Directors' report and financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2021

Registered number: 485560

Directors' report and financial statements

Contents	Page
Directors and other information	1
Directors' report	2
Statement of corporate governance and internal control	8
Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the directors' report and the financial statements	11
Independent auditor's report to the members of Trinity College Dublin Academy of Dramatic Art Company Limited by Guarantee	12
Statement of comprehensive income	15
Statement of financial position	16
Statement of changes in reserves	17
Statement of cash flows	18
Notes forming part of the financial statements	19

Directors and other information

Directors Anne Clarke

Anne Mulcahy Dana Cuffe Danielle Ryan Dearbhla Walshe Dermot McCrum Eleanor Methven Gail McElroy

James Hickey (Chair)

Jon Downey (Alternate Director for Danielle Ryan)

Michael Binchy Peter Reynolds

Secretary Anne Fitzpatrick

Registered office 70 Sir John Rogerson's Quay

Dublin 2

Auditor PricewaterhouseCoopers

Chartered Accountants
One Spencer Dock
North Wall Quay

Dublin 1

Bankers Bank of Ireland

College Green Dublin 2

Solicitors Matheson

70 Sir John Rogerson's Quay

Dublin 2

Registered number 485560

Directors' report

The directors present the financial statements of Trinity College Dublin Academy of Dramatic Art CLG ("the Company") (a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital) for the year ended 30 September 2021.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Company are:

- to advance education by establishing and operating an academy ("the Lir Academy") for the provision of educational services, training and research in relation to dramatic art; and
- to provide seminars, lectures, exhibitions, musical and dramatic performances and public meetings, classes and conferences delivered directly to advance the cause of education.

The Company is a not-for-profit organisation and has been granted Charitable Status under the provisions of Section 207 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997.

Business Review

The Company completed its tenth full year of operation continuing to deliver six full-time courses at undergraduate and post-graduate level. Significant events during the period included graduate, Paul Mescal winning a Bafta in June 2021, the Lir Academy welcoming a record 125 students onto the 2020-21 academic year and the successful completion of the academic year despite the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and a third lockdown in January 2021. The successful completion of all learning outcomes was achieved through close consultation with Lir staff, students and board - leading to an extension of the academic year in February 2021 and a delayed return to in-person classes until it was safe to do so in April 2021. Earned income streams such as Lir at Work, short courses and fundraising campaigns remained on-line until it was safe to return to in-person delivery later in the year. Short course income performed exceptionally well during the period surpassing targets before year end. A record number of applications for the Bachelor in Acting course was also received during the period and the Stage Management and Technical Theatre course repeated it success from the previous year with another successful recruitment of new entrants for 2021-22. As we came to the end of the 2020-21 academic year, Covid-19 restrictions eased allowing for the greatly anticipated return of public audiences for our final three graduate productions, GradFest in September 2021.

In April 2021 the Board, Senior Management team and Development Council began the important work of developing a new Strategic Plan for the Company while in parallel, completing the fifth and final year of the 2016-2021 Strategic Plan. The 2016-21 Strategic Plan was largely successful having achieved many of its ambitions pre Covid-19. The Company has grown earned income over the course of the five years transforming The Lir with the investment in additional staffing aswell as achieving other strategic priorities. While Covid-19 had a significant impact on earned income at the beginning of the pandemic, it allowed the Company to diversify and develop online courses and campaigns which contributed to the return of earned income growth in 2020-21.

As part of the Board's financial planning to shore up the deficit created by the pandemic, the working capital loan of €250,000 which had been agreed in principle in 2020, was formally approved by the TCD Finance Committee in April 2021 and drawn down in full by The Lir Academy in May 2021. As a result, the Company remained a going concern and remains on track to return to profitability in the 2021-22 Financial Year.

Directors' report(continued)

Business Review (continued)

The results of the Company for the year are set out on page 15 of these financial statements. A summary of the results is in the table below.

	2021 €	2020 €
Total income	2,304,365	1,976,146
Staff costs and other operating expenses	(2,344,018)	(2,056,915)
Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA)	(39,653)	(80,769)
Less: Depreciation Interest	(141,532) - -	(137,140) (1,214)
Deficit for the year	(181,185)	(219,123)

Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) is reported at €39,653 deficit for the year (2020: €80,769 deficit). After depreciation of €141,532 and interest of €0 the Company recorded a deficit for the year of €181,185 (2019:€219,123). Tuition fee income was up by 19% largely due to an increase in student recruitment during the period. Staff costs and other overheads and expenditure was up by 14%.

The Company's statement of financial position shows a net liability position of €271,336 at the year end (2020: net liabilities of €90,151).

Key performance indicators

Profitability: Surplus/Deficit as a % of Income -7.8% (2020: -11.1%)
Staff Costs: Staff Costs as a % of income 55% (2020: 58%)
Liquidity: Current assets over Current liabilities ratio 72% (2020: 61%)

Directors' report(continued)

Future Developments

The directors are not expecting to make any significant changes to the nature of the business in the near future. In relation to Covid-19, due to the total relaxion of restrictions on the 28th of February 2022, all undergraduate and postgraduate courses programmed remain on track to be delivered face to face.

The new Strategic Plan 2022-26 was publicly launched along with the Alumni Network on March 2nd, 2022. The new Strategic Plan focuses on three main objectives: our potential, our place and our people.

Strategic Plan 2022-26 - Pedagogic and facilities:

- **Our Potential**: our aims over the life of the strategy include building the capacity of the academy so that we can offer an even richer training to our students and increase our reach and impact.
 - We aim to achieve this through harnessing our Lir Alumni Network to better engage and support our graduates.
 - o Increasing our existing capacity in film and TV production.
 - o Continuing to expand on our courses being offered including a new MFA in Producing.
 - Developing our relationship with Trinity College Dublin even further, particularly regarding enhanced academic governance structures. We will do this by completing our first Quality Review in June 2022 and implementing the findings of this review by spring 2023.
 - Making a number of key appointments which are essential to delivery of this strategy.
 These new positions will include a Director of Teaching & Learning, a Director of
 Outreach, Access & Equality, two new Technical HOD positions, an additional venue
 technician and key appointments to our administration team to better serve staff and
 students.
- **Our Place:** We will provide for the ambitions in the strategy by continuing to invest in our original facility, acquiring new spaces, upgrading our specialist equipment and increasing accessibility for all.
 - Devise an ambitious sustainability policy for The Lir Academy to reduce our carbon footprint and work towards a carbon neutral position.
 - Expanding our current footprint to deliver additional teaching, production and administrative spaces. We will achieve this by working in partnership with Trinity College to raise the funding necessary for our expansion into Units 31 and 32 of the Trinity East Campus.
- Our People: Over the course of this plan, we want to ensure that an increasingly diverse student body, staff and board are supported appropriately so that they can achieve their full potential at The Lir Academy.
 - The Lir Academy will become more welcoming, diverse and supportive by creating an Outreach Department which will be positioned at the core of our operations. We will achieve this through the appointment of a Director of Access, Outreach & Equality in 2022 and by prioritising funds for the work of this department in all of our fundraising activities.
 - Completing the work of decolonising our curricula with ongoing input from our Black Lives Matter Forum comprising graduates, current students and staff.
 - Fundraising increased financial supports for students through an enhanced bursaries and scholarship scheme.
 - Providing dedicated resources onsite for staff and students to include pastoral care and additional mental health supports in partnership with Trinity's Student Counselling Service.
 - o Increasing our investment in staff training and development. Completing a detailed HR audit which will review all HR structures at The Lir Academy.
 - Ensuring the appropriate resourcing of all departments so that they have the necessary staffing and resources required to deliver on the ambitions of this plan. Creating a succession plan for all our staff, tutors and board.

Directors' report(continued)

Strategic Plan 2022-26 - Financial and business:

Prioritising the financial stability of The Lir Academy by continuing to grow earned income across all our activities and increasing financial reserves to protect us against further financial shocks.

- We will do this by growing Development Income by 57%, Commercial Income by 65% and earned income from other activities by 22% over the course of the plan.
- We will increase reserves by agreeing a formal Reserves Policy which will commit the academy to build up reserves over the course of the plan with a view to achieving an ongoing 10% of turnover over a ten-year period for our reserves fund.
- Creating a renewals and replacement fund for investment in replacement equipment. By 2026, we will have achieved, and will maintain, a reinvestment and renewal fund of 0.75– 1% of our annual turnover.

The corporate training market slowed for most companies as a result of Covid-19, including The Lir Academy with The Lir at Work. We have adjusted our expectations for 2021-22 to allow more time for this department to get back on its feet, expand our product line and broaden our reach to the international market. The Lir at Work product remains strong and its early success has positioned us as leaders in this particular field. It is projected that in 12-18 months the Lir at Work will begin to achieve the ambitious earned income targets originally set for The Lir Academy and contribute to achieving our new strategic ambitions.

In April 2022, The Lir Academy launched its first Endowment Fund, enabled by a major gift awarded to The Lir by Muireann Ó Briain, wife of the late Colm Ó Briain. The Colm Ó Briain Endowment Fund was established to support student bursaries and scholarships in particular areas of acting, directing and playwriting. This gift is a significant contribution towards the future development of The Lir and towards achieving the ambitions of the new Strategic Plan.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company operates a comprehensive risk management strategy. A detailed risk review is maintained on an on-going basis and presented to the board of directors at the end of each quarter. Risks are identified under the following headings: financial and business risks, pedagogic risks and facilities risks. Risks are graded in terms of probability and severity and mitigating controls are agreed so that the residual risk to the Company is minimised. Timelines and individuals responsible for mitigating each risk are identified to ensure all risks are appropriately managed.

The key risks and uncertainties facing the Company are:

- Achieving earned income targets
- Security of tenure
- Continuity and growth in student numbers
- The impact of Covid-19

Directors' report(continued)

Going concern

The Company is in a net deficit position of €271,336 at 30 September 2021, indicating a deterioration in the financial position compared to the net deficit position of €90,151 as at 30 September 2020.

The directors have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis, which assumes that the Company will continue in operational existence for at least one year from the date of approving the financial statements. The directors are satisfied to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis having considered the actions taken, current position and future projections which indicate that the Company will have sufficient cash flows to meet its obligations as they fall due.

With the removal of social distancing at the Lir Academy in November 2021, the Lir Academy no longer requires additional investment to support learning through Covid-19 in 2021-22 to the extent of what was required by the academy in 2019-20 and 2020-21. A working capital loan of €250,000 which had been agreed in principle in 2020, was formally approved by the TCD Finance Committee in April 2021 and drawn down in full by The Lir Academy in May 2021 to shore up the deficit caused by Covid-19 in previous years.

Due to this financial support from Trinity College and a resumption of all earned income activities, the Company have maintained a healthy cashflow position and are on track to achieve a projected surplus position at year end 2022 and on into 2022-23.

Directors and secretary

The directors for the year under review were as follows:

- Anne Clarke
- Anne Mulcahy
- Dana Cuffe
- Danielle Ryan
- Dearbhla Walsh
- Dermot McCrum (Chair)
- Eleanor Methven
- Gail McElroy
- James Hickey
- Jon Downey (Alternate Director for Danielle Ryan)
- Michael Binchy

Peter Reynolds was appointed to the Board in October 2021.

Dermot McCrum stepped down as Chair of the Board in December 2021 with James Hickey elected as the new Chair from January 1st, 2022.

In keeping with the Company's status as a charitable body, all directors serve in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration for their services.

The directors and secretary have no beneficial interests in the Company.

Directors' report(continued)

Political and charitable contributions

The Company made no political or charitable donations and incurred no political expenditure during the year.

Events after the reporting period

No events that require adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements have occurred after the end of the period.

Accounting records

The directors believe that they have complied with the requirements of Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to adequate accounting records by employing accounting personnel with appropriate expertise and by providing adequate resources to the finance function. The accounting records of the Company are maintained at Trinity College Dublin Academy of Dramatic Art Company Limited by Guarantee, Trinity Technology and Enterprise Campus, Pearse Street, Dublin 2.

Relevant audit information

The directors believe that they have taken all steps necessary to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and have established that the Company's statutory auditors are aware of that information. In so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's statutory auditors are unaware.

Auditor

During the year, PricewaterhouseCoopers were appointed as auditor in accordance with the Section 384(1) of the Companies Act 2014.

On behalf of the board

-- DocuSigned by:

James Hickey James Hickey James Hickey

Director

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Anne Mulcahy

Director

26th May 2022

Statement of corporate governance and internal control

We, the Board of Trinity College Dublin Academy of Dramatic Art CLG, trading as The Lir, National Academy of Dramatic Art ("The Lir") acknowledge that the Board has overall responsibility for The Lir's system of internal control; including financial, operational and compliance controls and risk management systems, that support the achievement of The Lir's policies, aims and objectives while safeguarding the public and other funds and assets for which the Board is responsible.

We confirm that our organisation fully complies with the new *Charities Regulator Code of Governance*. Our Code of Governance Framework is publicly available through our website www.thelir.ie. The Framework will be reviewed annually by the Board to ensure it is kept up to date with current legislation and good practice procedures for arts organisations and educational institutions.

Our current mission statement states:

"The Lir Academy exists to provide the highest possible conservatoire training in Ireland. We are a centre of excellence, a hub for germinating talent and a training ground for brilliance. We aim to become one of the leading creative arts academies in the world."

The following are the key control procedures in place to ensure that there is an appropriate, effective and compliant environment in place at The Lir Academy:

Interpreting and guarding the Mission:

- Strategic Plans are devised and prepared collaboratively over a period of time by the CEO of The Lir Academy, the Senior Management team, the Board and the Development Council of the Lir Academy. Final plans are brought forward to the Board by the CEO for discussion and adoption. The current plan runs for five years from 2022 – 2026.
- A Strategy Meeting, led by the CEO of The Lir Academy, is convened annually to review policy aims and strategic objectives, following which, recommendations are brought to the Board and an implementation plan is adopted. From time to time, throughout the year, the CEO of The Lir Academy pro-actively proposes policy initiatives or reviews to the Board for discussion and adoption.
- The CEO presents a report at each scheduled Board meeting on activities of The Lir Academy.

Identifying, evaluating and managing risks (including operational, financial and compliance)

Financial:

- The Board discusses and then adopts an annual budget based on funding and revenues projected in a prudent manner as presented by the CEO and Director of Administration.
- Board directors ensure that the content and level of financial reporting is timely and in a format that is transparent and understood by the Board.
- All major expenditure decisions being presented to the Board include risk assessment and financial analysis.
- The Audit and Finance Sub-committee monitors progress against budget and reports to the Board.
- Quarterly Management Accounts are prepared by management and a detailed financial report is presented at each Audit & Finance Sub-committee meeting by the CEO and Director of Administration, including any items of expenditure for payment exceeding €50,000.
- All expenditure items in excess of €5,000 are submitted to the Chairperson of the Board for approval.
- The Company undergoes an annual audit by an external auditor and prepares annual financial statements which are approved by the Board and submitted to the CRO.

Statement of corporate governance and internal control (continued)

Operational:

- The Company operates a comprehensive risk management strategy. A detailed risk review is maintained on an on-going basis by senior managers who report to the CEO. The Director of Administration and CEO update the Risk Register and present it to the Board on a quarterly basis. Risks are identified under the following headings: financial and business risks, pedagogic risks and facilities risks. Risks are graded in terms of probability and severity and mitigating controls are agreed so that the residual risk to the Company is minimised. Timelines and individuals responsible for mitigating each risk are identified to ensure all risks are appropriately managed.
- The CEO reports regularly to the Board on the level of Human Resources available to the organisation in the context of the level of activities undertaken.
- The CEO keeps the Chairperson informed on an ongoing basis regarding developments in the organisation and any significant issues arising.
- The Chairperson reviews the performance of the CEO on an annual basis and reports to the Board in this regard.

Compliance:

- The Board ensures that The Lir Academy is law-abiding and compliant with the *Charities Regulator Code of Governance*.
- The Board ensures that The Lir Academy is compliant with the requirements of the *Accounting for Further and Higher Education SORP* (Statement of Recommended Practice) 2019 guidelines.
- The Board also satisfies itself on an ongoing basis that The Lir Academy complies with all relevant legislation e.g. company law, employee relations, health and safety, environmental regulations, building control and fire regulations, ethics, Freedom of Information, and Data Protection legislation as well as a general duty of care to everyone who visits The Lir Academy, works in The Lir Academy and participates in The Lir Academy programmes.
- A governance sub-committee has been established to review, update and approve all company
 policies to ensure The Lir Academy is up to date with current legislation and good practice
 procedures for arts organisations and educational institutions and reports to the Board on an annual
 basis.

Governing Authority Meetings: Confirmation of the number of Board meetings held during the financial year 2020/21 and the attendance records of members is outlined below:

There were 5 meetings of the Board in the financial year 2020/21.

Directors' attendance was as follows:

Directors appointed by Trinity College Dublin:

Prof. Gail McElroy (3/5)

Statement of corporate governance and internal control (continued)

Directors appointed by the Drama Academy Development Company: Jon Downey (Alternate Director for Danielle Ryan) (5/5) Anne Mulcahy (5/5)

Co-opted Directors:
Michael Binchy (5/5)
Anne Clarke (5/5)
Dana Cuffe (5/5)
James Hickey (5/5)
Dermot McCrum (Chair) (5/5)
Eleanor Methven (5/5)
Dearbhla Walsh (0/5)

Appointments/resignations to and from the Board during the financial year 2020/21

None within the financial year.

Peter Reynolds (Director appointed by Trinity College Dublin) was appointed to the Lir Board in October 2021. Dermot McCrum stepped down as Chair in December 2021 and James Hickey was elected as the new Chair of the Lir Board, taking up his appointment on the 1st of January 2022.

The following committees of the Board are currently in place:

- Development Council
- Audit & Finance Committee
- Governance Committee
- Artistic and Pedagogic Committee
- Gender, Diversity and Respect Committee
- Infrastructure and Capital Development Committee

Actions taken/proposed to deal with significant issues and the Board's performance, including its assessment of its own effectiveness

- The new Strategic Plan 2022-26 was launched on March 2nd,2022 after careful planning and consideration by the Board and CEO throughout 2021 and with input from the senior management team, Development Council, staff, students and industry.
- In December 2021, Dermot McCrum the Chair commended the Board on their voluntary support, performance and effectiveness throughout his tenure as Chair of the Board and during the period in particular.
- The newly elected Chair, James Hickey to undertake a board review in 2022.

On behalf of the board

James Hickey
James Hickey
James Hickey
Director

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Anne Mulcahy Director 26th May 2022

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the directors' report and the financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with Irish law.

Irish law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year giving a true and fair view of the company's assets, liabilities and financial position at the end of the financial year and the profit or loss of the company for the financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Irish Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (accounting standards issued by the UK Financial Reporting Council, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* and Irish law).

Under Irish law, the directors shall not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the company's assets, liabilities and financial position as at the end of the financial year and the profit or loss of the company for the financial year.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and identify the standards in question, subject to any material departures from those standards being disclosed and explained in the notes to the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to:

- correctly record and explain the transactions of the company;
- enable, at any time, the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy; and
- enable the directors to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable those financial statements to be audited.

The directors 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.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website.

On behalf of the board

James Hickey
James Hickey
James Hickey

Director

—DocuSigned by:

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Anne Mulcahy

Director

26th May 2022



Independent auditors' report to the members of Trinity College Dublin Academy of Dramatic Art Company Limited by Guarantee

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, Trinity College Dublin Academy of Dramatic Art Company Limited by Guarantee's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the company's assets, liabilities and financial position as at 30 September 2021 and of its loss and cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council of the UK, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Irish law); and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Directors' report and financial statements, which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2021;
- the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in reserves for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) ("ISAs (Ireland)") and applicable law.

Our responsibilities under ISAs (Ireland) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, which includes IAASA's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

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



Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Directors' report and financial statements other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a 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 based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Directors' Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the Companies Act 2014 have been included.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (Ireland) and the Companies Act 2014 require us to also report certain opinions and matters as described below:

- In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Directors' Report for the year ended 30 September 2021 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.
- Based on our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the
 audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the directors' report and the financial statements set out on page 11, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

The directors are also responsible for such internal control as they 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 directors are responsible for assessing the company'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 directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations or have no realistic alternative but to do

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 (Ireland) 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.

Our audit testing might include testing complete populations of certain transactions and balances, possibly using data auditing techniques. However, it typically involves selecting a limited number of items for testing, rather than testing complete populations. We will often seek to target particular items for testing based on their size or risk characteristics. In other cases, we will use audit sampling to enable us to draw a conclusion about the population from which the sample is selected.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA website at:

https://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description of auditors responsibilities for audit.pdf

This description forms part of our auditors' report.



Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Other required reporting

Companies Act 2014 opinions on other matters

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit
- In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Other exception reporting

Directors' remuneration and transactions

Under the Companies Act 2014 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by sections 305 to 312 of that Act have not been made. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Aisling Fitzgerald

for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm

Dublin 26 May 2022

- The maintenance and integrity of The Lir Academy website is the responsibility of the directors; the work carried
 out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no
 responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially
 presented on the website.
- Legislation in the Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 September 2021

	Note	2021 €	2020 €
Income Tuition fees and education contracts Other income Donations	2 3 4	1,780,702 351,041 175,122	1,494,983 400,574 80,589
Total income		2,306,865	1,976,146
Expenditure Staff costs Other operating expenses Depreciation Loan interest	5 7 9 6	1,272,236 1,074,282 141,532	1,145,384 911,531 137,140 1,214
Total expenditure		2,488,050	2,195,269
Deficit before tax		(181,185)	(219,123)
Taxation	8		
Deficit for the year		(181,185)	(219,123)
Total comprehensive loss for the year		(181,185)	(219,123)
Represented by: Restricted comprehensive income for the year Unrestricted comprehensive loss for the year		(181,185)	(219,123)
Total comprehensive loss for the year		(181,185)	(219,123)

All items of income and expenditure relate to continuing activities

Statement of financial position

as at 30 September 2021

	Note	2021 €	2020 €
Non-current assets Fixed assets	9	203,966	298,852
		203,966	298,852
Current assets Trade and other receivables Cash and cash equivalents	10 13	117,955 459,325	128,311 485,532
		577,280	613,843
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(802,582)	(1,002,846)
Net current liabilities		(225,302)	(389,003)
Creditors: amounts falling due over one year	12	(250,000)	-
Total net (liabilities)		(271,336)	(90,151)
Restricted reserves Income and expenditure reserve – endowment reserve Income and expenditure reserve – restricted		- 8,450	- 8,450
Unrestricted reserves Income and expenditure reserve – unrestricted		(279,786)	(98,601)
Total reserves		(271,336)	(90,151)

The financial statements were approved by the board on 26^{th} May 2022 and were signed on its behalf on that date by:

DocuSigned by:

James Hickey
James Hickey
Director

-DocuSigned by

Anne Mulcahy

Director

Statement of changes in reserves for the year ended 30 September 2021

	Income and expenditure reserve			
	Endowment €	Restricted €		Total €
Balance at 1 October 2019	-	8,450	120,522	128,972
Deficit for the year	-		(219,123)	(219,123)
Total comprehensive loss for the year			(219,123)	(219,123)
Balance at 1 October 2020	-	8,450	(98,601)	(90,151)
Deficit for the year	-		(181,185)	(181,185)
Total comprehensive loss for the year			(181,185)	(181,185)
Balance at 30 September 2021		8,450	(279,786)	(271,336)

Statement of cash flows

for the year ended 30 September 2021

	2021 €	2020 €
Cash flows from operating activities		
Deficit for the year Adjustments for non-cash items	(181,185)	(219,123)
Depreciation Receipts of donated equipment	141,532 (40,000)	137,140 (14,760)
Adjustments for working capital items Decrease/(increase) in debtors (Decrease)/Increase in creditors	10,356 (139,560)	(31,852) 186,811
Adjustment for investing or financing activities Interest payable		1,214
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	(208,857)	59,430
Cash flows from investing activities Payments made to acquire fixed assets	(6,646)	(17,406)
	(6,646)	(17,406)
Cash flows from financing activities Interest paid	-	(1,214)
Loan drawdowns & repayments	189,296	
	189,296	(1,214)
(Decrease)/Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the		
year Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	(26,207) 485,532	40,810 444,722
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	459,325	485,532

Notes

forming part of the financial statements

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

Trinity College Dublin Academy of Dramatic Art Company Limited by Guarantee ("the Academy" or "the Company") is a company incorporated and domiciled in Ireland.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102").

The Academy has also adopted the recommendations of The Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), 'Charities SORP FRS102'. While the Charities SORP has not yet been prescribed as mandatory in Ireland by the Charities Regulatory Authority, it is considered to be best practice, and on that basis the Academy have early adopted its recommendations. The Academy is a public benefit entity and therefore has applied the relevant public benefit requirement of FRS 102. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

Going concern

The company incurred a net loss for the year of €181,185. (2020: €219,123) It had net current liabilities of €225,302 (2020: €389,003) at the balance sheet date and total net liabilities of €271,336 (2020: €90,151) at that date. Included within net current liabilities is an amount of €519,518 relating to deferred income fees received in advance which are not expected to have a cashflow impact over the next 12 months.

The directors have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis, which assumes that the Company will continue in operational existence for at least one year from the date of approving the financial statements. The directors are satisfied to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis having considered the actions taken, current position and future projections which indicate that the Company will have sufficient cash flows to meet its obligations as they fall due.

With the removal of social distancing at the Lir Academy in November 2021, the Lir Academy no longer requires additional investment to support learning through Covid-19 in 2021-22 to the extent of what was required by the academy in 2019-20 and 2020-21. A working capital loan of €250,000 which had been agreed in principle in 2020, was formally approved by the TCD Finance Committee in April 2021 and drawn down in full by The Lir Academy in May 2021 to shore up the deficit caused by Covid-19 in previous years.

Due to this financial support from Trinity College and a resumption of all earned income activities, the Company have maintained a healthy cashflow position and are on track to achieve a projected surplus position at year end 2022 and on into 2022-23.

1 Accounting policies

(b) Income recognition

Tuition fee income is recognised on an accruals basis in accordance with the right to consideration earned. Bursaries and scholarships are accounted for gross as expenditure and not deducted from income.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(b) Income recognition (continued)

Income from the sale of goods or services is recognised when the goods or services are supplied to the external customers or the terms of the contract have been satisfied.

Grant funding

Government revenue grants are recognised in income over the periods in which the Academy recognises the related costs for which the grant is intended to compensate. Where part of a government grant is deferred it is recognised as deferred income within creditors and allocated between creditors due within one year and due after more than one year as appropriate.

Grants from non-government sources are recognised in income when the Academy is entitled to the income and performance related conditions have been met. Income received in advance of performance related conditions being met is recognised as deferred income within creditors on the balance sheet and released to income as the conditions are met.

Donations

Non-exchange transactions without performance related conditions are donations. Donations with donor-imposed restrictions are recognised in income when the Academy is entitled to the funds. Income is retained within restricted reserves until such time that it is utilised in line with such restrictions at which point the income is released to unrestricted reserves through a reserve transfer.

Donations with no restrictions are recognised in income when the Academy is entitled to the funds.

Donated services are included at the fair value to the Academy where this can be quantified. Donations in kind are included at their estimated value to the Academy in both revenue and expenditure in the year of receipt.

There is one main type of restricted donations, where relevant, within reserves:

 Restricted donations – the donor has specified that the donation must be used for a particular objective.

(c) Employment benefits

Short term employment benefits such as salaries and compensated absences are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render service to the Academy. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the Academy expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

The company operates a defined contribution plan for certain employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the company pays fixed contributions on behalf of the employee into a separate entity and has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions or to make direct benefit payments to employees if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods. The assets of the plan are held separately from the company in independently administered funds. The contributions to the defined contribution plan are recognised as an expense when employees render related services. Amounts not paid are included in accruals in the balance sheet.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(d) Operating leases

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Any lease premiums or incentives are spread over the lease term.

(e) Fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Where parts of a fixed asset have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of fixed assets.

Donated fixed assets are recorded at fair value and recognised in income as at the date of donation.

Equipment, including computers and software, costing less than €1,000 per individual item is recognised as expenditure. All other equipment is capitalised.

Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of assets as follows:

Computer equipment 3 years
Fixtures and fittings 10 years
Stage equipment and electrics 10 years

Leasehold improvements shorter of lease term or useful economic life

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed on an annual basis.

(f) Basic financial instruments

Trade and other debtors/creditors

Trade and other debtors are recognised initially at transaction price plus attributable transaction costs. Trade and other creditors are recognised initially at transaction price less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses in the case of trade debtors. If the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, for example if payment is deferred beyond normal business terms, then it is measured at the present value of future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and call deposits. Bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Company's cash management are included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose only of the cash flow statement.

Interest-bearing borrowings classified as basic financial instruments

Interest-bearing borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, interest-bearing borrowings are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(g) Impairment of financial assets

A financial asset not carried at fair value through the statement of comprehensive income is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if objective evidence indicates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. For financial instruments measured at cost less impairment an impairment is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the best estimate of the amount that the Company would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the reporting date. Interest on the impaired asset continues to be recognised through the unwinding of the discount. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income. When a subsequent event causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through the statement of comprehensive income.

(h) Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets

Provisions are recognised in the financial statements when:

- (a) the Academy has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event;
- (b) it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation; and
- (c) a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a rate that reflects risks specific to the liability.

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the Academy a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Academy. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Academy a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Academy.

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but are disclosed in the notes, where applicable.

(i) Taxation

As the Academy holds tax-exempt status, it is not liable for corporation tax or income tax on any of its charitable activities.

(i) Reserves

Reserves are classified as restricted or unrestricted. Restricted endowment reserves, if any, include balances which, through endowment to the Academy, are held as a permanently restricted fund which the Academy must hold in perpetuity. The Academy had no endowment reserves in the current or prior year.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(i) Reserves (continued)

Other restricted reserves include balances where the donor has designated a specific purpose and therefore the Academy is restricted in the use of these funds.

(k) Accounting estimates and judgements

In the preparation of the financial statements various estimates, judgements and assumptions have been made that impact on amounts reported as assets, liabilities, income and expenditure. Estimates and assumptions used are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The principal estimates, judgements and assumptions used in the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2021 are as follows:

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated based on estimates and assumptions on the useful economic life and expected residual value of the asset.

Recoverability of debtors

The provision for bad debts is calculated based on management's expectation on the recoverability of debt. In calculating the provision for bad debt the following factors are considered: age of the debt, the default history and current situation of the debtor and current market conditions.

2	Tuition fees and education contracts	2021 €	2020 €	
	Full-time and part-time home and EU students Full-time and part-time non-EU international students	1,377,013 403,689	1,208,433 286,550	
		1,780,702	1,494,983	

Tuition income of €57,533 in relation to the 2019-20 academic year was deferred at 30 September 2020 (€0 2021) as the academic year was not completed until 16 October 2020, due to the impact of Covid-19.

3	Other income	2021 €	2020 €
	Courses and workshop income Government grant income-wage subsidy scheme Lir in business income Venue rental Box office and bar income Other income	205,234 98,701 3,600 11,399 32,107	46,419 200,296 85,346 27,041 19,804 21,668
		351,041	400,574

Short course income of €19,598 received pre year end was deferred at 30 September 2021 as the courses were not completed during the year due to the impact of Covid-19. €42,425 was deferred at 30 September 2020.

4	Donations	2021 €	2020 €
	Unrestricted donations	175,122	80,589
		175,122	80,589
	There were nil new donations with restrictions (2020:nil)		
5	Staff costs	2021 €	2020 €
	Staff costs: Salaries Social security costs	1,147,450 124,786	1,063,509 81,875
	Total	1,272,236	1,145,384

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Academy. Staff costs includes compensation paid to key management personnel.

	2021 €	2020 €
Key management personnel compensation	426,881	364,088
Average staff numbers by major category:	2021 Number	2020 Number
Management and administration Technical and teaching	12 26 	11 26
	38	37
Higher paid staff		
Salary bands €50,000-€60,000 €60,000-€70,000 €70,000-€80,000 €90,000-€100,000	2 2 1 1	2 1 - 1
	6	4
24		

6	Interest and other finance costs	2021 €	2020 €
	Loan interest		1,214
			1,214
7	Other operating expenses	2021 €	2020 €
	Production and project costs Teachers and other fees Repairs, maintenance and cleaning Light and heat Marketing and advertising costs Travel and entertainment Bursary costs Insurance Indirect expenditure Professional fees Printing, postage and stationery Course materials and room hire Other expenses	253,650 234,777 92,066 82,575 66,268 23,049 61,609 33,210 	259,304 184,240 77,879 72,457 55,066 15,875 57,084 35,783 5,180 24,361 9,736 48,243 66,323
		1,074,282	911,531
	Professional fees include: External auditors remuneration in respect of audit services	9,500	6,000

8 Taxation

There is no corporation tax charge for the Academy in the current or prior year as it has tax exempt status.

9	Fixed assets	Fixtures and fittings €	Computer equipment €	Stage equipment and electrics €	Leasehold improvements €	Total €
	Cost At 1 October 2020 Additions	220,073 1,000	69,461 -	751,969 45,646	273,578 -	1,315,081 46,646
	At 30 September 2021	221,073	69,461	797,615	273,578	1,361,727
	Depreciation At 1 October 2020 Charge for the year	163,515 22,099	57,442 6,809	562,698 78,427	232,574 34,197	1,016,229 141,532
	At 30 September 2021	185,614	64,251	641,125	266,771	1,157,761
	Net book value At 30 September 2021	35,459	5,210	156,490	6,807	203,966
	At 30 September 2020	56,558	12,019	189,271	41,004	298,852
10	Trade and other receiva	bles		20	21 202 €	0 €
	Amounts falling due within Trade receivables Prepayments and accrued	•		102,5 15,4		
				117,9	128,31	- 1 =

11	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2021 €	2020 €
	Amount due to related party (Note 14) Unsecured loan due to related party (Note 12) Trade payables PAYE/PRSI VAT Accruals Deferred income	45,635 - 64,702 36,890 3,673 132,084 519,598	76,319 60,704 128,052 30,166 6,702 100,946 599,957
		802,582	1,002,846

The company received in advance tuition fee income of €500,000 in July 2021 from Trinity College Dublin which relates to the 2021-2022 academic year. This amount is shown under deferred income and a similar amount was deferred at the previous year-end. Also, due to the disruption caused by Covid-19 the company was unable to complete all of its scheduled courses until after the year end which led to increased deferred income of €19,598 at the year end.

12	Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	2021 €	2020 €
	Unsecured loan due to related party	250,000	60,704
		250,000	60,704
	Analysis of unsecured loans:		
	Due within one year or on demand (note 11) Due between one and two year Due between two and five years Due in five years or more	150,000 100,000	60,704 - - -
	Due after more than one year	250,000	
	Total unsecured loans	250,000	60,704

The Academy received a loan of €234,000 from Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin in 2013. The loan was repayable over a term of 7 years and was subject to interest of 2% per annum on the outstanding balance. This loan was fully repaid in February 2021. The Academy received an additional loan in May 2021 for €250,000 from Trinity College Dublin. This loan is repayable over a term of 7 years and is subject to interest of 1.28% per annum on the outstanding balance

13	Cash and cash equivalents	1 October 2020 €	Cash flows €	30 September 2021 €
	Cash at bank and in hand	485,532	(26,207)	459,325
		485,532	(26,207)	459,325

14 Related party transactions

Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin ("the College") is a related party as there are two College representatives out of a total of ten board members in the Company. The College has leased the Academy building to the Company and students at The Lir are fully registered students of the College.

During the year the Company was allocated fee and core grant income of €1,780,702 (2020: €1,552,516) which was received, to cover the cost of its academic programmes. €1,780,702 (2020: €1,494,983) has been recognised as part of income for the year with an amount of €nil recognised as deferred income at 30 September 2021 (2020: €57,533) (see note 2). In addition, indirect expenditure of €nil (2019: €5,180) was charged to the Company by the College. The Company has leased a property from the College at a nominal rent charge of €10 per annum.

The Company also had an outstanding loan balance at 30 September 2021 of €250,000 (2020 €60,704) due to the College as disclosed in notes 11 and 12.

Total outstanding balance due by the Company to the College in relation to the foregoing transactions as at 30 September 2021 amounted to €295,635 (2020: €137,023) which is made up of the loan balance of €250,000 (2020: €60,704) and other liabilities of €45,635 (2020: €76,319).

15 Membership

The Company is a Company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. Every member is liable for the debts and liabilities of the Company in the event of a winding up for such an amount as may be required, not exceeding €1 each, in accordance with clause five of the Memorandum of Association. There were five members at 30 September 2021. (8 in 2020)

16 Events after the reporting period

There have been no significant events after the reporting period which require an adjustment to or a disclosure thereon in these financial statements.

17 Approval of financial statements

The board approved the financial statements on 26th May 2022.