



# Annual Report 2021-2022

National Society for  
Education in Art & Design

## Introduction to the 2021-22 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 2021 to September 2022. Our AGM was held last year via videoconference, and we will again hold our AGM online, on the 20 May 2023. All members are invited to attend and are asked to register their attendance via this link: [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 21 May 2022 at 11am are available online at [nsead.org](http://nsead.org). Further printed copies of the minutes are available on request.

## The Presidents Report



My presidency of NSEAD has not perhaps been the experience that I expected, nothing to do with the Society but rather because of global events. As we emerge from the pandemic we will live with the aftermath for some time to come. Most of what we do is still taking place virtually and there has not been the opportunity to get out and meet with members and stakeholders in the way that I had previously imagined there would be. However, circumstances have allowed for much needed internal focus on building capacity through the staffing structure, which I am proud to have been part of. I am delighted to report that the last year has been another stellar year for the Society in terms of growth and reach with the uplift in membership experienced last year, being maintained. As we move out of the pandemic we emerge as a stronger organisation from the core with the new staff team alleviating some of the pressure for our exceptionally hard-working General Secretary,

Michele Gregson and Deputy General Secretary, Sophie Leach and giving us greater capacity to respond to our membership and drive forward ambitious plans.

November 2021 was the first time that the new staff team were able to meet together face to face and we thank Specialist Crafts Ltd. for their great hospitality and allowing us the use of their boardroom to conduct the away day. It was a pleasure to be part of a valuable team-bonding experience that set out the vision and ambition for the Society, moving forward. Throughout this year Patricia Latorre, Digital and Communications Manager and Diane Quinn, Member Engagement and Events Officer have worked extremely hard, and with great energy and enthusiasm, to develop and advance our work. For example, developing the new NSEAD member portal that is now making it easier for members to join and renew membership, increasing our social media presence, introducing new Facebook groups specifically for primary and ECT members, re-branding and refreshing the newsletter and re-thinking and increasing the CPD and events programme to meet the interests and needs of our full range of membership. The work is ongoing and focused on developing membership categories with clear strands. As Principal Trade Union Case Worker, Seán Taylor has been kept very busy supporting members directly and has also been developing the resources for the website and newsletters that are greatly valued by members. His appointment has allowed Ged Gast to step back from TU casework and I am sure that many members will join me in thanking Ged for the support that he has given in that capacity. Pat Burnell and Chloe Rowles continue to provide administrative support from our Corsham office. Initially all of the new posts were issued on a temporary basis, but I am pleased to confirm that the contracts have now been made permanent.

Holding a series of events as part of a conference season rather than a one-off event worked well last year, making it more accessible to a wider range of members. This year we replicated the model, holding a series of sessions around the theme of leadership, 'Art Education: Leading Together'. From the opening session with our patron, Bob and Roberta Smith, the programme comprehensively covered themes linked to activism, career, curriculum, practice and wellbeing, providing something for all members, irrespective of their career stage or setting. It was a very deliberate move to support teachers' wellbeing and run some of the CPD sessions during the school day, reinforcing teachers' right to access high quality professional development during the working day. Personally, it was a great honour and pleasure to co-host the session relating to Leadership of GCSE Art and Design with Ged Gast, Kimberley Pallot and Karen Clifford which was well attended.

In amongst a really excellent programme, one session that has really stayed with me, relating to leading practice, was 'From Visibility to Thisability' run by Saranjit Birdi, a practical session that had us drawing through exploration of the body as a drawing tool. A great prelude to issue 35 of AD Magazine, the Anti-ableist takeover issue that was brilliantly edited by guest editor Dr Claire Penketh. Under Sophie Leach's leadership, AD continues to

be a flagship membership benefit, with thought provoking content that showcases best practice in art and design education.

This year we did also manage to include a face-to-face element of the conference season, our first members' Summer Social event, hosted by The National Gallery in London. I thank all of the gallery staff who made us welcome and led the inspiring sessions during the afternoon that enabled us to engage with the collection. It was a much-valued opportunity to meet with members for the first time since before the pandemic in a majestic setting.

With a backdrop of political shenanigans that have distracted everyone this year (there have been five different Secretaries of State for Education so far during my presidency!) we have not had opportunity further our relationship with the Department for Education in our capacity as a subject association in the way that I would have hoped following our very positive initial meeting last year. However, Michele Gregson continues to make NSEAD's presence felt around the table pertaining to Trade Union matters and extend our influence through the development partnerships with a range of organisations nationally.

Anti-racist art, craft and design education (ARAE) continues to be a big part of our work. Thanks to Sophie Leach and Marlene Wylie for continuing to ensure that our commitment to anti-racist art education is being advanced across everything that we do. Building on the success of the checklists we have now contracted Rayvonn D'Clark and Kare McClaven to research and build content for the website using funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. In July the Arts Council held a consultation meeting about their collection where I represented NSEAD. It was provided a great platform to share the ARAE action group checklists that are on our website, which were well received by delegates from across the cultural sector.

Being President is never an isolated experience, even if for most of my two-year presidency it has been a role experienced via virtual platforms from home. It has been a privilege work alongside President Elect, Marlene Wylie, who was welcomed to post in January 2022, the members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and Council, all of whom provide wise counsel to the governance. On behalf of our members, I thank you all for the great contributions that you make to advance the work of NSEAD. I also want to thank all of our members, who shape the Society and engage with us and share practice and ideas: without you we simply couldn't exist.

**Liz Macfarlane, President of NSEAD 2020-2022**

## The General Secretary's Report



It is an honour to report on the work of NSEAD. When our founders, that group of art school principals gathered in Kensington in 1888, did they imagine that the collective spirit and mission that united them would continue to inspire the art educators of the 21<sup>st</sup> century? Did they imagine that we would also be advocating for our subject and those who teach it against a backdrop of international conflict, questions of empire and colonialism, social inequity, pandemic and industrial unrest?

In 2021-22 our members, and their learners have been working under increasing pressure, against the backdrop of war in the Ukraine, the cost-of-living crisis and the ongoing impact of Covid 19. Report after report tells us that pupils in our schools and colleges are experiencing unprecedented levels of poor mental health. NSEAD staff and officers have continued to work with our amazing community to support educators and their students. We are focused, united and making a difference at a time when the unique contribution of art, craft and design is much needed.

NSEAD continues to grow, attracting new members to all membership categories. To support our increasing membership we have expanded our staff team, with three excellent appointments to develop our communications, digital capacity, trade union expertise and capacity and member engagement. Our office team have returned to our Corsham office, and we have a daily presence on site.

In October we were delighted to announce the award of Backbone Organisation funding from Paul Hamlyn Foundation. This was a fantastic recognition of our vital contribution to a fair and just society. We have been awarded 125k over five years, which will enable us in our work supporting the profession, advocating for the subject and leading research and development.

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 can be justly proud of the work that NSEAD has done this year.

**Michele Gregson General Secretary of NSEAD**

## Activity of the Society

### Trade Union Activity

Necessarily confidential, our work in this area has been consistently busy and with conclusions that have won appreciation from our members.. I have no doubt that the high level of stress for teachers of the last two years is taking a toll on many of our members. 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 level that larger generalist trade unions cannot deliver. Seán Taylor brings many years of experience as a Trade Union representative, and brings a depth of knowledge and expertise. Seán has produced resources to support members on a wide range of workplace issues, including menopause, introducing contentious imagery and performance management. Our FAQs section is a dynamic library that is continually updated and accessed by a large number of members.

In December 2021 we were required by the Certification Officer to justify our position on the register of Trade Unions, as she prepared for the delayed implementation of the Trade union Act of 2016. We are pleased that she has confirmed that at the current time NSEAD meets the criteria that she has set out for continued certified status. This will be subject to review, with a focus on collective bargaining. We continue to take issue with the terms set by the UK Government for the newly introduced Trade Union levy.

Every organisation with an income over £81,574 will be liable for the basic levy of £2,039.35.

All trade unions (except the three federated trade unions) with an income exceeding £191,019 will also be liable for the additional levy of £2,736.13 per organisation and this means that trade unions charged the basic and additional levies will pay a total of £4775.48. Trade unions with an income exceeding £261,103 will also be liable for the enhanced levy of £1752.08. For the period April 2022 to March 2023 NSEAD is liable to pay the basic, additional and enhanced levy rates, a total of £6527.57.

This means that a small organisation like ours is liable to pay the same levy as an education trade union with an annual income of £122,000,000. We believe this to be inherently unfair. NSEAD made a number of representations through consultation and directly to the Certification Officer, without success.

The year ended with the prospect of industrial action, with all education unions preparing to consult with members over teacher pay, and the prospect of national strike action looming.

## **NSEAD contacts, links and collaborations**

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. Partner organisations and individuals that we worked with this year include: CHEAD, the HE art, craft and design subject associations through the Subject Alliance, the CfSA, Parentzone and Google partnership, the Primary Umbrella Group, Sky Arts, HMI and Ofsted, Royal Opera House, National Gallery, UAL and UAL Awarding Body, CVAN, the CST, Oak National Academy, Specialist Crafts, People United, NASBTT, Edge Gain, Birmingham Education Partnership, The Crafts Council, Engage, National Saturday Clubs, the Founding Museum, ArtUk and The Photography Movement.

NSEAD members have joined advisory meetings with HMI Jennifer Gibbs in the preparation of the Ofsted Research Review for art, craft and design.

In July, President Elect Marlene Wylie met with NSEAD Patron Dame Magdalene Odundo to discuss the importance of art education and gallery visits. A powerful film documenting their conversation will be shown at the November iJADE conference

## **Research Resources and Training**

The award of funding by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, and the receipt of the Athene Trust funds (including the Monteith bequest) are enabling us to amplify the impact of our the work of our professional learning community, developing research based resources that underpin high quality, evidence led training and development. Our special interest and research groups are at the heart of the strategy.

We have maintained a lively and well received programme of online CPD events including sessions exploring primary subject leadership, teaching primary art, craft and design, and twilight sessions for our ECT members. Our annual conference took the form of a 'festival ' format throughout the summer term, with a programme drawing together an inspiring line up of artists, educators, and activists, including Francis Augusto, Saranjit Birdi, Ella Doran, Kevin Dalton Johnson, Paul Dash, Nicole Elias, Floriane Fidgeon, Rebecca Goozee, Emily Gopaul, Caro Howell, Adnan Islan, Diane Minicucci, Sarah Graham, Lily Pfanzeller, Rayvonn



D'Clark, Susan Ogier, Rose Russell, Clare Stanhope, Suzy Tutchell, Steve Wallington and Liaqat Rasul.

We gathered for the first in person event since before the pandemic, with our first summer social event, kindly hosted by the National Gallery in London.

## Publications

### AD Magazine

*AD* magazine continues to flourish under the editorship of Sophie Leach, and is a key member benefit. The wider readership continues to grow, with social media raising the profile and sparking conversation. *AD* is increasingly 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, Sophie Leach has collaborated with guest editors Dr Claire Penketh and to produce AD35 - a special anti-ableist takeover edition. Sophie Leach is proactive in encouraging new authors, themed issues and articles to represent all sectors and all phases

Each issue of *AD* continues to offer members and subscribers a beautiful full colour, large format poster. AD33 featured artwork by NSEAD member and artist Paul Dash, and AD34 member and artist Faith Bebbington. *AD* magazine and posters are designed by SteersMcGillanEves.

### iJADE

The *International Journal of Art & Design Education*, (*iJADE*), continues under the principal editorship of Dr Deborah Riding and Journal manager Emma Arya Manesh. In January, we appointed six new editors to the *iJADE* editorial board from a strong field of international applicants. 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. During 2021-22, 6,442 institutions offered access *iJADE* via a Wiley license, often through a consortium. Of these institutions, 1,340 had access via the "All Journals license". 2,825 institutions had access via "Transformational agreements" which cover both subscription access and open access publishing. In addition, 16 institutions offered access via traditional (online or print) subscriptions.

Wiley's arrangement with EBSCO allows us to extend the reach of the journal beyond core academic libraries. In 2022, 3,027 institutions accessed embargoed content of at least one year old from your journal via EBSCO databases. This is a -3.7% change from 2021.

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.

Total royalty revenue due to NSEAD for 2021 is £21,604. This is a decrease of 9.5% on 2020 revenue.

The eleventh *IJADE* Conference, 'Belonging: Dialogues for culturally responsive art & design education' was originally planned to take place at a live venue in June 2022. Difficulties securing a host venue due to ongoing Covid restrictions however have led to the re-scheduling the conference, which will take place online in November 2022.

## **Communications and Digital**

The appointment of Communications and Digital manager Patricia Latorre in September 2021 has seen the profile, presentation and reach of the Society greatly increased. Our work is more visible than ever and accessible to a far wider audience. We have increased our number of followers across all social media platforms, improving engagement and reach. Work to organise and optimise content, and develop sharper messaging and propositioning across our the website has resulted in increased traffic, with over 76600 new visitors over the course of the year.

In January we launched a brand new, more visual newsletter, which has been very well received, with high opening and click through rates.

In spring 2022, we invested in a new member portal, where members can manage their subscription payments and contact information, linking directly to a new membership database. This was completed ready for the new membership year. Further to the development of the new Member Portal, we have begun to segment members and send more targeted emails to: welcome new members, advise of membership expiration, update on conference news, update on trade union issues, make special offers, advise of changes in membership fees and categories. We are hopeful that will enable us to serve members and increase retention over the coming twelve months.

## Policy and Research

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

NSEAD continues to provide secretariat service for the APPG, now in its seventh year. During 2021-22 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 polices and the pandemic on our subject. Headlines from 'Art Now' were shared at a meeting of the APPG on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022. It is anticipated that the report will be published in Summer 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 is co-ordinator for 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. Our thanks to SIG chairs Andy Ash, 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.

We welcomed the completion of the OAK National Academy diversity review of their KS3 Art and Design materials, led by Marlene Wylie. Eight brand new lessons and 8 edited lessons are available to access along with a revised curriculum map. In August the Oak National Academy transferred to new governance with UK Government funding. NSEAD agreed to the transfer of usage under IP legislation so that our Primary resources continue to be available, free for all.

NSEAD members marched under our banner at the TUC March Against Racism in London in March.

### **Member Engagement and Community**

The appointment of Diane Quinn as Member Engagement and events officer has enabled us to develop a dynamic programme of member events, and to introduce new member benefits, contributing and serving our steadily increasing membership. We Formally launched our Member Assistance Programme, with a well-being event in October 2021, a much needed benefit for our pressured membership.

### **Networks and Forums**

We have continued to develop the university based tutors network, and visited PGCE centres (in person and online) across the UK.

A new Facebook group for Primary co-ordinators was launched at the beginning of the year, growing to over 1000 members. We have held a number of Facebook 'live' events programme for Primary Art co-ordinators, with our resident expert Panel, and invited guests.

### **Governance**

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: Liz MacFarlane, President Elect: Marlene Wylie, Vice President: Steven Berryman, 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. In January we welcomed our Vice President for 2022-2024, Dr Steven Berryman, and our President Elect 2023-25, Marlene Wylie and new members to Council Jan 22 Dianne Minicucci and Suzy Tutchell

And finally, 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, committment and support throughout the year, appreciated more than I can ever say.

**Michele Gregson**

General Secretary

## The Honorary Treasurer's Report 2021-22



This fiscal year has seen the society continue with positive finances maintaining a healthy position given the additional staffing and projects we have undertaken. The move, started in the last fiscal year, has seen the society move forward with its ambitious expansion plans, the three fresh staff extending and providing new impetus to the areas of social media and website development, union advice and CPD.

We have again seen a significant increase in subscriptions, “Thank you” to both new members as well as our loyal and excellent supporters. 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.

We have finished the financial year in the positive but only by single figure thousands so if we are to continue to be able to continue to develop our services and influence in the field of Art and Design Education we need to maintain and increase our membership.

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. We have been fortunate to see an increase in membership and ask that you continue to persuade, invite and recruit new members to what is the only Professional body, Trade Union and Learned society for teachers and lecturers of Art, Craft and Design Education in the United Kingdom. Significant numbers of art staff and lecturers 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, 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, especially our new staff, and the Finance and General-Purpose group, as well as council, but 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 stronger financial position.

**John Childs**

Honorary Treasurer

**Appendix 1: Members of Council and Staff from January 2022**

**Finance and General Purposes Committee**

President: Liz MacFarlane  
President Elect: Marlene Wylie  
Vice President: Steven Berryman  
Honorary Treasurer: John Childs  
Trade Union Advisor: Ged Gast  
Deputy General Secretary: Sophie leach

**Council**

Juliet Alcares  
Andy Ash  
Paul Brennan  
Fiona Donnelly  
Ron George  
Amy O'Donnell  
Eve Oliver  
Diane Minicucci  
Kate Noble  
Suzy Tutchell  
Megan Wellington Barrett

**Staff**

General Secretary: Michele Gregson  
Deputy General Secretary and *AD* Editor: Sophie Leach

Communications and Digital Manager: Patricia Latorre  
Senior Case work Officer: Seán Taylor  
Member Engagement and events Officer: Diane Quinn  
Administration Assistant: Pat Burnell  
Administration Assistant Chloe Rowles

## **Appendix 2: Notice of the Annual General Meeting 2023**

All members are invited to attend the 134th Annual General Meeting of the National Society for Education in Art and Design.

The AGM will be held via videoconference on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> May at 10am. All members are invited to attend, and are asked to register their attendance via this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nsead-134th-annual-general-meeting-tickets-629348126187>

### **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 25 Sept 2022.
4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes
5. To receive and approve the General Secretary's report for 2021-22
6. To receive and approve the Honorary Treasurer's report for 2021-22
7. To receive and approve the report of the Auditors for 2021-22
9. To appoint auditors for the financial year 2022-23

**Note:** This draft agenda for the meeting is made available to all members of the Society in April 2020 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. 11<sup>th</sup> July 2020. 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**

<b><u>SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b> £	<b><u>2021</u></b> £
Subscription income	285,696	<b>243,549</b>
Other income	65,497	<b>156,577</b>
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Total income	351,193	<b>405,871</b>
Total expenditure	(344,915)	<b>(277,446)</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Result for the year before taxation	6,278	<b>122,950</b>
Tax charge for the year	-	<b>(2,300)</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Result and comprehensive result for the year	<u>6,278</u>	<u><b>120,650</b></u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b><u>SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b> £	<b><u>2021</u></b> £
Fixed assets	6,278	<b>2,248</b>
Current assets	304,668	<b>272,371</b>
Current liabilities	(67,290)	<b>(56,853)</b>
Non-current liabilities		-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>240,247</u>	<u><b>233,969</b></u>
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Reserves

240,247

**233,969**

240,247

**233,969****SUMMARY OF SALARIES AND BENEFITS PROVIDED**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Details</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
M Gregson	General Secretary	Salary	£46,665
		Pension contributions	
			£1203

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.

.....Column Break.....

**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 the union or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice."*

Any member of the Society who wishes to obtain a copy of the full accounts for the year ended 30 September 2022 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 2022:

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The National Society for Education in Art & Design (the 'Society') for the year ended 30 September 2021 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 2021 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.

### **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS (CONTINUED)**

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 union 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 union did not inform us of any known, suspected or alleged fraud.

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the union. 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 union, 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 union, together with the discussions held with the union 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.

### **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS (CONTINUED)**

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.
- Testing key revenue lines, in particular cut-off, for evidence of management bias.
- Obtaining third-party confirmation of material bank and loan balances.
- Documenting and verifying all significant related party balances and transactions.
- Reviewing documentation such as the national executive committee's board minutes, correspondence with solicitors, 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 to the members of The Society**

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**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**Statutory Auditor**

**Date: 21 April 2023**

**Acre House**  
**11 - 15 William Road**  
**London NW1 3ER**  
**United Kingdom**

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.

The irregularity statement, the exact wording which is reproduced below:

*"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 the union or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice."*

Any member of the Society who wishes to obtain a copy of the full accounts for the year ended 30 September 2019 should contact the General Secretary at the National Society for Education in Art and Design, 3 Masons Wharf, Potley Lane, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9FY, or by telephone on 01225 810134.