



kalasangam



Annual Review

April 2014 - March 2015

Chair & CEO's Report

Dear Friends

It gives us great pleasure in presenting this year's annual review for 2014-15. As always, this year has had a wide and varied programme of events reaching out to all sectors of the community.

Artistically we have had a variety of events including our own productions Aadi Shankara and Tales of Textiles but the mammoth Indika show was a definite highlight of the year.

We were also privileged to host a reception for HE Ranjan Mathai High Commissioner of India to the UK and a follow up visit by the Deputy High Commissioner Dr Virander Paul, to discuss a strategic partnership with the Indian High Commission's cultural wing The Nehru Centre.

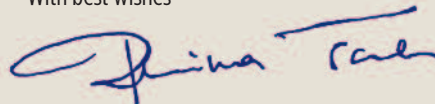
This year however was also a very challenging one for us all after the Arts Council of England announced a funding cut from April 2015. This led us through a robust business planning phase with the support of the Arts Council of England which has helped to realign the company including setting a new creative path going forward with a new mission and vision.

However with the sterling support from our trustees past and present, and also with the dedicated and committed staff team, who have, together delivered yet another outstanding year of arts events amidst funding cuts and a tough funding climate.

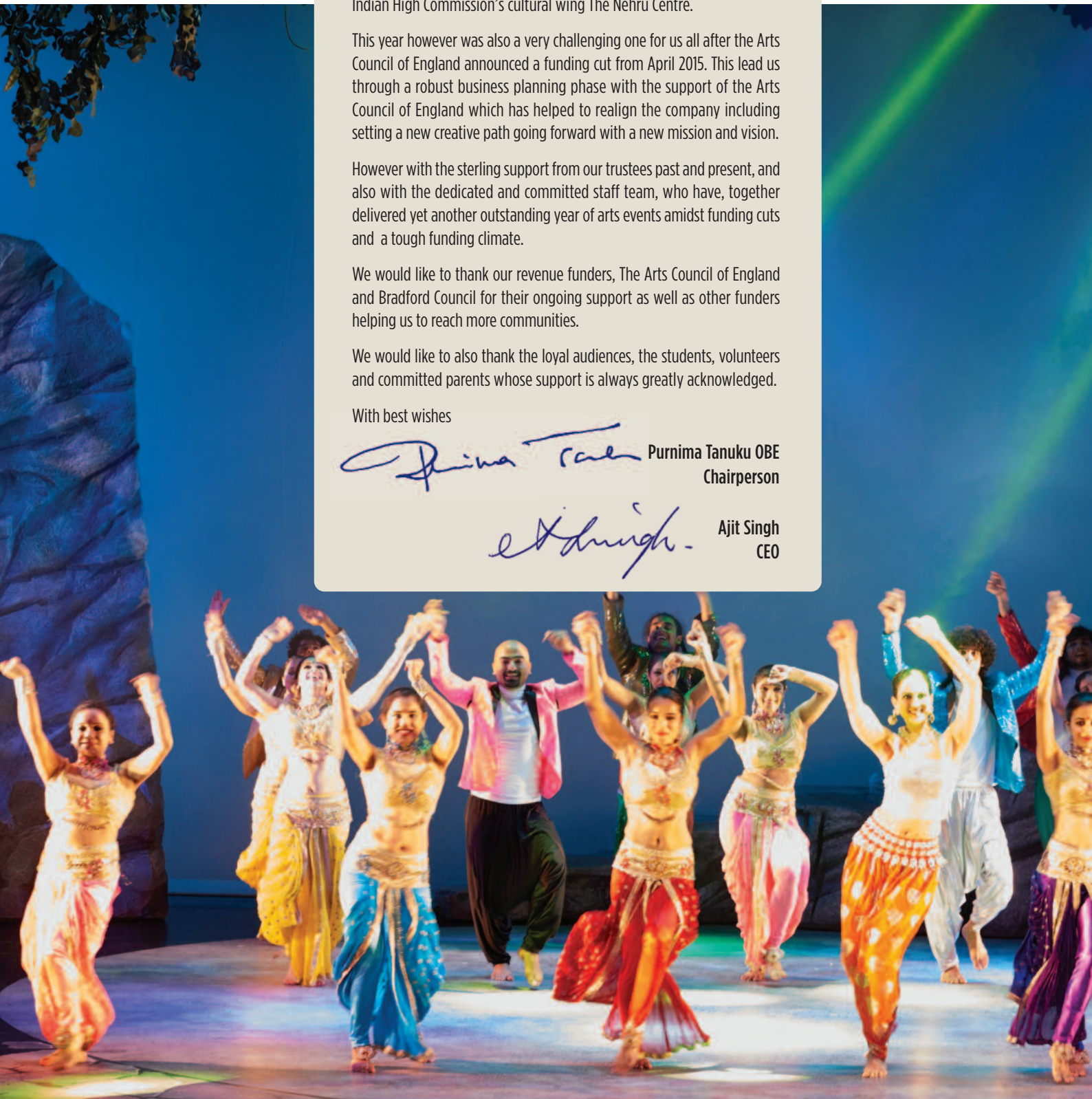
We would like to thank our revenue funders, The Arts Council of England and Bradford Council for their ongoing support as well as other funders helping us to reach more communities.

We would like to also thank the loyal audiences, the students, volunteers and committed parents whose support is always greatly acknowledged.

With best wishes

 Purnima Tanuku OBE
Chairperson

 Ajit Singh
CEO



Artistic Director's Report

Dear Friends

I am delighted to share the years events with you and as always it has been an interesting artistic year.

It was wonderful to present a variety of performances which saw the talents of the Academy students, national and international artists. Especially the Academy students are growing in their artistic ventures and are much sought after in many community events.

Having Shrikant and Vijay the very talented artists in the company has given me the impetus to create new work and this was a new experience and artistically rewarding. **Aadi Shankara** was a challenging creation and very well received sold out show while the **Tales of Textiles and Journeying with the Christmas Story** were rather harder to perform due to the limitations in the performance space

However, the most testing yet a show of great magnitude was **Indika** which had very skilled dancers from India. Presented at CAST, Doncaster, nearly 10,000 people saw the show and wanted it repeated.

Soulful music from the Vichitra Vina by Vijay was a treat for all while the national companies of Srishti and Sonia Sabri Dance companies were warmly welcomed by an enthusiastic audience.

The other good news for the company was the appointment of the CEO which has given me more time to devote to artistic work.

I hope that we will be able to create more interesting partnerships and collaborations to produce memorable work whilst we continue to strengthen the Academy, our educational and community work for young people and families.

Geetha Upadhyaya
Artistic Director



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Above from left to right:
Earl of Harewood David Lascelles;
HE Ranjan Mathai; David Pearson DL;
Pete Massey; Geetha Upadhyaya;
Ajit Singh



Programming & Box Office

We started this year's programme with the launch of **'Harappa: The Lure of Soma'** by Dr. Shankar Kashyap a fictional version of the pre-history of India.

In April, we featured the celebrated Hindi film **'Legend of Bhagat Singh'** a story of the legendary Indian patriot.

May saw a collaborative production, **'Aadi Shankara – The Guru'**, based on the life and teachings of the foremost Indian guru who is said to have lived during 509 BC. The production directed by Geetha Upadhyaya, featured Shrikant Subramaniam in the lead role as the Guru and also as a dancer with the additional regional dancers Uma Rajesh, Nritya Rammohan, Ryan Kitson, an actor from the Yorkshire School of Acting and young Abhay Nambiar as the child Shankara, while Vijay Venkat was the lead musician.

In June, Kala Sangam produced a thematic performance, **'Tales of Textiles'** which was a commissioned collaboration with Bradford Cathedral as part of their Textiles exhibition at the Bradford Cathedral. It featured Fred Stone, the local storyteller with Shrikant Subramaniam (dancer and storyteller), Geetha Upadhyaya (Script, Direction and storytelling) with competent musicians Vijay Venkat (lead musician) and R. N. Prakash (percussion).

Kala Sangam was also commissioned to present individual dance and music performances at **'Bradford Festival'** in City Park.

During the same month, we also featured our Academy students in our summer **'Kala Utsav'** wherein the students displayed their learning in dance, music, literature etc through their performances.

In September, Dr Naheed presented **'Geeth and Ghazals'** to an appreciative audience. During the same month we also featured the multi-show mega musical, **'Indika – The Show'** at The Cast, Doncaster, featuring 24 dancers from India under the artistic direction of Geetha Upadhyaya.

In October, Sonia Sabri Company presented their latest production **'Salaam'** on the works of the 13th century Sufi Saint Hazarat Amir Khusrao.

Also in the same month, as an on going collaboration with the NCEM, York, Kala Sangam produced **'The Dance Divine'** based on a Japanese story through spoken word, dance and music under the Artistic Direction of Geetha Upadhyaya while,

Vijay Venkat created music for the production and the Iranian percussionist Arian Sadr provided the percussion support.

November featured Kala Sangam Academy's students and outreach classes' students in the display of their talents in the well attended grand annual students' showcase **'Kala Utsav'** held at Bradford Grammar School.

We created a production **'Journeying with the Christmas Story'** in November, interpreting Sue Symmon's 'One Man's Journey to Heaven' which is an arts and crafts work on the life of Christ, on display at Bradford Cathedral as our annual collaboration with the Cathedral.

November also saw us presenting our Musician in Residence, Vijay Venkat on the Vichitra Veena in a thematic performance titled **'Nav Utsav'**.

Spring season was ushered in with the **'Songs of Spring'** music concert in January 2015 by singer Rakesh Joshi as a continuation of the launch of **'Colours of Spring'** visual arts exhibition.

In February, our annual celebration of the Lord of Dance was presented as **'Kala Samarpan'** – an offering of arts which featured many musicians and dancers from all over the UK.

Also in February, we were commissioned by the prestigious and Internationally acclaimed **'Akhil Bharatiya Dhrupad Mela'** (All India Dhrupad Festival) to present Vijay Venkat, our Musician in Residence on the Vichitra Veena recital in Varanasi, India. Vijay Venkat was awarded the prestigious Dhrupad Mela award for his performance.

Events in February ended with Shristi Dance Company of London's new production **'JHAM!'** and we ended the season in March with the award winning feature film from India, in Malayalam titled **'Elipattayam'** (Rat Trap) directed by the celebrated Adoor Gopalakrishnan.





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Exhibitions

Helen Baker's **'The Colour of Sound'** in the month of May was an exhibition viewed by many art lovers with each colour represented by an individual sound track.

In September 2014, we launched the Calligraphy Exhibitions **'Love Actually...'** by some of the wonderfully talented artists, Lord Richard- Fouad MacLeod, Zareena Bano and Humaira Minhas, which were on display for the rest of the year.

In the New year, we ushered in the Spring season with the visual arts exhibition **'Colours of Spring'** in which we featured Silk Painting by Jane Carlisle Bellerby and Varli painting by Ramya Tangirala.





Academy

The main achievements for this year has been the wonderful showcase **'Kala Utsav'** in November 2014 where all the academy students were given an opportunity to perform at the main stage at Bradford Grammar school.

Performances of our academy students who excel in Bharatanatyam, Carnatic vocal, key board, violin, flute and vocal was well received and appreciated.

Another well attended event where the Academy participated was **'Kala Jagran'** or Arts Awakening.

Nearly 500 people from all over UK attended this event which presented different compositions on Shiva and beautifully portrayed through South Asian dance and music choreographed with great verve and enthusiasm by young talented children and their teachers from around West Yorkshire.

Parents also applauded the Tamil language students who rendered some of the rare poetries in Tamil.



Children, Young People and Families

Creative Kids KS2 programme

This project funded by the Ernest Cook Trust and Sovereign Healthcare Charitable Trust and was developed to work with schools through South Asian arts.

The project aimed to work with 4 classes over a number of sessions on a specific Jataka Tale (a collection of South Asian fables). Children took part in workshops in Music, dance, Visual arts & storytelling to create their own performances.

Professional artists worked with young children in a school setting leading to mini performances in the schools and a showcase with all four classes was held at St Peter's House, Kala Sangam. The project provided high quality creative experiences for children and young people.

District Wide Project (Health project)

OLDER POLISH GROUP - Increasing Wellbeing and Self-Worth

We worked with older Polish men and women at The Polish Community Centre in Bradford and the majority of the group were frail and had on-going health problems.

The group created different creative items each week for themselves and the centre. This included textiles with fruit and vegetable designs, heart shaped cushions, welcome sign in Polish and silk painted light boxes. They used traditional Polish designs and techniques such as fabric painting/printing, stencilling, rubber stamping, collage, silk painting.

HORTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL - (HPPS) MUMS PROJECT - Increasing knowledge of healthy lifestyles and increasing confidence to teach this to others.

HPPS is in a deprived area of Bradford where the community faces a lot of challenges. This 13 week project worked with Mums at HPPS focusing on different health issues such as healthy eating and healthy lifestyles.

There were many positive outcomes as a result of this project including: parents interacting with one another, sharing knowledge and experiences; learning about health in a fun creative way and passing on this information in a similar fun, creative way to their children.

OASIS PROJECT - Family learning and participating project increasing knowledge of healthy eating and physical exercise.

This powerful, 13 sessions project took place in a safe home working with mums and children of different ages. The project explored healthy eating and physical exercise; the children took a real interest in learning about the size of portions and how these could be measured according whilst the adults showed an interest in learning about recommended exercise.

One mum said "This project has been good, my children didn't eat fruit and veg before, they always went for crisps when they felt hungry, now I see them going straight for the fruit bowl, they measure their portions in the palm of their hand and it's good to see how they encourage one another."



Youth Music – Yuva Sangeet

The aim of the programme was to invite young people to develop their creative, expressive and musical ability which helped support them develop resilience to the challenging circumstances they find themselves in and increase their engagement with positive opportunities. This opportunity was available for up to 100 young people in Bradford.

Arts Awards:

There are undoubted benefits of having the Arts Awards as an element and outcome of the project. It shaped the delivery of the final phase/extension and the participants enjoyed the challenges it presented. With the extension approval we were able to work with the young people at Brathay and help guide them in putting their portfolios together. Although they had been part of the workshops in previous phases, the young people had not collated any evidence for the folders. Over this period we offered two evenings, Wednesday and Friday, as some of the young people had commitments therefore providing two options to meet worked for everyone.

From October 2014 to January 2015 the young people:

- Recapped on previous sessions they had and put evidence in Part A of folders.
- We booked Stella Litras, a Songwriter/Musician, for an additional seven workshops for those who had not had over 30 hours contact time with an artist.
- For Part B we as a group went to see 'Caution Collective' in Leeds to be part of an audience then wrote up on the event.
- For Part C we researched an individual Musician/Artist that we were inspired by then wrote an A4 report on them.
- For our showcase, Part D the young people planned and performed a gig in Leeds at Café bar 212. We had over 60 people attend this and the YP raised over £350.00 for charity.

Legacy created by Arts Award element of project:

- Young people's confidence just elevated by the end performance.
- Young people are keen to have a CD created of the songs sung at the event, which again will raise further money for charity.
- Six young people fully completed Bronze Arts Awards, which showed them that they are very capable and talented individuals.
- Personally the biggest achievement for me is the six young people are now keen to complete the Silver Arts Awards.





Venue Hire

We have now been able to extend our mission by offering our space where groups of people come together for art, community and voluntary projects, public and business purposes, and social gatherings.

Room Hire

Over the last year Kala Sangam Art Centre has been promoted as a unique and versatile venue that can host a variety of events and functions such as:

Performances, Rehearsals, Auditions, Classes, Workshops, Meetings, Conferences, Exhibitions, Training, Networking, Awards Ceremonies and Private Celebrations.

Our space consists of various meeting rooms, two large halls plus a bright and airy foyer and gallery area.

Studio theatre space is available to hire with full stage lighting and sound system plus retractable raked seating. Combined with a fully sprung wooden floor, this is very popular with local amateur dance and theatre companies.

For business clients, we offer all of the expected meeting and conference facilities but, in a unique arts venue setting.

Our bespoke away days and team building packages are tailored to meet client's needs. We provide a wide range of artistic activities to complement business objectives.

We have successfully targeted the following sectors:

Arts, Community and Charity, Public, Business, Private bookers.



Tenants

In addition to our hourly or daily room hire we also have a number of long term tenants within our building:

FoodWorks – who operate the café at Kala Sangam Art Centre and provide our event catering. They are a Social Enterprise supporting people with learning disabilities. The roof top café offers 'food with personality'.

Dance United Yorkshire – deliver bespoke dance projects, working in partnership with frontline organisations. In addition to office space, DUY are also a regular user of our studio space.

Pro-Voice Studio – a voice coach working with individuals to develop and improve vocal technique and confidence for both performers and members of the public.

Creative Support – offer support and advice for individuals recovering from mental health issues.

Crown of Christ Church – a community gospel church that also use our halls for weekly services.

New Initiatives

In the last year we have also successfully launched a number of new initiatives, highlights include:

'Cinemathque' Film Screenings – a joint initiative with Reel Solutions presenting a selection of new releases and established classics, a diverse range of films from around the world. All of our screenings were introduced and accompanied by Film Notes and post-screening discussions took place. The films in our season offered representations of different cultures and different communities.

KS Ladies Networking – an opportunity for local business women to meet in a relaxed arts environment, with speakers from the local business or political world.

'Bradford Means Business' – we have hosted two business networking events in conjunction with Yorkshire Enterprise Network and Telegraph & Argus, the local newspaper.



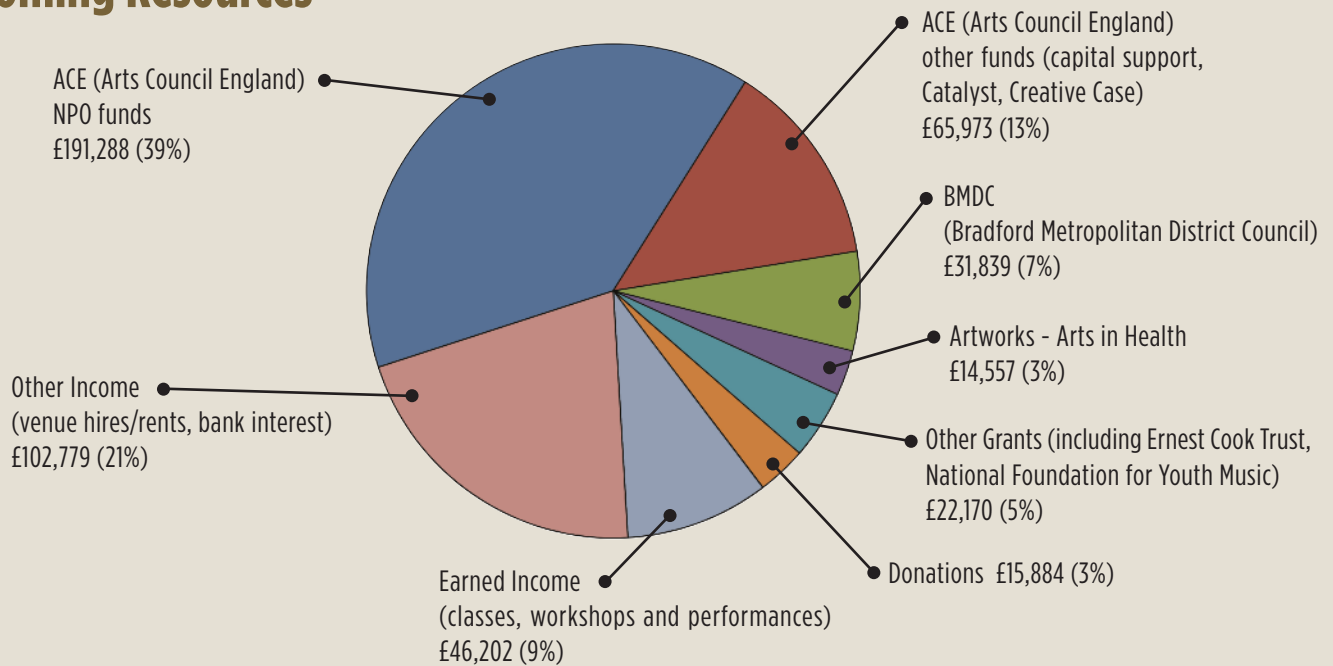
Financial Overview

Statement of Financial Activities * Year ended 31 st March 2015	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £
Incoming Resources				
Grants & Trust income	267,908	57,919	325,827	391,048
Generated by Activities	46,202	-	46,202	39,520
Other income (inc. Donations & Interest)	118,663	-	118,663	66,652
Total Incoming Resources	432,773	57,919	490,692	497,220
Resources Expended				
Costs of Generating Funds	12,982	-	12,982	18,463
Costs of Charitable Activities	456,226	28,768	484,994	492,348
Governance Costs	4,481	-	4,481	2,845
Capital Costs	-	52,362	52,362	77,050
Total Resources Expended	473,689	81,130	554,819	590,706
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources before Transfers	(40,916)	(23,211)	(64,127)	(93,486)
Transfers between Funds	-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds	(40,916)	(23,211)	(64,127)	(93,486)
Total Funds brought forward	243,975	1,108,454	1,352,429	1,445,915
Total Funds carried forward	203,059	1,085,243	1,288,302	1,352,429

Balance Sheet * Year ended 31 st March 2015	31st March 2015 £		31st March 2014 £	
Fixed Assets		1,083,653		1,151,148
Current Assets				
Debtors, Prepayments and Stock	103,800		91,303	
Cash at Bank and In-Hand	282,334		271,535	
Total Current Assets	386,134		362,838	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	181,485		161,556	
Net Current Assets less Current Liabilities		204,649		201,281
Total Net Assets		1,288,302		1,352,429
Funds				
<i>Restricted funds:</i>				
Capital Restricted Funds		1,085,243		1,112,605
Other Restricted Funds		-		(4,151)
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>				
General Funds		77,679		107,859
Designated Funds		125,380		136,116
Total Funds		1,288,302		1,352,429

* subject to external audit and acceptance

Incoming Resources



Kala Sangam gratefully acknowledges the support of our staff, Board, audiences, communities, artists, sponsors and funders, including Arts Council England and Bradford Metropolitan District Council.

Revenue Funders



Other Funders





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