COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 10063205
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1168412

Talk About Art Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited Financial Statements

31 December 2025

R. E. JONES & CO.
Chartered accountants
132 Burnt Ash Road
Lee
London
SE12 8PU

Talk About Art Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2025

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Talk About Art Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 December 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Talk About Art Limited
Charity registration number	1168412
Company registration number	10063205
Principal office and registered office	132 Burnt Ash Road SE12 8PU London

The trustees

Mr W B Eldridge	(Retired 21 May 2025)
Ms K Hibbert	
Rev C F Pickstone	(Retired 5 February 2025)
Mr A Rizzo	
Ms N Sampson	
Ms V Carmichael	(Retired 24 February 2025)
Ms J Ward	
Ms J Tonkin	(Appointed 21 May 2025)
Ms T Vine	(Appointed 21 May 2025)
Mr I Wood	(Appointed 10 July 2025)

Independent examiner	Stephen Jones 132 Burnt Ash Road Lee London SE12 8PU

Structure, governance and management

Talk About Art Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The organisational structure of Talk About Art Limited consists of a Board which meets regularly to discuss and agree to activities and make decisions that progress the activities of the organisation.

The Board is responsible for the smooth running of Talk About Art.

The trustees are also directors for the purpose of the Companies Act.

The appointment of new trustees/directors is reviewed regularly to cover the areas of expertise required by the charity.

The training requirements of trustees are also reviewed regularly at trustee meetings.

Trustees also review their needs for skills to meet their strategies and aims, together with potential new trustees.

The trustees are volunteers and do not receive benefits from the company.

The trustees maintain a policy of reserves to cover six months operating costs to ensure that contractual commitments can be met in the event of a sudden change, or loss, in funding.

This was met at the year end and in addition after the year end the trustees had confirmation that further funding from the Elizabeth Legacy Fund would be provided in 2026 and 2027. This will approximately cover our core funding needed so accordingly the trustees have confidence in the financial position of the charity.

The trustees confirm that the major risks to which the charity is exposed have been reviewed, and systems and procedures have been established to identify and respond to such risks.

Major risks are defined as those with a high possibility of occurring, and would have a severe impact on operational performance, achievements, aims and reputation of the charity.

A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy and its regular review by the trustees.

Objectives and activities

The company is registered as a charitable organisation limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 15 March 2016.

On 17 July 2024 the objectives were resolved to be:
The promotion of art, including the appreciation of the visual arts, and the advancement of education in art by:

a) Promoting greater access to and engagement with the visual arts for children and teenagers for whom exposure to the visual arts may be restricted or discouraged;

b) Promoting the arts, in particular the visual arts, by mounting exhibitions and providing supporting activities which encourage creative participation, research, debate and a sharing of knowledge through workshops, augmented reality technology, public talks, publications and other forms of ambassadorship;

c) Educating in the visual arts.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in setting the charity's objectives and planning its activities. Talk About Art delivers public benefit by providing children and young people in Lewisham and Greenwich, many facing disadvantage, and for whom access to the visual arts is otherwise limited, with high-quality creative workshops, embedded artists and gallery visits, for around 90% of whom this is a first experience of a gallery or museum. Participation is free to the children and schools involved; the schools reached have significant proportions of pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium, and no private benefit arises beyond that which is incidental to carrying out the charity's purposes. The trustees, who are unpaid, are satisfied that the year's activities delivered clear benefit to the public in furtherance of the charity's objects.

Purpose and performance

Talk About Art was established in 2015 by Sir Ian Mills to promote greater access to and engagement with the visual arts for young people living in the boroughs of Lewisham and Greenwich. Our projects see recent arts graduates develop and lead a broad spectrum of relevant, impactful, high quality, structured workshops with clear outcomes, leading to a final object that can be celebrated and act as a legacy for the project helping to embed Talk About Art in our communities.

With the appointment of a new Chair and a refreshed Board of Trustees, Talk About Art works across the London boroughs of Lewisham and Greenwich to deliver an evolving programme of creative projects in school settings, all of which respond to the pressing issues affecting children and young people such as primary school absenteeism, poor mental health and poor career/learning development for those with no family history of further or higher education.

Many of these issues have been exacerbated post pandemic and school absence rates are now higher than during the pandemic and are likely due to conditions including anxiety, mental health and wellbeing. Post pandemic, there has been a considerable increase in young people disengaging from mainstream education and a commensurate need for the third sector to provide additional support to schools.

Strong partnerships are key to the successful delivery of all of Talk About Art's projects. 2025 saw the charity build partnerships with the Bartlett School of Architecture, Goldsmiths and University of the Arts, Lewisham & Greenwich Hospital Trust, Barbican, the Design Museum, Horniman Museum & Gardens and the Foundling Museum along with early years, primary and secondary schools and alternative provisions across Lewisham and Greenwich.

Governance
Talk About Art is governed by a board of seven trustees who each bring critical knowledge and passion. They support the charity to deliver and communicate our programme of projects. They help us generate income from trusts, foundations and other sources, as well as scrutinising our work to make sure it benefits children and builds on best practice in all areas of service delivery.

Current trustees:
Kris Hibbert, Solicitor (Chair of the Board)
Jeanette Ward, Media Manager, Wellcome Collection (Vice Chair)
Natasha Sampson, Managing Director, Care Ready Consulting
Antonio Rizzo, Trustee / Director, Hammersley Homes
Ian Wood, Tax Specialist (Treasurer)
Janie Tonkin, Teacher, Tidemill Academy Primary School
Tendayi Vine, Senior Lecturer, University of the Arts London

Advisory Committee:
Mervyn Kaye, CEO of the Union of Jewish Students, former CEO of Youth First and close friend of Sir Ian Mills.
Sarah Cook, Formerly Head of Fundraising, Horniman Museum and Gardens.
A skills audit of Talk About Art's board was undertaken in 2024. The purpose of the audit was to identify key areas of expertise required by the CEO and the charity more widely and to ascertain whether these skills sat within the existing board. Areas identified included education, safeguarding, communications and fundraising. A recruitment pack and timeline were created with advertisements placed on Arts Jobs, Women on Board and Arts Professional and shared widely amongst the CEO's networks and local community organisations.

With the departure of the Chair (appointed 2015) our Vice Chair Kris Hibbert moved into the role of Chair. New trustee Jeanette Ward moved into the role of Vice Chair. Both Kris and Jeanette bring extensive knowledge and a sense of collaboration and trust to Talk About Art.

Talk About Art was fortunate enough to appoint three additional, highly experienced trustees: Ian Wood, Tax Specialist (Treasurer) joined in July 2025 Janie. Tonkin, Teacher, Tidemill Academy Primary School joined in May 2025. Tendayi Vine, Senior Lecturer, University of the Arts, London joined in May 2025.

Creative Programme
Spring/Summer 2025
Building on the successful relationship developed between Talk About Art and **Tidemill Academy** during our Wild Co-Design project in 2024, discussions were had between the two organisations on how the school's annual 11 before 11 initiative might present an opportunity to work together again, this time impacting every child in the school.

Talk About Art were keen that any project developed with the school would see an artist embedded within the school, enabling children to build a strong relationship with a creative practitioner and further the understanding, on both sides, of the role creativity can play in schools.

Laura Inacio was recommended to Talk About Art by Peas Press, a Lewisham based design collective who worked on our Wild Co-Design project. With support from Tidemill's art teacher, Janie Tonkin, Laura led the school's weekly Art Club sessions. Taking the nearby 100 Wishes of Hatcham mural as a starting point, Laura worked closely with the pupils to develop ideas for a large-scale, collaborative work that would include every child in the school.

The residency centred on building relationships and fostering a sense of creative ownership among the children. Each workshop was designed to encourage children to feel a greater sense of ownership of the school environment and build strong and positive relationships with peers, teachers and learning support assistants. Talk About Art's project helped to give children a creative voice and confidence to communicate ideas and develop problem solving skills.

Drawing on the rich heritage of Deptford and the legacy of grassroots creative projects along the high street, Laura invited the children to think about the textures, colours and everyday details of their surroundings. These observations became the basis for a series of workshops where each child designed and created their own ceramic tile. The tiles were then cured and mounted onto wooden boards to form a large mural, which was displayed during the school's summer fete.

The finished piece reflected the diversity of the school community, with each tile acting as an individual voice within a larger collective work. The use of ceramic tiles drew inspiration from local domestic and public spaces, referencing tiled shopfronts, mosaics, kitchen walls and ad-hoc repairs seen across the borough. By recontextualising these materials within the school environment, the project invited children to consider the built environment as something adaptable and open to transformation. The mural brought a sense of Lewisham into the school, while the process encouraged the children to look outward, engaging more closely with their local area.

Autumn/Winter 2025
As part of Talk About Art's ongoing research into the impact of high-quality arts and cultural engagement in early years settings, Talk About Art teamed up with the staff and children at **Abbey Wood Nursery School**.

Artist Aron Weber designed a series of workshops that would explore how the children develop early relationships with materials, shapes, movement and memory. In the first session, children were invited to draw what they were looking forward to in their school holidays on a long, collaborative roll of paper that they would use throughout the project. The activity combined motor skills with memory and gesture, encouraging the children to treat the paper as a physical object rather than just a surface.

Further workshops focused on the children's favourite moments from the school day with their roll of

paper taken outdoors, lifted into the air, where drawings could be seen from both sides. The children were able to watch their drawings interact through the material, revealing overlaps and contrasts between past and future, memory and imagination.

Our final workshop saw the children fold their paper into new shapes. They drew again, this time responding to the surfaces created by the act of folding. Through this process, ideas of movement and spatial awareness were connected directly to the material. The paper became not just a support for drawing, but a form in space that could be reshaped, inhabited, and reinterpreted.

Financial review

-Reserving ratio

The reserving ratio requires there to be unrestricted funds sufficient to cover 6 months costs. Average total costs for the year were £3,907 per month giving a requirement of £23,442. Unrestricted funds stood at £34,125. The ratio was therefore met.

- Economic outlook
The economic outlook, particularly for the charitable sector, remains challenging.

- Going concern

As noted earlier on page 2 a further two-year funding package will be provided from the ELF to cover 2026 and 2027. The first instalment was received in February 2026.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 17 Sep '26 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

K M Hibbert

Ms K Hibbert
Trustee

Talk About Art Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Talk About Art Limited

Year ended 31 December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Talk About Art Limited ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or

4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Stephen Jones
Independent Examiner

132 Burnt Ash Road
Lee
London
SE12 8PU

Talk About Art Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Income and endowments				
Donations and legacies	**5**	40,050	**40,050**	50,191
Investment income	**6**	1,140	**1,140**	1,001
Total income		41,190	**41,190**	51,192
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities	**7,8**	46,881	**46,881**	47,175
Total expenditure		46,881	**46,881**	47,175
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		(5,691)	**(5,691)**	4,017
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		39,816	**39,816**	35,799
Total funds carried forward		34,125	**34,125**	39,816

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Talk About Art Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	£	2024 £
Current assets				
Cash at bank and in hand		**35,952**		40,830
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**11**	**1,827**		1,014
Net current assets			**34,125**	39,816
Total assets less current liabilities			**34,125**	39,816
Net assets			**34,125**	39,816
Funds of the charity				
Unrestricted funds			**34,125**	39,816
Total charity funds	**12**		**34,125**	39,816

For the year ending 31 December 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 17 Sep '26, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

K. M. Hibbert

Ms K Hibbert
Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 132 Burnt Ash Road, SE12 8PU, London.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

3. **Accounting policies** *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Limited by guarantee

The Company is limited by guarantee. Each member has guaranteed £1 towards the debts of the Company in the case of winding up.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Donations			
Donations, gifts or grants from individuals.			
Government and other bodies	40,050	–	**40,050**

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations, gifts or grants from individuals. Government and other bodies	40,191	10,000	50,191

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Bank interest receivable	1,140	**1,140**	1,001	1,001

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
General charitable expenditure	45,981	–	**45,981**
Support costs	900	–	**900**
	46,881	–	**46,881**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
General charitable expenditure	35,966	10,345	46,311
Support costs	864	–	864
	36,830	10,345	47,175

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	**Total funds 2025 £**	Total fund 2024 £
General charitable expenditure	45,981	–	**45,981**	46,311
Governance costs	–	900	**900**	864
	45,981	900	**46,881**	47,175

9. Independent examination fees

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	**900**	864

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	**1,032**	1,014
Social security and other taxes	**606**	–
Other creditors	**189**	–
	1,827	1,014

12. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	**At 31 December 2025**
	£	£	£	£	**£**
General funds	39,816	41,190	(46,881)	–	**34,125**

	At 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	35,799	41,192	(36,830)	(345)	39,816

12. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Restricted funds

	At 1 January 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	**At 31 December 2025 £**
The Grocers Company and ELF	–	–	–	–	–
	–	–	–	–	–

	At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2024 £
The Grocers Company and ELF	–	10,000	(10,345)	345	-
	–	10,000	(10,345)	345	–

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Current assets	35,952	**35,952**
Creditors less than 1 year	(1,827)	**(1,827)**
Net assets	34,125	**34,125**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Current assets	40,830	40,830
Creditors less than 1 year	(1,014)	(1,014)
Net assets	39,816	39,816