

WA YOUTH THEATRE Co
ANNUAL REPORT

2023



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CHAIR'S REPORT

Stepping into this role in 2022, I could not have imagined the strength of the growth path WAYTCo was on, the height of success that would follow, nor could I have anticipated the course of change through which the Company would navigate in saying goodbye to James Berlyn, after an incredible six-year tenure.

In 2023, WAYTCo kicked off the year with *Seven Sisters* at Perth Festival; an open air, large cast, site responsive work showcasing the unique and diverse voices of Western Australian youth. This was quickly followed by a Karratha Tour of the work for the Red Earth Festival.

24Hr Play Generator celebrated its 7th year and did not disappoint. It continues to be a wonderful event that allows young people to experience all that goes into theatre-making, builds camaraderie and encourages creative problem solving whilst playing out within a fast-paced, high-energy environment.

ARCO set out on a national tour to the Arts Centre Melbourne and DreamBIG Children's Festival, Adelaide, before embarking on WAYTCo's first international tour to FUSE International, London. At FUSE, ARCO Jnr took out the Best in Children & Families Award. This was a huge milestone for WAYTCo and confirms the Company's ability to make world-class tourable work.

WAYTCo collaborated with the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA) and Too Close to the Sun by supporting the professional engagement of 8 young people, as a chorus, in 'At the End of the Land'.

The Artistic Director (Berlyn and then Burke), and a

suite of outstanding guest artists, worked closely with three ensemble groups (Beginners, Juniors, Seniors), which culminated in two showcase events that attracted more than 200 audience members into the WAYTCo Studio.

At the end of the year, WAYTCo's workshops at Banksia Hill were finally able to proceed. This project was first approved in 2021 and the Board of Management is so incredibly proud of the dedication, patience and agility of the WAYTCo staff, particularly our General Manager, Leah Maund, who drove this project forward when many would have given up.

Rounding out the year, WAYTCo continued to deliver on its Healthway-funded Act Belong Commit programs and produced a fully-fledged Schools Program, which is the culmination of three years of service development work.

WAYTCo is supported by a highly engaged and collaborative Board of Management and Youth Advisory Committee, a passionate and dedicated staff, who are always striving to deliver the best opportunities to youth members, and a talented network of teaching artists who, without fail, turn up and deliver best in class theatre experiences. Combine this with increased support from donors, a boost in core funding from the WA Government and the fresh, new voice of Amelia Burke, WAYTCo is poised to thrive for another 40 years and I am excited to see what comes next...

Gemma Cooper, Chairperson



OVERVIEW

2023 was a year of stellar achievement and change for WAYTCO. With a main production in the Perth Festival program for the third year in a row, and an award-winning international tour of ARCO, the Company continued to cement its status as a leader and innovator in the field and to demonstrate the capacity of youth arts for excellence of both process and outcome.

At the start of the year, carrying over from extensive creative development in 2022, Artistic Director James Berlyn worked closely with emerging Nyoongar-Greek artist Cezera Critti-Schnaars and Nyoongar elder Roma Yibiyung Winmar to bring to life 'Seven Sisters'; a show about creative young people on Boorloo coming to terms with old knowledge. Stepping up from the mentor-mentee relationship of previous years, Berlyn and Critti-Schnaars teamed up as co-directors with a cast of 12 exceptional young people.

Each youth performer contributed a confessional-style monologue to the larger work, making for powerful co-devised storytelling that profoundly moved audiences. A site responsive open-air work, the show was presented at a new venue each weekend of the festival. The word spread quickly about *Seven Sisters* and the show was a sellout by the second of eight performances.

IN MAY, IN QUICK SUCCESSION TO THE SELL-OUT PERTH FESTIVAL SEASON, CRITTI-SCHNAARS AND THE SEVEN SISTERS CAST OF 12, LED BY POWERHOUSE STAGE MANAGER EMILY STOKOE AND PERTH FESTIVAL PRODUCER DEBORAH ROBERTSON, MADE THEIR WAY TO KARRATHA TO SHARE THE WORK WHERE THE STARS ARE CLEAREST AND THE EARTH IS RED.

On the back of the success of both the Seven Sisters Pilbara tour and the international tour of ARCO, WAYTCO has learned that it has capacity to produce quality tours as well as raise outstanding productions locally. It also learned that there is an appetite amongst its youth membership for touring opportunities.

24Hr Play Generator was remounted at Subiaco Arts Centre for the seventh year in a row in June 2023. This run of the Company's signature event marked the last hoorah of outgoing Artistic Director James Berlyn - and what an apt note to exit on! The positive impact on the company of Berlyn's tenure cannot be overstated. He dedicated himself, across six years, to elevating youth voices through his confessional, immersive approach to theatre-making. The result was not just engaging award-winning shows; he caringly prioritised best practice in youth safeguarding whilst, simultaneously, taking young people to the edge of their meaning-making capacity - thereby stunningly drawing out the youth perspective.

In the second half of the year, we welcomed in new Artistic Director Amelia Burke. At just 28 years of age, Burke represents a landmark appointment for the State's youth theatre company. Relocating from Narm, and hitting the ground running, she has immediately injected a note of freshness and relevance. An outstanding pupil of both WAAPA and NIDA, Burke brings rigour and clarity of thought to the directorial role.

Burke arrived just as Ngalaka Daa ensemble (an annual Yirra Yaakin-WAYTCO collaboration) was stepping up a gear readying for presentation under the Blue Whale skeleton at Hackett Hall, Boola Bardip, and WAYTCO's three core ensemble groups were preparing for their mid-year monologue showcase. She took the reins with grace and also embraced the artistic planning work that was required.

The WAYTCO community and the wider Perth arts community can't wait to see what 2024 brings under this exciting new leadership.

Multi-award-winning and industry respected, WA Youth Theatre Company (WAYTCO, the Company) is an arts organisation that transforms lives. Through theatre and the creative process, young Western Australians gain skills, attributes and insights into themselves and the world. The impact is lifelong.

Leadership, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, resilience and initiative are all learned through the creation and performance of Company works. Championing youth voice and diversity, WAYTCO professionally guides and enables members to tell their stories. Fresh and bold, staged with attention to excellence, the Company's shows have dazzled Western Australian audiences for more than 40 years.

BEHIND THE SCENES IMAGE:

Courtesy of Perth Festival, by Duncan Wright.

PRODUCTIONS & TOURS



SEVEN SISTERS

We are made of star stuff whether we like it or not. This was a departure point for WAYTCo's 2023 main production, 'Seven Sisters', a large ensemble work about creative young people on Boorloo coming to terms with old knowledge. The show represented our third year in a row supporting local youth to feature in the Perth Festival, and our second commission by the world-class presenter.

Outgoing Artistic Director James Berlyn worked closely with emerging Nyoongar-Greek artist Cezera Critti-Schnaars and Nyoongar elder Roma Yibiyung Winmar to develop *Seven Sisters*. Multi-talented Levi Widnall's score, featuring a crackling fire and didgeridoo, was subtle and brilliant.

A cast of 12 exceptional young people were drawn from WAYTCo's senior ensemble and strategic referrals from WAAPA. Cast members each contributed a confessional-style monologue, making for a powerful co-devised piece that showcased diversity of youth perspective and experience, and captivated audiences.

A site responsive open-air performance, the show was performed at a new venue across each of the four weekends of the festival. The presentation commenced at the New Fortune Theatre, moved to the Fremantle Arts Centre Courtyard, the Subiaco Arts Centre Auditorium, and, finally, the State Theatre Centre Courtyard in the heart of the cultural centre. By the second performance at New Fortune, the word was out and the show was a sell-out for all remaining performances.

Members of the ensemble: Levi Widnall, Victoire Hemedi, Lily Baitup, Lexi Sleet, Lil Murrel, Jayda Corunna, Monique Mitchell, Louis Neylon-Williams, Jono Battista, Makaela Rowe-Fox, Stella Finn and Rebecca Haywood.

Rachel Dease provided sound expertise to First Nations performer and composer Levi Widnall (although, brimming with natural talent, his need for mentorship was little). Additionally, WAYTCo's contracted Stage Manager, Emily Stokoe, provided significant mentorship to Carter Kirkland who assumed the role of Assistant Stage Manager with great confidence.

“Seven Sisters is a devised work drawing upon the lived experiences of its participants rather than a literal exploration of the myriad stories about the Pleiades. Skilfully dramaturged so that its separate stories complement one another rather than clash, this [is] elegant and engaging production... a tapestry of glittering narratives”

Richard Watts, ArtsHub

BELOW: Image by Jess Wylde featuring Monique Mitchel and Makaela Rowe-Fox performing in *Seven Sisters*, New Fortune. RIGHT: *Seven Sisters* hero shot, also by Jessica Wylde.



On Friday 8 March, the weekend following the Perth Festival season, the *Seven Sisters* cast made their way to Point Walter, to the campsite of the annual ATAR Drama student get-together (an extensive list of different WA schools come together for this performing arts rite of passage).

The show was performed in a quaint grassed open-air auditorium, overlooking Derbarl Yerrigan, and was a highlight in the programming for the 100 drama students gathered there.

Next stop? A dusty adventrue to the Pilbara!

In early May, as part of Red Earth Festival, *Seven Sisters* toured to the outpost known as 'Cossack' located 50kms from the West Pilbara township of Karratha.

The touring party delivered two well-received performances and also undertook local engagement activities. Karratha was an incredible growth experience for the 12 cast members and also for the show's co-

director, Cezera Critti-Schaars, who took on the challenge of directing the cast into the new site, the sixth since *Seven Sisters* opened, without Berlyn at her side. The cast were grateful for the incredible support provided on tour by powerhouse Stage Manager Emily Stokoe and Deborah Roberston, Producer - Perth Festival.

SHOW STATISTICS

Performances	12
Youth people	14
Mentee opportunities (non-acting roles)	3
Total audience	1708

“The stars belong to no one.”

Roma Yibiyung Winmar

RED EARTH FESTIVAL, KARRATHA

FROM BOTTOM RIGHT (CLOCKWISE): Levi Widnall, Rebecca Haywood, Cezera Critti-Schnaars, Lil Murrell, Jono Battista, Lily Baitup, Victoire Hemedi, Stella Finn, Louis Neylon-Williams, Jayda Corruna, Makaela Rowe-Fox, Deborah Robertson, Finn Boylen, Lexi Sleet, Monique Mitchell, Emily Stokoe.





Inhouse filmmaker Georgi Ivers provided the filmmaking skills and understanding of the Company culture required to mount an engaging multimedia campaign linked to our 2022-23 Plus1-boosted Invest In Us campaign. The international leg of Adam's tour may not have been possible had we not had the campaign success and additional injection from Creative Partnerships Australia (CPA) for reaching our target. Thank you Georgi, CPA, and all our donors!



ARCO

In 2023, WAYTCo took one man show ARCO, co-created by Adam Kelly and James Berlyn, on a landmark national and international tour. Destinations: Arts Centre Melbourne, DreamBIG Children's Festival, Adelaide, and FUSE International, Kingston Upon Thames, UK.

Most of the performances across the tour were to full child audiences (i.e. as part of schools programming). There were some wonderful audience responses along the way, and awards!

The tour, whilst it came after much delay (due to COVID), was a notable achievement for Adam and the Company, representing the first time overseas for both. The experience working with a public venue as professional as Arts Centre Melbourne was a highlight for the touring party, as was taking out the Best of Children & Families Award at FUSE International at tour conclusion.

The presentation of ARCO did not stop with the tour. In November, under the Resident Directorship of Amelia Burke, WAYTCo presented ARCO in the brand new fully equipped performing arts centre of Bob Hawke College in Subiaco. Adam delivered a total of four performances covering years 7, 8, 9 and 10. It was a delight to work with a school so committed to access and inclusion. Inclusion Coordinator, Katharine Reid, and Head of Drama, Georgie Perrott, both made Adam and team feel incredibly welcome.

An outstanding example of art as awareness raising, ARCO continues to demonstrate great capacity to shift audience perspectives on what it means to be neurodiverse. It is not often that a work of such mobility, longevity and change-making capacity emerges. WAYTCo is very proud of this accomplishment and looks forward to continuing to present ARCO in schools in 2024.

LEFT: Image credit James Campbell.

The national and international tour of ARCO was made possible thanks to a Disability Mentorship Grant from Creative Australia, the Australian Government's principal arts investment and advisory body. It was also generously supported by donors to WAYTCo's 2023 Invest In Us campaign.

SHOW STATISTICS

Performances	23
Audience	1698
Community Engagement	20

"I THINK I SPEAK FOR ALL OF THE CHANNEL TEAM WHEN I SAY IT WAS SUCH A PLEASURE TO HAVE WAYTCO IN THE BUILDING, YOUR TEAM'S PROFESSIONALISM, GENEROSITY AND COLLABORATIVE SPIRIT THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN SO APPRECIATED... IT WAS A REAL JOY WATCHING AUDIENCES CONNECT WITH ADAM AND THE SHOW THROUGHOUT THE WEEK, AND SEEING HOW IMPACTFUL THE WORK WAS WITH STUDENTS, TEACHERS, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES ALIKE HAS BEEN A BIG HIGHLIGHT. ADAM HAS A FANTASTIC WAY WITH AUDIENCES...PRODUCTION."

- BEATRICE LO, PRODUCER -PROGRAMMING, ACM -

24HR PLAY GENERATOR

~ ~ ~

SIGNATURE EVENT



“THE WAYTCO 24HR PLAY GENERATOR IS THE BEST EXAMPLE OF CREATIVE COLLABORATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE I KNOW OF. IT’S A ROLLERCOASTER TO BE SURE BUT IT IS ALSO GENEROUS, BRAVE AND SUPER SUPPORTIVE. IN ALL THE YEARS WE HAVE HOSTED THIS, EVENT, I HAVEN’T MET ANYONE WHO WASN’T GLAD THEY DID IT!”

~JAMES BERLYN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR~

Each Winter, WA Youth Theatre Company presents its signature event, 24-Hour Play Generator, at the Subiaco Arts Centre. 24-Hour Play Generator is a highly anticipated event on the WA theatre calendar and 2023 marked its seventh year. The event takes participants to their creative edge across two days, commencing at the King Street Arts Centre on Saturday, June 3 (Writing Day), and culminating in a wild night of performances at Subiaco Arts Centre on Saturday, June 10.

How it works: At the break of dawn, under exquisite pressure, a group of emerging writers aged 15 to 26 work for 12 hours straight, assisted by experienced dramaturgs, to create fresh out of the oven, new short plays. That evening a 24Hour Play Generator judging panel selects six winning plays. First thing in the new week, these winning scripts are issued to six directors who, in a new twist, then have the chance to wrap their heads around the new work before walking through the doors of the Subiaco Arts Centre at break of dawn the following Saturday.

The directors work intensively with six WAYTCO-member casts for the next 12 hours to bring the works to life. Finally, at the 24th hour, the audience arrives to enjoy six world premieres in one evening: The newest and freshest work in the country.

This year’s Writing Day dramaturgs included Scott McArdle, Andrew Sutherland and Asha Cornelia Cluer. The outstanding line-up of directors: Alex Steffensen, Libby Klysz, Cezera Critti-Schnaars, Andrew Sutherland, Alexa Taylor and Tom Heath. These artists drew on their skills and experience to realise the emerging playwrights’ and actors’ creative endeavours in a whirlwind 24-hour production process.

Winning writers: Dee Waddingham, Marli Haddeill, Oliver Hughes, Stella Finn, Henry Kent and Makaela Rowe-Fox.



ABOVE & LEFT: Images capturing performers and crew of WAYTCO’s 2023 signature event. Image credit Sophie Minissale.

24Hr PG STATISTICS

Writing Day participants	15
Creatives & Performers	35
Crew & Volunteers	8
Audience	208

AT THE END OF THE LAND

“THE CHORUS WERE TRULY WONDERFUL TO WORK WITH AND BROUGHT A LOT OF JOY AND ENERGY. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING PART OF THIS AND FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT.”

- TALYA RUBIN, *TOO CLOSE TO THE SUN* -

In September, WAYTCO began a collaboration with local multidisciplinary artists Talya Rubin and Nick James - of creative company *Too Close to the Sun* - to make a live performance contribution to the visual layering of *At the end of the Land*. Mirroring the very successful model established in 2022 (with Perth Festival show *Body of Knowledge* by Samara Hersch and Company), WAYTCO played a youth engagement role.

At *the end of the Land*, which world-premiered at Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA), 28 November - 2 December 2023, follows an unreliable teenage narrator and her Red Monkey sidekick into the afterlife as she muses over the disappearance of her fellow Victorian-era orphans and what it's like to be dead. Of the gothic horror genre, interspersed with performer-audience encounters, *At the end of the Land* uses 'spirit photography, mediumship, and projections'. The work is technically multi-layered and mysterious.

Rubin required a chorus of youth for her Lynchian style work. There were a total of eight youths, aged 18-26, recruited and guided by WAYTCO's new Artistic Director. The short public season was very well attended, with not a seat to spare in the PICA Performance Space by season conclusion. Each of the chorus members received an honorarium for their time. WAYTCO also leveraged a paid Assistant Stage Manager opportunity for Senior Ensemble Member Lana van Wyk.

It was great opportunity for the young performers to observe and be a part of an ambitious contemporary theatre production.

SHOW STATISTICS

Youth performers	8
Rehearsals	4
Performances	4
Audience	320

“IT IS A SEAMLESS PERFORMANCE, WHICH IS PRETTY REMARKABLE CONSIDERING THE WORK IS REALLY ALL SEAM: AN AVALANCHE OF IMAGES KNITTED TOGETHER WITH VISIBLE SEAMS THAT INVITE THE AUDIENCE TO SIT ALONE IN TIME AND SPACE TOGETHER.”

~ LEAH MERCER, *THE CONVERSATION* ~





TRAINING PROGRAMS



ENSEMBLES

ABOVE, LEFT & OVER: Ngalaka Daa showing 2023. Courtesy of Yirra Yaakin Theatre, by Dana Weeks.

Our three premier ensemble programs - Beginners, Juniors and Seniors - rolled out across the year between April and December. Once again, WAYTCo secured industry leading artists to teach into this program alongside the Artistic Director. The Junior and Senior programs were at capacity this year, illustrating their great demand amongst the local community of arts-interested young people. Milestones of the program were the Mid-Year Showcase and End-of-Year Showcase, which saw the members working on pre-existing scripts, devised and self-written performance material. These Showcases were well attended by family, friends and industry guests.

From April to August, WAYTCo supported the Ngalaka Daa Ensemble to develop Nyoongar language and theatre skills for the fourth year in a row. Annually since 2020 WAYTCo has walked beside Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company to support the development of an intercultural ensemble made up of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal young people. An avenue for promoting the sustainability of one of the oldest languages in the world, the program promotes cultural awareness and reconciliation, and demonstrates the capacity of theatre to make meaningful change. Ngalaka Daa, meaning “our tongue”, is truly a unique program.

The 2023 Ngalaka Daa ensemble was led by experienced First Nations actor and emerging director Bobbi Henri and supported by WAYTCo Senior Artist Asha Cornelia Cluer, along with other guest facilitators (Derek Nannup, James


Berlyn, Stephanie Pick). The intercultural ensemble showcased its skills and growth across two magical presentations under the Blue Whale bones of Hackett Hall, WA Museum Boola Bardip. The events created occasion for a wonderful meeting of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal audiences.

ENSEMBLE STATISTICS

Beginner Ensemble workshops	33
Beginner Ensemble attendance*	9
Junior Ensemble workshops	33
Junior Ensemble attendance*	15
Senior Ensemble workshops	33
Senior Ensemble attendance*	19
Showcase audience	201

Ngalaka Daa Workshops & Rehearsals	21
Ngalaka Daa Ensemble Members	10
Indigenous Ensemble Members	5
Ngalaka Daa performances	2
Showcase audience (across 2x nights)	176
No. Aboriginal artists employed	5

* average attendance/workshop



“WAYTCO 2023 CHANGED SO MANY THINGS, I MET LIFELONG FRIENDS, GOT TAUGHT SUCH IMPORTANT SKILLS, WAS ALLOWED SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES AND LEARNT THAT LAST-MINUTE DECISIONS SHOULDN'T FEEL SO SCARY.

MY EXPERIENCE AT WAYTCO INTRODUCED ME TO THE MOST WONDERFUL GROUP OF PEOPLE. I DID NOT EXPECT TO CONNECT SO QUICKLY WITH A GROUP OF STRANGERS. I AM FOREVER GRATEFUL THAT THEY ARE NOW A PART OF MY LIFE!

I HAVE LEARNT SO MUCH FROM WAYTCO AND I ENCOURAGE ANYONE TO TRY IT AT LEAST ONCE IN THEIR LIFE.”

- JADE DEL BORELLO, 2023 ENSEMBLE MEMBER -

This year, in May, filling up Studio 3 on the third floor of the King Street Arts Centre, WAYTCo facilitated a Directors Pathway Panel for the full ensemble cohort and the wider WAYTCo community. The line-up was outstanding, with Directors Kate Champion (BSSTC), Maitland Schnaars (Yirra Yaakin) and Luke Kerridge (Barking Gecko) warmly sharing their career journeys to an eager audience. A special guest member of the panel was new Patron, Dr Fiona Stanley, who rounded off the creative excellence with a health science perspective.

In July we launched a brand new course entitled 'Ensemble Access Course' (EAC), which is designed to provide a gentle entry point into the Company and beyond for young people facing a range of barriers, including access and inclusion barriers.

Finally in September, with new Artistic Director Amelia Burke on board, we delivered our highly sought after Audition Masterclass. These offerings were designed to stimulate dialogue and build the skills of members, helping to prepare them for future work in the industry. WAYTCo's panels, masterclasses and courses are led by some of Western Australia's leading performing arts practitioners.

AUDITION MASTERCLASS

An annual staple, the WAYTCo Audition Masterclass is extremely valuable to our young people as it prepares them for the audition season, allows them to work with professionals who know from experience what audition panelists are looking for, and boosts their confidence to perform under pressure.

Under the expert tuition of industry great Julia Moody, experienced actor Will O'Mahony, and WAYTCo's very own Amelia Burke, 16 aspiring performers participated in the 2023 two-day Masterclass.

ENSEMBLE ACCESS COURSE

This new course engaged a deliberately small ensemble over ten 2-hour sessions. The sessions were delivered fortnightly and culminated in a showing for family.

The aim of the course is to support young people with a broad range of access needs to identify and work toward achievement of a performing arts goal, such as entry into WAYTCo's premier ensemble program, or into WAAPA's BPA or Acting courses. Led by new Artistic Director Amelia Burke and Senior Artist Asha Cornelia Cluer, the inaugural run of EAC also gave WAYTCo Campaign Filmmaker and multi-media artist with chronic illness, Georgi Ivers the chance to develop their skills as a teaching artist.

Two participants successfully auditioned for WAYTCo's 2024 ensemble program and one neurodiverse member of the ensemble had the opportunity to join the chorus of *At the End of the Land*, performing at PICA (see p.18). One EAC participant was accepted into WAAPA.

PANEL, MASTERCLASS & EAC STATISTICS

Events or sessions delivered	14
Panel attendance	50
Masterclass Participants	16
EAC Participants	7



"DELIVERING HARD TO HEAR TRUTHS IN A GRACEFUL, SUPPORTIVE MANNER, I CAME OUT OF THE AUDITION MASTERCLASS BETTER PREPARED THAN WHEN I WENT IN. GAINING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT AUDITIONERS MIGHT BE LOOKING FOR, THE MASTERCLASS GAVE ME TOOLS TO ENSURE I STAND OUT WITHIN THE GROUP. I WENT ON TO BE SUCCESSFUL AT THE AUDITION I WAS PREPARING FOR, THANKS TO THE INCREDIBLY INSIGHTFUL AND SKILLED PRACTITIONERS LEADING THE WORKSHOP."

-ALEXA, PARTICIPANT, 2023 AUDITION MASTERCLASS-

SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES



ACT BELONG COMMIT DRAMA INCURSIONS



ABOVE: WAYTCO Teaching Artist Nadia Collins with students of Al-Ameen Islamic College.

“WAYTCO has been instrumental to the SEW-Arts project right from the beginning. WAYTCO administrative staff have helped shape the professional learning and the Map the Gap tool, while teaching artists have implemented the SEW-Arts resource in their niche programs and provided valuable feedback.

~ DR LEANNE FRIED, TELETHON KIDS INSTITUTE ~

In the first half of 2023, demonstrating widespread Perth Metropolitan reach, WAYTCO delivered incursions to returning schools Al-Ameen College (formerly Langford Islamic College), Warnbro Community High School and Girrawheen Senior High School. Returning to low-ICSEA* schools year-on-year not only positions the performing arts as a staple fixture in schools (where divestment of school funding for drama has had the opposite effect), it provides students with the chance to develop vital 21st Century Skills over time ensuring longer term impact.

New relationships were also sparked with Lakeland Senior High School, Belridge Secondary College and Coodanup College, with each of these schools reaching out with requests for a range of theatre styles and forms to value-add to curriculum-based learning.

Trent Baker brought Grotowski to Lakeland SHS, award-winning artist Michelle Hall brought Brecht to Belridge ATAR students looking to advance their drama practice ahead of exams, and Asha Cornelia Cluer brought expertise in Laban Movement Analysis to Coodanup, fulfilling a curriculum requirement that could not be met by drama teachers within the school. All six incursions reached CaLD and ATSI** students, many of whom experience more complex or layered socio-economic barriers to participation in quality arts education.

The continuation of school relationships is vital for the promotion of wellbeing, mental health practices, and the development of 21st Century Skills, such as collaboration, communication, confidence, and critical thinking. WAYTCO spends much time developing and nurturing its relationships with schools.

PROGRAM STATISTICS

School	Sessions	Students	Total
Girrawheen SHS	8	25	200
Warnbro CHS	7	25	175
Lakeland SHS	5	25	125
Al-Ameen College	8	25	200
Belridge SC	6	6	36
Coodanup College	4	25	100
Lakeland SHS	7	12	84

Communities Reached: 6 | Total Participation: 945

*ICSEA: Index of community social & economic advantage

**CALD: Culturally & Linguistically Diverse; ATSI: Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander.

KEY PROJECTS

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROJECT

Following a two-year delay, in 2023 WAYTCO finally commenced implementation of its Juvenile Justice Project. A highly complex project and an incredible example of the Company's commitment to making a difference in the lives of disadvantaged young people, the Juvenile Justice Project sees teaching artists deliver Storytelling Workshops to 15-17y.o. residents of Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

The incarcerated population at Banksia Hill is disproportionately Aboriginal and many youths display neurodevelopmental difficulties. Our artists respond sensitively to the diverse background needs of the youth there, and in the process show acceptance, marvel at their street smarts and provide justice-involved youth with the capacity to speak for themselves, tell their stories.

This project is funded by a DLGSC COVID-Communities Grant and the mid-year effort to make the project happen was strongly supported by new patron Dr Fiona Stanley. It will continue to be rolled-out in 2024.

SEW-ARTS PROJECT

Since its inception, WAYTCO has been a committed contributor to the Healthway-funded Telethon Kids Institute-led Social and Emotional Wellbeing in the Arts Project (SEW-Arts Project). Over time the project has shifted from working toward a resource outcome to the development and trial of a model, or framework, for more intentional scaffolding of student social and emotional wellbeing within arts education contexts.

In Term 1 2023, WAYTCO supported experienced teaching artist Nadia Collins to trial the model in Girrawheen, Swan View and Bassendean Drama Hubs. The trial resulted in the collection of valuable data and anecdotal evidence regarding the utility and efficacy of the SEW-Arts resource, which shed light on the need to be aware of the developmental readiness of young people to discuss and reflect on mental health and wellbeing.

WAYTCO will continue to support the implementation and refinement phase of the SEW-Arts Project in 2024.

ACT BELONG COMMIT DRAMA HUBS



ABOVE: Students of Swan View Drama Hub, 2023 EOY Open Session.

Act Belong Commit Drama Hubs continued to flourish across 2023. The longevity of presence of Drama Hubs in communities such as Bassendean and Swan View has enabled long-term impact amongst returning youth, some of whom have been attending for two years. Our teaching team and parents are observing positive and lasting shifts in confidence and sound acquisition of skills amongst participants.

In Term 1 we operated from Cyril Jackson Senior Campus (Bassendean), Girrawheen Senior High School, and Swan View Senior High School. All three hubs participated in the trial implementation of the Social and Emotional Wellbeing in the Arts resource.

In Term 3 we relaunched the Bassendean Hub from the Bassendean Memorial Library. This move out of a school into a local community setting with strong support from the local council - Town of Bassendean (The Town) - has been a very good decision and a great opportunity to trial a different way of supporting the hubs. The Bassendean Library hub has been very popular amongst younger age group participants in particular, young people aged 11-14.

Hub students enjoy the opportunity to explore theatre with industry professionals. Doing so outside of the structure of the school day and in a mixed age group context adds to their desire to be there. At the Bassendean Library Hub, where

participants come from a wide range of different schools, teaching artists report students are very 'opt-in' which makes for the best kind of teaching and learning.

The Town assisted greatly with marketing of the hub, allowing us to reach niche Aboriginal community schools and even home-school families that we might not otherwise have captured. The new relationship has demonstrated the potential and viability of council-supported community-based hubs. WAYTCO will further explore the possibilities for town council collaborations in 2024.

A highlight for the Girrawheen Hub was an interview on Zoom with Adelaide-based playwright Kristen Doherty, whose play the students had workshopped during their sessions. Swan View Hub participants gave an outstanding performance of scenes from a modern language version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, under the direction of committed teaching artist Nadia Collins.

THIS PROGRAM BRINGS WAYTCO'S PROFESSIONAL TEACHING ARTISTS RIGHT INTO LOW-ICSEA COMMUNITIES PROVIDING ACCESS TO TOP QUALITY ARTS EDUCATION WITH LASTING IMPACT.

PROGRAM STATISTICS

Location	# Sessions	Group Size	Attendance
<i>Term 1</i>			
Girrawheen SHS	8	15	120
Swan View SHS	8	16	128
Bassendean (Cyril Jackson)	7	8	56
<i>Term 2</i>			
Girrawheen SHS	8	15	120
Swan View SHS	8	15	120
<i>Term 3</i>			
Girrawheen SHS	8	7	56
Swan View SHS	8	15	120
Bassendean (Library)	8	19	152
<i>Term 4</i>			
Swan View SHS	7	14	98
Bassendean (Library)	8	15	120

No. Communities Reached: 4 | Total Participation: 1090

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

“...IT’S AN AWESOME INITIATIVE AND PROGRAM. I DEFINITELY WANT TO DO IT AGAIN...IT’S GREAT HAVING AN OUTSIDER, WHO’S FIERCELY PASSIONATE ENCOURAGING THE STUDENTS AS A SECOND VOICE TO MY OWN.”

RENEE CUTHBERTSON, DRAMA TEACHER
LAKELAND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, MAY 2023

BACKGROUND

In late 2022, following WAYTCo’s success with attracting increased core funding in the last Arts Organisations Investment Program (AOIP) round, the Board made a decision to invest in itself in order to see the continuation of a new 0.5FTE ‘Program Coordinator, Schools & Communities’ role. The self-investment figure agreed is directly reflected in the \$22K loss captured in this year’s Financial Report.

Reflecting on the success of the year in finally establishing a viable balance in schools programming, between Healthway-funded programs for low-ICSEA priority groups, and fee-for-service programs, the investment has been well worth it.

“THE KNOWLEDGE FROM YOUR WORKSHOP STAYED WITH THEM THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE YEAR..”

LEAH ALLEN, DRAMA TEACHER, MINDARIE SC, DEC 2023

After three years of service development, WAYTCo made notable headway with its effort to make more sustainable the Schools and Communities arm of the Company through fee-for-service program sales.

The boost of interest in fee-for-service schools programs emerged particularly strongly in the last quarter, following the creation and release of WAYTCo’s first fully-fledged Schools Program brochure. The brochure was in fact for 2024, but its September 2023 release - through the Company’s website (platformed on ISSUU), schools network and socials - stimulated a flurry of requests for customised programs, professional development for teachers and early requests for some of the new programs featured under the title ‘Specialist Programs’, such as *Arts Industry Workshops* and *Create Your Own (Candidate’s Choice)*.

The turning point moment hinged on clear articulation of our range of offerings in the schools space, and care taken to define WAYTCo’s point of difference in those offerings. Additionally, the moment entailed release of a pricelist.

Themes covered in the fee-for-service programs delivered include Anne Bogart/viewpoints, puppetry, monologues, drama games and improv, and finally, for teachers and educators, contemporary approaches to devising.

SPECIALIST PROGRAM STATISTICS

Fee-for-Svc target income	\$22-27K	Fee-for-Svc sessions	17
Fee-for-Svc gross actual	\$11,300	Participation (sessions x students)	568

SCRATCH NIGHT



Like an open mic night but for theatre-y types! On 13 October 2023, 15 young performers presented their work-in-progress ideas to a live audience in the WAYTCo Studio. With Artistic Director Amelia Burke MC-ing and a largley full house, the vibe was very supportive and fun. We saw an exciting mixture of first draft performances ranging from autobiographical writing to improvised comedy and everything in between! The evening culminated in a short feedback activity where the audience was invited to share their thoughts to support the development of the ideas presented. It was a great community night, with lots of energy, enthusiasm and warmth in the room.

BIG shout out to Pit Crew Management Consulting Services for supporting the inaugural Scratch Night.

“HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WORK-IN-PROGRESS IDEAS WITH SUCH A GENEROUS, OPEN-MINDED AUDIENCE, IN SUCH A STRESS-FREE ENVIRONMENT HAS DEFINITELY BEEN A HIGHLIGHT IN MY JOURNEY WITH WAYTCO. BEING ONE OF THE FIRST TIMES I SHARED MY WRITING WITH A PUBLIC AUDIENCE, IT PROPELLED ME INTO CELEBRATING MY CREATIVE WRITING AND INSPIRED ME TO IMMEDIATELY CONTINUE WORKING ON THE PIECE I SHARED. I REMEMBER NOT BEING ABLE TO FALL ASLEEP AFTER SCRATCH NIGHT, BUZZING WITH EXCITEMENT AND ADRENALINE BECAUSE OF HOW PROUD AND SUPPORTED I FELT.”

~ ALEXIA, SCRATCH NIGHT PARTICIPANT ~

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) is a vital governance structure for WAYTCO, providing an opportunity for youth leadership and ensuring the board stays in touch with the perspectives of diverse youth.

The YAC has worked on WAYTCO's brand script (2020), contributed to the issue of an inaugural e-Zine (2021-22) and provided invaluable input into the Company's 5-year Strategic Planning process (also 2022). In 2023, not long after her appointment, new Artistic Director Amelia Burke gave clarity of thought to the role of the YAC, drawing upon the 12-strong youth committee to check the relevance of her 2024 Artistic Plan. Moving forward, WAYTCO will defer to the

YAC for ratification of artistic plans and new project proposals before they are put to the board of management.

The YAC gives members the chance to play an active role in company governance and decision-making and offers a window into the world of arts management. Experience gained on the YAC can be applied elsewhere, to the young leaders' own independent arts practice and beyond.

YAC members are also offered professional development opportunities, including in-house financial report-reading training.

In 2023 Jono Battista continued as Chair - third year running.



KEY STATISTICS

ACTIVITIES	454
PERFORMANCES	63
YOUNG PEOPLE	460
PARTICIPATION	5187
AUDIENCE	5484



ABOVE: Seven Sisters Open Dress Run, 9 February 2023. Cast and crew meet new WAYTCO patron, Dr Fiona Stanley.

MEDIA & ONLINE REACH

Media and online presence was sufficiently strong in 2023, with Social Media platforms Facebook and Instagram continuing to serve as critical to communication with and engagement of our youth members and supporters more broadly. In 2024 we plan to hire quality marketing assistance so that we can better utilise these platforms and others, such as LinkedIn.

SOCIALS STATISTICS

On socials, we increased our following on Instagram by about 7% and decreased our following on Facebook by just over 6%.

2022	FB Friends: 4375	INSTA Followers: 1580
2023	FB Friends: 4084	INSTA Followers: 1698

The company released two bumper newsletters in 2023, (June & Nov editions). These were received well by a growing group of subscribers, 1,216 total in November 2023 - up from 1,178 at the same time in the previous year. Opens rate was down slightly at 934 (opens rate the year prior being 1,004).

WAYTCO continued to release quality video content, with the assistance of filmmaker on staff, Georgi Ivers. Publicist Dixie Battersby was hired for another year to help build interest in 24Hr Play Generator. She does a great job securing media opportunities, see example pictured below.

**Difference between an Engaged Session and a Session? A session is a period during which a user is engaged with your website or app. An engaged session is a session that lasts longer than 10 seconds, has a conversion event, or has at least 2 pageviews or screenviews.*

WEBSITE STATISTICS

Due to upgrades within Google Analytics, we are only able to report on analytics data from 1 April 2023 to 31 December 2023. This means we are unable to show the increased interest in our website generated by the Seven Sisters Perth Festival season.

	Jun	Dec
Total Views (page_view)	759	651
New Users (first_visit)	720	612
Engaged Sessions	468	302

As per previous years there is a downward trend in engagement between middle and EOY which may be explained by the success of mid-year 24Hr Play Generator promotion and the absence of main production programming at year end.

Unlike the the older UA Google Analytics, which provided 'page views', 'new users' and 'website unique views' (amongst other metrics), the new GA4 Analytics provides metrics under the broad categories 'views', 'users' and 'views per user'. To work around the lack of any equivalency with the 'website unique veivs' metric, which we previously reported on, WAYTCO will henceforth report on Engaged Sessions*.

UPPER LEFT: Seven Sisters warm-ups. Courtesy of Perth Festival, by Duncan Wright. BELOW: 24Hr Play Generator performers Bridie King and Sean Mudariki in the RTR Studio with Bec Bowman.



BOARD MEMBERS

Gemma Cooper	Chair
Natalie Lockwood	Deputy Chair
Kara Sands	Treasurer
Laura Pitts	Secretary
Jono Battista	Youth Member/ YAC Chair
Cezera Critt-Schnaars	Youth Member
Mollie Hewitt	
Maxwell Leech	
Amanda Huxtable	
Jessica Darlow	
Zenatalla Ibrahim	

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jono Battista	Indiana Gorrie
Jesse Vakatini	Carter Kirkland
Lily Baitup	Mia Marr
Emily Keys	Lucia Merriweather
Isabella Crean	Sophie Boswell
Henry Kent	Cezera CrittiSchnaars

STAFF

Leah Maund	General Manager
James Berlyn/ Amelia Burke	Artistic Director
Asha Cornelia Cluer	Senior Artist
Asha Cluer/ Nicholas Harle	Program Coordinator
Georgia Ivers	Campaign Filmmaker

AUDITOR

Moore Australia	Chartered Accountants
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A note of thanks to our probono accountants, Edwards & Partners, for assisting with preparation of the accounts.

PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

Partner support is vital to WAYTCo sustainability and underpins the Company's capacity to provide exceptional performing arts opportunities to WA youth. We are ever so grateful for the support of:

MAJOR PARTNERS



PROJECT PARTNERS



SCHOOL & COUNCIL PARTNERS



BRAND PARTNERS



2023 DONORS

Alison Morley	Patrick & Rebecca Tehvand	Peter Kift
Erica Smyth AC	Sandra Trucksis & the Elliot Tehvand Donor Circle	Alison Tilt
Dr Fiona Stanley	Brian & Gemma Kelly	Phil Kelly
Osnat Harlap	Mel Watts & Rob Rinalli	Deb Attard Portughes
Pitt Crew Management Consulting Services	Robyn Vakatini	Jessica Darlow



FINANCIAL REPORT



WA Youth Theatre Company Inc
A.B.N. 77 839 836 159
Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023



**EDWARDS
& PARTNERS**

Ground floor, 83 Havelock Street West Perth, WA, 6005
PO Box 515, West Perth, WA 6872
Telephone: (08) 9322 5633

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

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WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Committee's report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Your committee members submit the financial report of WA Youth Theatre Company Inc for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

Committee members

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Gemma Cooper (Chair)
Natalie Lockwood (Deputy Chair)
Laura Pitts (Secretary)
Kara Sands (Treasurer)
Mollie Hewitt
Max Leech (elected 20/4/2023)
Amanda Huxtable
Jessica Darlow
Zenatalla Ibrahim
Jono Battista
Cezera Critti-Schnaars (appointed 26/7/2023)
Elizabeth Ledger (appointed 9/1/2024)

Principal activities

The principal activity of the association during the financial year is:

To create diverse pathways in the practice and experience of theatre arts, for young Western Australians.

Significant changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependant upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities. The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Committee's report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Operating result

The loss of the Association for the financial year amounted to \$(22,171).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee:



Gemma Cooper (Chair)

Dated: 12 April 2024

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Income statement

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Income		
Grant & Sponsorship Income		
Dept. of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries	152,809.56	196,998.96
Australia Council	45,857.87	12,782.13
Healthway	42,800.00	49,595.00
Other WA State Funding	-	2,725.00
Other Sponsorships	-	5,000.00
	241,467.43	267,101.09
Other Revenue		
Donations/Fundraising Income	44,578.22	13,156.01
Membership Fees	4,824.13	1,054.55
Interest Received	1,388.97	6.22
Recoveries	59.04	5,054.61
	50,850.36	19,271.39
Production Income		
Audience Sales	3,391.23	2,769.55
Workshop Fees	45,343.83	38,566.88
Contractor/Co-Producer Fees	80,817.34	31,405.00
	129,552.40	72,741.43
	421,870.19	359,113.91
Expenses		
Advertising & Marketing	19,093.80	17,942.85
Amortisation - Lease	10,465.57	7,601.00
Amortisation - Website	1,016.00	253.00
Annual Leave Provision	(1,243.12)	8,725.88
Bank Charges	-	80.32
Bookkeeping	12,520.59	10,192.20
Computer Costs	6,357.33	5,012.13
Consultancy Fees	2,500.00	3,840.00
Depreciation	8,549.05	12,194.45
Fees & Permits	2,911.91	1,398.93
Insurance	16,436.28	10,465.41
Interest Expense	-	127.00
Office Expenses	825.46	1,857.99
Postage	325.45	-
Production Costs	130,696.72	91,709.15
Professional Fees	2,100.00	3,500.00
Show Expenses	1,190.00	595.00

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Income statement

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Staff Amenities	297.20	595.11
Staff Training	2,890.91	1,185.91
Subscriptions & Memberships	1,085.60	988.00
Superannuation Contributions	27,852.33	22,803.12
Telephone & Communications	1,624.19	2,010.53
Travelling Expenses	27,575.64	5,476.39
Venue Hire	3,750.73	2,731.15
Wages & Salaries	165,219.57	152,184.14
	444,041.21	363,469.66
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(22,171.02)	(4,355.75)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Appropriation statement

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(22,171.02)	(4,355.75)
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	191,377.19	195,732.94
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	169,206.17	191,377.19

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Balance sheet

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current assets		
ANZ Cheque Account	2,797.85	10,777.98
ANZ Donations Account	62,542.90	44,683.55
ANZ Savings Account	150,040.29	232,135.10
Try Booking Account	-	440.32
ATO Integrated Client Account	-	11,482.78
Trade Debtors	3,409.15	-
GST Paid (Creditors)	115.75	584.48
Accrued Income	4,150.00	8,650.00
Prepayments	12,431.44	9,720.37
Total current assets	235,487.38	318,474.58
Non-current assets		
Audio Visual Equipment - at cost		
Audio Visual Equipment - at cost	10,390.00	10,390.00
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(4,691.00)	(3,327.00)
	5,699.00	7,063.00
Office Furniture & Equipment - at cost		
Office Furniture & Equipment - at cost	6,350.30	6,350.30
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(2,513.28)	(2,116.28)
	3,837.02	4,234.02
Plant & Equipment - at cost		
Plant & Equipment - at cost	10,827.27	10,827.27
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(5,301.17)	(3,496.17)
	5,526.10	7,331.10
Computer Equipment - at cost		
Computer Equipment - at cost	16,366.95	16,366.95
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(14,800.45)	(14,037.45)
	1,566.50	2,329.50
Lighting Equipment - at cost		
Lighting Equipment - at cost	26,233.05	26,233.05
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(15,570.05)	(11,350.00)
	10,663.00	14,883.05

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Balance sheet

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Website Development - at cost		
Website Development	5,080.17	5,080.17
Less: Accumulated Amortisation	(1,269.00)	(253.00)
	3,811.17	4,827.17
Total non-current assets	31,102.79	40,667.84
Total assets	266,590.17	359,142.42
Current liabilities		
Amounts Payable - BAS		
GST Payable on BAS	5,951.00	6,035.00
PAYG Withholding Payable	7,402.00	9,446.00
	13,353.00	15,481.00
Income in Advance	58,199.44	90,647.87
Sundry Creditors	-	10,290.50
Trade Creditors	2,248.17	17,014.92
Accured Expenses	4,399.23	6,590.23
Superannuation Payable - Contractors	1,072.27	3,614.18
Superannuation Payable - Employees	1,459.54	6,311.41
GST Payable	943.48	1,173.08
GST Collected (Debtors)	309.95	-
Provision for Employee Leave Entitlements	15,398.92	16,642.04
Total current liabilities	97,384.00	167,765.23
Total liabilities	97,384.00	167,765.23
Net assets	169,206.17	191,377.19
Members' funds		
Retained earnings	169,206.17	191,377.19
Total members' funds	169,206.17	191,377.19

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flow from operating activities		
Receipts from customers	438,558.39	401,942.06
Payments to suppliers and employees	(470,995.02)	(278,793.57)
Interest received	1,388.97	6.22
Tax receipts (payments)	(41,608.22)	(56,519.78)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(72,655.88)	66,634.93
Cash flow used in investing activities		
Payment for property, plant and equipment	-	(9,354.22)
Payment for other investments	-	-
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	-	(9,354.22)
Cash flow from financing activities		
Other cash items from financing activities	-	-
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	-	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	(72,655.88)	57,280.71
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	288,036.95	230,756.24
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	(72,655.91)	57,280.71
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	215,381.04	288,036.95

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

The financial statements cover WA Youth Theatre Company Inc as an individual entity. WA Youth Theatre Company Inc is a not-for-profit association incorporated in Western Australia under the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 ('the Act').

The principal activity of the association for the year ended 31 December 2023 is:

To create diverse pathways in the practice and experience of theatre arts, for young Western Australians.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of preparation

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015. The Committee of Management has determined that the association is not a reporting entity. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 101: Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107: Statement of Cash Flows
AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 124: Related Party Disclosures
AASB 1048: Interpretation of Standards
AASB 1054: Australian Additional Disclosures

No other applicable Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is also prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account the changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

Income tax

The association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Association and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be estimated reliably. If the outcome can be estimated reliably then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period.

If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

Grants

Grant revenue is recognised in the income statement when the entity receives the grant, when it is probable that the entity will receive the economic benefits of the grant and the amount can be reliably measured. If the grant has conditions attached which must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the grant, the recognition of the revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Where the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value back to the grant contributor, the transaction is considered a reciprocal transaction and the revenue is recognised as a liability in the balance sheet until the required service has been completed, otherwise the income is recognised on receipt.

Where Western Australian Youth Theatre Company Inc receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for a nominal or zero value these assets are recognised at their fair value on the date of acquisition in the balance sheet, with an equivalent amount of income recognised in the income statement.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, demand deposits and short term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Leases

This note provides information for leases relating to where Western Australian Youth Theatre Company Inc is a lessee of office and storage space.

The association enters into contractual arrangements for the leases of buildings and other assets. Typically, the duration of these contracts is for periods of between 1 to 5 years, some of which include extension options.

Leases in the past were recognised on the balance sheet as a right of use asset, representing the lessee's entitlement to the benefits of the identified asset over the lease term, and a lease liability representing the lessee's obligation to make the lease payments.

Each lease payment was allocated between its liability and finance cost component. The finance cost charged to the income statement over the lease period. The right of use asset amortised on a straight-line basis over the useful life of the asset and lease term.

When adjustments to lease payments based on an index or rate took effect, the lease liability was reassessed and adjusted against the right-of-use asset

Where the lease term or extension term does not exceed 1 year, the association will treat the lease payments as fully amortised rental expenditure in the Income Statement.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related costs.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

The depreciable amounts of all fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets for a specific project commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Where a fixed asset is not held for a specific project it is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

Impairment of assets

At the end of each reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the company that remain unpaid at 31 December 2023. Trade payables are recognised at their transaction price. They are subject to normal credit terms and do not bear interest.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables and other receivables, including distributions receivable, are recognised at the nominal transaction value without taking into account the time value of money. If required allowance for expected credit losses has been created.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Related Party Transactions

a) Committee Members & Compensation

Committee members in office during the year are disclosed in the Committee's Report section of the Annual Report that accompanies these financial statements. Committee members act in an honorary capacity and receive no compensation for their services from the association. All officers' insurance is fully paid for by the association on behalf of the committee members.

b) Related Party Contracts

There are no related party transactions. The Committee members are elected from the membership, some of which may have direct involvement with operations as producers, artists or audience. Conflicts of interest are required to be identified and managed, if assessed by the Committee members as a potential risk then appropriate risk mitigation strategies will be enacted such as exclusion from decision making.

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Statement by members of committee

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of WA Youth Theatre Company Inc as at 31 December 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that WA Youth Theatre Company Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:



Gemma Cooper (Chair)

Dated 12 April 2024

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
WA YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY INC****Audit Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements, being a special purpose financial report of the WA Youth Theatre Company Inc ("the Association") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, statement of comprehensive income and statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2023, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other selected explanatory information and the statement by the Members of Committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of The WA Youth Theatre Company Inc is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Notes 1 and 2, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared in order to fulfil the financial reporting requirements of WA Youth Theatre Company Inc under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and its constitution. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WA YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY INC (CONTINUED)

Committee Members' Responsibilities for the Financial Report

The Committee Members of WA Youth Theatre Company Inc is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Notes 1 and 2 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015*, the ACNC Act, the constitution and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee Members' responsibility also includes such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee Members are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee Members either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards 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 the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standard Board website at http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our audit report.



SL TAN
PARTNER



MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (WA)
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Signed at Perth this 15th day of April 2024

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Schedule of property, plant and equipment For the year ended 31 December 2023

Asset Description	Acquisition Date	Private Use %	Original Cost	Opening Written down Value	Disposals			Depreciation		Closing Written Down Value
					Disposal Date	Disposal Value	Disposal Profit(Loss) On sale	Rate & Method	Amount	
Audio Visual Equipment - at cost										
Short throw projector	07/05/2015	-	1,182.00	339.00	-	-	-	14.29 DV	48.00	291.00
Speakers	01/12/2020	-	6,485.00	4,553.00	-	-	-	14.29 SL	927.00	3,626.00
PA system	01/08/2021	-	2,723.00	2,171.00	-	-	-	14.29 SL	389.00	1,782.00
			10,390.00	7,063.00					1,364.00	5,699.00
Computer Equipment - at cost										
Macbook Air 13.3	03/02/2014	-	1,812.00	63.00	-	-	-	25.00 DV	16.00	47.00
Macbook Pro 13.2	05/04/2014	-	1,597.00	56.00	-	-	-	25.00 DV	14.00	42.00
Magic keyboard	04/08/2020	-	179.00	71.00	-	-	-	25.00 SL	45.00	26.00
Magic keyboard	04/08/2020	-	146.00	58.00	-	-	-	25.00 SL	37.00	21.00
Computer MBP 13.3	04/08/2020	-	4,101.00	-	-	-	-	50.00 SL	-	-
Magic mouse	04/08/2020	-	97.00	39.00	-	-	-	25.00 SL	24.00	15.00
Magic mouse	04/08/2020	-	122.00	48.00	-	-	-	25.00 SL	31.00	17.00
Usb C digital multiport adaptor	04/08/2020	-	81.00	-	-	-	-	50.00 SL	-	-
Usb C digital multiport adaptor	04/08/2020	-	81.00	32.00	-	-	-	25.00 SL	20.00	12.00
Computer MBP 13.3	04/08/2020	-	2,819.00	-	-	-	-	50.00 SL	-	-
In case woolenex silv	04/08/2020	-	82.00	-	-	-	-	50.00 SL	-	-
In case textured flat sleeve	04/08/2020	-	49.00	-	-	-	-	50.00 SL	-	-
Risers, Samsung F350 monitors	06/08/2020	-	566.00	225.00	-	-	-	25.00 SL	142.00	83.00
Apple MBP 13.3 space gray	02/02/2021	-	3,000.00	1,737.00	-	-	-	25.00 DV	434.00	1,303.00
Apple Macbook Pro 13 (21-22 funding)	10/10/2022	-	1,635.00	-	-	-	-	100.00 IWO	-	-
			16,367.00	2,329.00					763.00	1,566.00

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

ABN: 77 839 836 159

Schedule of property, plant and equipment For the year ended 31 December 2023

Asset Description	Acquisition Date	Private Use %	Original Cost	Opening Written down Value	Disposals			Depreciation			Closing Written Down Value
					Disposal Date	Disposal Value	Disposal Profit(Loss) On sale	Depreciation Rate & Method	Depreciation Amount	Depreciation	
Lighting Equipment - at cost											
Lighting Equipment	19/03/2015	-	6,675.00	1,859.00	-	-	-	14.29 DV	266.00	1,593.00	
Portable lamp	18/11/2020	-	1,364.00	985.00	-	-	-	14.29 DV	141.00	844.00	
Illuminating Equipment	18/02/2021	-	15,555.00	10,282.00	-	-	-	20.00 DV	2,056.00	8,226.00	
2 x Truss & Baseplates (22-23 funding)	01/09/2022	-	2,639.00	1,757.00	-	-	-	100.00 SL	1,757.00	-	
			26,233.00	14,883.00					4,220.00	10,663.00	
Office Furniture & Equipment - at cost											
Printer	27/08/2020	-	107.00	57.00	-	-	-	20.00 SL	21.00	36.00	
Office desks	24/09/2020	-	1,095.00	971.00	-	-	-	5.00 SL	55.00	916.00	
Lighting equipment	27/01/2021	-	711.00	-	-	-	-	100.00 IWO	-	-	
Sony A7 mark III body only and sandisk card	16/06/2021	-	2,222.00	1,891.00	-	-	-	10.00 DV	189.00	1,702.00	
Crumpler backpack	16/06/2021	-	127.00	-	-	-	-	100.00 IWO	-	-	
Manifrotto tripod	16/06/2021	-	136.00	-	-	-	-	100.00 IWO	-	-	
Sony FE 24 105mm zoom lens	18/06/2021	-	1,545.00	1,315.00	-	-	-	10.00 DV	132.00	1,183.00	
IKEA chairs	18/06/2021	-	407.00	-	-	-	-	100.00 IWO	-	-	
			6,350.00	4,234.00					397.00	3,837.00	
Plant & Equipment - at cost											
Curtains	24/01/2021	-	10,827.00	7,331.00	-	-	-	16.67 SL	1,805.00	5,526.00	
			10,827.00	7,331.00					1,805.00	5,526.00	

WA Youth Theatre Company Inc

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Schedule of property, plant and equipment For the year ended 31 December 2023

Asset Description	Acquisition Date	Private Use %	Original Cost	Opening Written down Value	Disposals			Depreciation		Closing Written Down Value
					Disposal Date	Disposal Value	Profit(Loss) On sale	Rate & Method	Depreciation Amount	
Website Development										
Website Development - Membership System (Admin)	19/09/2022	-	4,037.00	3,807.00	-	-	-	20.00 PC	807.00	3,000.00
Website Development - Donation Form (Admin)	02/11/2022	-	424.00	410.00	-	-	-	20.00 PC	85.00	325.00
Website Development - update colour palette (Admin)	06/12/2022	-	620.00	611.00	-	-	-	20.00 PC	124.00	487.00
			5,081.00	4,828.00					1,016.00	3,812.00
Grand Total			75,248.00	40,668.00					9,565.00	31,103.00



WAYTCO acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands and waterways that make up Western Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and to the enduring knowledge systems and culture of Aboriginal peoples.

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