



Annual Report 2022-2023

National Society for Education
in Art & Design

Introduction to the 2022-23 NSEAD Annual Report

This annual report follows the established practice of publishing documents for consideration at the forthcoming 135th Annual General Meeting of the National Society for Education in Art and Design. It covers our activity between October 2022 to September 2023. Our AGM was held last year via videoconference, and we will again hold our AGM online, on **6 June 2024**. All members are invited to attend. It is hoped that by circulating these reports to all members in advance, the meeting can proceed expeditiously with proper time for discussion and for officers of the Society to respond to considered questions.

The minutes of the previous AGM held on Saturday 20 May 2023 at 11am are available online at nsead.org. Further printed copies of the minutes are available on request.

The Presidents Report



I am deeply honoured to be the President of our society at this time in its history. The presidential handover experience from Liz Macfarlane in January 2023 felt momentous and important. I am very conscious that holding this position brings much responsibility and greater still, as its first Black president, visible manifestation of the society's commitment to social justice work at the heart of our vision for our subject.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion has been at the core of our work over a number of years which is now accelerated by the convergence of leadership and membership who are truly committed to this aspect of our identity, this being embedded in all of what we communicate and in what we do to support art education nationally.

As a person of colour, being able to bring one's whole self authentically to this work, representing the diverse demographics of society and our membership growing in its diversity is a feat that is during this challenging period of worsening teacher shortages, increased workload, teacher burnout and cost of living crisis, immense and significant.

We are all affected by who is seen in leadership, therefore we benefit from reflection around how we can each make a difference to the work of the society building on what has been achieved in the past by respected practitioners, and academics to enable change. I could not hold this Presidential position without the allyship and support of the Finance and General Purposes Executive Committee, Council, and many members.

My Presidential work has been full of rich conversation and engagements. An incredible amount of work has taken place during this period both internally and externally to ensure that we continue the phenomenal progress and impact stemming from the past five years. The foundational and strategic decision making of our exceptionally hardworking General Secretary Michele Gregson, and equally hardworking and deeply committed Deputy General Secretary Sophie Leach is to be commended. They have weathered the many storms of unprecedented demands, challenges and expectations and yet remain positive and committed to producing the highest quality of research work, training, substantive resources, publications, events, and support.

As always, given our identity as a subject association, trade union and learned society, we continue in our unique position to support members across a broad spectrum, with insight, knowledge and understanding, brought about by extensive outputs by our lean but expert team.

As many organisations continue to seek ways forward to address the challenges we face in art, craft, and design education, we as a community can draw hope from the will and intent to see the change that enables high quality creative education to take place at all levels. The extraordinary wide-ranging work that has been taking place to improve provision for all, from our deeply dedicated leadership is ongoing, strategic, and impactful.

As your President, I am immensely grateful to our Patrons, to you the membership, the work of our officers, and the entire NSEAD team at this time in our history. We have some incredibly exciting developments, opportunities, and events ahead of us.

Marlene Wylie, President of NSEAD 2023-2025

The General Secretary's Report



This annual report is a milestone for me personally, as it marks my five-year term of office as General Secretary. At the time of writing the call for election for the next five-year term has gone out, and I am hopeful that the membership will endorse my nomination for a second term. So much has been achieved – but there is so much still to do.

In 2022-23 has been a year of evolution for the Society. The first full year 'post-pandemic', and we have been moving at an accelerated pace, with many of our plans and long preparation really starting to blossom this year. The projects, partnerships, and resources that we have developed over the last five years are live, flourishing and starting to have impact.

January 2023 was a historic milestone, as we inaugurated our first Black President since our foundation, 135 years ago. As an outstanding art educator, Marlene Wylie has been a thought leader for our subject for many years, supporting better practice as an inspiring practitioner. Her Presidency is historic. As the first woman of colour to wear the Presidential chain of office, Marlene is leading the shift in our culture to an organisation that is truly committed to diversity in action, not just words.

We are delivering on our mission and achieving our strategic goals. Our publications, events programme and strong communications mean that our work is visible and making a difference across the wider education community. Behind the scenes, we are providing excellent support in the workplace to those members who find themselves in dispute and distress. We work for our members, and the subject so that the lives of learners across the UK can be enriched by the power of art, craft and design education. It has been an honour to lead the Society as we rise to our mission, however challenging the landscape we work in. Once again, we can be justly proud of the work that NSEAD has done this year.

Michele Gregson General Secretary of NSEAD

Activity of the Society

NSEAD Trade Union

After a restless summer with no sight of the pay review decision from the School Teachers Pay Review Body, we began the Autumn term with the very real prospect of industrial action ahead of us. The TUC convened a number of meetings of those trade unions representing staff working in state schools, and a number of joint representations were made to the Secretary of State for Education. Talks were held in an attempt to ensure that any action could be co-ordinated. NSEAD carried out an indicative ballot, contracting the independent balloter Engage UK to carry out an electronic survey of our members. We put a great deal of time and resource into ensuring that members were aware of the need to provide us with up-to-date information. In order to ballot members regarding action it is crucial that we have correct contact details, home address and the address of current employer. We employed Halls Associates to contact those members who had not provided full information and ran a concerted communications campaign to get the message through and encourage members to login to the new member portal to check and change their information if necessary.

An indicative ballot in October did not provide us with a mandate to move to a formal postal ballot, and so NSEAD did not take industrial action during this year. NSEAD has not had a mandate for action in its history, however there was strong emotion on all sides, with an important minority wishing to join strike action. The NSEAD officers and staff focused on supporting all members, and working together to show solidarity with colleagues from the NEU and UCU who were taking action.

As reported in the annual report last year, NSEAD is liable to pay the Certification Officer's levy for the basic, additional, and enhanced levy rates. For the period April 2022 to March 2023 NSEAD paid a total levy of £6527.57.

We continue to be affiliated with the TUC and have worked closely with our sister education unions to exchange information and ensure a united approach on matters of pay and conditions, as well as responses to legislation designed to inhibit the rights of our members to take action. In September 2023, the General Secretary and senior case worker Sean Taylor attended the TUC 2023 Congress in Liverpool, attending the General Secretaries dinner and other conference events.

Less visible and necessarily confidential is the work to support our members who find themselves in dispute and distress at work. We have seen an increasing number of calls for assistance. We continue to offer a personal level of support, advice and encouragement combined with the specialist knowledge that only NSEAD can provide. We take pride in providing prompt, end-to-end support at a personal level that distinguishes NSEAD from larger generalist trade unions.

Learned Society and Subject Association

NSEAD Partners and programmes

Patrons

Our patrons do great work supporting our work, spreading the word about the Society and championing our subject. In July 2022, President Elect Marlene Wylie met with NSEAD Patron Dame Magdalene Odundo in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge to discuss the importance of art education and gallery visits. A film documenting their conversation was shown at the iJADE conference in November this year, and was shared with the members of the art, craft and design education all party parliamentary group. This was a powerful piece of advocacy that celebrated our members, the importance of our subject, and the need for learners to engage with museums and galleries.

Partners

Our work with a wide range of partners is critical to our mission, and allows us to work with allies from a wide range of organisations across education and cultural sectors. During the year we built on well established relationships and nurtured new ones. Organisations and individuals that we worked with this year include: Art Bytes, the Council for Subject Alliance (with our General Secretary serving as on the board of Directors), CHEAD and the Higher Education art, craft and design subject associations within the Subject Alliance, The Crafts Council, CVAN, Design Council, Dot Arts, Edge Gain, Engage, EVEWRIGHT, Fitzwilliam Museum, the Herbert Gallery, the Horniman Museum, HMI and Ofsted, Junk Couture, Liverpool Hope University, National Gallery London, National Saturday Clubs, NATRE, Northern School of Art, Parentzone and Google partnership, Pearson, AQA and OCR awarding bodies, the Primary Umbrella Group, Royal Opera House, Sky Arts, the UAL and UAL Awarding Body, the University of Chester, The Whitworth, Manchester – and many others. These partnerships have enabled us to host events, develop resources and networks and promote rich knowledge exchange.

We are grateful to the Paul Hamlyn Foundation for their continued support for NSEAD, recognising our work as a Backbone Organisation. This funding allows us to develop partnerships and programmes through our Research, Resources, Training strategy. This year an uplift to support cost-of-living increases was added, bringing welcome additional funds to support this work.

Conferences and events

After a long period of interruption to face to face events members gathered at the Whitworth Gallery in Manchester in January for our second seasonal social event – building on the success of our summer social in July 2022 at the National Gallery in London. The Whitworth also hosted our first in-person meeting of NSEAD Council since 2019. President Marlene Wylie was inaugurated and addressed the members attending the afternoon.

Other in person events included a partnership conference at the Northern School of Art supported by NEATEN. On 25 March the first artist-teacher in ACL conference took place online, hosted by Dr Abbie Cairns and in partnership with Norwich University of the Arts, establishing a space to bring together artist-teachers working in the sector to share good practices, research, ideas, and experiences.

Our 2022 iJADE conference remained online, taking place in March 2023 due to a number of factors. A very well received programme included keynote presentations from Helena Goode, Rose Sinclair, Belinda McGill, and Sonia Boue. Artist Liaqat Rasul led an online workshop and conference closed with the first screening of Marlene Wylie and Dame Magdalene Odundo in conversation.

Networks and Member Engagement

We have continued to develop the university-based tutors network and visited PGCE centres (in person and online) across the UK. The Facebook group for Primary co-coordinators continues to grow and NSEAD online continues to be a well-used and much appreciated space. We have held a number of Facebook 'live' events programme for Primary Art co-ordinators, with our resident expert Panel, and invited guests.

Marlene Wylie and members of the anti-racist art education action group (ARAE) established an important new network the United Black Art Educators group (UBAE). UBAE is a self-organised network group for Black educators, students, and individuals from the wider NSEAD membership and community. UBAE is safe-space group with new members always welcomed.

In January we launched a new initiative to support and showcase our artist educators with an online member directory for artist educators. This is a great member benefit that we hope will help us grow membership amongst the artist educator community.

Research Resources and Training

This year we have invested time and resource to introduce an online CPDL offer that educators can access independently and asynchronously. A number of sessions have been recorded, taking our popular primary leaders' courses onto our new e-learning platform. We plan to introduce a number of courses based on the research and resources developed by our Special interest and research groups.

During the year researchers Rayvonn D'Shaleigh Clarke and Kate McLaven were commissioned to collate, review and curate a new resources section for our website, drawing together a coherent resource to support anti-racist art education.

We have maintained a lively and well received programme of online training events, as well as providing trainers and sessions to lead training for Multi Academy Trust groups, local authorities, and school networks.

The Big Landscape mapping was launched in April, with features in *AD* magazine and sessions for members. Training for NASBTT SCITT trainees used the Big Landscape as a foundation. We have commissioned web designer Paul Bellamy to design and build an interactive website which will be an accessible, dynamic source of definitions, research, and case studies to support curriculum design.

NSEAD supported HMI Jen Gibbs and her successor HMI Adam Vincent in the research, drafting and launch of their Research Review, published in February 2023. We attended the report launch at the V&A and hosted a panel discussion for members. Our community led response provided a rigorous critique of the review, with a set of resources to support member use of the review.

In June 2023, The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Art, Craft and Design in Education (APPG) published the Art Now Inquiry, a timely evidence-and-recommendation-filled report. The 'Art Now Inquiry' is a collation of three years of evidence gathering. Its 50 pages identify why – increasingly – policies in education are impacting on the provision of our subject. NSEAD Patron Bob and Roberta Smith spoke movingly at the report launch of the impact of Government policy on arts education.

Other resources created to support members included our Art Research for Teaching advocacy series, available as a high res pdf file [here](#) or as a video PowerPoint, as well as hosting a rapid evidence review of the value of art and design in schools authored by Professor Pat Thomson and Liam Malloy.

Work to organise and categorise our archive collection to make it more accessible has continued. Professor Ron George has worked tirelessly with great dedication on this project. The aim is to be able to complete a full catalogue and make the collection open to members and researchers.

Publications

AD Magazine

AD magazine continues to flourish under the editorship of Sophie Leach, ably supported by production manager Helen Adkin. *AD* is a key member benefit, and the wider readership continues to grow. *AD* is now well established as the go-to publication for the latest most innovative practice and has provided a space for our special interest and research groups to disseminate research and resources. This year we published three exceptional issues: *AD38* (September 2023) focusses on 'transitions and exchange'. Art educators describe the transformative and powerful learning achieved when working across subjects and phases; when stories and art are exchanged, when transitions take place across year groups. *AD37* was the Curriculum Special Issue. An essential guide to making a future-fit, rich, and dynamic curriculum, which places learners at its heart. This issue showcased the groundbreaking work of our Better Practice Special Interest Group. Sophie Leach again collaborated with a guest editor, this time Marlene Wylie, to produce *AD36* - a special anti-racist edition, featuring the work of NSEAD patron Dame Magdalene Odundo on the cover.

Each issue of *AD* continues to offer members and subscribers a beautiful full colour, large format poster. *AD38* featured artwork by *Kissi Penny - Sovereign - LIBATION*. Firstsite Gallery Colchester,

EVEWRIGHT , AD37 the Big Landscape Atlas, and AD36 work by Yinka Shonibare. AD magazine and posters are designed by SteersMcGillanEves.

iJADE

In March 2023 we were very sorry to say goodbye to Dr Deborah Riding, Principal Editor of *The International Journal of Art & Design Education*, (*iJADE*) since January 2020 and a long serving member of the editorial board. Deborah steered the journal through a very difficult period of pandemic and transition from an established editorial team, and brought strong principles of equity and innovation during her tenure. We are delighted that the leadership of the journal has passed to Dr Claire Penketh. Continues under the principal editorship of Principal Editor Claire Penketh has brought energy and vision to the journal, with guest editors Pat Thomson and Penny Hay secured for special issues and a vibrant programme in place for the November conference. Dr Emma Arya Manesh brings a decade of experience as Journal manager. The Editorial Board give their time voluntarily and it is to their credit and diligence that *iJADE* continues to hold its own as we move towards an increasingly open access landscape.

The Twelfth *iJADE* Conference, 'Time' will be hosted online on Friday 24 November and in person on Saturday 25 November at the University of Chester. This will mark a welcome return to in-person conference, with a hybrid format that gives flexible, accessible option for a wider field of delegates.

Journal performance

Accesses via Wiley Online Library decreased (-5.1%) in 2022. This compares with a decrease (-2.1%) across all Wiley journals in the Education subject area. The total number of article submissions in 2022 decreased (-20.0%) compared with 2021. However, the accept rate was 21.4% in 2022, an increase from 17.9% in 2021. This compares with an accept rate of 22.8% across all Wiley journals in the Education subject area. *iJADE* published 8 out of 51 online articles open access in 2021, all 8 of which were published under a Wiley transitional deal agreement.

At the end of 2022, the total revenue for *iJADE* was £219,674, a 1% increase on 2021. This increase has been achieved due to increased non-subscription revenue, notably open access (OA) under Wiley's Transformational Agreements and also some Digital Rights. The way we earn revenue is changing. There is growing demand globally for open access, and a corresponding decline in subscription revenues. We are managing this change actively and carefully through Transformational Agreements.

iJADE's subscription revenue decreased from £173,176 in 2021, to £149,168 in 2022. This represents a decrease of 14%, which is consistent with trends seen across all Wiley journals, owing to cuts in library subscription budgets and the effect of foreign exchange rates. OA revenue for the journal increased by 134% in 2022. In 2021 *iJADE* published 8 open access papers. In 2022 this rose as we published 15 open access papers.

Policy and Advocacy

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Art, Craft and Design in Education

NSEAD continues to provide secretariat service for the APPG, now in its eighth year. During 2022-23 The APPG commissioned an inquiry into the current state of art, craft and design education. Sophie Leach worked with the Art, craft and design APPG Research group (including NSEAD Council member Dr Kate Noble) to design a UK survey of art and design teachers, then to analyse and prepare a full report investigating the impact of policies and the pandemic on our subject. The 'Art Now' Inquiry report was shared at a meeting of the APPG in June 2023.

Thank you to Sharon Hodgson MP, APPG Chair, the office of Sharon Hodgson, The Earl of Clancarty, Vice Chair, and to Susan Coles who co-ordinates the agenda and meetings of the APPG. Thank you to all our members and supporters who attend and contribute so much to these sessions.

Special Interest Groups

Deputy General Secretary Sophie Leach has supported meetings of the Better Practice and the Advancing anti-ableist pedagogies group Special Interest Groups (SIG) and chaired meetings of the ARAEA group, meeting with individual group members to support a range of projects. New SIG groups exploring Gender, art, and transformative education (GATE) and Art education for the climate emergency (ECCE) were formed this year. Our thanks to SIG chairs Andy Ash, Suzy Tutchell, Dr Emese Hall, and Dr Claire Penketh for their vital work this year.

Government and policy stakeholders

We have attended meetings throughout the year with DFE officials to discuss issues pertinent to our subject, as well as our continued contribution to meetings and briefings as part of the DFE's School's Stakeholder group input into the DFE Stakeholder Group, advising on issues related to Covid 19 and the needs of our members. In addition, we have responded to a number of Government consultations and reports, including the Inclusive Britain report and the ITE market review. We post regular updates on our website, position statements and guidance in response to Government proposals and announcements.

In July 2023, NSEAD hosted a sector conversation on behalf of the DFE, giving members an opportunity to learn more and input into the proposed Cultural Education Plan.

Policy implications and impact

NSEAD were pleased to support the Edge Foundation and ISM launch the 'Save Our Subjects' campaign. Hundreds of our members signed a letter to the Secretary of State for Education which was delivered by a delegation to the DFE in July.

After an ongoing campaign highlighting the inequity of bursary allocation and the decline in recruitment and retention, we were pleased to see the announcement in September of the re-instatement of a

bursary allowance for PGCE Art and Design teachers for the 2024 cohort. We continue to make the case for financial recompense for the current and previous cohorts who have not had any bursary.

Governance and Community

I would like to thank all our members for support of our work, especially members who have been active in our special interest and action groups. You are truly the engine of the Society, Thank you also to those members who contribute to our growing dialogues on social-media platforms. Expertise and time freely given to the work of the Society is much appreciated and the generosity of members gives us strength, authority, and increased capacity.

Thank you also to members of the Finances and General Purposes Committee: President Marlene Wylie, Immediate Past President Liz MacFarlane, Vice Presidents Steven Berryman and Andy Ash, Honorary Treasurer John Childs and Deputy General Secretary Sophie Leach. Your guidance and support has been invaluable and much appreciated. Thank you to Ged Gast, our Trade Union Adviser who gives time to the challenges many of our members face.

Thank you to members of Council for expertise in governance, and for energy and interest in all we do.

And finally, as ever, I would like to thank my colleagues Sophie Leach, Patricia Latorre, Diane Quinn, Seán Taylor, Chloe Rowles and Pat Burnell for all your hard work, commitment and support throughout the year, achieve more than can be imagined.

Michele Gregson

General Secretary

The Honorary Treasurer's Report 2022-23



The year 2022/2023 was a remarkably busy for the Society with our increased staffing extending the range of opportunities and services available to our members, whether through CPD, social media, newsletters, website or union advice. This has inevitably provided pressure on our finances, with an increased expenditure being closely matched to our income. This has meant that the fiscal year has concluded with a positive but small annual result of £7,339 from an expenditure of £358,835 against an income of £366,174. As with everybody's increased costs so those of the society have risen. A close look at the accounts reveals that while our income has risen, so has our expenditure, with a rise in premises, equipment and administrative expenses, in part due to our increase in staffing, but more obviously our significant increase in expenditure has been in increased staff costs, where we hope that you as members have seen substantial improvements in the way the society works, what it offers and the help and advice available to you its members.

In this fiscal year subscriptions have been maintained but as I am constantly reminding you this is our principal source of income. Our income comes from our members, and it is the power and loyalty of our members that enables the societies officers and staff to serve you and keep you informed of new developments, government policy changes and ideas. "Thank you" to both new members as well as our loyal and excellent supporters. The NSEAD is the only Professional body, Trade Union and Learned society for teachers and lecturers of Art, Craft and Design Education in the United Kingdom, so I am constantly surprised as I visit schools and talk to Art staff that significant numbers of them are not familiar with the society or the extensive opportunities that membership offers. The society is open to all who are interested and involved in art education in any way and at any level, teachers, primary and secondary, lecturers, consultants, artists, businesses schools, colleges and academy chains, so please continue to talk to your colleagues and friends encouraging them to join the society at whichever level is appropriate to them.

I would like to thank all our staff, the Finance and General-Purpose group, as well as council, but particularly our General Secretary, Michele, and Sophie her deputy, whose energy, hard work and tireless enthusiasm have had a huge influence in both creating and maintaining our society and its strong presence in the art education world.

John Childs

Honorary Treasurer

Appendix 1: Members of Council and Staff from January 2023

Finance and General Purposes Committee

President: Marlene Wylie (2023-2025)

Immediate Past President: Liz MacFarlane

Vice President: Steven Berryman

Vice President: Andy Ash

Honorary Treasurer: John Childs

Trade Union Advisor: Ged Gast

Council

Anna Robb

Anne Marie Moss

Vanessa Heron

Emma Sutton

Ron George

Fiona Donnelly

Megan Wellington Barrett

Eve Oliver

Kate Noble

Amy O'Donnell

Frances Akinde

Dianne Minnicucci

Suzy Tutchell

Staff

General Secretary: Michele Gregson

Deputy General Secretary and AD Editor: Sophie Leach

Communications and Digital Manager: Patricia Latorre/Kirstie Millar

Senior Case Work Officer: Seán Taylor

Partnerships and Programmes Manager: Diane Quinn

Administration Assistant: Pat Burnell

Administration Assistant Chloe Rowles

Appendix 2: Notice of the Annual General Meeting 2024

All members are invited to attend the 135th Annual General Meeting of the National Society for Education in Art and Design.

The AGM will be held via video-conference on Thursday the **6 June 2024 at 5.30 pm**. All members are invited to attend, and are asked to register their attendance by emailing events@nsead.org.uk

Agenda

1. To record attendance and to receive apologies for absence
2. President's opening remarks
3. To approve the minutes of the last AGM held online 20 May 2023.
4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes
5. To receive and approve the General Secretary's report for 2022-23
6. To receive and approve the Honorary Treasurer's report for 2022-23
7. To receive and approve the report of the Auditors for 2022-23
9. To appoint auditors for the financial year 2023-24
10. To consider any motions received.
11. AOB

Note: This draft agenda for the meeting is made available to all members of the Society in May 2024 to enable members to comply with Rule 4.22 which requires that 'Notice of any motion relative to the Constitution or of any other business shall be delivered in writing to the General Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the Annual General Meeting i.e. 6 June 2024. Any member of the Society may submit a motion for consideration at the Annual General Meeting through Council. To be eligible for consideration all such motions shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting with the support of five members of the Council who shall appoint proposers and seconders.

Appendix 3: Statement to members

SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE FULL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

| <u>SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</u> | <u>2023</u> £ | <u>2022</u> £ |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Subscription income | 300,557 | 285,696 |
| Other income | 65,638 | 65,497 |
| Total income | 366,195 | 351,193 |
| Total expenditure | (360,132) | (344,915) |
| Result for the year before taxation | 6,063 | 6,278 |
| Tax charge for the year | - | - |
| Result and comprehensive result for the year | <u>6,063</u> | <u>6,278</u> |
| | | |
| <u>SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET</u> | <u>2023</u> £ | <u>2022</u> £ |
| Fixed assets | 2,670 | 2,869 |
| Current assets | 290,722 | 304,668 |
| Current liabilities | (47,082) | (67,290) |
| | <u>246,310</u> | <u>240,247</u> |
| | | |
| Reserves | 246,310 | 240,247 |
| | <u>246,310</u> | <u>240,247</u> |

SUMMARY OF SALARIES AND BENEFITS PROVIDED

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Details</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| M Gregson | General Secretary | Salary | £47,625 |
| | | Pension contributions | £1,2 |

The President and the members of the Council do not receive any salary from the Society or any benefits. The President and the members of the Council are reimbursed for any expenditure incurred by them in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Society, as is the General Secretary.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

We are required by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended) to include the following declaration in this statement to all members. The wording is as prescribed by the Act.

"A member who is concerned that some irregularity may be occurring, or have occurred, in the conduct of the financial affairs of the union may take steps with a view to investigating further, obtaining clarification and, if necessary, securing regularisation of that conduct.

The member may raise any such concerns with such one or more of the following as it seems appropriate to raise it with: the officials of the union, the trustees of the property of the union, the auditor or auditors of the union, the Certification Officer (who is an independent officer appointed by the Secretary of State) and the police.

Where a member believes that the financial affairs of the union have been or are being conducted in breach of the law or in breach of rules of the union and contemplates bringing civil proceedings against

Any member of the Society who wishes to obtain a copy of the full accounts for the year ended 30 September 2023 should contact the General Secretary at the National Society for Education in Art & Design, 3 Masons Wharf, Potley Lane, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9FY, or by telephone on 01225 810134.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Set out below is the report of the independent auditors to the members as contained in the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 30 September 2023:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The National Society for Education in Art & Design (the 'Society') for the year ended 30 September 2023 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs as of 30 September 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Basis for our 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society 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 statement, we have concluded that the Council's 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 about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Council is responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion of 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.

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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or material misstatement of the other information. 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.

The Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- A satisfactory system of control over transactions has not been maintained; or
- The Society has not kept proper accounting records; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the books of account; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we need

for our audit.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of The Council

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Council, the Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Council 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 Council is responsible for assessing the Society'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 Council either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 an auditor's report 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

As part of our planning process:

- We enquired of management the systems and controls the Society has in place, the areas of the financial statements that are most susceptible to the risk of irregularities and fraud, and whether there was any known, suspected, or alleged fraud. The Society did not inform us of any known, suspected, or alleged fraud.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the Society. We determined that the following were most relevant: FRS 102 and the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended).
- We considered the incentives and opportunities that exist in the Society, including the extent of management bias, which present a potential for irregularities and fraud to be perpetuated, and tailored our risk assessment accordingly.
- Using our knowledge of the Society, together with the discussions held with the Society at the planning stage, we formed a conclusion on the risk of misstatement due to irregularities including fraud and tailored our procedures according to this risk assessment.

The key procedures we undertook to detect irregularities including fraud during the course of the audit included.

- Identifying and testing journal entries and the overall accounting records, in particular those that were significant and unusual.
- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and determining whether accounting policies have been appropriately applied.
 - Reviewing and challenging the assumptions and judgements used by management in their accounting estimates.
 - Assessing the extend of compliance, or lack of, with the relevant laws and regulations.
 - Testing key revenue lines, in particular cut-off, for evidence of management bias.
 - Obtaining third-party confirmation of material bank balances.
 - Documenting and verifying all significant related party balances and transactions.
 - Reviewing documentation such as the Finance and General-Purpose Committee board minutes as well as Council board minutes, for discussions of irregularities including fraud.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities and fraud rests with management.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Society's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Society's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 Society and the Society's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

HW Fisher LLP
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Chartered
Accountants
Statutory Auditor

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Date: 10 Apr 2024

