

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
Swindon Dance

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Swindon Dance

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objectives are:

To advance education for the public benefit by the promotion, development and presentation of dance performances and the provision of classes, training, workshops, performance opportunities, educational programmes and by other charitable means as the trustees may from time to time determine locally in Swindon, regionally in the South West of England and nationally in the United Kingdom.

Who we are. We are a charity that believes in 'Enriching Lives Through Dance'. We aim to do this by being an organisation specialising in supporting our artform through personal engagement, talent development and professional artist support locally regionally and globally. We believe that people come first that everyone regardless of age, creed, gender, or background is entitled to access and enjoy the richness of art and culture in their lives. We also value having fun, we like to have fun doing what we are doing so that others want to come and join in too. We believe people should have the freedom to follow their dreams no matter how big or small. We see no value in the word 'no', as we feel it creates barriers, prevents dreams, and caps achievement. We see our role as a supporter and guider helping people to follow the path they wish to follow. We love to leap off cliffs because taking that leap of faith keeps the arts fresh, new, and exciting. We wish to help people towards having lives of dreams fulfilled, full of enriching experiences, and of wonderful encounters.

What we do. Each year thousands of people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities take part in our comprehensive range of quality classes, projects, events, and performances. We provide opportunities to learn how to create and perform dance. We take dance out into schools and into the community. We work in areas of high disadvantage and low engagement. We work to support and give guidance to talented dancers and professional artists. We show-case professional and non-professional dance works. For many it is a social and fun way to improve their health and well-being whilst for others, it is the first stage into a career in dance that will impact the changing face of the UK's evolving arts industry.

Context

The Charity has faced various challenges during this year that have been driven by the UK economy and political uncertainty leaving its team feeling as if they have been in a never-ending uphill battle. Look back just a few years - early December 2021 and interest rates were all effectively at zero. No one quite expected what has followed. Experts expected some impact on the economy following Covid as industries looked to their recovery, but no one was prepared for what has been the true impact of the Pandemic, the wars that have followed, the economic and political unrest that have led to the surge in inflation and the Cost-of-Living crisis. In the UK inflation peaked in 2022 at 11%, 10½% in the Eurozone and 9% in the US, which left the central banks completely wrong-footed, with their 2% inflation targets a fantasy. Swindon Dance has felt the impact of this on both its overhead/running costs and reduced income from lower participation numbers as even its most loyal customers 'tightened their belts' to save money for the essentials.

It is predicted that households will see an improvement to their living standards in 2024 due to improving economic conditions - the increase to the National Living Wage from April, easing energy and food inflation, and increased government support for households. However, this remains considerably volatile, and prices are still higher than in early 2021 so customers may well continue to readjust their spending while businesses and the dance industry continue to struggle to recover and, in some cases, survive. In summary, forecasts are saying that the underlying signs of a recovery will soon take effect. If so, this is good news for the Charity, if it can weather the storm in the meantime. The biggest impact on the Charities finances was the huge rise in utility costs that increased to £21,471 in the third quarter of the year of this 50% was from gas (heating) costs. It is these costs that are crippling its recovery. However, there was a small positive change in some areas of the Charities work, with a definite rise in class numbers during the last quarter of the year. Between January-March, 1,655 people participated in the Charities community classes, (1,341 of these were full price places and 314 subsidised places, producing an income of £17,725 for the quarter). There was an increase in cultural community-based projects and events, especially collaborations with local and regional cultural organisations, although many are still in the early stages of planning for 2024-25 there was a definite change happening. The Charities 'Dance Out' work into Swindon and Wiltshire schools and community settings saw a total of 735 young people participating in a range of dance activities delivered by the Charity for this period (January-March). However, one area of concern, which is a national issue for dance, is the impact the Cost-of-Living Crisis is having on live professional performances especially at the small and mid-scale and the UK dance organisations that support this area of work. This includes Swindon Dance. The Charity feels that its decision to review its professional performance programme was the right one. It will be Piloting a new collaborative way of working with artists and producers to present Professional works in 2024-25.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Talent Development. The Charity continues to run and develop its successful Talent Development Programme, which offers various training opportunities to young passionate dancers to develop their technical, creative, and expressive dance skills providing them with a clear pathway to vocational training and a career in dance if they so choose. The programme consists of four programmes, PRIMARY STEPS, STEPS2, SWINDON YOUTH DANCE COMPANY and the CENTRE FOR ADVANCED TRAINING.

The PRIMARY STEPS programme runs in partnership with the Royal Ballet School, Dance Partnership and Access Programme and is supported by the Department for Education. It is a national junior school's programme that aims to provide year 3-6 class groups (7-11-year-olds) with a positive introduction to creative ballet training for selected children who would not otherwise have the opportunity. This programme retained 69 students with 9 graduates. Students were split into 3 level groups with each group receiving a 1.15 hr weekly class during school term times. All cohort parents received a parent meeting with the team and teachers to discuss student progress and any challenges they were facing. Primary Steps students took part in a creative workshop led by the Royal Ballet School, 24 students took part with 37 people watching the sharing at the end of the session.

The STEPS2 programme is a training programme for children aged 9-13 years and provides a stepping stone for aspiring young dancers to develop their dance skills and natural ability. The 2023-24 programme retained a cohort of 34 students aged between 13-19 years who received 34 weekly sessions of 1.5 hours per week during school term times.

SWINDON YOUTH DANCE COMPANY (SYDCO) consisted of 17 members aged between 13 and 19 years who received 34 weekly sessions of 2 hours each working on their technical, creative and performance skills. During the year SYDCo worked on the creation of a new performance piece with Alleyne Dance and on a filming evening at Oxford Brookes University in Swindon giving a unique backdrop of hospital wards and corridors, to the choreography of SYDCo leader, Emma Carter. The result from this venture was performed at the Charities youth Platform 'Dance House' at the end of March.

The CENTRE for ADVANCED TRAINING (CAT) provides access to world-class dance training opportunities for young people aged between 11-19 years. It is for young people with the talent, passion, and commitment to pursue dance. The Charities CAT comprises of, the Exeter contemporary, Swindon Ballet, Swindon Street Dance and Swindon contemporary programmes, and is one of only nine National CATs across the UK. During the school October break, students from its Swindon programmes in Ballet, Street Dance and Contemporary took part in various 3-4-day intensives. They worked with, in Ballet - Chris Wright and Kayleigh Price, in Street Dance - Brooke Milliner and Fubanation, and in Contemporary - alumnus Emily Fleur Peake, Linden Dance Company, Jordan James Bridge, and Thomas Paige whilst the Exeter programme worked with the Tom Daly Company.

Graduating students attended a mock audition intensive in January with classes led by industry/conservatoire tutor Leesa Phillips and included audition classes plus an audition interview and performance of solo to audition panel. Students received individual and group feedback and tips for forthcoming auditions. CAT students from the four programmes worked with the following tutors: Vicki Plomer (Healthier Dancer and student welfare), Chris Wright, Sarah Josh and Sarah Ferris (Ballet), Charlotte Eatock and Thomas Page (contemporary), Ella Goodwin (Commercial), Banxy (Breakin'), Emma Holbrook & Barry Ganberg (musicians), Tomo Chiba (House and Locking), Alex Peters - Mechanikool (Popping), Aggie Nonsizi (Hip Hop), and Chris Arias (Hip hop and Breakin'). Students from all four CAT programmes attended intensive courses during the February school break. Each programme worked with guest tutors relevant to their respective training programmes, these included, Saac Peter Bowry, Bgirl ROXY, Tavaziva, Nicholas Marvel, Neon Dance, Vanhulle Dance Theatre, Kashmir D. Leese, Synaet Nin, Avant Garde Dance and Emma Holbrook. The March yearly CAT Choreographic Sharing gave students a chance to showcase their own choreographic works. 12 graduating students successfully auditioned for entry into full-time training; 2 at London Studio Centre, 4 at Ballet Theatre UK, 1 at Performers College, 2 at Trinity Laban with one student being awarded a scholarship from Trinity, 1 at Tring Park, 1 at The Hammond, and 1 student at both The Hammond and Stella Mann College. The CAT will be expanding with two new programmes, a second Street Dance Programme in Exeter (Sept 2024) and a third Contemporary programme to be based at Pavilion Dance Southwest, Bournemouth (pilot starting Nov 2024).

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Community & Dance Out. The Charities work in its local community included daytime workshops led by The Mary-Lou Revue as part of its Dance & Dementia project. This culminated in a community performance 'Steppin' Through Time' by The Mary-Lou Revue, performed at one of Swindon's nine Memory cafés to an audience of 70 memory café participants and 10 volunteers. This was part of a partnership with Swindon Local Health Authority and Pinetrees centre, based in an area of Swindon identified as one of high deprivation. During the last quarter of the year, activities saw a total of 1,232 children and young people take part in 30 Curriculum dance sessions and 18 practical sessions (workshops and classes) delivered by the Charity in 11 local schools covering years 1 to 10, plus 2 one-off workshops in 2 schools reaching 75 year 8, 9 and 10 students and a one-off workshop at the Marlborough Youth Club for 15 young people aged 8-15 years.

The charity also delivered weekly practical sessions over 13 weeks at the Swindon based 'Open Door Centre' which were attended by 6-10 adults each week. A core of 10 adults attended specialist dance classes as part of the Charities Dance for Parkinson's programme. Its Carers group and Salto! Adults Integrated Programme both performed in the Swindon Big Hat Performance for adults. Curriculum dance sessions saw a drop from previous years highlighting the knock-on effect being seen in schools around cultural education.

The end of each term included a 'watching week' for children's classes held at the Charities studios, where parents and family watched their children and young people in class and met the team, plus various open days for the CAT where family and friends got a 'peak' at the training the students undertake.

Summer performances included the CAT end of year show showcasing all four of its programmes, and a new show 'Next Level' that showcased the Charities Talent Development Programme. Performances included dancers from its Primary Steps and Steps2 Programme, Swindon Youth Dance Company, and two pieces from the CAT with guest appearances by Just for Boys and Salto! Youth. The Charity was part of the Artsite theatre square weekend 2nd and 3rd Sept with its 'Lifefest' weekend. This event brought together cultural groups from the Theatre Square area.

The Salto! Integrated Programme September 2023-July 2024 cohort on the Junior programme included 6 participants ranging in age from 7 to 12 years (school years 3-8), and on the youth programme, 14 participants ranging in age from 11 to 16 years (school years 8-12). With this programme following the academic year, the 2022-23 Salto! Junior programme finished with a summer intensive working with Anjali Dance Company that 'celebrates the excellent creative potential of people with learning disabilities' whilst the Salto! Youth programme completed their year performing as special guests in the Charities 'Next Level' show that showcased the talent of the young people on its Talent Development Programme. The team started to implement more performance opportunities for the 16+ students on the Salto! Youth programme who required a higher level of dance. This group performed as Salto! Youth in the Charities youth performance Dance House in March.

The Jam Festival & West Country Clash the Charities 5-day international street dance festival in partnership with 'The Jam Movement!' and 'Your Next Move' returned in its pre-Covid international status. 298 people aged between 11 and 30 enrolled for the 4-days of workshops with over 200 attending the battle event (WCC) on the final day. The festival gave work to 20 professional practitioners from producers, media and film, marketing, workshop tutors, and DJs. The team delivered 20 workshops (4 per day) in Popping, Yoga, Choreography, House, Lifesteet, Hip Hop, Afro and discussions/presentations on structure and presenting your work. Tutors included industry internationals: Movement Decoded, King K, Khoudia, Nialo, Shawn, The Duke LDN, Kinen and Cori D. The festival also included two evening events led by IndaHouse and Lifesteet crews. WCC ran 1-on-1 battle events in Hip Hop, Breakin', Popping and Free Style for under 18s. Each covered preliminary rounds, quarter finals, and semi-finals down to final battles in each style. Cash prizes were awarded for winners in each group. Judges included, Niako, Shawn and B-Girl Stefani. DJs, Dbo (Classic Joints, La Familia) & Zada and hosts, Juels ("Jam!", Fiya House, Empire) and Jessie (Raw Honey). Daily review films and pod casts were posted online with the event on social media outlets such as 'The Jam Movement!' on Instagram. Many participants from pre-Covid pandemic returned with next years' dates already in the diary.

Swindon Dance (Registered number: 05467343)

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CAT Outreach activities were offered free and were funded through an outreach grant from the Department for Education (DfE). Outreach work for the CAT autumn cohort intake runs from Sept-July each year. Therefore, this report will cover the end of the outreach process for autumn 2023 intake and the first two terms of outreach for autumn 2024 intake. Between April-September 213 young people from year groups 5 to 11 attended 12 open days (192 females and 21 males) across the southwest. Workshops were held in, Bristol (1), Cornwall (1), Devon (1), Gloucestershire (1), Oxfordshire (1) and Swindon (7). 6 of these workshops were contemporary based, 4 Street dance and 2 were ballet focused. During the autumn the Charity delivered a further 35 workshops across the Southwest, 2-days of intensive workshops in West Somerset (DfE target area of least engagement), 4 open days, 4 Experience days, 6 weeks of workshops for its Steps2 students, and 5 weeks of workshops for its 'Just for Boys' group. During the latter half of the year, (Jan to Mar) 777 young people aged between 11-16 took part in various workshops, of these 86 were male and 141 were in receipt of Pupil Premium. The team delivered 50 outreach workshops, 18 contemporary, 13 street, 3 ballet, 3 Jazz, 2 creative, 2 contemporary and creative, 1 Hip hop, 1 Popping, 1 Litefeet, 1 Mixed Styles, 1 Street/commercial, 3 CAT classes, and 1 Careers Fair to schools and community venues in, Swindon and Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucester, Castle Cary, Bristol, Taunton, Somerset, Burghclere, Shepton Mallet, Bath, Cheltenham, Exeter, and Bristol. Other outreach activities included an 'Inspiration Day for Boys', and young people identifying as male or non-binary aged 7-16. This was a joint venture between CAT and the Education & Development team. Participants took part in Contemporary, Street Dance and Creative classes. Teachers included, Thomas Page Artistic Director of Thomas Page Dances, Oliver Russell, co-artistic director of Vanhulle Dance Theatre and martial arts specialist, and Jamie Berry aka Bboy Flexton of UK Breakin'. The event concluded with an informal sharing for parents / guardians. There were 12 participants and 22 people attended the sharing. And 'Street Dance Connect' the Charities annual CAT outreach event celebrating the vibrant energy of young street dance talent. This event brought together street dance crews and groups from across the southwest who took part in workshops, learnt about the Charities other activities for Street Dancers such as The CAT Street Dance Programme, The Jam Festival & West Country Clash and Litefest weekend. The day culminated in a performance event showcasing the work of Street Dance to an audience of 67 and included CAT Street Dancers, Hype, Street Cred, and Body Politic Youth.

Feedback received from the parents of a student on the Centre of Advanced Training

"Firstly, I would like to congratulate you and everyone involved in the end of year show! It was absolutely incredible, so professional and the level of talent was outstanding. Martyn and I would also like to thank you, Chris, Sarah, Anna and Paige for everything you have done for Finn since he joined the pilot ballet programme in May 2022.? The level of support he has received both emotionally and financially has been phenomenal. The advice and support he received regarding his Personal Statement, his future, where he should apply to, and his auditions made such an enormous difference.? It was totally out of our comfort zone so it was so reassuring to know that you all had his best interest at heart and were there to support him every step of the way.? He really wouldn't be where he is today with all your support, advice and encouragement. He definitely wouldn't have considered applying to Rambert if it wasn't for you all. We really can't thank you enough, so from the bottom of our hearts thank you, thank you, thank you!"

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Artist support

The Professional Artists Programme focuses on giving young to mid-career professionals individually tailored support and mentoring at a difficult and fragile time in their careers. This programme supports young professional to mid-career artists/practitioners. It is led by each artists individual needs and aspirations, with mentoring and guidance to navigate the challenges they face whilst building their career. The programme includes, a YOUNG PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME (YPP), ASSOCIATE ARTISTS PROGRAMME (AAP), COMMISSION and PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME (CPP), plus in-kind studio space for Research and Development. It provides a progression route to support artists as they develop their creative voice, skills, and knowledge, without the financial constraints and pressure to create finished works. The supported artists 2022-24 finished on 31st March 2024. Dan Baines (YPP) used his bursary to help with preparation and costs for auditions and was successful in his professional career as a professional performer. He recently performed in 'House of Flamenka' a compilation dance show choreographed by James Cousins and Francisco Hidalgo and directed by Arlene Phillips. Edd Arnold (AAP) saw his short film 'Of Land and Sea' win an award at the Exeter International Film Festival. June Yuen Ting (AAP) is in the process of applying to Arts Council England (ACE) for funding for his next project. Sam Amos (YPP) was finding his niche in film and dance and outdoor work. Joss Hoffman (YPP) returned to the 2024-26 programme after a long and difficult recovery from a head injury. Throughout this time, the Charity gave him extra support and used his bursary to aid his recovery and cost of specialists' help. New artists joining the programme for 2024-26 include, on the YPP - Jason Yip, Maea Morgan, and Joss Hoffman, on the AAP - Second Hand Dance, Petronella Weihahn, Marie Lou, Vanhulle Dance Theatre, Sam Amos (progressed onto the Associate Artists programme) and the CP - Orla Hardie the winner of the Reverse Pitch. The 2024-26 Commissions Programme (CP) will change to cover support for artists on the new Professional Performance Programme (CPP), the artists will work with the Charity on longer term educational and community-based projects that will culminate in a live performance. Each project will work in partnership with the Charities Education & Development and/or CAT teams with a local targeted audience. Artists include, Theo Clinkard targeting young talent from the two contemporary CAT programmes. This will be part of a national project working with all the UKs 9 CATs, Vanhulle Dance Theatre targeting young children and males in schools up to 10/11-years, on the theme of helping and supporting each other, learning about different emotions and moods, and that it is good to hug, Tavaziva Dance Company targeting males, refugees, and local African communities taken from Bawren Tavaziva's own life story, UK Breakin' (alumnus Jamie Berry) targeting talented young Breakers within local schools - based around a specially designed and produced comic book and its heroes, and Simple Cypher targeting young people and families creating cross arts productions (Circus, Street and Contemporary dance) for in and outdoor events, and Marie Lou targeting young children with an interactive project looking at the connection between the environment and local birds. This final project changed to a digital work with Marie Lou joining the Associate Artists Programme.

Dancing Mamas was a series of national events, live and online supporting professional female artists during and after pregnancy. The Charity ran an online live-streamed workshop (July 2023), as its contribution to the project.

The Reverse Pitch was a new event held in February where 4 young female choreographers presented their idea for a new live dance piece to an invited audience of 43 young people aged 13-20 who attended the Charities activities. The aim was to give young people a voice in artistic decision making. The evening was a VIP red carpet event complete with red carpet, stanchions, gold VIP wrist bands, non-alcoholic bubbly, and canapes (Ferrero Roche and mini macaroons). Each artist had a 20-minute slot to introduce themselves and present their idea. Voting was on the night via QR code. All the young people voted with the winner being announced, golden globe style film on social media. The young people will receive a free ticket for them and a guest to see the finished piece. Initial feedback, the young people loved the evening especially having an event designed specifically for them. They enjoyed being able to question the artists and to choose the winner. They have asked for a bigger event next year with the winner also winning a contract to work or choreograph a piece with them as well as the commission and support they will receive from this event.

The Charity hosted in-kind the launch event for the Swindon '**Festival of Tomorrow**' focusing on the connection between science and creativity. The launch presented Neon Dance's performance 'Last and First Men', which included a curtain raiser performed by young dancers from Swindon Dance. Neon Dance is Swindon's only professional dance company. The event was sold out and was a fantastic, energised launch for the festival.

Report of the Trustees
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The Team including the Board of Trustees

The team struggled emotionally from the continued pressure due to the long recovery and impact from the Cost-of-Living crisis. Two staff development days in the autumn led by an external consultant with experience of the industry and an understanding of the Charity and its work really helped the team with these feelings. The team talked openly about their concerns and grievances, reviewed achievements and implemented a team action plan. The difference in the team from the first to second team day was phenomenal. The second meeting was full of positivity, smiles, laughter, and open honest discussions. With 97% of the team being part-time and working 1-day (part-time staff) or 2-days (full-time staff) from home, team meetings and social gatherings have become a very important time for the team to come together and to have honest, open discussions. Staff fed back how they found themselves alone in the building at times and how this made them feel, so working days were changed for office staff to work Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in-house so people could be in the building with other co-workers, and at home on Wednesdays and Fridays with the building being closed mornings of those days giving the Charities Facilities Coordinator and Swindon Borough Council a safe time to undertake any building or maintenance work. The team also asked for 'Kudos Moments' to be added to the end of its full-team meetings. Each staff member gives another person feedback on something they felt that person had done well or appreciated that they did, followed by something they felt they had achieved or done well themselves. Some staff found this difficult to begin with, but all agreed they felt very good and energised afterwards.

Training. The Artistic Director and senior managers (Marketing, Operations, Education & Development and CAT) received leadership training and individual mentoring with an external consultant from Rhythmic Remedies. Anand Bhatt Artistic Director & CEO of Dance City gave his time in-kind to give the Charities Artistic Director some advice regarding fund raising in dance. The Artistic Director attended three online fundraising sessions led by Charity Excellence and a training in fund raising for Directors and CEOs led by Arts Fundraising and Philanthropy, which included an extra mentoring session.

Safeguarding and safer recruitment training was refreshed and completed for senior managers with the Heads of Education & Development and the CAT taking on roles as safeguarding leads/deputies and allegations leads/deputies. A review of the team structure led to changes in staff roles from within the Charity and new staff joining the team. Vicki Plomer an independent trainer and Counsellor led Attachment Play training for teaching, class support and activity delivery staff. This was also offered to the Charities regular freelance tutors.

The new marketing team continued to work on initial teething challenges it faced with a team experiencing its first senior strategic marketing manager for over 20-years. The marketing team started to work on the Charities branding, corporate image and data collection and analysis to aid decision making and reconnect with its customers.

The Board of Trustees. The Charity recruited three new Board members, one being a young dance professional, with a further fourth member joining in 2024-25. This will take the number of Trustees to 8 voting members and 1 non-voting member. The Chair of the Board confirmed he will be stepping down instigating his final year in the role at the November AGM. New sub-groups relevant to the Charities needs will be introduced in 2024-25. These will include, HR and finance (a continuing sub-group), Capital Investment Project, fund raising, data analysis, and a review of the future development of the Charities international street dance festival 'The Jam Festival and West Country Clash'. The Board is very active and contributing their skills, knowledge, and experiences to the work of The Charity, with the Chair of the Board meeting regularly each month with the Charities Artistic Director to give support, problem solve and brainstorm new ideas. The new trustees have yet to complete the Level1 Child Protection online training and Charity Finance training. An up-to-date skills audit has been completed.

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The building

The Charities Facilities Coordinator sourced spare paint from SBC and painted some of the public areas introducing colour to the walls, which greatly improved the feel and look of the building resulting in many positive comments from staff and users. A wonderful result at no cost to the Charity and using unwanted paint that would have otherwise been disposed of. Various office equipment was donated by the National Trust to the Charity rather than disposing of these. Included 10 office chairs, computer monitor stands, footrests and 2 heavy duty low cabinets.

The Charity was successful in an application to ACE for £100,000 capital funding to improve its internal facilities for all users and staff. This will include new changing rooms and accessible facilities, refurbished stairways, studios, and offices giving users and staff a more comfortable and environmentally sustainable space. Improving facilities by installing secondary double glazing in the large dance studio and two open plan offices along with replacing the carpets in these two offices will give the Charity an opportunity to improve its environmental impact, through more efficient heating retention leading to a reduction in its use of fossil fuels. The Charity will further improve its impact on the environment by working with environmentally responsible/greener companies that demonstrate they are working to improve their environmental impact in their processes, the materials they use, manufacturing, and disposal processes. The use of a water fountain for its users and staff will help to reduce the use of single use plastic bottles in the building. Recycle bins have been provided throughout the building for those bottles that are used. The Water fountain will be sourced from an environmentally aware company. The team continued to follow its environmental sustainability policy making internal improvements where possible. It has increased its recycling by 50% and reduced its use of paper and print by 90%. The Charity completed its first paperless audit in 2023 and followed this with a clearing out of old stored papers recovering a large supply of office folders, plastic storage folders, card, and other office stationery for reuse. Past out-of-date papers were sent for shredding and recycling. The clearing out of old stored papers gave the Charity back usable space for the physiotherapist and costume storage.

Report of the Trustees
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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Financial overview. Finances continue to be extremely tight. There was no frivolous spending, the whole team is very aware of the situation and worked hard to keep costs down, achieve targets, and improve income. The current UK economic forecast and political uncertainty has had a huge impact on many major industries across the country including dance and the arts. This can be seen in the continuing low consumer spending. With the increase in interest rates impacting peoples' mortgages, along with increases to water rates, news regarding local councils fears over possible bankruptcies and the announcement that the UK economy did not show any growth throughout July and September - it is understandably looking bleak financially for many UK dance organisations, including Swindon Dance for the remainder of 2024. Falling donations, increased demand and rising operational costs are putting serious financial pressure on the charity. In addition, obtaining funding from Trusts and Foundations continues to be a challenge with increased competition for grants. Various planned partner projects were not delivered due to funding issues or unsuccessful funding applications for the partnering organisations. The Charities senior team worked on funding applications and strategically to adapt and trial new ideas to increase earned income. This put huge pressure on this team, with feelings of exhaustion - that every time they managed to move forward artistically another 'curve ball' was thrown at them. The whole dance industry is feeling the same having been in recovery mode since the Pandemic. Many UK dance organisations found themselves consolidating and shrinking their programmes to focus on survival and their core activities, with the Charity doing the same, especially with the loss of funding for its Salto! Integrated Programme and the huge rise in costs in travel including flights, subsistence, accommodation, and increased artist fees for the Jam Festival & West Country Clash. The Charity focused on supporting these two activities as part of its core provision, along with streamlining its Commissions Programme with a new Professional Performance Programme. There were some positives with the Charities local summer school activities making a small profit (the first time since Covid) along with its 2-day Lifest event which attracted over 400 young people to Swindon for the weekend approximately a 40% increase from the previous year. The Charity also received a grant of £39,000 from the DfE for CAT outreach activities.

During the third quarter (Oct-Dec) the Charity was severely impacted by the rising utility costs, with a total cost of £21,471 for this quarter with gas charges accounting for over £10,000 of these costs and cleaning approximately £6,000. The Charity has made changes in both gas and cleaning provisions to reduce costs for 2024-25. A proposed increase of 12.5% to cleaning costs from 1st April would have seen the Charities yearly cleaning costs rise to £27,102pa. The Charity has since cancelled the cleaning contract to bring this in-house, which will reduce its cleaning costs by approximately 50-60%. The Charity has researched and changed gas suppliers from 1st March reducing its proposed costs from £30,267pa to £14,298pa.

Fund raising activities. Summer into autumn 2023 the Charity focused on fund raising for its Salto! Integrated programme following an unsuccessful application to BBC Children in Need the programmes current funders that will be ending. The Education & Development team was successful in raising the funds required for this programme to continue for another year whilst they focus on applying for 3-year funding. Fund raising activities raised, £2,000.00 from a local trust - The Jack Lane Charitable Trust to run professional company workshops for Salto! Working with such companies as Stop Gap and/or Anjali, £14,817.00 from the Wiltshire Community Foundation to run weekly classes over a 3-year period for its Salto! Juniors, Youth & Steps2 programme, and £1,432.00 was raised by Salto! parents who organised a Bingo and raffle event. Further activities raised, £83.03 from a cake sale and individual donations for Swindon Youth Dance Company, £250 from Hills Charitable Giving to cover the cost of a tutor for its Swindon Careers respite classes for 1 year (applied for £3,378.25), and £3,000 from Path 2 Paris / Wiltshire & Swindon Sports to deliver Breakin' sessions in local schools - a project linked to the Olympics. Further activities that will have a positive impact on its finances include, £100,000 from the ACE Capital Investment Programme (previously mentioned), The CAT successfully gained funding of £39,000 for outreach activities, the implementation of a second Street Dance Programme for the CAT to start September 2024 in Exeter, with the Pilot of a third CAT Contemporary Dance Programme based at Pavilion Dance Southwest in Bournemouth. The Charity is waiting on the outcome of an application to The Foyle Foundation for funding to run a professional performance project (see Artist Support section), plus focused individual giving campaigns for 2024-25 such as the introduction of a '100 club' giving the Charities local supporters and stakeholders the opportunity to give support in the form of a small monthly donation and the chance to win £100 per month. This will target local supporters, staff, freelance practitioners and guests, customers, Board members and other stakeholders and supporters.

Reserves policy

The Trustees continue to follow the previously agreed reserves policy to retain unrestricted reserves to three months of support costs in line with good practice and following the requirements of the Charities Commission.

Total reserves

Reserves held at 31st March 2024 amounted to £262,156. Restricted funds total £166,392. Fixed assets total £30,486. The reserves after restricted funds and fixed assets are £65,278.

Reserves held are below that required per the reserves policy. The Charities ability to earn unrestricted income has been severely impacted by the UK economic situation and the Cost-of-Living crisis/recession remaining in recovery mode for yet another year. This pro-longed economic situation has led to reduced consumer spending, individual giving to charities and higher competition for pots of funding which has led to the Charity having to rely on its free reserves to survive.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going concern

The biggest ongoing concern for The Charity is the UK economic situation and political uncertainty with the forthcoming election. Although the Government has announced that the country is no longer in recession, with the economy growing by 0.6% in the early part of 2024 prices remain high and if they continue at this level for a pro-longed time, without Government support The Charities finances will be under extreme pressure. The cost of running a grade listed heritage building is extremely high with escalating utility costs that reached £27,500 for the autumn 2023 quarter impacting the Charities unrestricted income. Alongside this, is the impact the continuing cost-of-living crisis and recession is having on the local community with less consumer spending. Individual giving to Charities is at its lowest, with even the Charities most loyal customers reducing their spending as they focus on surviving the rising costs in household bills further reducing the Charities income earning potential. Another concern is the increased competition for diminishing funding opportunities as funding avenues such as Trusts and Foundations continue to reduce their available funds or closing altogether. The summer is a very quiet period for the Charity with less ability to earn income, and with the benefits of various new initiatives not coming to fruition until September, high levels of pressure to secure funds, the uncertainty over rising costs and the political situation it will be a very volatile time.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

FUTURE PLANS

With Government predicting a change in the recession during the latter half of 2024-25 it is a case of waiting for the country to start its recovery. Until then it is looking to be another hard year financially. We will be focusing on fundraising, increasing income, and bringing our expenditure down to regain and maintain a good level of financial stability. We have reassessed our utility costs, reviewed our financial needs alongside our activities to enable us to focus on what we can realistically achieve in 2024-25. The Capital Investment project will bring our facilities up-to date making it a more inviting place to visit whilst helping to reduce heating costs. If successful with an application to The Foyle Foundation for a professional performance project, fund raising for our Salto! Integrated Programme and for new equipment in preparation for upgrade required by Oct 2025 when windows10 ends, will all help take the pressure of our unrestricted funds whilst improving facilities, resources and support professional artists and their work. We have streamlined our activities focusing on ten main areas of activity and/or events. These include,

1. Continued development and provision of our **Talent Development Programme**, in developing autonomous creative artists and a progression route for young people aged 7-19. We aim to retain and improve cohort numbers and improve the diversity of participants and tutors on this programme and implement two new CAT programmes, a street dance programme in Exeter and a contemporary programme based at Pavilion Dance South West in Bournemouth, taking the CAT from 4 to 6 programmes.
2. continue to develop our **support programme for professional artists** focusing on young to mid-career artists and ensure several of our supported artists have a connect to the southwest.
3. Our artist support will include a partnership with Pavilion Dance South West to support a **Joint Southwest Associate Artist** through a shared nurturing of their artistic practise, support their career to the next level and retain their creative talent within the region. This will be a two-year support programme.
4. Grow our **DanceOut** programme with a focus on delivering more diverse and inclusive opportunities in our educational and community-based work. Work to develop current partnerships, re-engage with past and new groups to help reach a wider range of children, young people, and adults from different backgrounds.
5. Consolidate the growth of our **Salto! Integrated Programme** for children, young people, and adults with learning difficulties with the development of a Salto! Youth group for 16-18-year-olds, giving them more performance opportunities and securing funding 2025 plus for the programme.
6. Establish the global presence of our 5-day international street dance festival **The Jam Festival & West Country Clash** for 11 years plus, working with 'Your Next Move' and 'The Jam Movement!' with participants and practitioners from the UK, Europe, and USA. The festival is a safe environment of under 18s to learn about 'battling' and gain experience of the street dance industry, meet their mentors, make new friends and to bring a diverse audience from across the UK and internationally to Swindon supporting the local economy and town centre growth. There will be two new elements to the April 2024 festival; DCD (Dance Career Development for Hip Hop dancers) and the hosting of the Red Bull southwest regional finals of the Red Bull 'Dance your Style' global battle competition.
7. Continue to review and diversify our **Community Dance Programme** to ensure we are offering a more diverse and up-to-date range of classes, workshops, and activities.
8. Present our second **Reverse Pitch** event, targeting more young choreographers and young people and offer both a £2,000 commission, support and mentoring and a further contract for work with the young people. The young people will also receive a free ticket for themselves and a guest for the premiere of the finished piece. Steps2 will take part in the event as part of their training programme.
9. Continue to run our CAT outreach programme of outreach work across the southwest to reach young passionate and talented dancers, and target cohort for the two new programmes.
10. The culmination of our **Professional Performance Projects** through various performance events throughout 2024-25. Two projects have already completed, Vanhulle Dance Theatre completed their project with an outdoor performance to end our Family Fiesta April 2024, a day of free open workshops in a varied range of styles for a wide range of participants from different backgrounds. This event was a collaboration with the Swindon library using both buildings and the courtyard joining the buildings. Vanhulle Dance Theatre performed in the courtyard to an audience of 98, and Breakin' UK who performed their final piece with live music and the printed comic books as part of a pre-tour preview in our theatre.
A Professional Performance Project is planned for 2024-25. If successful in gaining funding this will include four events, 'Engage 2024' - a networking showcase for our supported artists to present work in progress to an invited audience of stakeholders, programmers, and producers. Two triple bills to showcase the work of those artists on the Commission and Professional Performance Programme, including the winner of the Reverse Pitch and culminating with a relaxed professional children's show December 2025.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

A **new website** will be launched at the end of the summer 2024 that will be more user friendly, self-administrating, with a new updated 'meet our artists' area that will be a networking platform for our supported artists to show films, trailers, work in progress, behind the scenes, blogs and links to artists websites, and social media channels.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Swindon Dance is a limited registered charity and a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 31st March 2005.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The charity and Board work to ensure all policies and procedures along with Staff Handbook are current with any national requirements or changes implemented. The Charity's Artistic Director worked closely with the Board of Trustees

Organisational structure

The trustees have overall control of the charity and are responsible for making sure it is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit. The Artistic Director is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the charity.

Induction and training of new trustees

All new trustees undergo an induction to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making process, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. They will also meet key employees and tour the building. Trustees are set up with a Swindon Dance email account and access to the secured Trustees iCloud system. Trustees undertake the Level1 Child Protection online training and Charity Finance training either face-to-face or live streamed.

Key management remuneration

A system of yearly pay increases with a minimum 1% increase per year (unless this will put the Charity at financial risk) has been implemented, effective from 1st April 2019. Due to the impact of the recession on the Charities financial position, only the required minimum wage adjustments including various adjustments for staff whose salaries would be greatly impacted by this were implemented from 1st April 2024 with a staff pay review in six months (October 2024) for staff who did not receive an increase in April.

Related parties

There are no related charities.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan; and
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05467343 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1111476

Registered office

The Town Hall Studios
Regent Circus
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN1 1QF

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trustees

R Jandy Chair
Mrs S M J H Kelly (resigned 7.9.23)
Mrs A Preece (resigned 7.9.23)
V Fung
R Chappell
R Bridger
C Thomas-Powell (appointed 10.4.24)
J Jefferies (appointed 14.12.23)
H Frances (appointed 7.12.23)
T Kewen (appointed 14.12.23)

Chief Executive Officer

V Slayford

Independent Examiner

James Gare DChA FCA
Monahans
Chartered Accountants
Hermes House
Fire Fly Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN2 2GA

Solicitors

Clark Holt
Hardwick House
Prospect Place
Swindon
SN1 3LJ

Bankers

Co-Operative Bank plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Approved by order of the board of trustees on Sep 19, 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


rob jandy (Sep 19, 2024 17:32 GMT+1)

.....
R Jandy - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Swindon Dance**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Swindon Dance ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's 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 member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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



James Gare DChA FCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Monahans
Chartered Accountants
Hermes House
Fire Fly Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire
SN2 2GA

Date: Oct 1, 2024

Swindon Dance

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	52,223	8,469	60,692	64,996
Charitable activities					
Revenue grants	5	209,994	-	209,994	209,994
Activities for young people		32,336	420,343	452,679	408,378
Community Dance		39,431	-	39,431	42,174
Artist professional development		-	-	-	5,500
Production and performances		19,074	-	19,074	12,661
Other trading activities	4	6,183	-	6,183	4,446
Other income	6	44,648	-	44,648	-
Total		403,889	428,812	832,701	748,149
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	7	-	-	-	2,400
Charitable activities					
Activities for young people	8	354,278	358,711	712,989	650,711
Community Dance		69,936	51	69,987	82,709
Artist professional development		29,856	22	29,878	37,312
Production and performances		67,852	50	67,902	84,497
Total		521,922	358,834	880,756	857,629
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(118,033)	69,978	(48,055)	(109,480)
Transfers between funds	20	86,841	(86,841)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(31,192)	(16,863)	(48,055)	(109,480)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		126,956	183,255	310,211	419,691
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		95,764	166,392	262,156	310,211

The notes form part of these financial statements

Swindon Dance (Registered number: 05467343)

Balance Sheet
31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	15	30,486	40,795
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	16	31,706	22,929
Cash at bank and in hand		237,021	329,991
		<u>268,727</u>	<u>352,920</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	17	(37,057)	(38,856)
		<u>231,670</u>	<u>314,064</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		262,156	354,859
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	18	-	(44,648)
		<u>262,156</u>	<u>310,211</u>
NET ASSETS			
		<u>262,156</u>	<u>310,211</u>
FUNDS	20		
Unrestricted funds		95,764	126,956
Restricted funds		166,392	183,255
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>262,156</u>	<u>310,211</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:



rob.jandy (Sep 19, 2024 17:32 GMT+1)

Sep 19, 2024

.....
R Jandy - Trustee



T.Kewen (Sep 30, 2024 20:33 GMT+1)

Sep 30, 2024

.....
T Kewen - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Swindon Dance

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	23	(92,376)	(151,971)
Interest paid		(570)	-
Finance costs paid		(24)	(98)
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(92,970)</u>	<u>(152,069)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>(92,970)</u>	<u>(152,069)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>329,991</u>	<u>482,060</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>237,021</u></u>	<u><u>329,991</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Swindon Dance is a company limited by guarantee, without share capital, registered in England and Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The charity's registration number and registered office address can be found in the trustees' report.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

Going concern

The charity made a loss of £31,912 on unrestricted funds for the year ended 31 March 2024. Free reserves have fallen to £65,278. The Charities ability to earn unrestricted income has been severely impacted by the UK economic situation and the Cost-of-Living crisis/recession remaining in recovery mode for yet another year. This pro-longed economic situation has led to reduced consumer spending, individual giving to charities and higher competition for pots of funding which has led to the Charity having to rely on its free reserves to survive. The trustees consider that there is no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

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

Income received in advance of a theatrical performance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Donated services and facilities

Donated services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Direct expenditure is allocated between charitable activities, fundraising and governance as appropriate. All support costs are allocated to charitable activities based on the percentage of direct costs incurred on those activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Theatre and studio equipment	- 20% on straight line basis and 10% on straight line basis
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on straight line basis
Computer equipment	- 20% on straight line basis

Fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost.

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

Creditors and provisions

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

Financial instruments

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Charity is a member of The Wiltshire Pension Fund. The Scheme is a multi-employer scheme. The scheme has previously been accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme on the grounds that trustees decided that it would be too expensive and of limited benefit to users of the financial statements to obtain the valuation of the Charity's share of the scheme. The trustees have therefore continued to account for the scheme on a defined contribution basis. However the Trustees negotiated a deal with Swindon Borough Council (SBC) whereby they guarantee any future shortfall in return for the Charity paying across a £36,607 pension deposit and £120,000 over a further 20 year period. Payments under this agreement started in year ended 31 March 2023. During the year ended 31 March 2024, the last member of the scheme left. The final cessation valuation resulted in a surplus credit on exit and so SBC has agreed to cancel the repayment agreement. Details relating to the Wiltshire Pension Fund are provided in the notes to the accounts.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	10,692	14,996
Donated services and facilities	50,000	50,000
	<u>60,692</u>	<u>64,996</u>

Donated services and facilities relates to the use of the property.

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Hire of premises	6,055	4,194
Miscellaneous income	128	252
	6,183	4,446

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants	209,994	209,994
Grants	279,716	281,200
Centre for Advanced Training fees	135,795	94,649
Productions and performances	-	7,634
Summer school	1,397	465
Youth groups	13,797	5,657
Outreach	21,974	18,773
Community classes	39,431	42,174
Diploma in dance pedagogy fees and bursaries	-	5,500
Productions and performances	19,074	12,661
	721,178	678,707

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Arts Council England (NPO funding)	209,994	209,994
Department for Education (Centre for Advanced Training)	279,716	281,200
	489,710	491,194

6. OTHER INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Release of pension liability	44,648	-
	44,648	-

The Charity was a member of The Wiltshire Pension Fund. The charity had negotiated with Swindon Borough Council (SBC) to pay £156,607 over the next 20 years in exchange for them taking over the liability. These payments were discounted to a liability of £88,308 to reflect the present value of these future cashflows using a 4.3% discount factor and repayments of some £48k had been made. During the year ended 31 March 2024, the last member of the scheme left. The final cessation valuation resulted in a surplus credit on exit and so SBC has agreed to cancel the repayment agreement. This has resulted in a release of £44,648 to the Statement of Financial Activities which is shown in Other Income.

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

7. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	2024	2023
	£	£
Consultancy	-	2,400
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 9)	Totals
	£	£	£
Activities for young people	470,443	242,546	712,989
Community Dance	42,155	27,832	69,987
Artist professional development	18,001	11,877	29,878
Production and performances	40,904	26,998	67,902
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>571,503</u>	<u>309,253</u>	<u>880,756</u>

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Staff costs	Premises	Office and administration	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£	£
Activities for young people	97,360	110,042	32,791	2,353	242,546
Community Dance	11,172	12,627	3,763	270	27,832
Artist professional development	4,767	5,388	1,607	115	11,877
Production and performances	10,837	12,248	3,651	262	26,998
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>124,136</u>	<u>140,305</u>	<u>41,812</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>309,253</u>

Activity	Basis of allocation
Staff costs	Percentage of direct costs
Premises	Percentage of direct costs
Office and administration	Percentage of direct costs
Human resources	Percentage of direct costs
Governance costs	Percentage of direct costs

10. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	10,309	13,560
Independent examination	3,000	3,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

11. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

12. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	323,710	305,231
Social security costs	15,318	15,412
Other pension costs	5,105	7,703
	<u>344,133</u>	<u>328,346</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Town Hall	6	6
Chief Executive	1	1
Education	3	3
Administration	1	1
Marketing	2	2
Centre for Advanced Training	8	6
Freelancers	2	2
	<u>23</u>	<u>21</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the Chief Executive Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £51,643 (2023: £51,379).

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	51,210	13,786	64,996
Charitable activities			
Revenue grants	209,994	-	209,994
Activities for young people	20,213	388,165	408,378
Community Dance	42,174	-	42,174
Artist professional development	5,500	-	5,500
Production and performances	12,661	-	12,661
Other trading activities	4,446	-	4,446
Total	<u>346,198</u>	<u>401,951</u>	<u>748,149</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	2,400	-	2,400
Charitable activities			
Activities for young people	316,189	334,522	650,711
Community Dance	81,063	1,646	82,709
Artist professional development	36,193	1,119	37,312
Production and performances	84,454	43	84,497
Total	<u>520,299</u>	<u>337,330</u>	<u>857,629</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(174,101)	64,621	(109,480)
Transfers between funds	<u>74,899</u>	<u>(74,899)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(99,202)	(10,278)	(109,480)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	226,158	193,533	419,691

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	126,956	183,255	310,211

14. GOVERNMENT GRANT INCOME

	2024 £	2023 £
Arts Council England	209,994	209,994
Department for Education	279,717	264,450

There were no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies attached to these grants. The charity has not directly benefited from any other forms of government assistance.

15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Theatre and studio equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	112,964	26,046	51,680	190,690
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2023	79,616	22,295	47,984	149,895
Charge for year	5,600	2,630	2,079	10,309
At 31 March 2024	85,216	24,925	50,063	160,204
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2024	27,748	1,121	1,617	30,486
At 31 March 2023	33,348	3,751	3,696	40,795

16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	23,799	3,600
Prepayments and accrued income	7,907	19,329
	31,706	22,929

Swindon Dance

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	12,952	14,979
Social security and other taxes	4,770	4,481
Other creditors	258	42
Pensions liability	-	6,000
Accruals and deferred income	19,077	13,354
	<u>37,057</u>	<u>38,856</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income is deferred income of £10,494 (2023: £11,227) which relates to income received in advance for courses, classes and performances held post year end.

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Pensions liability	-	44,648
	<u>-</u>	<u>44,648</u>

19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	30,486	-	30,486	40,795
Current assets	84,028	184,699	268,727	352,920
Current liabilities	(18,750)	(18,307)	(37,057)	(38,856)
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	(44,648)
	<u>95,764</u>	<u>166,392</u>	<u>262,156</u>	<u>310,211</u>

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	126,956	(118,033)	86,841	95,764
Restricted funds				
Centre for Advanced Training	170,124	67,908	(79,478)	158,554
PrimarySTEPS	3,061	4,635	(6,283)	1,413
Other restricted donations	1,377	(571)	-	806
Children in Need - Salto Juniors	6,798	(5,718)	(1,080)	-
Adult carers class	845	(845)	-	-
Salto - learning difficulties	-	3,574	-	3,574
Theatre Trust	1,050	(1,050)	-	-
Path to Paris	-	45	-	45
Jack Lane Charitable Trust	-	2,000	-	2,000
	<u>183,255</u>	<u>69,978</u>	<u>(86,841)</u>	<u>166,392</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>310,211</u>	<u>(48,055)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>262,156</u>

Swindon Dance

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	403,889	(521,922)	(118,033)
Restricted funds			
Centre for Advanced Training	378,225	(310,317)	67,908
PrimarySTEPS	4,832	(197)	4,635
Other restricted donations	-	(571)	(571)
Centre for Advanced Training - talent spotting, outreach and recruitment	37,286	(37,286)	-
Children in Need - Salto Juniors	-	(5,718)	(5,718)
Adult carers class	-	(845)	(845)
Salto - learning difficulties	4,939	(1,365)	3,574
Theatre Trust	-	(1,050)	(1,050)
Path to Paris	1,530	(1,485)	45
Jack Lane Charitable Trust	2,000	-	2,000
	<u>428,812</u>	<u>(358,834)</u>	<u>69,978</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>832,701</u></u>	<u><u>(880,756)</u></u>	<u><u>(48,055)</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	226,158	(174,101)	74,899	126,956
Restricted funds				
Centre for Advanced Training	176,613	61,038	(67,527)	170,124
PrimarySTEPS	5,205	2,506	(4,650)	3,061
Other restricted donations	1,377	-	-	1,377
Children in Need - Salto Juniors	6,969	2,143	(2,314)	6,798
Adult carers class	35	1,466	(656)	845
Salto - learning difficulties	651	(899)	248	-
Salto - adults	145	(145)	-	-
Theatre Trust	2,150	(1,100)	-	1,050
Digital platform	388	(388)	-	-
	<u>193,533</u>	<u>64,621</u>	<u>(74,899)</u>	<u>183,255</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>419,691</u></u>	<u><u>(109,480)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>310,211</u></u>

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	346,198	(520,299)	(174,101)
Restricted funds			
Centre for Advanced Training	350,788	(289,750)	61,038
PrimarySTEPS	4,682	(2,176)	2,506
Centre for Advanced Training - talent spotting, outreach and recruitment	32,695	(32,695)	-
Children in Need - Salto Juniors	10,250	(8,107)	2,143
Adult carers class	3,070	(1,604)	1,466
Salto - learning difficulties	466	(1,365)	(899)
Salto - adults	-	(145)	(145)
Theatre Trust	-	(1,100)	(1,100)
Digital platform	-	(388)	(388)
	<u>401,951</u>	<u>(337,330)</u>	<u>64,621</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>748,149</u></u>	<u><u>(857,629)</u></u>	<u><u>(109,480)</u></u>

Centre for Advanced Training: This offers advanced dance training for exceptionally talented young dancers. The fund includes amounts received from the Department for Education and South Glos College.

PrimarySTEPS: Funding received from the Royal Ballet School to deliver the Primary STEPs programme which sends accredited ballet teachers into schools.

Centre for Advanced Training - Talent spotting, outreach and recruitment: funds received from The Department for Education to raise awareness of the Centre for Advanced Training scheme, whilst seeking out young performers with exceptional talent and potential.

Children in need - Salto Juniors: Funding to deliver dance lessons for children and young people with learning disabilities which will increase self-esteem, social skills and physical mobility.

Other restricted donations: Swindon Dance received the donations for various purposes.

Adult carers class - donation towards weekly dance classes for carers in Swindon

Salto - learning difficulties - donation towards the Salto dance group. In 2024 this includes Wiltshire Community Foundation 3 year grant running from January 2024- December 2026. This will cover the core delivery cost of 30-weeks of classes per year for our inclusive classes, Salto! Juniors (7-11yrs) and Salto! Youth (12-18yrs). It will also help us launch Salto! Steps (15-21yrs) a provision for young people to access higher dance training and focus on creativity and performance. After the launch in Sep -Dec 24, the grant will help cover 30 weeks of classes per year for 2025-2026.

Salto - adults - donation to support Salto 16+ Disability Dance group to pay for a live musician during their class and for the opportunities got them to watch a dance performance in a safe and relaxed environment.

Theatre Trust - funding towards the reopening costs

Jack Lane Charitable Trust - grant received to deliver professional workshops to Salto! Juniors and Salto! Youth.

Path to Paris - This is a grant given to Swindon Dance from Wiltshire & Swindon Sport from the national Path to Paris initiative. Path to Paris awarded Wiltshire & Swindon Sport a grant, to work with organisations within Swindon to deliver sessions to raise awareness of Olympic sports ahead of the Paris games in July/August 2024.

Material transfers between funds

The following transfers between funds have been made in the year in respect of the management charge and space hire allowances built into the income received;

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

20. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Material transfers between funds - continued

Transfer from	Transfer to	£
Management charge		
Restricted fund - Centre for Advanced Training	General fund	39,345
Space Hire		
Restricted fund - Centre for Advanced Training	General fund	34,839
Restricted fund - Children in Need Salto Juniors	General fund	1,080
Restricted fund - PrimarySTEPS	General fund	6,283

21. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The Charity was a member of The Wiltshire Pension Fund. The Scheme is a multi-employer scheme. The last employee left the scheme in the year ended 31 March 2024.

Although the charity has not included the liability and disclosures necessary to account for the defined benefit pension scheme under the normal reporting standards, it had negotiated with Swindon Borough Council (SBC) to pay £156,607 over the next 20 years in exchange for them taking over the liability.

These payments were discounted to a liability of £88,308 to reflect the present value of these future cashflows using a 4.3% discount factor. During the year ended 31 March 2024, the last member of the scheme left. The final cessation valuation resulted in a surplus credit on exit and so SBC has agreed to cancel the repayment agreement. This has resulted in a release of £44,648 to the Statement of Financial Activities.

The charity also makes payments to NEST, a defined contribution scheme. The costs for the period was £5,105 (2023: £50,85). At 31 March 2024 outstanding contributions were £Nil (2023 £Nil).

22. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Trustee, H Frances, was paid £1,208 (2023: £Nil) during the year for providing services as a freelance dance teacher. This payment does not relate to services as a trustee.

The Trustee, R Chappell, was paid £Nil (2023: £1,500) during the year for providing services as Associate Artist. This payment does not relate to services as a trustee.

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

23. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(48,055)	(109,480)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	10,309	13,560
Interest paid	570	-
Finance costs	24	98
Increase in debtors	(8,777)	(2,311)
Decrease in creditors	(46,447)	(53,838)
Net cash used in operations	<u>(92,376)</u>	<u>(151,971)</u>

24. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	329,991	(92,970)	237,021
	<u>329,991</u>	<u>(92,970)</u>	<u>237,021</u>
Total	329,991	(92,970)	237,021

Swindon Dance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

24. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS - continued

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