



Annual Report 2013-2014

National Society for
Education in Art & Design

Introduction to the 2013-2014 NSEAD Annual Report

This annual report follows the established practice of publishing documents for consideration at the forthcoming 127th Annual General Meeting of the National Society for Education in Art and Design. This will be held on Saturday 27 June 2015 at 1.30pm at the Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS as part of the national conference. It is hoped that by circulating these reports to all members in advance, the meeting can proceed expeditiously with proper time for discussion and for officers of the Society to respond to considered questions.

The minutes of the previous AGM, held at the BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear on Saturday 22 March 2014 are available online at www.nsead.org. Further printed copies of the minutes are available on request and will be available at the meeting.

The President's Report



Susan Coles, President of NSEAD

I am proud and happy to have been President during such a busy and successful year for NSEAD. We have seen ministerial changes in both education and culture, and it has been advantageous to have our work through the All Party Parliamentary Group on Art Craft and Design education linked to knowing who the key figures are to inform and influence. The APPG has grown in support and influence throughout the year. Our chair (Sharon Hodgson MP for Washington and Sunderland West) and vice chair (The Earl Clancarty) have become friends and supporters of NSEAD.

NSEAD continues to lead the way in creating support for curriculum change, using the wide expertise of members. NSEAD also represents the voices of members in consultation and debate. It has a presence, both nationally and internationally, which is highly respected. To have maintained membership levels in times of austerity and uncertainty is a credit to the

Society. We are so well led by both Lesley Butterworth and Sophie Leach, and now have a shared and accessible vision through the creation of the NSEAD Manifesto for Art Craft and Design Education. NSEAD is indebted to the stalwart support of both Anne Ingall and Patricia Burnell at the NSEAD office in Corsham.

I remain in admiration and awe at the work of the Finances and General Purposes Committee, the Council and the three boards of Council, where members willingly and pro-actively give up their time to support the work of the Society and to move it further forward. All of this is done with interest, passion and commitment. You inspire us all with your support.

I have personally been able to meet more NSEAD members through celebration of the work of teachers and educators involved in both TEA (Thinking, Expression and Action) and Sketchbook Circle, and through our successful CPD course for middle leaders. The 2014 NSEAD Conference on my own "home turf" in Gateshead, was one of the proudest moments that I could ever have dreamed of. International Conferences that I attended, have also been valuable in forming new alliances, there is much common ground to be explored across the world of art, craft and design. NSEAD continues to grow in its outreach, bringing the Society closer to its members and building on the trust that is important in valuing our members. I have loved meeting such a diverse range of people and having the opportunity to continue our debates and conversations via social media. Bringing people together has been one of my aspirations as President.

Collaborative cultures which focus on common beliefs and goals are indeed powerful. NSEAD is driven by a sense of moral purpose. Each and every one of us. I have said many times that you don't drift into being a teacher or educator, you do it for a reason. Despite a rocky few years of imposed curriculum changes, funding cuts, and evidence of marginalisation of the subject, we have survived and we *shall* prosper.

And, in the words of Elliot Eisner; "the arts help children learn to say what cannot be said". Which is why we do what we do, and we do it well. Thank you NSEAD members for that.

The General Secretary's Report



Lesley Butterworth General Secretary of NSEAD

Introduction

The Society has been extremely active throughout 2013-14 with a wide range of activities and programmes and its achievements continue to be varied and highly valued throughout and beyond our community. Through the work of the officers and staff of the Society supported by volunteers on Council and the three Boards of Council we have created resources, run professional development programmes, responded to government consultations, sat on working parties and at roundtables, and travelled throughout the UK to meet, listen and talk with members.

At the conclusion of another year it is always useful to stop and reflect before the next year rushes in. Every year is different and has its own unique essence and 2013-14 is characterised by new partnerships, emerging collaborations, and a sense that we are gaining more and positive exposure and influence across and beyond the education and cultural sectors.

Financially the year has continued to be challenging, as it is for the majority of third sector and small agencies and organisations. Our energy is matched by our frugality and increased endeavours for income generation have been fruitful, to include income from the Unit and through trusts, foundations and professional development programmes. Membership remains loyal which gives us the support, expertise and confidence to continue our work.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to present to you the activities of our last financial year October 2013 – September 2014.

NSEAD contacts, links and collaborations

It has been a busy and successful year in many contexts. Two areas of work that stretched across the work of the Boards and thrived on consultation with members include the

NSEAD Art Craft and Design Educator Survey 2014 and the NSEAD Manifesto for Art Craft and Design Education.

Led by Assistant General Secretary Sophie Leach the NSEAD Art Craft and Design Educator Survey 2014 represented the fourth in our current tranche of surveys since 2010 plotting the impact of current government policy on art, craft and design education and we thank all of our members, supporters and colleagues for the time they have given to bring this critical information into the public domain.

From the findings we have been able to draw five main conclusions. All of these reflect a negative impact on our subject and on our community. Performance measures continue to erode provision at key stage 3 and 4. Fewer specialist teachers are being trained and there is a paucity of subject specific professional development. Learning opportunities for pupils both in school and within the cultural sector have diminished and the subject lacks value, especially in the maintained sector.

The conclusions of the fourth survey are as unsurprising as they are unwelcome, and provide a critical benchmark within the continuum of our work on behalf of our community and in our advocacy for and defence of art, craft and design education.

The Society will rigorously debate and seek to challenge the implications of the survey as both a key part of its strategic direction and active leadership of the subject, and of its support to the teachers and educators it serves.

Many thanks especially to Dr James Hall, Rachel Payne and Jenny Evans who gave time and expertise to support the development and conclusion of the Survey.

Pre-empting a general election 2013-14 was the year for Manifestos and the Society prepared the NSEAD Manifesto for Art Craft and Design Education to use as both an advocacy document and a tool to influence cultural and educational policy on local and national platforms. After consultation with members the Manifesto moved into the public domain and members and supporters, to include arts organisations and galleries 'signed' up by name and logo to the seven evidence based policy proposals put forward.

Seen as two distinct documents, but each giving evidence of what is happening to our subject, what is valuable about our subject and what must be done about the future of our subject the Survey and Manifesto have taken the work of the Society through and beyond our community, positioning us as the 'go-to' organisation and as an effective connector of, and communicator to people.

During 2013 the Society went into partnership with Artsway to create art kits tailored to school and college students. Each purchase of one of these NSEAD kits triggers a payment to the NSEAD to further support our activities

Undeniably social media had allowed officers of the Society to connect more easily to members and supporters. But we also put high value upon getting out in real time and meeting and linking up members across the UK, joining Teach meets and network meetings, attending conferences and seminars.

During 2013-14 the Assistant General Secretary attended five meetings of the Expert Subject Advisory Group for Art and Design Education where she represented NSEAD and

worked on the development of curriculum support materials that included the *Art and Design Audit Tool*, co-authored with Eileen Adams. The materials are now hosted on the NSEAD website. The Assistant General Secretary has regularly attended and presented in the APPG meetings and represented the Society at the 2014 AQA Creative Education Conference; the All-Party Parliamentary Design and Innovation Group, the MoreTEA Exhibition at Gerald Moore Gallery, where she opened the exhibition, and at the Campaign for Drawing MoreTEA CPD event. As *AD* magazine editor the Assistant General Secretary has met with learning departments and attended education events at the V&A, Whitechapel Art Gallery the Design Museum and Goldsmiths London University PGCE course.

During 2013-14 the General Secretary represented the Society at consultation meetings run by the Awarding Organisations, DfE and Ofqual for GCSE Art and Design content and qualification reform, at Board meetings of the Council for Subject Associations, on the Expert Subject Advisory Group for Cultural Education, on the Craft Industry Board, the Steering Group for the Craft Education Manifesto, at the Art Party in Scarborough facilitated by artist and patron Bob and Roberta Smith, at the Art 4MAT network meeting in Birmingham, at the launch of the Young People and the Arts consultation by the Labour Party, on the South East Bridge Advisory Committee, at the engage International Summer School in Falmouth and engage national conference in Birmingham and the All Party Parliamentary Group for Art Craft and Design Education. The General Secretary visited PGCE courses across the UK to include Birmingham City University, the University of Reading, the University of the West of England, Bath Spa University, Edge Hill University, Manchester Metropolitan University, and the University of the West of Scotland, the University of Brighton and Cambridge University.

Publications Board

The Publications Board supports the work of the Society with *AD* magazine, the *International Journal for Art & Design Education*, the e-bulletin, NSEAD's website, communications and social networking alongside developing and considering new initiatives where appropriate.

AD magazine continues to flourish under the editorship of Sophie Leach, and is extremely well received by all our members. Each issue now arrives within the first few weeks of each term, including articles, provocations and reviews contributed by our own members and supporters.

Lead articles have included exclusive interviews with Sir Nicholas Serota, Eleanor Crook and wide-ranging contributions to include a provocation by Bob and Roberta Smith's *The Government's arts strategy*; the implementation of the Curriculum for Excellence; case studies in Secondary Initial Teacher Training, trends in craft education and training, and *The seriousness of play*, a collaborative project and article authored by a school, Whitechapel Gallery and artist Annette Krauss. Sophie Leach is pro-active in encouraging new authors and an *AD* House Style guide is available for guidance. Each issue of *AD* continues to offer members and subscribers a well-received free poster. Advertising continues to generate an income that offsets publication costs. *AD* magazine and posters are designed by SteersMcGillanEves

The *International Journal of Art & Design Education*, *iJADE*, continues under the principal editorship of Professor Jeff Adams and an Editorial Board comprising Dr Sandra Hiatt,

Deborah Riding, Dr Wendy Hyde, Dr Jane McKay, Dr Claire Penketh and Dr Madeleine Sclater. The Editorial Board give their time voluntarily and it is to their credit and diligence that *iJADE* continues to grow so significantly. During 2013-14 full text downloads for *iJADE* via all online platforms increased by 0.5 per cent to 62,725. *iJADE* increased its renewal rate from 93 per cent to 97 per cent and has seen a 4.3 per cent rise in individuals registered to receive automatic content alerts. *iJADE* is designed by SteersMcGillanEves and published by WileyBlackwell.

The fourth *iJADE* Conference, '*Art for life: race, gender, disability and class. Critical discourses around participation in arts education*' was hosted by the University of Chester Research and Innovation Centre in partnership with Tate Liverpool in October 2013. The conference was extremely well received and attended and welcomed delegates from all over the world. Key note speakers included Dr Claire Penketh, Senior Lecturer at Liverpool Hope University, Julie Allen, Professor of Equity and Inclusion at the University of Birmingham and local artist and activist Nina Edge. Inclusion is consistently at the heart of *iJADE* conferences, and a regular and very popular session now is '*Writing for Publication*' led by Dr Claire Penketh. A collection of nominated papers from the conference will be published in a future volume of *iJADE*.

The Society's website www.nsead.org continues to develop. A new section, *Curriculum Resources* has been added to provide links, advice and guidance for the curriculums in England, Scotland and Wales. This section includes the Secondary Curriculum Archive, the parallel 'alternative' curriculum published by the Society to support the National Curriculum for Art and Design in England, the resources authored by members of the Expert Subject Advisory Group for Art and Design and *The Framework for Progression, Planning for Learning, Assessment, Recording and Reporting*. The website is updated almost every day, and RSS feeds direct new postings directly into our member's inboxes. Homepage advertising contributes to the costs of maintaining the site.

The Society continues to be active in its use of social networks, seeking to have a presence wherever our members and potential members might be. The Society continues to have a growing presence on Pinterest and also on Twitter where both the General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary are very active. The total number of NSEAD Twitter followers has risen from 2,237 to 3,121 a diverse and growing community comprising teachers of art craft and design from all over the world; politicians from all parties; journalists, bloggers and opinion formers; organizations and agencies working across the cultural and education sectors; museums and galleries and artists, makers and designers. Twitter is two-way traffic, providing the Society with up to date information which is shared into our community, on the website, in e-bulletin and on Facebook, as well as allowing us to trigger debate and join in discussions.

The NSEAD Facebook page and groups are a dynamic forum, members and non-members alike posting content, generating discussion, sharing views and ideas. The total number of NSEAD Facebook users across the main NSEAD page, and main group, NSEAD Online has increased by 25 per cent. There is a continued growth in specialist interest groups to include regional network such as 4MAT UK based in Birmingham, Kent Art Teachers, and SEAD, NSEAD South East Art and Design, administered by members to support teachers with collective and common interests. When professional development budgets are low and

getting out onto courses is problematic our social network activities provide instant access to a vibrant and 'live' community of teachers of art, craft and design.

During 2013 the Society moved the NSEAD online group to a 'secret' setting, thus potential users now need to seek approval for access and only members can see posts or add content. Social media by its nature moves quickly and the Society is mindful of updating and modelling good practice within this context. The officers of the Society and President Susan Coles moderate content and encourage effective and professional use of these forums on a daily basis.

The NSEAD e-bulletin is published fortnightly throughout term time. It continues to be a green and efficient way of getting news, views, opinion and opportunities over to our members, and if you have not yet given us your email address then please do and avail yourself of this acclaimed membership benefit.

Discussions concluded with Wiley Blackwell Boston for the *International Encyclopaedia for Art and Design Education (IEADE)*. We are delighted to welcome Professor Richard Hickman as principal editor and look forward to *IEADE* coming to fruition under his leadership and expertise.

Thank you to our members who serve on Publications Board and to Dr James Hall in the role of chair.

Professional Development Board

The Professional Development Board supports the planning of the annual conference and AGM, this year held at the BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead. The theme of the conference was *'Digital futures at the heart of art, craft and design education.'* The President of NSEAD, Susan Coles received a very warm welcome from a home audience to include members of NEATEN, the local network group who were enthusiastic and influential in their support of the conference. Conference speakers included a cohort of Artist Teachers from the University of Northumbria and the University of the West of Scotland, i-potter Michael Eden, graphic designer Morag Myerscough, interactive designer Mark Shufflebottom, games designer Laura Hutton from Ubisoft and Janice McLaren from the Photographers Gallery.

The work of the Professional Development Board continues to be supported by funding success to include a grant from Artsworld, the Arts Council Bridge Organisation for the South East to run contemporary crafts workshops with professional makers during 2014 in Kent. Penny Jones facilitated this programme on behalf of the Society which was very well received.

In partnership with the Campaign for Drawing and the National Association of Design and Fine Art Societies, and funded by the Helen Mackaness Trust the *Thinking, Expression, Action* programme concluded in November 2013 with a conference at the National Gallery in London. Attended by contributors to the TEA programme from across the UK the conference shared and celebrated good practice to gain a better understanding of the purposes and use of drawing and to be able to extend and share those experiences and those of their students. The online and social networking aspects of this programme have taken professional development in a new and vibrant direction, with a community of TEA

teachers actively collaborating on exhibitions, projects and sketchbook circles. In partnership with the Campaign for Drawing the Society is actively seeking funding to continue this programme into wider geographical areas and into the primary sector. Thank you to Susan Coles and Eileen Adams for their expertise on this programme.

In partnership with Pearson's and the Cambridge Primary Review and alongside other subject associations the Society participated in a national programme of Primary Conferences seeking to explore the changes in the National Curriculum across the subjects. Thank you to Dr Peter Gregory for his expertise and time spent preparing resources and facilitating workshops on this programme.

The Ernest Cook Trust granted funding to the Society to support a project working with primary teachers and pupils '*Walking as Artists*'. Facilitated by Susan Coles and Traci Cain the project ran in primary schools in Peterlee and Gateshead where significant numbers of children are on FSM. Thank you to Susan Coles and Traci Cain for their expertise in running this project.

The business model for professional development that is not externally funded is highly challenged, with the NSEAD Art Craft and Design Educator Survey 2010-14 reporting that 72 per cent of teachers of art craft and design self-fund to attend subject specific professional development courses.

It is to their great credit therefore that so many teachers attended the one day Middle Leaders courses run in cultural sector venues across England during 2013-14. Facilitated by Susan Coles the courses supported teachers to use a range of strategies and leadership skills to move an art and design department forward. Thank you to Susan Coles for facilitating such a successful programme.

Thank you to our members who serve on Professional Development Board and to Dr Peter Gregory in the role of chair.

Curriculum Board

Members of the Curriculum Board have been actively supportive of our work, particularly in advising on responses to consultations and the implications of government policy and in authoring resources.

During 2012-13 the review of the national curriculum had been a priority area of work. By summer 2013 as it became evident that the Society had been listened to, but not enough, a decision was taken to develop an alternative curriculum for art and design and a Curriculum Writing Group was created to action this decision. The 'alternative' National Curriculum for art and design in England was designed to 'pop up' literally within the text of the DfE version, giving greater depth, breadth and meaning for teachers across all phases. Available on the NSEAD website it has been very well received and used.

In June 2013, Michael Gove MP, then Secretary of State for Education announced that as part of reforms to the national curriculum, the current system of 'levels' used to report children's attainment and progress would be removed and not be replaced. Prescribing a single detailed approach to assessment did not fit with the curriculum freedoms the Department for Education were seeking to give to schools.

Moving swiftly to fill a 'levels' vacuum Ged Gast and Dan China supported by members of the Curriculum Board authored *The Framework for Progression, Planning for Learning, Assessment, Recording and Reporting*, available for download in two sections on the NSEAD website. Downloading like the proverbial 'hot cakes' this framework has been used and highly acclaimed by membership and beyond.

During 2014 the Society consulted with its members and joined the roundtables and discussions relating to GCSE art and design qualification and content reform. The Curriculum Board supported the response to two public consultations, one led by the DfE and one by Ofqual that concluded in September 2014.

The Curriculum Board has also kept a watching brief on the implications of the Curriculum for Excellence in Scotland and is seeking to develop a strategy to support teachers within this context.

The Curriculum Board has also informed the ongoing work of the Society in challenging the discount codes that continue to compromise choice for young people choosing GCSE art and design qualification titles.

Thank you to all our members who serve on Curriculum Board and to Liz MacFarlane in the role of chair.

Trade union matters

NSEAD is both a subject association and an independent trade union. The work of the Society within the context of trade union activities offers one to one support, and bespoke advice and guidance for members experiencing workplace difficulties and challenges.

Necessarily confidential our work in this area has been consistently busy and with conclusions that have won appreciation from our members.

In October 2013 the Society took soundings from its members, asking if as a general principle members as individuals supported industrial action as an effective method of resolution. 55 per cent of members registered a negative to this question which provided a steer for the Society within a period of industrial unrest triggered by two other teaching unions as a responses to pay and pensions.

The Society would like to welcome back David Jones in role as TU Advisor supporting and advising our members in the workplace.

The All Party Parliamentary Group for Art, Craft and Design Education

The All Party Parliamentary Group for Art, Craft and Design Education met on a termly basis at the House of Commons. Growing in influence the APPG is chaired by Sharon Hodgson, MP for Washington and Sunderland West and currently Shadow Minister for Women and Equalities. The APPG has triggered correspondence with Michael Gove MP in his role as Secretary of State for Education, David Laws MP Minister for Schools and Maria Miller MP in her role as Secretary of State for Culture. The APPG has continued to prompt debates and questions in the House of Commons and House of Lords and has provided attenders with a diverse range of presenters to include Ian Middleton HMI.

Thank you to Susan Coles who acts as secretary to the APPG and to all our members and supporters who attend and contribute so much to our debates.

The Athene Trust

It has been a quiet year for the Athene Trust, the charity established by the Society in 1997. The Athene Trust seeks to promote art, craft and design education for people through all stages of life. Thank you to Alastair Laing for his careful stewardship of the Trust on our behalf.

International relations

Following the very successful InSEA European Regional Conference at Christ Church Canterbury University in 2013 engagement with InSEA colleagues across the world has rapidly increased through social media and regular exchanges on Facebook and Twitter keep members linked with research, projects and each other on an international platform.

Dr Peter Gregory is now InSEA World Council Regional Representative for Europe and our President Susan Coles joined NSEAD members Alex Ashton and Adrian Montana at the InSEA World Congress in Melbourne in July 2014.

Professor Jeff Adams is co-director of RECAP, Research into Education Creativity and the Arts through Practice which focuses on international research into creativity in education. Through RECAP he is currently researching creative pedagogies with the University of Bethlehem.

Our Community

This year we were delighted to welcome Ian Middleton HMI into Fellowship of the Society, constitutionally awarded to members for an outstanding contribution to art craft and design education.

As a community of art craft and design teachers, educators, lecturers, managers, administrators and artist teachers I aspire to the Society sitting at the centre of all you do, working with you on your behalf to keep our subject forward looking, world class and fit for purpose.

I would like to thank all our members for support of our work, especially members active on Publications, Professional Development and Curriculum Boards, and those members who contribute to our growing dialogues on Facebook and Twitter. Expertise and time freely given to the work of the Society is much appreciated and the generosity of members gives us strength, authority and increased capacity.

Thank you also to members of the Finances and General Purposes Committee; President Susan Coles, President Elect Ged Gast, Vice presidents Dr Peter Gregory and Marlene Wylie and Honorary Treasurer John Childs. Your guidance and support has been invaluable and much appreciated.

Thank you to members of Council for expertise, energy and interest in all we do.

And finally I would like to thank my colleagues Sophie Leach, Anne Ingall and Pat Burnell for all your hard work, commitment and support throughout the year, appreciated more than I can ever say.

Lesley Butterworth
General Secretary

The Honorary Treasurer's Report 2013-14

John Childs

The past year has continued to be difficult but has shown a more positive conclusion to our finances than the previous few; however the reliance on membership subscriptions as our principal source of income continues to provide a financial challenge for the Society, particularly as both government contracts and funding streams for professional development continue to be non-existent. At the same time this has placed increased pressure and increased applications to those charitable trusts that support the arts, making it more difficult to be successful in obtaining these.

The adjustments made in the preceding years to both staffing and operational costs have continued with the sale of the van, the leasing of three areas of our headquarters building and the reduction in our bookshop stock and activities, which coupled with our continued watchful eye and frugality has meant that our finances are no longer in the precarious state they were.

The forward projections made by the Society continue to be consistent, and structures in place showing quarterly figures allow the General Secretary to manage the finances as accurately as possible. Quarterly accounts are copied to the Finances and General Purposes Committee, Council, Unity Bank Trust and H W Fisher and Company for scrutiny, the latter being extremely helpful with advice. Particular thanks are due to Anne Ingall, our finance manager and to Lesley Butterworth who have worked tirelessly in monitoring and safeguarding our financial position.

The positive end to the year means that we can be more confident in the way in which we view the future, although as always additional finance would enable us to push forward on projects that would further benefit our members. The maintenance and enlargement of our membership is an ongoing task and one which I would ask all members to be active in pursuing.

Summary Financial Information extracted from the full financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2014

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT – GENERAL FUND

	<u>2014</u> £	<u>2013</u> £
Subscription income	203,156	194,362
Other income	78,475	117,797
Total income	281,631	312,159
Total expenditure	(262,715)	(267,426)
Surplus for the year before taxation	18,916	44,733
Tax charge for the year	-	-
Surplus for the year	18,916	44,733

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET – COMBINED FUNDS

	<u>2014</u> £	<u>2013</u> £
Fixed assets	274,003	279,960
Current assets	43,713	49,592
Current liabilities	(59,523)	(80,054)
Non-current liabilities	(190,950)	(201,171)
	67,243	48,327
General Fund	67,243	48,327

SUMMARY OF SALARIES AND BENEFITS PROVIDED

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
L Butterworth	General Secretary	Salary	£43,740

The President and the members of the Council do not receive any salary from the Society or any benefits. The President and the members of the Council are reimbursed for any expenditure incurred by them in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Society, as is the General Secretary.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Set out below is the report of the independent auditors to the members as contained in the accounts of the Society for the year ended 30 September 2014:

We have audited the financial statements of the National Society for Education in Art & Design for the year ended 30 September 2014, set out on pages 3 to 11. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the Society's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Society's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and the Society's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Society's Council and auditors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Council on page 1, the Council of the Society is responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Society's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Society's Council; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs as at 30 September 2014 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We are required by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended) to report to you by exception in respect of the following matters if, in our opinion:

- A satisfactory system of control over transactions has not been maintained.
- The Society has not kept proper accounting records.
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the books of account.
- We have not received all the information and explanations we need for our audit.

We have nothing to report to you in respect of the above matters.

H W FISHER & COMPANY
***Chartered Accountants,
Statutory Auditor***
Dated: 12 February 2015

Acre House,
11-15 William Road
London NW1 3ER
United Kingdom

We are required by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (Amended) to include the following declaration in this statement to all members. The wording is as prescribed by the Act.

The irregularity statement, the exact wording which is reproduced below:

"A member who is concerned that some irregularity may be occurring, or have occurred, in the conduct of the financial affairs of the union may take steps with a view to investigating further, obtaining clarification and, if necessary, securing regularisation of that conduct.

The member may raise any such concerns with such one or more of the following as it seems appropriate to raise it with: the officials of the union, the trustees of the property of the union, the auditor or auditors of the union, the Certification Officer (who is an independent officer appointed by the Secretary of State) and the police.

Where a member believes that the financial affairs of the union have been or are being conducted in breach of the law or in breach of rules of the union and contemplates bringing civil proceedings against the union or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice."

Any member of the Society who wishes to obtain a copy of the full accounts for the year ended 30 September 2014 should contact the General Secretary at the National Society for Education in Art and Design, 3 Masons Wharf, Potley Lane, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9FY, or by telephone on 01225 810134.

Appendix 1: Members of Council and Staff from January 2014

Finance and General Purposes Committee

President: Susan Coles
President Elect; Ged Gast
Vice President: Marlene Wylie
Vice President; Dr Peter Gregory
Honorary Treasurer: John Childs

Council

Norah Jardine
Pat Brown
Georgia Naish
Ruth Robinson
Mary Flanagan
Emma Thomas
Maria Keki
Debbie Hepplestone
Mima Bone
Elinor Brass
Mari Bradbury
Rachel Payne

Chairs of Boards of Council

Chair of Publications Board: Dr James Hall
Chair of Professional Development Board: Dr Peter Gregory
Chair of Curriculum Board: Liz MacFarlane

Observers

Ian Middleton HMI
Christophe Raatz: CHEAD

Staff

General Secretary: Lesley Butterworth
Assistant General Secretary: Sophie Leach
Office Manager: Anne Ingall
Bookshop and Clerical Assistant: Pat Burnell

Appendix 2: Notice of the Annual General Meeting 2015

All members are invited to attend the 127th Annual General Meeting of the National Society for Education in Art and Design.

The AGM will be held at the Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham B3 3BS on Saturday 27 June 2015 commencing 13.30pm as part of the annual national conference.

Agenda

1. To record attendance and to receive apologies for absence
2. President's opening remarks
3. To approve the minutes of the last AGM held at the BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art on Saturday 22 March 2014
4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes
5. To receive and approve the General Secretary's report for 2013-14
6. To receive and approve the Honorary Treasurer's report for 2013-14
7. To receive and approve the report of the Auditors for 2013-14
8. To award a Fellowship of the Society
9. To appoint auditors for the financial year 2014-15