

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1145168

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2023
for
ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION**

Knox Cropper LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
153 -155 London Road
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP3 9SQ

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

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for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

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ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2023. 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 Union's objects are the advancement of education of students at the Royal College of Art for the public benefit by promoting the interests and welfare of students at the Royal College of Art during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising students; being the recognised representative channel between students and the Royal College of Art and any other external bodies; and providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its students.

Public benefit

Statement of Public Benefit

Promoting the interests and welfare of Students at the Royal College of Art during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

1 Introduction

This document highlights the RCA SU's activities, achievements, and challenges throughout the year, emphasising its commitment to representing and supporting the student community. The report details progress made in enhancing student representation, improving the student experience, and fostering an inclusive environment. The RCA SU expresses gratitude to the student body for their active participation and collaboration with staff and the RCA community, aiming to build a stronger, more inclusive Royal College of Art.

2 Strategic Plan

The RCA SU Strategic Plan (2022-2027) is a roadmap to enhance the student experience and foster inclusivity. In 2022/2023, we achieved good progress in line with the plan with the vast majority of commitments having at least some or good progress made against them.

3 Representing our members

The Strategic Plan aimed for over 80% attendance at student assemblies, but only achieved this in Term 1, though there is no data from the previous year for comparison.

Based on our experiences, we have proposed changes for the next year, including an increase in program reps from 1 to 2 and the reintroduction of School Representatives. We plan to continue to review representation within the Union, and we are working with the College to make it more effective following their internal audit. Their audit made several recommendations which we plan to explore regarding the representative system.

4 ArtBar & Physical Space

The ArtBar underwent extensive refurbishment and reopened in February 2023, with investment from the College and the SU. The ArtBar offers a versatile space for students to host their events and celebrations. Student led events such as exhibitions, and ArtBar ran events such as CocktailMania and the Quiz. Students can work part-time as bartenders and are paid the London Living Wage, rather than the lower Minimum Wage, and this was one of our objectives from previous years.

5 Events, Marketing & Student Societies

We ran numerous flagship events across the year, including Welcome Week, the Christmas Fete and the Summer Ball. In addition, there were activities and events throughout LGBTQ+ History Month, Disability History Month and Sustainability Week. These events were promoted through the SU newsletter, social media channels and website. We had 20 affiliated societies, with a number of core societies including the QUEER Society, Feminist Society, Neurodiversity Society and Working Class Collective.

6 Opening Hours and Space Allocation

Many students requested extended access to studios and opening hours of campuses, especially those managing part-time jobs and caregiving. They believed more studio time would enhance their work and academic success.

In response to student feedback on workshop booking challenges, the RCASU advocated for better access and extended opening hours. In June, select technical areas were accessible in the evenings for four weeks, providing more opportunities for creative practices. MA2 students enjoyed this benefit until June's end. Additional workshop availability was provided during the Easter period, supporting students' creative projects. By collaborating with relevant departments, the RCASU successfully lobbied for improved access and extended opening hours, supporting students' artistic endeavours. There is still further work to be done to improve workshop availability.

The Union also worked with student reps to have the College provide a dedicated baseroom for Humanities programmes. A complaint was submitted by the programme reps and the College agreed to setting up a Humanities baseroom for 2023/24.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

7 Non-Academic Shows

Between March and June 2023 the Students' Union supported four trial Non-Academic Shows, after working extensively with the college to create an MOU that would enable these shows to go ahead. The shows brought little-used college spaces to life, and offered extracurricular curatorial and/or exhibition opportunities to 50 students across the college, a number that will grow in the '23/24 cycle. Students from all four schools took part, across 15 programmes. These shows were incredibly well received by staff, students and visitors alike. Between all four shows, we estimate that we had nearly a thousand visitors in total. We are committed to taking these forward in the next academic year.

8 Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

We made progress in transforming the Union into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with plans to finalise this before the end of the calendar year 2023. As part of this transition we took the opportunity to update the Bye Laws and Constitution, with the College supporting us fully in this change. In order to ensure a robust and good governance, we have been working with Bates Wells and an external consultant to progress the CIO change, with the current transition date set for 1st December 2023. We also sought advice from Knox Cropper and engaged with our members.

9 Convocation

Across the year students expressed strong interest in the location of the Convocation Ceremony. Traditionally held at the Royal Albert Hall, a petition was started by RCA students to bring it back there, instead of the Royal Festival Hall where it was held. The petition received significant support, highlighting the venue's importance and its role as a symbol of pride and tradition for the graduating students. The desire to reinstate the Convocation Ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall is a testament to its significance as a symbol of pride, tradition, and accomplishment for RCA students. We value the input and feedback of our students, and we are committed to creating a meaningful and memorable graduation experience for all.

10 Engaging with Students

The Union ran a number of surveys, including the AcrossRCA survey, which was highly engaged which aimed to highlight positive aspects and areas for improvement to better meet student needs. An online survey and feedback collection through surveys and meetings with Student Representatives provided valuable insights, with a 650% increase on our normal survey response rate.

Key findings revealed a majority of students were dissatisfied with AcrossRCA in a number of areas, with notable differences between the School of Art and Humanities and other schools. Lack of motivation and unclear objectives were identified as challenges. The report was presented to the Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee, and actions will be taken based on the feedback. As we embark on the next academic year, we are confident that the actions taken based on our report will result in meaningful improvements in the Across RCA module and enhance the overall student experience at the RCA. We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the growth and development of the institution and look forward to seeing the positive impact of our collective efforts.

11 Communications

We successfully rebranded the Union, issuing brand guidelines and a new logo, and launched a new and more accessible website. This has been a key part of improving our online presence and visibility to our members.

We have also started work on a Communications Strategy, employing an external expert to help guide us in our comms work. Striving for greater accessibility, our platforms now implement alt text on images for anyone using a screen-reader. We are looking forward to continual progress engaging with our members via our improved communication channels.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Union reported an overall loss of £25k. Income increased overall by £168k from £321k in 2022 to £489k in 2023. There is 50k of restricted income this year which relates to a student hardship fund. These funds were almost entirely matched by corresponding expenditure.

Overall expenditure increased by £182k from £331k in 2022 to £513k in 2023, partly due to the expenditure of the student hardship fund and partly due to expenditure on the Artbar which opened in the year. Net assets decreased from £329k to £304k.

The budget for 2023 - 24 aims to increase the amounts available to spend on internal projects, while maintaining a realistic level of reserves.

Investment policy and objectives

The Charity's policy is to invest all cash balances in excess of day-to-day requirements in interest bearing bank accounts.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a reserves policy. It is the intention to maintain the reserves to fund at least six-months operational expenditure in a normal operational year. The Trustees are currently reviewing the reserves policy.

FUTURE PLANS

We continue to develop our events programme, utilising the ArtBar and Students' Union spaces. We plan to continue further events across all of the campuses in 2024.

RCASU is continuing to work closely with the RCA to help distribute funds across the student community, including the Cost of Living Fund, Student Community Fund and the Student Community Liberation Fund.

The Union continues to develop and review its policies and procedures, with updates across 2022/23, and further plans for 2023/24, including the updating of the Employee Handbook.

RCASU continues to work closely with the Head of Student Experience and the Student Centre to ensure that all students receive the best possible educational experience. Student Experience and RCASU are working together to ensure that representative systems and feedback systems are effective and involve the Schools more closely.

RCASU and the Sabbatical Officers continue to be active across numerous Committees of the RCA, and we will continue to strive for the best student experience for our members. We are aiming to be invited to additional committees across 2023/24.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Union is an unincorporated charity controlled by its governing document, the Constitution and registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission, number 1145168. We plan to review and update the Constitution in 2023. The SU plans to transition to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in December 2023. CIO status will give greater protection to trustees, including Student Trustees the President and Vice-President and enable the SU to update its current constitution to reflect best practice in SUs, following the advice of the NUS and ensuring that students have the final say in running the SU.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The RCASU was registered with the Charity Commission in December 2011 and continues to operate as a full charity. The Charity Board of Trustees have met regularly throughout the year, considering matters such as staffing, RCASU's statutory obligations and trustee recruitment. Trustees are elected to their positions in accordance with the Constitution and include the salaried President & Vice-President of the Union.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1145168

Principal address

Jay Mews
Kensington Gore
London
SW7 2EU

Trustees

President - Kimberley Marie Burrows - 01 August 2023
Vice President - Thomas Carvalho Cury - 01 August 2023
President - Adriana Maria Scalisi - 01 August 2022 - 31 July 2023
Vice President - Mary Pedicini - 01 August 2022 - 31 July 2023

Student Trustee - Faith Johnson - 11 November 2020
Student Trustee - Makiko Harris - 09 March 2022 - 24 March 2023
Student Trustee - Joshua Adkins - 09 March 2022 - 14 August 2023
Student Trustee - Abir Sheikh - 28 March 2023 - 12 June 2023

External Trustee - Jane Crumpton - Taylor (Chair to 30 November 2022) - 13 November 2017
External Trustee - Frank Brown - 10 February 2021
External Trustee - Jacqui Moore - (Chair from 1 December 2022) - 10 February 2021
External Trustee - Ed Pearson - 17 May 2023

Director

Ryan Lea

Auditors

Knox Cropper LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
153 -155 London Road
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP3 9SQ

Bankers

HSBC Bank PLC
92 Kensington High Strett
London
W8 4SA

EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

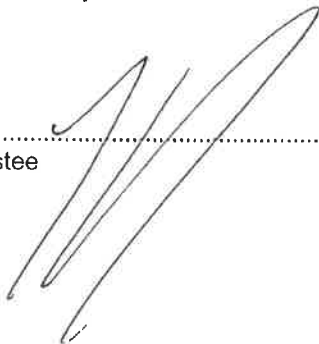
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The accounts have been prepared to give a 'true and fair view' and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16th July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1st April 2015 which has since been withdrawn.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Trustee



**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of
Royal College of Art Students' Union**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Royal College of Art Students' Union (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 July 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 July 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of Royal College of Art Students' Union

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- The Charity is required to comply with charity law and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the charity complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to properly account for restricted funds, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures and controls.
- The audit team, which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the charity's susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all restricted income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to restricted funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of
Royal College of Art Students' Union**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Knox Cropper LLP

Knox Cropper LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
153 -155 London Road
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP3 9SQ

Date: *14/12/2023*

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Income - grant from Royal College of Art	2	355,805	50,529	406,334	311,620
Charitable activities					
Art Bar	5	67,764	-	67,764	-
Social Events		12,773	-	12,773	8,561
Clubs and Societies		601	-	601	-
Other trading activities	3	209	-	209	314
Bank interest	4	731	-	731	25
Other income	6	308	-	308	-
Total		438,191	50,529	488,720	320,520
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Art Bar	7	97,177	-	97,177	3,486
Social Events		61,391	-	61,391	38,670
Clubs and Societies		2,810	-	2,810	1,245
Student Welfare		305,382	46,700	352,082	287,991
Total		466,760	46,700	513,460	331,392
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(28,569)	3,829	(24,740)	(10,872)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		328,914	-	328,914	339,786
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		300,345	3,829	304,174	328,914

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All of the funds of the charity are unrestricted funds.

The notes form part of these financial statements

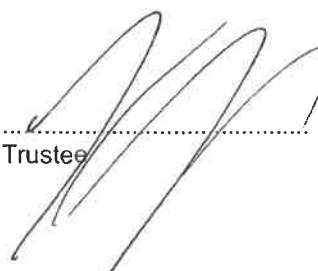
ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

Balance Sheet
31 July 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	8,267	-	8,267	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	14	6,676	-	6,676	714
Debtors	15	9,327	-	9,327	5,318
Cash at bank and in hand		308,741	3,829	312,570	348,777
		<u>324,744</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>328,573</u>	<u>354,809</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	(32,666)	-	(32,666)	(25,895)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>292,078</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>295,907</u>	<u>328,914</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>300,345</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>304,174</u>	<u>328,914</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>300,345</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>304,174</u>	<u>328,914</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds:	17				
General fund				289,438	315,758
Societies fund				10,907	13,156
				<u>300,345</u>	<u>328,914</u>
Restricted funds				<u>3,829</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>304,174</u>	<u>328,914</u>

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

.....
Trustee



The notes form part of these financial statements

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>(27,062)</u>	<u>35,905</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(27,062)</u>	<u>35,905</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(9,876)</u>	<u>-</u>
Interest received		<u>731</u>	<u>25</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(9,145)</u>	<u>25</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		<u>(36,207)</u>	<u>35,930</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>348,777</u>	<u>312,847</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>312,570</u>	<u>348,777</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(24,740)	(10,872)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,609	-
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	1,149
Interest received	(731)	(25)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(5,962)	75
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(4,009)	30,504
Increase in creditors	6,771	15,074
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(27,062)</u>	<u>35,905</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.8.22	Cash flow	At 31.7.23
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>348,777</u>	<u>(36,207)</u>	<u>312,570</u>
	<u>348,777</u>	<u>(36,207)</u>	<u>312,570</u>
Total	<u>348,777</u>	<u>(36,207)</u>	<u>312,570</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared to give a 'true and fair view' and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16th July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1st April 2015 which has since been withdrawn.

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.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Plant and machinery	- 33% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

The Charity's policy is to capitalise any expenditure on Facility Improvements, New Equipment, Refurbishment, or Purchases (not for resale) over £2000; and for these items to be depreciated over fixed terms as defined by approved accountancy procedures.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme, a group personal pension plan managed by Legal and General. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements

2. INCOME - GRANT FROM ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART

	2023	2022
	£	£
College grant	<u>406,334</u>	<u>311,620</u>

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
NUS extra	<u>209</u>	<u>314</u>

4. BANK INTEREST

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>731</u>	<u>25</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2023	2022
	Activity	£	£
Art Bar sales	Art Bar	67,764	-
Events hosted	Social Events	2,506	-
Convocation ball, fairs & fête	Social Events	10,267	8,561
Society & clubs income	Clubs and Societies	601	-
		<u>81,138</u>	<u>8,561</u>

6. OTHER INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Marketing income	308	-
	<u>308</u>	<u>-</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£
Art Bar	97,177	-	97,177
Social Events	61,391	-	61,391
Clubs and Societies	2,783	27	2,810
Student Welfare	52,564	299,518	352,082
	<u>213,915</u>	<u>299,545</u>	<u>513,460</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Clubs and Societies	23	-	4	27
Student Welfare	250,993	3,743	44,782	299,518
	<u>251,016</u>	<u>3,743</u>	<u>44,786</u>	<u>299,545</u>

Activity	Basis of allocation
Management	Estimate of time spent
Finance	Estimate of time spent
Governance costs	Estimate of time spent

Management includes Co-Presidents.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	4,450	4,506
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	3,978	6,864
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The constitution empowers the Union to pay the Co-Presidents who are also trustees. The following trustees were remunerated in the year ended 31 July 2023:

	Salary	Employers Pension	Employers NIC	Total
M Pedicini	£25,027	£92	£2,251	£27,370
A Scalisi	£25,314	£92	£2,290	£27,696

Trustees' expenses

Two trustees received travel expenses totalling £55 and other expenses connected with the performance of their duties totalling £47 for the year ended 31 July 2023.

11. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	243,282	209,395
Social security costs	18,088	15,526
Other pension costs	2,530	3,887
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>263,900</u>	<u>228,808</u>

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

	2023	2022
ArtBar	3	-
Sabbatical Officers	2	2
Admin/Finance	3	3
Diversity	1	1
Events	2	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>

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

The key management personnel of the charity during the year ended 31 July 2023 consisted of the Director. The total amount paid, including Employers National Insurance and Pension, to the Key Management Personnel for the year ended 31 July 2023 was £42,460.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

12. COMPARATIVES (PRIOR YEAR) FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Income - grant from Royal College of Art	311,620	-	311,620
Charitable activities			
Social Events	8,561	-	8,561
Other trading activities	314	-	314
Bank interest	25	-	25
Total	<u>320,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>320,520</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Art Bar	3,486	-	3,486
Social Events	38,670	-	38,670
Clubs and Societies	1,245	-	1,245
Student Welfare	287,991	-	287,991
Total	<u>331,392</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>331,392</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(10,872)	-	(10,872)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	339,786	-	339,786
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>328,914</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>328,914</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Plant and machinery £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 August 2022	-	5,344	5,344
Additions	9,876	-	9,876
Disposals	-	(2,061)	(2,061)
At 31 July 2023	<u>9,876</u>	<u>3,283</u>	<u>13,159</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 August 2022	-	5,344	5,344
Charge for year	1,609	-	1,609
Eliminated on disposal	-	(2,061)	(2,061)
At 31 July 2023	<u>1,609</u>	<u>3,283</u>	<u>4,892</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 July 2023	<u>8,267</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,267</u>
At 31 July 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

14. STOCKS

	2023 £	2022 £
Bar stocks	<u>6,676</u>	<u>714</u>

15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	3,374	187
Prepayments and accrued income	5,953	5,131
	<u>9,327</u>	<u>5,318</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	12,148	148
Taxation and social security	9,882	13,348
Other creditors	10,636	12,399
	<u>32,666</u>	<u>25,895</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.8.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.7.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	315,758	(26,320)	289,438
Societies fund	13,156	(2,249)	10,907
	<u>328,914</u>	<u>(28,569)</u>	<u>300,345</u>
Restricted funds			
Student cost of living fund	-	3,679	3,679
Student community fund	-	150	150
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>3,829</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>328,914</u>	<u>(24,740)</u>	<u>304,174</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	437,590	(463,910)	(26,320)
Societies fund	601	(2,850)	(2,249)
	<u>438,191</u>	<u>(466,760)</u>	<u>(28,569)</u>
Restricted funds			
Student cost of living fund	50,230	(46,551)	3,679
Student community fund	299	(149)	150
	<u>50,529</u>	<u>(46,700)</u>	<u>3,829</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>488,720</u>	<u>(513,460)</u>	<u>(24,740)</u>

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.8.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.7.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	329,094	(9,586)	(3,750)	315,758
Societies fund	10,692	(1,286)	3,750	13,156
	<u>339,786</u>	<u>(10,872)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>328,914</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>339,786</u>	<u>(10,872)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>328,914</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	320,520	(330,106)	(9,586)
Societies fund	-	(1,286)	(1,286)
	<u>320,520</u>	<u>(331,392)</u>	<u>(10,872)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>320,520</u>	<u>(331,392)</u>	<u>(10,872)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.8.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.7.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	329,094	(35,906)	(3,750)	289,438
Societies fund	10,692	(3,535)	3,750	10,907
	<u>339,786</u>	<u>(39,441)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,345</u>
Restricted funds				
Student cost of living fund	-	3,679	-	3,679
Student community fund	-	150	-	150
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,829</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>339,786</u>	<u>(35,612)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>304,174</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	758,110	(794,016)	(35,906)
Societies fund	601	(4,136)	(3,535)
	<u>758,711</u>	<u>(798,152)</u>	<u>(39,441)</u>
Restricted funds			
Student cost of living fund	50,230	(46,551)	3,679
Student community fund	299	(149)	150
	<u>50,529</u>	<u>(46,700)</u>	<u>3,829</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>809,240</u>	<u>(844,852)</u>	<u>(35,612)</u>

Societies fund

Is a designated fund set aside that can be used by the Clubs and Societies if they wish.

Student cost of living fund

A restricted fund to support students experiencing unanticipated and significant financial difficulties with essential living costs through a grocery voucher scheme.

Student community fund

A restricted fund to enable group connection-making through an offer of funding food and drink for student group meet-ups.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Other than as disclosed in note 10 there were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2023 nor for the year ended 31 July 2022.

19. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

On 01 December 2023 the assets, liabilities, reserves and operations of the Charity (Unincorporated Charity, charity registration number: 1145168) were transferred to Royal College of Art Student's Union (Charitable Incorporated Organisation, charity registration number: 1204514). Under FRS 102, when a charity changes its legal form but its purposes and beneficiary class remain the same, merger accounting should be used.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Income - grant from Royal College of Art		
College grant	406,334	311,620
Other trading activities		
NUS extra	209	314
Bank interest		
Deposit account interest	731	25
Charitable activities		
Art Bar sales	67,764	-
Events hosted	2,506	-
Convocation ball, fairs & fête	10,267	8,561
Society & clubs income	601	-
	<u>81,138</u>	<u>8,561</u>
Other income		
Marketing income	308	-
Total incoming resources	<u>488,720</u>	<u>320,520</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	74,390	26,732
Social security	6,569	2,568
Pensions	606	487
Art Bar purchases	25,394	387
Stock take fees	620	200
Cleaning	549	-
Officers' projects costs	5,152	3,714
Artbar equipment servicing	22,173	-
Performing rights society	4,513	1,750
Artbar events security	1,965	-
Freshers	3,165	1,571
Party decorations	2,893	444
Convocation ball, fête & fair	5,319	3,154
Art events	739	-
Societies & clubs expenditure	2,783	1,220
Student welfare	52,564	9,281
Hosted events	2,912	-
Depreciation of plant & machinery	1,609	-
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	-	1,149
	<u>213,915</u>	<u>52,657</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART STUDENTS' UNION

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
Support costs		
Management		
Wages - including Co-Presidents	168,892	182,663
Social security	11,519	12,958
Pensions	1,924	3,400
Insurance	8,731	8,325
Telephone	804	239
Office stationery post & print	964	586
Website costs	16,678	4,670
Sundries	-	23
Subscriptions	7,578	7,528
Hospitality	2,386	2,036
Travelling and subsistence	478	384
Recruitment costs	10,074	11,746
Staff training	4,774	6,331
Office machine maintenance	-	1,932
Computer software & IT support	3,192	2,750
Irrecoverable VAT	12,029	7,934
General communication & advert	993	-
	<u>251,016</u>	<u>253,505</u>
Finance		
Other operating leases	1,506	1,789
Bank charges	686	532
Events booking charges	1,551	1,056
	<u>3,743</u>	<u>3,377</u>
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	4,450	4,506
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	3,978	6,864
Student representative council	1,234	2,769
Legal and professional fees	35,124	7,714
	<u>44,786</u>	<u>21,853</u>
Total resources expended	<u>513,460</u>	<u>331,392</u>
Net expenditure	<u>(24,740)</u>	<u>(10,872)</u>

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