# Erskine Arts

## Report of the Directors and Financial Statements

## For the Year Ended

## 31st March 2024

**Company Number: SC482468**

**Charity Number: SC051042**

**Erskine Arts**

**Report of the Directors and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024**

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**Erskine Arts**

**Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st March 2024**

## Reference and Administrative Information

| | |
|---|---|
| **Company registration:** | **SC482468** |
| **Charity registration:** | **SC051042** |

### Registered office and principal office address

Kilpatrick Drive
Erskine
Renfrewshire
PA8 7AF

### Independent Examiner

Karen McMillan FCCA
Hardie McMillan Chartered Certified Accountants
14 Muirend Road
Cardross G82 5LG

### Bank

Royal Bank of Scotland
1 Moncrieff Street
Paisley
P3 2AW

### Directors

The directors and officers serving during the year and appointed since the year end are as follows:

Michelle Campbell (resigned 20th November 2024)
Garry Donegan (appointed 11th December 2023)
Derek Doyle
Michael Friel (appointed 4th December 2023)
Sian Parfitt (appointed 11th December 2023)
Jacqueline Smith (resigned 20th November 2024)
Alistair Whitty
Catherine Whyte (resigned 4th December 2023)
Linda Woods

## Directors' Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Directors are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities and Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### Objectives and activities

The charity's objective is the advancement of the arts, heritage, and culture through:

- The development of a cultural strategy and a wide range of opportunities to enable maximum participation in and exposure to the arts in Renfrewshire to include connecting, showcasing, and amplifying creative and cultural talent;
- Encouraging participation in arts, cultural and heritage activities by removing barriers to awareness and access;
- Producing, promoting, and encouraging a high-quality arts and cultural events and activities programme resulting in cultural, social, and economic benefits;
- Encouraging community participation and active engagement to ensure the services offered meet the needs of the community, and help to create artistic skills and perspectives, whilst growing audiences of all ages through long-term engagement with creative experiences;
- The advancement of education through the provision of training provision for young people in creative industries, providing pathways to further education and employment;
- The promotion of equality and diversity by providing facilities and services with the aim of benefitting the diverse range of participants in the community and providing agency to groups who are underrepresented.

### Significant achievements

2023/24 has been challenging for some of the team personally and we have also seen some changes to personnel which led to a some-what fragmented year for Erskine Arts. That said, we have seen Erskine Arts embed itself into the heart of the community more than ever before. New initiatives and pilot schemes are now a fixed part of a weekly programme offering cultural engagement for many more people in our community.

We have continued to engage with Renfrewshire Council and One Ren with regards to our lease agreement which was expected to be in place by November 2023. This however has still not been resolved and this continues to create significant uncertainty and stress in relation to our future development. We are remaining steadfast that this will be resolved soon and we are focusing on the task in hand, to remain sustainable and make responsible decisions that will safeguard the future of the charity.

## Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st March 2024

This year has seen an increase in our box office activity as our venue space evolves. Not only is this helping to develop a cultural scene locally but it is providing another valuable income stream for the charity. We also hosted our first public film screening this year to great success.

Our artist in residence projects have commenced and although completion is not expected to be until Spring 2025, we are committed to obtaining the necessary lease agreements from Renfrewshire Council to make these happen. As part of any asset transfer process, Erskine Arts will be required to change its governance structure from a single tier organisation to a 2-tier membership. This will be part of our on-going development for 2024/25.

Our volunteer pool has increased, with people helping out with warm food provision, general maintenance, upgrades and helping to support events. We hosted a public AGM event in October 2023 with a massive amount of public support on the night from over 100 people.

We received a huge boost through National Lottery YOUNG START funding for 3 years which is allowing us to continue to deliver and develop key services for young people locally. We have also received local funding to support mental health and wellbeing programmes, ASN activities and, in particular, to develop support for young people with diagnosed and undiagnosed neurodiversity.

In what has been a difficult financial time for everyone, Erskine Arts has worked hard to remain consistent with external hire and income generation whilst growing new partnerships to work collaboratively in the new space.

### Future plans

Our lease agreement remains to be completed through Renfrewshire Council, and with it the release of capital funding to support continued renovation and upgrade works. This also includes a separate lease agreement for land adjacent to Erskine Arts to facilitate our Greenspace Scotland and Artist in Residence projects for a community sound garden and Covid Memorial Bench.

Although we are a small team, we will continue to seek growth in attendance as well as wider awareness of the project. Many people locally still do not know that we exist and this will be a crucial hurdle to overcome in order to establish a new, emerging community arts facility.

Remaining sustainable has always been key to the future of Erskine Arts. Over these past few years, we have seen an even greater need to support more vulnerable people in our society and we have worked hard to develop initiatives that meet their needs. This will require greater in-kind funding and we will aim to reach those people in our community who have expressed an interest in supporting Erskine Arts financially.

We would love to be able to support youth employment in our local area. We will seek ways in which we can provide part-time employment for some of the young people who may be struggling with employment elsewhere or who just need that extra support in their development.

## Financial review

Total incoming resources for the year to 31 March 2024 were £219,285 (2023: £161,213) and the total outgoing resources were £227,743 (2023: £149,623) resulting in a net operating loss of £8,458 (2023: net surplus: £11,590). At the year end, unrestricted reserves totalled £20,299 (2023: £35,606) and restricted funds £28,324 (2023: £21,385). Directors consider the results to be satisfactory.

All income has been applied in support of the charity's key objectives and, where grants are restricted, have been applied in accordance with funding terms.

## Reserves policy

Directors are committed to building the organisation's reserves to a level equivalent to three months' ordinary running costs, approximately, £36,000.

Directors and staff continue to focus on diversifying funding and income sources, while ensuring that available reserves reflect the costs of winding down the organisation as a last resort.

## Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors, who are also trustees of Erskine Arts for the purpose of charity law, are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with

the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence

for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Structure, Governance and Management

### *Governing document*

Erskine Arts is a Scottish charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The company registered as a charity with The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator on 14th June 2021.

The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The governing body is the Board of Directors, also known as the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed by the membership at a general meeting. The Board meets at least four times a year.

Members of the Board are responsible for setting the direction, strategies, and policies of the organisation, and for ensuring that these are implemented. Authority to conduct the day-to-day operations is delegated to the manager.

The names of members of the Board of Directors during the year are shown on page 2 together with other reference and administrative information.

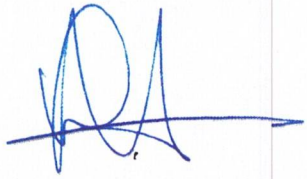
### *Appointment of Directors*

The Board periodically appoints new members to ensure that it maintains a broad range of relevant skills and experience. The skills and knowledge needed for good governance of the charity are kept under continuous review.

### *Director Induction and Training*

New directors are supported by the other Board members and by the staff team. The charity is in the process of preparing a formal induction pack for new members.

Signed on 5th December 2024 on behalf of the Board by:



**Michael Friel**
**Director**

**Company Registration Number: SC482468**

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Directors of Erskine Arts

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

### Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The charity's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The directors consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

   have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Karen McMillan**

**6th December 2024**

Karen McMillan FCCA
Hardie McMillan Chartered Certified Accountants
14 Muirend Road
Cardross G82 5LG