


.....
Director

Company registration number NI051776 (Northern Ireland)

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Arts & Disability Forum is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is Third Floor, 109-113 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1FF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the company's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "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)". The company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the company has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	25% per annum reducing balance
-----------------------	--------------------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Grants	-	20,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Grants		
Santander general increase	-	20,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3 Income from charitable activities

	Gallery & Bounce Arts			Gallery & Bounce Arts		
	General	Festival	Total	General	Festival	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Performance related grants	405,036	23,764	428,800	332,709	11,800	344,509
Less: deferred income	16,733	(9,500)	7,233	31,541	(5,000)	26,541
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	421,769	14,264	436,033	364,250	6,800	371,050
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Analysis by fund						
Restricted funds	421,769	14,264	436,033	364,250	6,800	371,050
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Income from charitable activities (Continued)

Performance related grants analysis

	Gallery & General	Bounce Arts Festival	Total	Gallery & General	Bounce Arts Festival	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Arts Council	113,606	-	113,606	130,160	5,000	135,160
Santander Foundation	-	-	-	50,000	-	50,000
Belfast City Council	156,154	10,264	166,418	63,200	6,800	70,000
Future Screen	21,038	-	21,038	21,273	-	21,273
Bodyshine	-	-	-	19,166	-	19,166
Halifas Urban Survival	-	-	-	19,866	-	19,866
Heritage Lottery Architecture	19,988	-	19,988	-	-	-
Paul Hamlyn	90,000	-	90,000	-	-	-
The Goethe Institut	-	13,500	13,500	-	-	-
Other	4,250	-	4,250	29,044	-	29,044
	<u>405,036</u>	<u>23,764</u>	<u>428,800</u>	<u>332,709</u>	<u>11,800</u>	<u>344,509</u>

All income from charitable activities in the current and prior year relates to restricted funds.

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Other income	4,554	-	4,554	3	354	357
	<u>4,554</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,554</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>354</u>	<u>357</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2025 £	2024 £
Bank interest received	934	660

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2025 £	2024 £
Other income	13,054	76,433

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Gallery & Bounce Arts		Total	Gallery & Bounce Arts		Total
	General	Festival		General	Festival	
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs						
Staff costs	148,068	-	148,068	113,995	-	113,995
Depreciation and impairment	5,520	-	5,520	7,046	-	7,046
Artist grant payments	21,830	-	21,830	20,030	-	20,030
Artists' costs	42,770	15,460	58,230	33,799	10,376	44,175
Other charitable expenditure	112,937	22,419	135,356	158,257	25,878	184,135
	<u>331,125</u>	<u>37,879</u>	<u>369,004</u>	<u>333,127</u>	<u>36,254</u>	<u>369,381</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)						
Support	29,114	-	29,114	27,100	-	27,100
Governance	5,244	-	5,244	4,300	-	4,300
	<u>365,483</u>	<u>37,879</u>	<u>403,362</u>	<u>364,527</u>	<u>36,254</u>	<u>400,781</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds	2,984	-	2,984	76,378	-	76,378
Restricted funds	362,499	37,879	400,378	288,149	36,254	324,403
	<u>365,483</u>	<u>37,879</u>	<u>403,362</u>	<u>364,527</u>	<u>36,254</u>	<u>400,781</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Insurance	2,647	2,308
Printing, postage & stationery	270	311
Heat & light	698	971
Telephone	1,110	744
Rent	16,229	15,086
Bookkeeping	8,160	7,680
Governance costs	5,244	4,300
	<u>34,358</u>	<u>31,400</u>
Analysed between:		
Gallery & General	<u>34,358</u>	<u>31,400</u>

9 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	2,975	2,850
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	5,520	7,046
	<u>8,495</u>	<u>9,896</u>

10 Trustees

During the current and prior years, none of the directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
	6	4
	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>

Employment costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	137,991	109,865
Social security costs	7,532	2,528
Other pension costs	2,545	1,602
	<u>148,068</u>	<u>113,995</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	<u>33,565</u>	<u>31,309</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2024	129,416
Additions	848
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	130,264
	<hr/>
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2024	107,426
Depreciation charged in the year	5,520
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	112,946
	<hr/>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2025	17,318
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2024	21,989
	<hr/> <hr/>

14 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	200	200
Prepayments and accrued income	10,598	11,722
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,798	11,922
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Other taxation and social security		2,318	952
Deferred income	17	43,994	38,727
Trade creditors		27,752	12,453
Other creditors		2,674	2,839
Accruals		8,535	8,909
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		85,273	63,880
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income	17	-	12,500
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

17 Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other deferred income	43,994	51,227

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	43,994	38,727
Non-current liabilities	-	12,500
	<u>43,994</u>	<u>51,227</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2024	51,227	115,268
Released from previous periods	(46,227)	(77,768)
Resources deferred in the year	38,994	13,727
	<u>43,994</u>	<u>51,227</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2025	<u>43,994</u>	<u>51,227</u>

18 Retirement benefit schemes

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	2,545	1,602

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

19 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gallery & General	8,715	128,350	(75,600)	(8,853)	52,612	136,803	(124,573)	2,798	67,640
ACNI Equipment Grant	-	2,206	(2,575)	369	-	4,522	(4,522)	-	-
BCC Atypical Music Award	-	-	-	-	-	25,500	(28,422)	2,922	-
BCC Capacity Grant	-	50,000	(46,938)	(2,670)	392	50,629	(43,446)	(3,734)	3,841
Bounce Arts Festival	-	7,154	(36,254)	29,100	-	14,264	(36,659)	22,395	-
DFC Deaf Coms	-	22,255	(20,272)	-	1,983	7,983	(7,078)	-	2,888
Deaf & Disabled Arts Support Fund	-	25,000	(17,819)	(2,200)	4,981	-	-	(4,981)	-
Body Shine EU Fund	9,595	19,166	(6,789)	(21,972)	-	-	-	-	-
Halifax	-	4,825	(4,433)	1,500	1,892	-	-	(1,892)	-
BCC Phase 2	-	-	-	-	-	26,196	(20,094)	-	6,102
USK B Council	-	19,866	(15,742)	52	4,176	-	-	(4,176)	-
Santander UK Foundation	13,953	50,000	(46,301)	-	17,652	37,500	(33,725)	(2,000)	19,427
EASNI	-	-	(3,945)	3,945	-	71,780	(33,540)	(4,000)	34,240
P Hamlyn/ Studio BOI	-	-	-	-	-	29,133	(37,101)	12,802	4,834
Awards for all	1,939	10,000	(10,868)	500	1,571	9,994	(9,559)	-	2,006
Artist residency	6,905	(691)	(6,406)	192	-	690	(2,167)	1,477	-
Future Screens Grant	7,324	21,273	(18,424)	-	10,173	21,039	(19,492)	-	11,720
Blue Print	-	12,000	(12,037)	37	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>48,431</u>	<u>371,404</u>	<u>(324,403)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,432</u>	<u>436,033</u>	<u>(400,378)</u>	<u>21,611</u>	<u>152,698</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	82,433	18,542	(2,984)	(21,611)	76,380
	<u>82,433</u>	<u>18,542</u>	<u>(2,984)</u>	<u>(21,611)</u>	<u>76,380</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	61,715	97,096	(76,378)	-	82,433
	<u>61,715</u>	<u>97,096</u>	<u>(76,378)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,433</u>

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	2,302	15,016	17,318
Current assets/(liabilities)	74,078	137,682	211,760
	<u>76,380</u>	<u>152,698</u>	<u>229,078</u>
	<u>76,380</u>	<u>152,698</u>	<u>229,078</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	1,967	20,022	21,989
Current assets/(liabilities)	80,466	87,910	168,376
Long term liabilities	-	(12,500)	(12,500)
	<u>82,433</u>	<u>95,432</u>	<u>177,865</u>
	<u>82,433</u>	<u>95,432</u>	<u>177,865</u>

22 Contingent liabilities

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the letter of offer.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

23 Explanatory notes to the funds

Unrestricted funds

General fund

This fund is expendable at the discretion of the directors. It is used to finance capital investment and working capital. As anticipated in recent years, the level of funding received continues to fluctuate. The general fund will therefore be essential to finance working capital and ensure that the charity can continue its activities in the short term and fulfil its legal responsibilities to employees and creditors.

Restricted funds

Gallery and General Running Costs

Principal funding received from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Annual Support for Organisations programme. This is for a pre-agreed programme of activity. Mainly funding designated to general running costs, staffing and atypical gallery costs. Atypical is the only gallery of its kind in Ireland, dedicated to showcasing artwork produced by disabled artists. Funding covers installation costs, exhibition promotion, material, access and communication support, information in alternative formats.

ACNI Health and Safety Capital Programme

Awarded to assist arts organisations reopen creative spaces safely by funding the purchasing of equipment and/or minor works required to address health and safety issues created as a result of the pandemic or that have been an outstanding maintenance issue.

Belfast City Council

The **Cultural Multi-annual Grant** from the Belfast City Council, supports the comprehensive programme of activity to Deaf disabled and neuro-diverse people including exhibitions, performances, artists talks, virtual gallery and studio tours. Funding sourced from Belfast City Council **Capacity Grant** to facilitate Staffing and programme development to extend outreach and impact of the programme.

Belfast City Council Festival Grant

Designated to support Bounce Festival 2024 along with The D'Oyly Trust award which enabled the commissioning of artists for Bounce 2025 including developing artistic collaborations at Roe Valley & Black Box.

Department of Communities – SPLG

Funding to support Deaf Community inclusion is the Arts Sector across N Ireland.

Deaf Disabled Artist Support Fund (DDASF) Grant Scheme

Arts Council of Northern Ireland(ACNI) award sustains the practical support dedicated to increasing skills, experience and opportunities for disabled artists living in Northern Ireland and working in any art form. Finance support is distributed by University of Atypical on behalf of funding partners to compliment the Arts Council's own funding schemes to support individual non-disabled artists. Grant decisions are made by an independent panel, of UofA Trustees and individuals with relevant expertise and overseen by an Arts Council representative.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Financial support University for Atypical's significant influence in facilitating positive change in the arts sector in Northern Ireland. The Grant is part of the **Arts Access and Participation Fund**; To support core costs, contribute to staff costs, alongside new project development costs for the Ledger Studio Arts and Disability Access Awards including fees for training, access advisors and access costs.

Bank of Ireland

Begin Together Arts Fund in partnership with Business to Arts for 'The Ledger Studio Bespoke Arts Studio space for the Arts and Disability Sector.

Halifax Foundation

Award for a new Career Advisor support scheme, to offer practical support initiative for artists.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

24 Explanatory notes to the funds (continued)

Santander UK Foundation LTD

Three year Funding programme from Santander UK Foundation Ltd supports 'Digital Horizon' a professional development initiative; aiming to create opportunities for d/Deaf, Disabled and Neurodiversity artists pursue new ambitions through the use of digital technology to assist them throughout their career.

Body Shine

This EU partnership grant addresses the act of body shaming. Through an international programme of activities, programme participants are supported to reflect on societal and fashion influences through art, society, cultural knowledge. Equipping people with the confidence to accept themselves and the "diversity" of others

Awards

for

All

Community Fund Grant for a volunteer training programme focusing on enabling people with Disabilities and Deaf Community to learn new skills and engage with their peers and community. Aiming to formalise and support UofA volunteers through a robust programme of training and practical support.

Artist in Residence Fund

This represents project funds secured from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland for a visual arts residency and exhibition at the Atypical Gallery

Future Screens NI Covid19 Recovery Programme

Ulster University -DFC partnership grant, designated for a new Access and Inclusion Assistant post as part of a three-year award for an Employment and Skills Initiative, aiming to address labour market barriers faced by individuals due to the pandemic and with a particular focus on job roles to boost the Arts Sector.

Blue

Print

Financial support secured from an ARTS and Business. This capacity building programme aims to support small arts organisations invest in the development of innovative income generation strategies. UofA Proposal to Blueprint will focus on the new Ledger Studio and EASI (equality access standards initiative) aiming to strengthen long-term financial sustainability.

Urban Survival Kits

EU funding for the Urban Survival Kits programme; UofA was lead partner on a trans-national learning initiative exploring how Adults With Disabilities (AWD), and neurodiversity, can be supported with their local, national and international travel needs. USK builds on the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 and removes barriers in physical infrastructure; accessibility of information, and creates effective communication tools.

Transfers

During the year, transfers were made between restricted funds to cover deficits arising on certain projects, and from unrestricted funds to restricted funds where income was insufficient to meet related expenditure. Income received to the Gallery & General Fund also included contributions towards office and administration costs associated with the charity's premises.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

25 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	-	45,342
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

26 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101588

Accounts

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2	20,000	-	20,000	15,000	-	15,000
Charitable activities	3	-	371,050	371,050	-	340,251	340,251
Other trading activities	4	3	354	357	92	1,100	1,192
Investments	5	660	-	660	95	299	394
Other income	6	76,433	-	76,433	30,396	2,070	32,466
Total income		<u>97,096</u>	<u>371,404</u>	<u>468,500</u>	<u>45,583</u>	<u>343,720</u>	<u>389,303</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	7	76,378	324,403	400,781	54,155	317,835	371,990
Total expenditure		<u>76,378</u>	<u>324,403</u>	<u>400,781</u>	<u>54,155</u>	<u>317,835</u>	<u>371,990</u>
Net income		<u>20,718</u>	<u>47,001</u>	<u>67,719</u>	<u>(8,572)</u>	<u>25,885</u>	<u>17,313</u>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	5,013	(5,013)	-
Net movement in funds	9	<u>20,718</u>	<u>47,001</u>	<u>67,719</u>	<u>(3,559)</u>	<u>20,872</u>	<u>17,313</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		<u>61,715</u>	<u>48,431</u>	<u>110,146</u>	<u>65,274</u>	<u>27,559</u>	<u>92,833</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		<u><u>82,433</u></u>	<u><u>95,432</u></u>	<u><u>177,865</u></u>	<u><u>61,715</u></u>	<u><u>48,431</u></u>	<u><u>110,146</u></u>

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

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		21,989		27,436
Current assets					
Debtors	14	11,922		17,449	
Cash at bank and in hand		220,334		212,013	
		<u>232,256</u>		<u>229,462</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(63,880)</u>		<u>(109,252)</u>	
Net current assets			168,376		120,210
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>190,365</u>		<u>147,646</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		<u>(12,500)</u>		<u>(37,500)</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			177,865		110,146
Net assets			<u><u>177,865</u></u>		<u><u>110,146</u></u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
The funds of the company					
Restricted income funds	19	95,432		48,431	
Unrestricted funds		82,433		61,715	
		<u>177,865</u>		<u>110,146</u>	

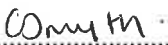
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements 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 incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 28 November 2024


.....
Ms C Smyth
Director


.....
Ms T Carlisle
Director

Company registration number NI051776 (Northern Ireland)

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Arts & Disability Forum is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is Third Floor, 109-113 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1FF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the company's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the company has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	25% per annum reducing balance
-----------------------	--------------------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Santander	20,000	15,000
Grants receivable for core activities		
Santander cost of living	-	15,000
Santander general increase	20,000	-
	<u>20,000</u>	<u>15,000</u>

3 Charitable activities

	Gallery & General 2024 £	Bounce Arts Festival 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Gallery & General 2023 £	Bounce Arts Festival 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Performance related grants	332,709	11,800	344,509	353,263	8,500	361,763
Less: deferred income	31,541	(5,000)	26,541	(21,512)	-	(21,512)
	<u>364,250</u>	<u>6,800</u>	<u>371,050</u>	<u>331,751</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>340,251</u>
Performance related grants						
Arts Council	130,160	5,000	135,160	138,757	-	138,757
Santander Foundation	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	-	50,000
Belfast City Council	63,200	6,800	70,000	34,964	8,500	43,464
Future Screen	21,273	-	21,273	21,919	-	(21,919)
Bodyshine	19,166	-	19,166	34,201	-	(34,201)
Halifas Urban Survival	19,866	-	19,866	31,069	-	(31,069)
Heritage Lottery Architecture	-	-	-	1,272	-	(1,272)
Other	29,044	-	29,044	41,081	-	41,081
	<u>332,709</u>	<u>11,800</u>	<u>344,509</u>	<u>353,263</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>361,763</u>

All income from charitable activities in the current and prior year relates to restricted funds.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Trading activity income: other	3	354	357	92	1,100	1,192
	<u>3</u>	<u>354</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,192</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Bank interest received	660	95	299	394
	<u>660</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>394</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Other income	76,433	30,396	2,070	32,466
	<u>76,433</u>	<u>30,396</u>	<u>2,070</u>	<u>32,466</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Charitable activities	Gallery & Bounce Arts General 2024 £	Gallery & Bounce Arts Fest 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Gallery & Bounce Arts General 2023 £	Gallery & Bounce Arts Fest 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	113,995	-	113,995	90,309	-	90,309
Depreciation and impairment	7,046	-	7,046	7,858	-	7,858
Artist Grant Payments	20,030	-	20,030	21,720	-	21,720
Artists Costs	33,799	10,376	44,175	10,790	10,456	21,246
Other charitable expenditure	158,257	25,878	184,135	184,967	12,055	197,022
	<u>333,127</u>	<u>36,254</u>	<u>369,381</u>	<u>315,644</u>	<u>22,511</u>	<u>338,155</u>
Share of support costs (see note 8)	27,100	-	27,100	28,325	-	28,325
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	4,300	-	4,300	5,510	-	5,510
	<u>364,527</u>	<u>36,254</u>	<u>400,781</u>	<u>349,479</u>	<u>22,511</u>	<u>371,990</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds	76,378	-	76,378	54,155	-	54,155
Restricted funds	288,149	36,254	324,403	295,324	22,511	317,835
	<u>364,527</u>	<u>36,254</u>	<u>400,781</u>	<u>349,479</u>	<u>22,511</u>	<u>371,990</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Insurance	2,308	1,892
Printing, postage & stationery	311	419
Heat & light	971	504
Telephone	744	844
Rent	15,086	16,854
Bookkeeping	7,680	7,812
Governance costs	4,300	5,510
	<u>31,400</u>	<u>33,835</u>
Analysed between:		
Gallery & General	<u>31,400</u>	<u>33,835</u>

9 Net movement in funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>7,046</u>	<u>7,858</u>

10 Trustees

During the current and prior years, none of the directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
	4	4
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

Employment costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	109,865	86,019
Social security costs	2,528	2,531
Other pension costs	1,602	1,759
	<u>113,995</u>	<u>90,309</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	31,309	30,888
	<u>31,309</u>	<u>30,888</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	127,816
Additions	1,599
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	129,415
	<hr/>
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2023	100,380
Depreciation charged in the year	7,046
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2024	107,426
	<hr/>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	21,989
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2023	27,436
	<hr/> <hr/>

14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	200	200
Prepayments and accrued income	11,722	17,249
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11,922	17,449
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security		952	1,869
Deferred income	17	38,727	77,768
Trade creditors		12,453	4,289
Other creditors		2,839	2,030
Accruals and deferred income		8,909	23,296
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		63,880	109,252
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income	17	12,500	37,500
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17 Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other deferred income	51,227	115,268

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	38,727	77,768
Non-current liabilities	12,500	37,500
	<u>51,227</u>	<u>115,268</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2023	115,268	93,756
Released from previous periods	(77,768)	-
Resources deferred in the year	13,727	21,512
	<u>51,227</u>	<u>115,268</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2024	<u>51,227</u>	<u>115,268</u>

18 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	1,602	1,759

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

19 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	Balance at 1 April 2022		Movement in funds		Balance at 1 April 2023		Movement in funds		Balance at 31 March 2024	
	£	£	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	£	£	£	£	£
Gallery & General	5,507	129,036	129,036	(130,442)	4,614	8,715	128,350	(75,600)	(8,853)	52,612
ACNI Equipment Grant	-	3,898	3,898	(282)	(3,616)	-	2,206	(2,575)	369	-
BCC Capacity Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	(46,938)	(2,670)	392
Bounce Arts Festival	-	10,240	10,240	(22,510)	12,270	-	7,154	(36,254)	29,100	-
DFC Deaf Coms	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,255	(20,272)	-	1,983
Deaf & Disabled Arts Support Fund	-	25,000	25,000	(21,776)	(3,224)	-	25,000	(17,819)	(2,200)	4,981
Yes We Are In!	-	1,222	1,222	-	(1,222)	-	-	-	-	-
HLF Heritage Lottery Grant	6,094	1,272	1,272	(680)	(6,686)	-	-	-	-	-
Halifax	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,825	(4,433)	1,500	1,892
Organisations Emergency Programme	2,463	3,463	3,463	(2,272)	(3,654)	-	-	-	-	-
BCC Cluster Partnership Fund	877	3,014	3,014	(3,891)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Craft In	3,193	3,935	3,935	(6,229)	(899)	-	-	-	-	-
USK B Council	-	36,016	36,016	(36,016)	-	-	19,866	(15,742)	52	4,176
Santander UK Foundation	9,425	50,000	50,000	(44,075)	(1,397)	13,953	50,000	(46,301)	-	17,652
EASNI	-	2,000	2,000	(1,669)	(331)	-	-	(3,945)	3,945	-
Body Shine EU Fund	-	22,800	22,800	(13,205)	-	9,595	19,166	(6,789)	(21,972)	-
Awards for all	-	10,000	10,000	(7,261)	(800)	1,939	10,000	(10,868)	500	1,571
Artist residency	-	6,905	6,905	-	-	6,905	(691)	(6,406)	192	-
Future Screens Grant	-	21,919	21,919	(14,595)	-	7,324	21,273	(18,424)	-	10,173
Blue Print	-	13,000	13,000	(12,932)	(68)	-	12,000	(12,037)	37	-
	27,559	343,720	343,720	(317,835)	(5,013)	48,431	371,404	(324,403)	-	95,432

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	61,715	97,096	(76,378)	-	82,433
	<u>61,715</u>	<u>97,096</u>	<u>(76,378)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,433</u>
Previous year:	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	65,274	45,583	(54,155)	5,013	61,715
	<u>65,274</u>	<u>45,583</u>	<u>(54,155)</u>	<u>5,013</u>	<u>61,715</u>

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	1,967	20,022	21,989
Current assets/(liabilities)	80,466	87,910	168,376
Long term liabilities	-	(12,500)	(12,500)
	<u>82,433</u>	<u>95,432</u>	<u>177,865</u>
	<u>82,433</u>	<u>95,432</u>	<u>177,865</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 March 2023:			
Tangible assets	6,051	21,385	27,436
Current assets/(liabilities)	55,664	64,546	120,210
Long term liabilities	-	(37,500)	(37,500)
	<u>61,715</u>	<u>48,431</u>	<u>110,146</u>
	<u>61,715</u>	<u>48,431</u>	<u>110,146</u>

22 Contingent liabilities

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the letter of offer.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

23 Explanatory notes to the funds

Unrestricted funds

General fund

This fund is expendable at the discretion of the directors. It is used to finance capital investment and working capital. As anticipated in recent years, the level of funding received continues to fluctuate. The general fund will therefore be essential to finance working capital and ensure that the charity can continue its activities in the short term and fulfil its legal responsibilities to employees and creditors.

Restricted funds

Gallery and General Running Costs

Principal funding received from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Annual Support for Organisations programme. This is for a pre-agreed programme of activity. Mainly funding designated to general running costs, staffing and atypical gallery costs. Atypical is the only gallery of its kind in Ireland, dedicated to showcasing artwork produced by disabled artists. Funding covers installation costs, exhibition promotion, material, access and communication support, information in alternative formats.

The Ireland Funds

Grant sourced from the Ireland Reconnection Fund to assist with core cost incurred for developing capacity and organisation sustainability aiming to extend programme impact and reach to new diverse audiences on an all-island basis.

ACNI Health and Safety Capital Programme

Awarded to assist arts organisations reopen creative spaces safely by funding the purchasing of equipment and/or minor works required to address health and safety issues created as a result of the pandemic or that have been an outstanding maintenance issue.

In recent years due to uncertainty of securing festival grant income for the Bounce Arts Festival these funds have also been allocatable to augment programming costs for the 2023 festival.

Belfast City Council

The two-year Cultural Multi-annual Grant from the Belfast City Council, supports the comprehensive programme of activity to Deaf disabled and neuro-diverse people including exhibitions, performances, artists talks, virtual gallery and studio tours. Alongside Belfast City Council Festival Grant designated to support Bounce Festival 2022. Funding sourced from Belfast City Council Capacity Grant to facilitate Staffing and programme development to extend outreach and impact of the programme over a 2 year period.

Deaf disabled Artists Support Fund (DDASF) Grant Scheme

Arts Council of Northern Ireland(ACNI) award sustains the practical support dedicated to increasing skills, experience and opportunities for disabled artists living in Northern Ireland and working in any art form. Finance support is distributed by University of Atypical on behalf of funding partners to compliment the Arts Council's own funding schemes to support individual non-disabled artists. Grant decisions are made by an independent panel, of UofA Trustees and individuals with relevant expertise and overseen by an Arts Council representative.

Halifax Foundation

Award for a new Career Advisor support scheme, to offer practical support initiative for artists.

Urban Survival Kits

EU funding for the Urban Survival Kits programme; UofA was lead partner on a trans-national learning initiative exploring how Adults With Disabilities (AWD), and neurodiversity, can be supported with their local, national and international travel needs. USK builds on the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 and removes barriers in physical infrastructure; accessibility of information, and creates effective communication tools.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

24 Explanatory notes to the funds (continued)

Santander UK Foundation LTD

Three year Funding programme from Santander UK Foundation Ltd supports 'Digital Horizon' a professional development initiative; aiming to create opportunities for d/Deaf, Disabled and Neurodiversity artists pursue new ambitions through the use of digital technology to assist them throughout their career.

Body Shine

This EU partnership grant addresses the act of body shaming. Through an international programme of activities, programme participants are supported to reflect on societal and fashion influences through art, society, cultural knowledge. Equipping people with the confidence to accept themselves and the "diversity" of others

Awards for All

Community Fund Grant for a volunteer training programme focusing on enabling people with Disabilities and Deaf Community to learn new skills and engage with their peers and community. Aiming to formalise and support UofA volunteers through a robust programme of training and practical support.

Artist in Residence Fund

This represents project funds secured from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland for a visual arts residency and exhibition at the Atypical Gallery

Future Screens NI Covid19 Recovery Programme

Ulster University -DFC partnership grant, designated for a new Access and Inclusion Assistant post as part of a three-year award for an Employment and Skills Initiative, aiming to address labour market barriers faced by individuals due to the pandemic and with a particular focus on job roles to boost the Arts Sector.

Blue Print

Financial support secured from an ARTS and Business. This capacity building programme aims to support small arts organisations invest in the development of innovative income generation strategies. UofA Proposal to Blueprint will focus on the new Ledger Studio and EASI (equality access standards initiative) aiming to strengthen long-term financial sustainability.

Transfers

During the year the charity made transfers between restricted funds. The transfers were necessary to cover deficits arising on certain funds. Income received to the Gallery & General fund included contributions to Office & Admin costs within the charity's premises.

25 Conduit Funding

Arts & Disability Forum is responsible for receiving and distributing funds on behalf of British Council for the Urban Survival Kits project. During the year £28,403 was received and distributed and no balance was held in relation to these monies at 31 March 2024.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

26 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	45,342	45,342
Between two and five years	-	45,342
	<u>45,342</u>	<u>90,684</u>

27 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101588

Annual report

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the company's Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objects for which the charity is established are to:

Provide an organisation led by disabled people to increase opportunities for disabled people to engage with the arts in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, working on a pan-disability basis.

Ancillary to the core object, is to provide opportunities, training and support to:

(i) Enhance both the extent and quality of:

- The experience that disabled people have of the arts;
- The work produced by disabled artists;
- The public's experience of art created or presented by disabled artists;
- Arts organisations' understanding of the needs and desires of disabled people (as arts consumers and practitioners);
- Showcase of excellence in art by disabled people
- Collaborative working in pursuit of these aims.

(ii) Promote use of arts by disabled people in support of initiatives aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of disabled people and as approved by the Board.

The charity works collaboratively with arts funders, disabled, neurodiverse and D/deaf artists, arts companies, community groups, equality organisations, ethnic minority groups, LGBTQ groups and the mainstream arts sector, aiming to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities for D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people to participate in arts and culture on their own terms.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

The University of Atypical (UofA), formally known as Arts & Disability Forum (ADF) is a charity led by d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people to empower people of all ages; working collaboratively with artists and arts sector organisations to create positive change. The vision is of a genuinely inclusive artistic environment where d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people can be involved in the arts in any way they choose.

The work of the Charity continues to focus on:

- increased access and representation in arts by d/Deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people;
- enhanced skills for d/Deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people;
- increased well being from social connections; and
- greater societal acceptance and celebration of diversity

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Achievements and performance

During the year to March 2024, the University of Atypical has developed and broadened its reach and output, delivering support to d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists and audiences throughout Northern Ireland.

The principal funder is the *Arts Council of Northern Ireland* through funding from the National Lottery, thanks to Lottery players. This year the organisation received a small uplift on the Annually Funded Programme (AFP) of £5k towards the end of the financial year as part of this core funding. A contribution to core funding was achieved through the Cultural Multi-Annual Grant (CMAG) from Belfast City Council at standstill.

The Belfast City Council also continued support for the organisation through the Capacity Grant (we are in year 2 of 3) and the Belfast Communities Festival's Fund (CFF) for Bounce 2024. University of Atypical was awarded a tender to support the Belfast 2024 initiative through support for access and inclusion across the organisations taking part in Belfast 2024; phase 1 completed in Spring 2024 and phase 2 commenced in February 2024.

The *Department for Communities* (DfC) provided essential funding in 2023/24 year, to support a range of sign language training, translation and support to engage and make more accessible the arts for the d/Deaf Community. We engaged with over 30 arts and cultural organisations; supporting them to increase their awareness and break down barriers to d/Deaf people's engagement.

Philanthropic Trusts and Foundations have made a significant contribution to the overall aims and objectives of the organisation through funding for specific programmes and initiatives. The *Santander Foundation* completed year 2 of 3 in 2023/24 year, rolling out 10 digital technology masterclasses and a suite of other support. The Halifax Foundation supported an innovative pilot called the Career Advisor Support Scheme (CASS) that paired artists with mentors towards a short term goal.

A range of support initiatives for individual d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists was delivered including grants, awards, mentoring and training. The Arts Council Lottery funding allowed the continuation of financial support through the d/Deaf and Disabled Artists Support Funds (DDASF). DDASF awarded grants of £1,000 to 20 recipients to support d/Deaf, Disabled and Neurodivergent artists. One award of £3,000 was made to an artist through the Digital Innovation Award, supported by the Santander Foundation.

The UofA Ulster University Graduate Award: Christine Kernohan was awarded a package of finance and practical support to continue arts practice and mentoring supported through our core costs.

Halifax Career Advisor Support Scheme supporting short term mentoring for 12 emerging artists. Advice sessions for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists applying to the Support for Individual Artist Programme (SIAP) through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

The annual programme of high quality exhibitions at Atypical Gallery featured work produced by recipients of DDASF awards as well as local and international partners - Urban Survival Kits (Erasmus+); Ciaran McGill, Amy Milnes Graduate award exhibition; Connections Arts Centre - ROI; Una Walker, Joel Simon, Drawing Rooms Exhibition.

The Equality Access Standards Initiative (EASI) was renamed the Arts and Disability Access Awards (AADA) and further developed and delivered across Belfast City Council and Derry and Strabane City Council. The Queen's University Open Learning department partnered with UofA to award accreditation to individuals from participating organisations as part of this scheme.

Training across the organisation was significant this year. Our Volunteer Programme and associated training was delivered to 25 recruits. The Digital Horizon programme facilitated Masterclasses in ten areas of digital knowledge by and for people who are d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent working in the creative sector. A series of Diversity Training was offered with a focus on gender and sexual orientation. A sector-wide training including Deaf awareness and BSL sessions was delivered through the Sign Language Development Fund reaching more than 20 organisations and 60 individual learners.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Bounce Arts Festival in October 2023; programmed events in Belfast, Derry City and Strabane District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Downpatrick. The festival launch featured guest speakers from Arts Council of Northern Ireland (ACNI) Director of Development and Head of Community Arts and Education and the Belfast City Council's Lord Mayor of Belfast. Highlights of the 2023 programme showcased work created by former recipients of DDASF grants: d/Deaf, Disabled Artists Support Funded by ACNI. Bounce included the Atypical Gallery's signature visual arts exhibition by Una Walker for Bounce 2023.

Digital Horizons funded by the Santander Foundation continued to feature as UofA flagship digitalisation and finance management support initiative. During year 2 of a 3 year rolling programme the Digital Innovation Award went to artist Peter Fleming. A series of masterclasses were programmed including; ten new Masterclass submissions were selected for delivery in the finance period 2023/4.

The UofA Social Narrative Video service continued to support disabled audiences access arts venues: by taking a virtual walk through of the venue, offering advice from buying tickets, to using facilities. Using customised captions, voiceover sign language features (Irish and British) to enhance accessibility for a range of potential patrons. During the year we were commissioned to complete a self-funded service by Belfast City Council for arts venues in Belfast as well as the completion of commission for venues in the north west funded by Derry and Strabane District Council.

From 2023/24 the International Residency for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists, funded through Arts Council of Northern Ireland and British Council, came to fruition. Working with Videolabs in Brighton, UofA defined access requirements for many disabled artists who are often excluded from taking part in international residencies. During the year artists residencies were hosted by partners Coven in Berlin, and Flax art studios in Belfast.

Ledger Studio introduced as a much-needed resource for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent audiences and artists. During the year, studio programming and use as a sectoral resource has proved successful. Two new funders were secured for the Ledger Studio - The Begin Together Fund through Bank of Ireland and through the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Staffing

This year has seen significant growth and change in the staffing and structure within the University of Atypical team. New roles emerging alongside resignations and new appointments have been part of the journey towards the emergence of a new and stronger team.

- The CEO Damien Coyle stepped down in January 2024 and a recruitment process confirmed Edel Murphy, (the then Head of Business Administration) as new CEO taking up the role in February 2024.
- The Access and Inclusion Coordinator Ash Jones, resigned in June 2024; her then job share Jonathan Mitchell took on the full four day role.
- Recruitment for Edel's replacement for the Head of Business Administration was initiated in January 2024 and confirmed in March 2024 as Laura Bradley.
- Cara Frazer, the freelance Volunteer Coordinator, moved on from her role in November 2023; Amy Frazer subsequently took on the completion of the Volunteer Coordinator freelance contract.
- Recruitment for the Community Engagement Manager and the Creative Programmes Officer was completed in Summer 2023, however both these roles had to go out to recruitment again in 2024 as both staff in these roles moved on.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Financial review

Strengthening the UofA financial position and procedures remains a priority. Results for the year are set out in detail on pages 8 to 25. The charity returned net income for the year of £67,719.

At 31 March 2024, the total funds of the charity amounted to £177,865 comprising restricted funds of £95,432 and unrestricted funds of £82,433.

Trustees rely on the unrestricted fund balance which is considered to be essential to provide sufficient funds to cover unforeseen costs and fulfill legal obligations of the charity if current levels of income are not maintained.

The charity continues to work closely with GMcG staff on payroll admin and the production of financial statements for the 2023-24 financial year.

For 2023-24 the principal funder was the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, with core and programming grants from exchequer and lottery funds, and Belfast City Council, Multi Annual funding and Capacity Programme support. Arts Council of Northern Ireland also sustained funding for the d/Deaf and Disabled artists Support Fund and small equipment grant from the Health and Safety Capital Programme.

There was similar additional support made available to assist cost of living impacts from Santander and Halifax Foundations.

Major risks

Risk management is addressed within the UofA Risk Management Strategy. The organisation has also established systems to mitigate significant risks to potential business and operational risks which the charity may face. Senior staff supported by directors continue to review the major risks which the charity faces and believe that maintaining unrestricted reserves at the required levels to finance working capital and continue the charity's activities on a short-term basis, combined with annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will sustain resources for adverse conditions. In the current period of economic turbulence, the directors remain focused on the need to diversify income streams. Exploring additional funding and business opportunities for unrestricted earned income.

Plans for future periods

Moving forward the priority includes a partnership with *The Paul Hamlyn Foundation* has confirmed a grant to span 3 years towards the Arts and Disability Access Awards Programme (ADAA) and towards the Ledger Studio. This award allows for two core staff roles (Access and Inclusion Manager and Ledger Studio Coordinator) and regional access advisors to be put in place. Bounce Arts festival 2024 will continue to extend a regional rollout across online and offline platforms.

The organisation will continue to focus on generating service revenues to augment income that can sustain core artistic programming to extend reach within the community.

Staffing updates

The core staff team will sustain funding relationships, alongside the priority to diversify income streams across public sector contracts, corporate sponsorship, increased trusts and foundation grants. Plans for 2024 include recruiting new posts supported by funding from Paul Hamlyn Trust; whilst extending freelance contracts for Administration and Marketing roles to support the development of service income generation.

Vice Chair Ciara Smyth met with the Board of Trustees to plan towards succession of the Chairperson; this process is ongoing. The new CEO initiated a recruitment drive for Board of Trustee members in Spring 2024.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Structure, governance and management

The Arts and Disability Forum / University of Atypical (working name) is a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity. The Charity is established under a memorandum of association which outlines core objectives and power. The charity is governed by a voluntary board of Directors who operate in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Collectively board members are proficient in core governance skills: HR, accountancy, specialist areas of disability arts, marketing and product development, online education methodologies, access consultancy and disability rights. The Board of Trustees has seen some growth and change in 2023/24 year.

During the year the day to day running of the organisation designated to Chief Executive Damien Coyle was transferred to Edel Murphy appointed as her successor to CEO role in February 2024.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr S Fitzsimons	(Resigned 29 March 2024)
Ms C Smyth	
Ms A E Egner	(Resigned 26 January 2024)
Ms L C McIlvanna	(Resigned 20 November 2023)
Ms I Obrolchain Carmody	
Ms M C Bacon	
Ms T Carlisle	
Mr R D Woodcock	(Resigned 22 July 2024)
Ms H M F Slatne	(Appointed 26 January 2024)
Ms A Doherty	(Appointed 4 June 2024)
Ms N Heptonstall	(Appointed 19 June 2024)
Mr A Bradley	(Appointed 24 June 2024)
Mrs M Dempster O'Neil	(Appointed 25 June 2024)
Mr P Fleming	(Appointed 19 July 2024)
Ms C Herdman	(Appointed 22 July 2024)
Ms A Rashid	(Appointed 23 July 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The board consists of between four and fifteen directors. The Board can pass an ordinary resolution to appoint new Trustees. To address any skills gap the organization continue to liaise with external partners such as Arts and Business to attract new Trustees. Formal recruitment to the board is carried out in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Small companies exemption

The report of the directors has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Ms C Smyth
Director

Date: 18th November 2024

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101588

Annual return

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Arts & Disability Forum (the company) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company 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.

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

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention 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 financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- (3) that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



MR NIGEL MOORE FCA

GMcG BELFAST

Alfred House
19 Alfred Street
Belfast
BT2 8EQ

Dated: 3 December 2024

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101588

Accounts

Charity registration number NIC101588

Company registration number NI051776 (Northern Ireland)

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr S Fitzsimons Ms C Smyth Ms A E Egnor Ms L C McIlvanna Ms I Obrolchain Carmody Ms M C Bacon Ms T Carlisle Mr R D Woodcock
Charity number	NIC101588
Company number	NI051776
Registered office	Third Floor 109-113 Royal Avenue Belfast BT1 1FF
Independent examiner	GMcG BELFAST Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Alfred House 19 Alfred Street Belfast BT2 8EQ
Bankers	Danske Bank Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS
Solicitors	O'Reilly Stewart Solicitors 75-77 May Street Belfast BT1 3JL

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6 - 7
Statement of financial activities	8
Balance sheet	9 - 10
Notes to the financial statements	11 - 25

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the company's Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objects for which the charity is established are to:

Provide an organisation led by disabled people to increase opportunities for disabled people to engage with the arts in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, working on a pan-disability basis.

Ancillary to this object, is to provide formal and informal learning opportunities, training information, support, that:

(i) Enhance both the extent and quality of:

- The experience that disabled people have of the arts;
- The work produced by disabled artists;
- The public's experience of art created or presented by disabled artists;
- Arts organisations' understanding of the needs and desires of disabled people (as arts consumers and practitioners);
- Showcase of excellence in art by disabled people
- Collaborative working in pursuit of these aims.

(ii) Promote use of arts by disabled people in support of initiatives aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of disabled people and as approved by the Board.

The charity works collaboratively with arts funders, disabled, neurodiverse and D/deaf artists, arts companies, community groups, equality organisations, ethnic minority groups, LGBTQ groups and the mainstream arts sector, aiming to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities for D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people to participate in arts and culture on their own terms.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The organisation formerly known as Arts & Disability Forum ((ADF) has successfully rebranded and operates under the new working name of the University of Atypical (UofA).

UofA is a charity led by D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people to empower people of all ages; working collaboratively with artists and arts sector organisations to create positive change. The vision is of a genuinely inclusive artistic environment where D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people can be involved in the arts in any way they choose.

The work of the Charity brings about:

- increased access and representation in arts by D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people;
- enhanced skills for D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people;
- increased well being from social connections; and
- greater societal acceptance and celebration of diversity

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance

During the year to March 2023, we continued to develop our blended delivery methods to engage with participants and audiences online. The legacy and consequences of Covid continued to impact on some programmed activities due to the reticence of many disabled participants and audiences to return to live events as they were considered clinically vulnerable disabled people and still at high risk.

Core practical and financial support was sustained during 2022-23 with **d/Deaf and Disabled Artists Support Funds (DDASF)**: DDASF awarded grants to 20 recipients; to support d/Deaf, Disabled and Neurodiverse artists as many continue to experience difficulty to generate income as galleries, theatres, education and outreach events work through the knock on impacts of Covid and cost of living hardship across the sector.

UofA also provided practical training for a team of volunteers engaged in Gallery openings, Digital Horizon Masterclasses and Erasmus+ Programme Diversity Training by Rainbow Project - with a focus on gender and sexual orientation in January 2023; further training for volunteers was offered including Online BSL sessions with Paula Clarke

Bounce Arts Festival in October 2022; programmed events in Belfast Derry City and Strabane District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. The festival launch featured guest speakers from ACNI CEO, Roisin McDonagh, Head of Arts Branch at DfC, John Ball, and the Lord Mayor of Belfast. Highlights of the 2022 signature project was the showcasing of work created by D/deaf, Disabled and Neurodiverse artists who were recipients of the Chris Ledger Legacy Awards: Ruth McGinley, Johnny McAlister, Shiro Mayasuma, and Larry MacAree. Larry's exhibition was the main visual arts event at the Bounce 2022. Larry used this as the platform to release his autobiography. Bounce also featured work by former recipients of d/Deaf, Disabled Artists Support Funded by ACNI and DfC. The Venue partner for 2022 was Crescent Arts Centre. Again it was noted the impact of the cost of living crisis and artists' ability to create work to generate income. Alongside cost-of- living impacts on audiences and the sector's ability to generate box office income. Informed strategic pricing of events to be free or donate as affordable.

The annual programme of high quality exhibitions at **Atypical Gallery**; also featured work produced by recipients of DDASF awards. *All these songs are about dying* a series of new works by Stuart Calvin. *Still Livin* by Larry McAree a recipient of a Chris Ledger Award and is the first learning disabled artist to receive a major award from University of Atypical. There was an exhibition of work created by Urban Survival Kits workshops participants from Germany, Poland and Northern Ireland. Other exhibitions, outside of the Atypical Gallery included support for Irish artist Sinead O'Donnell with her performance, "Tairsearch" a collaboration between Sinead, Selina Bonelli from England, and Marta Bosowska from Poland. The performance took place in writers square and UofA supported artists on accessibility features for the project video.

Amy Milnes was a recipient of the UofA **Graduate Award**: a package of finance and practical support. Funding to continue arts practice and mentoring by renowned artists.

The extended delivery of the Fy21-22 **BSL class** into this period enabled participants to complete the course. Six of the seven participants completed the course successfully progressing to level one accreditation. Additional rollout of online classes were programmed over 6 weeks for 12 participants as part of core Arts sectoral support.

Digital Horizons funded by the Santander Foundation continued as part of our flagship three year digitalization and finance management support initiative. During the year the Digital Innovation Award went to artist Stuart Robinson. A series of masterclasses were programmed including Porcelain Delaney's launch event at Bounce Arts Festival. Followed by a sequence of innovation activities including Grace Fairleys digital animation. Five new Masterclass submissions were selected for delivery in the finance period 2023/24.

Equality and Access Standards Initiative (EASI). Regarded as the sector's equality, access, and inclusion initiative. During the year a resource database of access providers was developed, alongside disability / access themes workshops for venue participants working to achieve EASI accreditation.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The **Drawing Rooms Project** focuses on older residents of care/nursing homes in Belfast. Workshops facilitated by artists David Dunlop and Paul Moore continued to explore new technologies to assist older people create drawings. Some of aspects of the project were deferred due to issues around live activity and concerns around new covid variants. The project was brought to fruition in 2022 with participants from the NOW group, disabled adults, rather than nursing/ care homes residents as there was still a reticence about engaging in activities where carers continue to be concerned about covid infection levels.

During 2022- 23 EU Programming included **Urban Survival Kits** (as Lead Partner on the EU Erasmus + funded project with four European partners. We hosted five days of workshops at the Crescent Arts centre and Ulster Museum for delegates from Belfast, Germany and Poland with delegates attending online from Croatia and Turkey. The exhibition of work created during the workshops was programmed at Atypical Gallery in August 2022. Succeeded by the finale series of workshops and exhibition programmed for March / April 2023.

Body Shining Project is led by partners in Italy and involving four EU nations. to explore body shaming and bullying experienced by young disabled people. During the year we delivered a series of workshops in Belfast, project staff attended the transnational partnership meeting in Italy.

CRAFT:IN with partners in Croatia. explored commercial opportunities for crafts produced by disabled people This EU Project was completed in 2022.

The UofA **Social Narrative Video** service continue to support disabled audiences access arts venues: by taking a virtual walk through of the venue, offering advice from buying tickets, to using facilities. Using customised captions, voiceover sign language features (Irish and British) to enhance accessibility for a range of potential patrons. During the year we customised a self-funded service for arts venues in Belfast as well as a number of heritage venues across Northern Ireland which were funded by Thrive through funding from National Heritage Lottery Fund.

Newcomer Project: UofA in partnership with QUB and the University of Frazer Valley in British Columbia, Canada on a project involving newcomer / migrant women living in rural areas of Northern Ireland. The photovoice project culminated with exhibitions in Canada and Belfast and Canada in October 2022 at the Canada Room, QUB and at the Atypical Gallery .UofA produced the project documentary and website.

International Residency for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists: UofA working with partners in Germany and England to research a model of best practice for residencies for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists. Artist Stuart Calvin and Flax art studio Manager, Gail Prentice, represented UofA on the research site visit in Berlin. The project is being devised to meet a defined access requirements for many disabled artists who are often excluded from taking part in international residencies. This project continues to explore new approaches to accessibility with partners Coven in Berlin, Videolabs in Brighton, and Flax art studios in Belfast.

Ledger Studio was introduced in 2022 as a new initiative which was much needed as a resource for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse audiences and artists. Moving forward into the next financial period, UofA will focus on the development of Ledger studio as a sectoral resource and can anticipate the potential to augment income generation to support the wider programming and overhead costs.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Financial review

Strengthening financial position and procedures remain a priority. The charity continues to work closely with GMcG Chartered Accountants on payroll admin and the production of financial statements for the 2022-23 financial year.

Results for the year are set out in detail on pages 8 to 25. The charity returned net income for the year of £17,313 (2022 - net expenditure of £20,660).

At 31 March 2023, the total funds of the charity amounted to £110,146 comprising restricted funds of £48,431 and unrestricted funds of £61,715.

Trustees rely on the unrestricted fund balance; considered to be essential to provide sufficient funds to cover unforeseen costs and fulfill legal obligations of the charity if current levels of income are not maintained.

For 2022-23 the principal funder was the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, with core and programming grants from exchequer and lottery funds, and Belfast City Council, Multi Annual funded programme. Arts Council of Northern Ireland also sustained funding to operate the d/Deaf and Disabled artists Support Fund and small equipment grant from the Health and Safety Capital Programme to assist arts organisations reopen creative spaces safely post Covid period.

There were similar additional support made available to assist cost of living impacts from Santander and Halifax Foundations.

Risk Management

Risk management is addressed within the UofA Risk Management Strategy. The organisation has also established systems to mitigate significant risks to potential business and operational risks which the charity may face. Senior staff supported by Directors continue to review the major risks which the charity faces and believe that maintaining unrestricted reserves at the required levels to finance working capital and continue the charity's activities on a short-term basis, combined with annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will sustain resources for adverse conditions. In the current period of economic turbulence, the directors remain focused on the need to diversify income streams. Exploring additional funding and business opportunities for unrestricted earned income.

Plans for future periods

Moving forward the priority is to develop the blended approach to programme delivery which embeds health and safety measures, with disabled people in mind, which build on access measures put in place during the pandemic. The organisation will continue to focus on generating service revenues generated via Social Narrative Video productions, to augment income and to sustain core artistic programming which will extend reach to those within the community that continue to shield.

Programming budgets will reflect this combination of online and offline activity going forward, with a reduced number of Atypical Gallery shows of longer durations). Bounce Arts festival 2023 will also feature enhanced regional rollout across online and offline platforms.

Staffing updates:

The core staff team will sustain funding relationships, alongside the priority to diversify income streams across public sector contracts, corporate sponsorship, increased trusts and foundation grants. Plans for 2023 include recruiting new posts supported by funding from Belfast City Council Capacity Programme; whilst extending freelance contracts for Administration and Marketing roles to support the development of service income generation.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Structure, governance and management

The Arts and Disability Forum / University of Atypical (working name) is a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity. The Charity is established under a memorandum of association which outlines core objectives and power. The charity is governed by a voluntary board of Directors who operate in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Collectively board members are proficient in core governance skills: HR, accountancy, specialist areas of disability arts, marketing and product development, online education methodologies, access consultancy and disability rights.

The board consists of between four and fifteen directors. The Board can pass an ordinary resolution to appoint new Trustees. To address any skills gap the organization continue to liaise with external partners such as Arts and Business to attract new Trustees. Formal recruitment to the board is carried out in accordance with the Articles of Association.

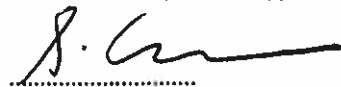
University of Atypical was a recipient of the Good Governance and Leadership award by Volunteer Now/C03 in 2022. During the year the day to day running of the organisation is designated to Chief Executive Damien Coyle. Re-delegation of some core aspects of the former CEO's responsibilities were re-designated to Business Support Manager Edel Murphy. Both senior Manager posts are supported by Chairman Sean Fitzsimmons.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr S Fitzsimons
Ms C Smyth
Ms A E Egner
Ms L C McIlvanna
Ms I Obrolchain Carmody
Ms M C Bacon
Ms T Carlisle
Mr R D Woodcock

The report of the directors has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr S Fitzsimons
Director



Date: 30/11/2023

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Arts & Disability Forum (the company) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company 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.

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

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention 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;
- (2) the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- (3) that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



MR NIGEL MOORE FCA

GMcG BELFAST

Alfred House
19 Alfred Street
Belfast
BT2 8EQ

Dated: 1 December 2023

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes						
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>							
Donations and legacies	2	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3	-	340,251	340,251	-	412,643	412,643
Other trading activities	4	92	1,100	1,192	1,000	1,008	2,008
Investments	5	95	299	394	153	9	162
Other income	6	30,396	2,070	32,466	5,996	2,503	8,499
Total income		<u>45,583</u>	<u>343,720</u>	<u>389,303</u>	<u>7,149</u>	<u>416,163</u>	<u>423,312</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>							
Charitable activities	7	54,155	317,835	371,990	3,818	440,154	443,972
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(8,572)	25,885	17,313	3,331	(23,991)	(20,660)
Gross transfers between funds		5,013	(5,013)	-	-	-	-
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		<u>(3,559)</u>	<u>20,872</u>	<u>17,313</u>	<u>3,331</u>	<u>(23,991)</u>	<u>(20,660)</u>
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		<u>65,274</u>	<u>27,559</u>	<u>92,833</u>	<u>61,943</u>	<u>51,550</u>	<u>113,493</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		<u><u>61,715</u></u>	<u><u>48,431</u></u>	<u><u>110,146</u></u>	<u><u>65,274</u></u>	<u><u>27,559</u></u>	<u><u>92,833</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		27,436		29,075
Current assets					
Debtors	13	17,449		51,735	
Cash at bank and in hand		212,013		124,820	
		<u>229,462</u>		<u>176,555</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(109,252)</u>		<u>(75,297)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>120,210</u>		<u>101,258</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>147,646</u>		<u>130,333</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		<u>(37,500)</u>		<u>(37,500)</u>
Net assets			<u><u>110,146</u></u>		<u><u>92,833</u></u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Income funds					
Restricted funds	17	48,431		27,559	
Unrestricted funds		61,715		65,274	
		<u>110,146</u>		<u>92,833</u>	

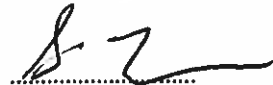
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023. No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements 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 incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

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

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 30/11/2023



Mr S Fitzsimons
Trustee



Ms T Carlisle
Trustee

Company registration number NI051776

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Arts & Disability Forum is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is Third Floor, 109-113 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1FF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the company's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The company has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the company has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Resources expended

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	25% per annum reducing balance
-----------------------	--------------------------------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Santander cost of living grant	15,000	-
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3 Charitable activities

	Gallery & General 2023 £	Bounce Arts Festival 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Gallery & General 2022 £	iDA Grant Scheme 2022 £	Bounce Arts Festival 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Performance related grants	353,263	8,500	361,763	469,399	25,000	12,000	506,399
Less: deferred income	(21,512)	-	(21,512)	(93,756)	-	-	(93,756)
	<u>331,751</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>340,251</u>	<u>375,643</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>412,643</u>
Performance related grants							
Arts Council	138,757	-	138,757	270,954	25,000	-	295,954
Santander Foundation	50,000	-	50,000	100,000	-	-	100,000
Belfast City Council	34,964	8,500	43,464	32,307	-	12,000	44,307
Future Screen	21,919	-	21,919	-	-	-	-
Bodyshine	34,201	-	34,201	-	-	-	-
Halifas Urban Survival	31,069	-	31,069	-	-	-	-
Heritage Lottery Architecture	1,272	-	1,272	-	-	-	-
Other	41,081	-	41,081	66,138	-	-	66,138
	<u>353,263</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>361,763</u>	<u>469,399</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>506,399</u>

All income from charitable activities in the current and prior year relates to restricted funds.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Trading activity income: other	92	1,100	1,192	1,000	2,008
	<u>92</u>	<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,192</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>2,008</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank interest received	95	299	394	153	9	162
	<u>95</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>394</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>162</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Other income	30,396	2,070	32,466	5,996	2,503	8,499
	<u>30,396</u>	<u>2,070</u>	<u>32,466</u>	<u>5,996</u>	<u>2,503</u>	<u>8,499</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Charitable activities

	Gallery & Bounce Arts General 2023 £	Fest 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Gallery & General 2022 £	iDA Grant Bounce Arts Scheme 2022 £	Fest 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	90,309	-	90,309	77,784	-	-	77,784
Depreciation and impairment	7,858	-	7,858	9,691	-	-	9,691
Artist Grant Payments	21,720	-	21,720	141,500	25,165	-	166,665
Artists Costs	10,790	10,456	21,246	18,290	-	9,395	27,685
Other charitable expenditure	184,967	12,055	197,022	122,940	5	16,648	139,593
	<u>315,644</u>	<u>22,511</u>	<u>338,155</u>	<u>370,205</u>	<u>25,170</u>	<u>26,043</u>	<u>421,418</u>
Share of support costs (see note 8)	28,325	-	28,325	17,624	-	-	17,624
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	5,510	-	5,510	4,930	-	-	4,930
	<u>349,479</u>	<u>22,511</u>	<u>371,990</u>	<u>392,759</u>	<u>25,170</u>	<u>26,043</u>	<u>443,972</u>
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds	54,155	-	54,155	3,818	-	-	3,818
Restricted funds	295,324	22,511	317,835	388,941	25,170	26,043	440,154
	<u>349,479</u>	<u>22,511</u>	<u>371,990</u>	<u>392,759</u>	<u>25,170</u>	<u>26,043</u>	<u>443,972</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2023	Support costs	Governance costs	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance	1,892	-	1,892	1,295	-	1,295
Printing, postage & stationery	419	-	419	165	-	165
Heat & light	504	-	504	348	-	348
Telephone	844	-	844	629	-	629
Rent	16,854	-	16,854	7,987	-	7,987
Bookkeeping	7,812	-	7,812	7,200	-	7,200
Legal and professional	-	5,510	5,510	-	4,930	4,930
	<u>28,325</u>	<u>5,510</u>	<u>33,835</u>	<u>17,624</u>	<u>4,930</u>	<u>22,554</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>28,325</u>	<u>5,510</u>	<u>33,835</u>	<u>17,624</u>	<u>4,930</u>	<u>22,554</u>

9 Trustees

During the current and prior years, none of the directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or reimbursement for expenses.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
Employment costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	86,019	73,459
Social security costs	2,531	2,509
Other pension costs	1,759	1,816
	<u>90,309</u>	<u>77,784</u>

Total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was £30,888 (2022 - £33,173)

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

11 Taxation

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

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2022	121,597
Additions	6,219
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2023	127,816
	<hr/>
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 April 2022	92,522
Depreciation charged in the year	7,858
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2023	100,380
	<hr/>
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2023	27,436
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2022	29,075
	<hr/>

13 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	200	200
Prepayments and accrued income	17,249	51,535
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,449	51,735
	<hr/>	<hr/>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	1,869	1,533
Deferred income	77,768	56,256
Trade creditors	4,289	2,553
Other creditors	2,030	2,528
Accruals and deferred income	23,296	12,427
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	109,252	75,297
	<hr/>	<hr/>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income	16	37,500	37,500

16 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Other deferred income	115,268	93,756

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	77,768	56,256
Non-current liabilities	37,500	37,500
	<u>115,268</u>	<u>93,756</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 April 2022	93,756	-
Resources deferred in the year	21,512	93,756
	<u>115,268</u>	<u>93,756</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2023	<u>115,268</u>	<u>93,756</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

17 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gallery & General	16,351	141,462	(170,441)	18,135	5,507	129,036	(130,442)	4,614	8,715
Arts & Biscuits	3,660	-	-	(3,660)	-	-	-	-	-
ACNI Health and Safety Capital Programme	-	-	-	-	-	3,898	(282)	(3,616)	-
UnLtd P Hamlyn	6,500	20,500	(22,466)	(4,534)	-	-	-	-	-
IDA	-	25,009	(25,169)	160	-	-	-	-	-
Bounce Arts Festival	-	14,511	(26,043)	11,532	-	10,240	(22,510)	12,270	-
Deaf & Disabled Arts Support Fund	4,462	133,000	(127,109)	(10,353)	-	25,000	(21,776)	(3,224)	-
Yes We Are In!	8,329	-	-	(8,329)	-	1,222	-	(1,222)	-
HLF Access Architecture	7,496	11,120	(12,522)	-	6,094	1,272	(680)	(6,686)	-
Guide Us Into Art	2,692	-	(4,326)	1,634	-	-	-	-	-
Organisations Emergency Programme	2,060	16,118	(13,715)	(2,000)	2,463	3,463	(2,272)	(3,654)	-
BCC Cluster Partnership Fund	-	20,000	(19,123)	-	877	3,014	(3,891)	-	-
Craft In	-	6,641	(3,448)	-	3,193	3,935	(6,229)	(899)	-
USK B Council / Halifax Grants	-	15,302	(14,646)	(656)	-	36,016	(36,016)	-	-
Santander UK Foundation	-	12,500	-	(3,075)	9,425	50,000	(44,075)	(1,397)	13,953
EASNI	-	-	(1,146)	1,146	-	2,000	(1,669)	(331)	-
Body Shine	-	-	-	-	-	22,800	(13,205)	-	9,595
Awards for all	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	(7,261)	(800)	1,939
Artist residency	-	-	-	-	-	6,905	-	-	6,905
Future Screens	-	-	-	-	-	21,919	(14,595)	-	7,324
Blue Print	-	-	-	-	-	13,000	(12,932)	(68)	-
	<u>51,550</u>	<u>416,163</u>	<u>(440,154)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,559</u>	<u>343,720</u>	<u>(317,835)</u>	<u>(5,013)</u>	<u>48,431</u>

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

18 Explanatory notes to the funds

Unrestricted funds

General fund

This fund is expendable at the discretion of the directors. It is used to finance capital investment and working capital. As anticipated in recent years, the level of funding received continues to fluctuate. The general fund will therefore be essential to finance working capital and ensure that the charity can continue its activities in the short term and fulfil its legal responsibilities to employees and creditors.

Restricted funds

Gallery and General Running Costs

Principal funding received from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Annual Support for Organisations programme. This is for a pre-agreed programme of activity. The majority of the funding relates to general running costs, staffing and the Atypical gallery. The only gallery of its kind in Ireland, dedicated to showcasing and promoting the very best artwork produced by disabled artists. The funding covers installation costs, exhibitions promotion, materials, access and communication support, information in alternative formats. In recent years due to uncertainty of securing festival grant for the Bounce Arts Festival these funds have also been allocable to augment programming costs for the 2022 festival.

ACNI Health and Safety Capital Programme

Awarded to assist arts organisations reopen creative spaces safely by funding the purchasing of equipment and/or minor works required to address health and safety issues as a result of the pandemic or that have been an outstanding maintenance issue.

Belfast City Council

The two-year Cultural Multi-annual Grant from the Belfast City Council, supports the comprehensive programme of activity to Deaf disabled and neuro-diverse people including exhibitions, performances, artists talks, virtual gallery and studio tours. Alongside Belfast City Council Festival Grant designated to support Bounce Festival 2022. The partnership fund sourced from Belfast City Council Business Cluster and Community Grant to facilitate community regeneration. As a lead partner University of Atypical (UofA) administered the grant awarded to revitalise external access and streetscape: at the stretch of Royal Avenue which runs between the corner of North Street and William Street.

Deaf disabled Artists Support Fund (DDASF) Grant Scheme

Arts Council of Northern Ireland (ACNI) award Provides practical support dedicated to increasing skills, experience and opportunities for disabled artists living in Northern Ireland and working in any art form. Finance support is distributed by UofA on behalf of funding partners to compliment the Arts Council's own funding schemes to support individual non-disabled artists. Grant decisions are made by an independent panel, of University of Atypical Trustees and individuals with relevant expertise and overseen by an Arts Council representative.

Yes We Are In

EU funding for lifelong learning project work delivered with EU partners to support young disabled adults use arts based activities that focus on digital citizenship, capacity building and skill development.

Accessing Architecture

This represents a Heritage Lottery award to support project participants uncover the cultural heritage of disabled communities in Belfast through exploration of the built heritage within the industrial and cultural quarters of the city centre. Programming was delayed during Covid restrictions and came to fruition with a series of creative workshops, masterclass and research visits with heritage partners and Exhibition to reflect Disability History alongside Accessible design and the Built Environment in Belfast.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

19 Explanatory notes to the funds (continued)

The Ireland Funds

Grant sourced from the Ireland Reconnection Fund to assist with core cost incurred for developing capacity and organisation sustainability aiming to extend programme impact and reach to new diverse audiences on an all-island basis.

Crafting the Inclusion

Crafts and Practices in non-formal education for increasing social inclusion was a partnership focused on exchange of various crafts, aiming to support partner organisations, develop staff capacity, establish non-formal educational activities and entrepreneurship initiatives, to promote social inclusion of marginalised groups.

Halifax Foundation

Award for a new Career Advisor support scheme, to offer practical support initiative for artists scheduled for delivery post March 2023 year end.

Urban Survival Kits

EU funding for the Urban Survival Kits programme; UofA is the lead partner on a trans-national learning initiative exploring how Adults With Disabilities (AWD), including atypical and neurodiverse, can be supported with their local, national and international travel needs. USK builds on the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 and removes barriers in physical infrastructure; accessibility of information, and creates effective communication tools.

Santander UK Foundation LTD

Three year Funding programme from Santander UK Foundation Ltd supports 'Digital Horizon' a professional development initiative; aiming to create opportunities for d/Deaf, Disabled and Neuro diverse artists pursue new ambitions through the use of digital technology to assist them throughout their career.

Body Shine

Is this EU partnership grant addresses the act of body shaming. Through an international programme of activities, programme participants are supported to reflect on societal and fashion influences through art, society, cultural knowledge. Equipping people with the confidence to accept themselves and the "diversity" of others.

Awards

for

All

Community Fund Grant for a volunteer training programme focusing on enabling people with Disabilities and Deaf Community to learn new skills and engage with their peers and community. Aiming to formalise and support UofA volunteers through a robust programme of training and practical support.

Artist in Residence Fund

This represents project funds secured from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland for a Visual Arts Residency and Exhibition at the Atypical Gallery.

Future Screens NI Covid19 Recovery Programme

Ulster University -DFC partnership grant, designated for a new Access and Inclusion Assistant post as part of a three-year award for a new Employment and Skills Initiative, aiming to address labour market barriers faced by individuals due to the pandemic and with a particular focus on job roles to boost the Arts Sector.

Blue

Print

Financial support secured from an ARTS and Business. This capacity building programme aims to support small arts organisations invest in the development of innovative income generation strategies. UofA Proposal to Blueprint will focus on the new Ledger Studio and EASI (equality access standards initiative) aiming to strengthen long-term financial sustainability.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

20 Explanatory notes to the funds (continued)

Transfers

During the year the charity made transfers between restricted funds. The transfers were necessary to cover deficits arising on certain funds. Income received to the Gallery & General fund included contributions to Office & Admin costs within the charity's premises.

At the year end a transfer of £5,013 was made from restricted funds to unrestricted funds. The transfer represented the net book value of fixed assets that had been acquired through restricted funds.

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:					
Tangible assets	6,051	21,385	27,436	1,578	29,075
Current assets/(liabilities)	55,664	64,546	120,210	63,696	101,258
Long term liabilities	-	(37,500)	(37,500)	-	(37,500)
	<u>61,715</u>	<u>48,431</u>	<u>110,146</u>	<u>65,274</u>	<u>92,833</u>

22 Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension costs charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £1,759 (2022 - £1,816). There were no amounts outstanding at the balance sheet date.

23 Contingent liabilities

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the letter of offer.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

24 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Within one year	45,342	-
Between two and five years	45,342	-
	<u>90,684</u>	<u>-</u>

25 Conduit Funding

Arts & Disability Forum is responsible for receiving and distributing funds on behalf of Halifas for the Urban Survival Kits project. During the year £75,132 was received and distributed and no balance was held in relation to these monies at 31 March 2023.

26 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101588

Annual report

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the company's Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objects for which the charity is established are to:

Provide an organisation led by disabled people to increase opportunities for disabled people to engage with the arts in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, working on a pan-disability basis.

Ancillary to this object, is to provide formal and informal learning opportunities, training information, support, that:

(i) Enhance both the extent and quality of:

- The experience that disabled people have of the arts;
- The work produced by disabled artists;
- The public's experience of art created or presented by disabled artists;
- Arts organisations' understanding of the needs and desires of disabled people (as arts consumers and practitioners);
- Showcase of excellence in art by disabled people
- Collaborative working in pursuit of these aims.

(ii) Promote use of arts by disabled people in support of initiatives aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of disabled people and as approved by the Board.

The charity works collaboratively with arts funders, disabled, neurodiverse and D/deaf artists, arts companies, community groups, equality organisations, ethnic minority groups, LGBTQ groups and the mainstream arts sector, aiming to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities for D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people to participate in arts and culture on their own terms.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the company should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The organisation formerly known as Arts & Disability Forum ((ADF) has successfully rebranded and operates under the new working name of the University of Atypical (UofA).

UofA is a charity led by D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people to empower people of all ages; working collaboratively with artists and arts sector organisations to create positive change. The vision is of a genuinely inclusive artistic environment where D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people can be involved in the arts in any way they choose.

The work of the Charity brings about:

- increased access and representation in arts by D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people;
- enhanced skills for D/deaf, disabled and Neurodiverse people;
- increased well being from social connections; and
- greater societal acceptance and celebration of diversity

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Achievements and performance

During the year to March 2023, we continued to develop our blended delivery methods to engage with participants and audiences online. The legacy and consequences of Covid continued to impact on some programmed activities due to the reticence of many disabled participants and audiences to return to live events as they were considered clinically vulnerable disabled people and still at high risk.

Core practical and financial support was sustained during 2022-23 with **d/Deaf and Disabled Artists Support Funds (DDASF)**: DDASF awarded grants to 20 recipients; to support d/Deaf, Disabled and Neurodiverse artists as many continue to experience difficulty to generate income as galleries, theatres, education and outreach events work through the knock on impacts of Covid and cost of living hardship across the sector.

UofA also provided practical training for a team of volunteers engaged in Gallery openings, Digital Horizon Masterclasses and Erasmus+ Programme Diversity Training by Rainbow Project - with a focus on gender and sexual orientation in January 2023; further training for volunteers was offered including Online BSL sessions with Paula Clarke

Bounce Arts Festival in October 2022; programmed events in Belfast Derry City and Strabane District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. The festival launch featured guest speakers from ACNI CEO, Roisin McDonagh, Head of Arts Branch at DfC, John Ball, and the Lord Mayor of Belfast. Highlights of the 2022 signature project was the showcasing of work created by D/deaf, Disabled and Neurodiverse artists who were recipients of the Chris Ledger Legacy Awards: Ruth McGinley, Johnny McAlister, Shiro Mayasuma, and Larry MacAree. Larry's exhibition was the main visual arts event at the Bounce 2022. Larry used this as the platform to release his autobiography. Bounce also featured work by former recipients of d/Deaf, Disabled Artists Support Funded by ACNI and DfC. The Venue partner for 2022 was Crescent Arts Centre. Again it was noted the impact of the cost of living crisis and artists' ability to create work to generate income. Alongside cost-of- living impacts on audiences and the sector's ability to generate box office income. Informed strategic pricing of events to be free or donate as affordable.

The annual programme of high quality exhibitions at **Atypical Gallery**; also featured work produced by recipients of DDASF awards. *All these songs are about dying* a series of new works by Stuart Calvin. *'Still Livin'* by Larry McAree a recipient of a Chris Ledger Award and is the first learning disabled artist to receive a major award from University of Atypical. There was an exhibition of work created by Urban Survival Kits workshops participants from Germany, Poland and Northern Ireland. Other exhibitions, outside of the Atypical Gallery included support for Irish artist Sinead O'Donnell with her performance, "Tairsearch" a collaboration between Sinead, Selina Bonelli from England, and Marta Bosowska from Poland. The performance took place in writers square and UofA supported artists on accessibility features for the project video.

Amy Milnes was a recipient of the UofA **Graduate Award**: a package of finance and practical support. Funding to continue arts practice and mentoring by renowned artists.

The extended delivery of the Fy21-22 **BSL class** into this period enabled participants to complete the course. Six of the seven participants completed the course successfully progressing to level one accreditation. Additional rollout of online classes were programmed over 6 weeks for 12 participants as part of core Arts sectoral support.

Digital Horizons funded by the Santander Foundation continued as part of our flagship three year digitalization and finance management support initiative. During the year the Digital Innovation Award went to artist Stuart Robinson. A series of masterclasses were programmed including Porcelain Delaney's launch event at Bounce Arts Festival. Followed by a sequence of innovation activities including Grace Fairleys digital animation. Five new Masterclass submissions were selected for delivery in the finance period 2023/24.

Equality and Access Standards Initiative (EASI). Regarded as the sector's equality, access, and inclusion initiative. During the year a resource database of access providers was developed, alongside disability / access themes workshops for venue participants working to achieve EASI accreditation.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The **Drawing Rooms Project** focuses on older residents of care/nursing homes in Belfast. Workshops facilitated by artists David Dunlop and Paul Moore continued to explore new technologies to assist older people create drawings. Some of aspects of the project were deferred due to issues around live activity and concerns around new covid variants. The project was brought to fruition in 2022 with participants from the NOW group, disabled adults, rather than nursing/ care homes residents as there was still a reticence about engaging in activities where carers continue to be concerned about covid infection levels.

During 2022- 23 EU Programming included **Urban Survival Kits** (as Lead Partner on the EU Erasmus + funded project with four European partners. We hosted five days of workshops at the Crescent Arts centre and Ulster Museum for delegates from Belfast, Germany and Poland with delegates attending online from Croatia and Turkey. The exhibition of work created during the workshops was programmed at Atypical Gallery in August 2022. Succeeded by the finale series of workshops and exhibition programmed for March / April 2023.

Body Shining Project is led by partners in Italy and involving four EU nations. to explore body shaming and bullying experienced by young disabled people. During the year we delivered a series of workshops in Belfast, project staff attended the transnational partnership meeting in Italy.

CRAFT:IN with partners in Croatia. explored commercial opportunities for crafts produced by disabled people This EU Project was completed in 2022.

The UofA **Social Narrative Video** service continue to support disabled audiences access arts venues: by taking a virtual walk through of the venue, offering advice from buying tickets, to using facilities. Using customised captions, voiceover sign language features (Irish and British) to enhance accessibility for a range of potential patrons. During the year we customised a self-funded service for arts venues in Belfast as well as a number of heritage venues across Northern Ireland which were funded by Thrive through funding from National Heritage Lottery Fund.

Newcomer Project: UofA in partnership with QUB and the University of Frazer Valley in British Columbia, Canada on a project involving newcomer / migrant women living in rural areas of Northern Ireland. The photovoice project culminated with exhibitions in Canada and Belfast and Canada in October 2022 at the Canada Room, QUB and at the Atypical Gallery .UofA produced the project documentary and website.

International Residency for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists: UofA working with partners in Germany and England to research a model of best practice for residencies for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists. Artist Stuart Calvin and Flax art studio Manager, Gail Prentice, represented UofA on the research site visit in Berlin. The project is being devised to meet a defined access requirements for many disabled artists who are often excluded from taking part in international residencies. This project continues to explore new approaches to accessibility with partners Coven in Berlin, Videolabs in Brighton, and Flax art studios in Belfast.

Ledger Studio was introduced in 2022 as a new initiative which was much needed as a resource for d/Deaf, disabled and neurodiverse audiences and artists. Moving forward into the next financial period, UofA will focus on the development of Ledger studio as a sectoral resource and can anticipate the potential to augment income generation to support the wider programming and overhead costs.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Financial review

Strengthening financial position and procedures remain a priority. The charity continues to work closely with GMcG Chartered Accountants on payroll admin and the production of financial statements for the 2022-23 financial year.

Results for the year are set out in detail on pages 8 to 25. The charity returned net income for the year of £17,313 (2022 - net expenditure of £20,660).

At 31 March 2023, the total funds of the charity amounted to £110,146 comprising restricted funds of £48,431 and unrestricted funds of £61,715.

Trustees rely on the unrestricted fund balance; considered to be essential to provide sufficient funds to cover unforeseen costs and fulfill legal obligations of the charity if current levels of income are not maintained.

For 2022-23 the principal funder was the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, with core and programming grants from exchequer and lottery funds, and Belfast City Council, Multi Annual funded programme. Arts Council of Northern Ireland also sustained funding to operate the d/Deaf and Disabled artists Support Fund and small equipment grant from the Health and Safety Capital Programme to assist arts organisations reopen creative spaces safely post Covid period.

There were similar additional support made available to assist cost of living impacts from Santander and Halifax Foundations.

Risk Management

Risk management is addressed within the UofA Risk Management Strategy. The organisation has also established systems to mitigate significant risks to potential business and operational risks which the charity may face. Senior staff supported by Directors continue to review the major risks which the charity faces and believe that maintaining unrestricted reserves at the required levels to finance working capital and continue the charity's activities on a short-term basis, combined with annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will sustain resources for adverse conditions. In the current period of economic turbulence, the directors remain focused on the need to diversify income streams. Exploring additional funding and business opportunities for unrestricted earned income.

Plans for future periods

Moving forward the priority is to develop the blended approach to programme delivery which embeds health and safety measures, with disabled people in mind, which build on access measures put in place during the pandemic. The organisation will continue to focus on generating service revenues generated via Social Narrative Video productions, to augment income and to sustain core artistic programming which will extend reach to those within the community that continue to shield.

Programming budgets will reflect this combination of online and offline activity going forward, with a reduced number of Atypical Gallery shows of longer durations). Bounce Arts festival 2023 will also feature enhanced regional rollout across online and offline platforms.

Staffing updates:

The core staff team will sustain funding relationships, alongside the priority to diversify income streams across public sector contracts, corporate sponsorship, increased trusts and foundation grants. Plans for 2023 include recruiting new posts supported by funding from Belfast City Council Capacity Programme; whilst extending freelance contracts for Administration and Marketing roles to support the development of service income generation.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Structure, governance and management

The Arts and Disability Forum / University of Atypical (working name) is a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity. The Charity is established under a memorandum of association which outlines core objectives and power. The charity is governed by a voluntary board of Directors who operate in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Collectively board members are proficient in core governance skills: HR, accountancy, specialist areas of disability arts, marketing and product development, online education methodologies, access consultancy and disability rights.

The board consists of between four and fifteen directors. The Board can pass an ordinary resolution to appoint new Trustees. To address any skills gap the organization continue to liaise with external partners such as Arts and Business to attract new Trustees. Formal recruitment to the board is carried out in accordance with the Articles of Association.

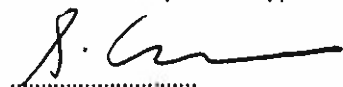
University of Atypical was a recipient of the Good Governance and Leadership award by Volunteer Now/C03 in 2022. During the year the day to day running of the organisation is designated to Chief Executive Damien Coyle. Re-delegation of some core aspects of the former CEO's responsibilities were re-designated to Business Support Manager Edel Murphy. Both senior Manager posts are supported by Chairman Sean Fitzsimmons.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr S Fitzsimmons
Ms C Smyth
Ms A E Egner
Ms L C McIlvanna
Ms I Obrolchain Carmody
Ms M C Bacon
Ms T Carlisle
Mr R D Woodcock

The report of the directors has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr S Fitzsimmons
Director



Date: 30/11/2023

Arts & Disability Forum

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101588

Annual return

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Arts & Disability Forum (the company) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company 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.

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

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention 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;
- (2) the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- (3) that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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;
- (4) that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF ARTS & DISABILITY FORUM

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



MR NIGEL MOORE FCA

GMcG BELFAST

Alfred House
19 Alfred Street
Belfast
BT2 8EQ

Dated: 1 December 2023