

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

impart
create
build



Cover Artwork



Muhammad Aniq Irfan Bin

Abdul Malek

Mini Monet 2022 Exhibition

Two Worlds

Acrylic on canvas

50cm x 50cm

Artist Statement

Reading books is the traditional way of gaining knowledge. They can be found in libraries and museums and come in all sorts of colours, sizes and thickness. Looking through the lens of a camera, I pictured myself standing in the middle of a library and painted this beautiful sight of a place that can be 'noisy' with knowledge of all sorts yet quiet and peaceful to the average reader.

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Chairman's Message

2022 was a year of significant change, and it was changed for the better. Notably, the easing of restrictions on public gatherings and the return of personnel to offices helped us regain some sense of normalcy. During the Covid period, providing a place for our young charges and effectively guiding them within the restrictions had been a challenging task. It is gratifying that we successfully adapted to these changes and managed to drive our mission forward.

TRCL continued to focus on our mission to provide arts training for underserved children and youths, with the support of The Business Times Budding Artists Fund (BT BAF). The Little Arts Academy (LAA) and 10 Square Youth serve as avenues for the beneficiaries to grow and embrace their calling in the arts. For example, Nicholas Tham Jun Kit, 18, currently a student at ITE College West and 10 Square Youth, remembers how BT BAF welcomed him, expanded his talent and art, and now he hopes to go on to bigger stages like Broadway.

We are heartened by the resumption of Children for Children as well as the in-person format of ChildAid. Children for Children serves as an opportunity to bring children out for Children's Day, and is also one of our annual fundraisers for BT BAF. I would like to express my gratitude to co-organisers The Business Times and CHIJ (Kellock) Primary School, as well as major donors Hong Leong Group, Certis, and NTUC FairPrice Foundation.

With the easing of restrictions for public gatherings, ChildAid returned to its traditional format. Even as we adapted to online and hybrid formats over the past two years, this year's ChildAid was a grand spectacle to behold, featuring a cast of over 100 children from 40 schools. Besides being a showcase for performance skills, ChildAid nurtured virtuosity in children and raised funds for their underserved peers. I would like to give special mention to Citi Singapore and UOB for their sterling support over the past 10 years.

A new project, Souljourn, focusing on personal development and mental well-being, began in 2022. This fundraiser was initiated by the BT BAF alumni in partnership with the Singapore Association for Mental Health. Souljourn acts as a platform for BT BAF alumni to give back to the fund that once supported them. Observing such excellent individuals coming together and paying it forward is akin to parents watching their children grow up well, all the while remembering their roots. Thanks to the generous donations of OCBC, Chemical Industries (Far East) Ltd, and Standard Chartered, Souljourn was a success in addressing and reaching out to the community with messages about mental health and well-being.

On behalf of the board, I wish to convey our deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to the numerous organisations that have provided unwavering support through their generous donations and valuable partnerships. To my colleagues on the board, I wish to express my sincere gratitude for your dedication in serving as the moral compass and guiding force during these transformative times.

Jennie Chua

Chairman, TRCL

CEO's Message

I am pleased to present TRCL's annual report for FY2022/2023. This year represents a remarkable period of change and achievement, and I am honoured to share our accomplishments and progress with all of you.

2022 will be remembered as one of transformation and resilience for TRCL. Despite the persistent challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we remained steadfast in our mission to provide arts education to underserved children and youth. Despite the hurdles, we not only adapted to the situation but also emerged stronger.

At TRCL, we take great pride in our continuous dedication in nurturing the talents of our beneficiaries while staying aligned with industry developments. Our training extended beyond the classroom, offering opportunities for engagement in community projects, productions, exhibitions and examinations. In FY2022/2023, we conducted over 1,571 lessons – a significant increase from the 1,009 lessons in FY2021/2022 – underscoring our commitment to expanding our offerings for our beneficiaries and to bridge the divide.

Additionally, we provided our Grade 3 keyboard beneficiaries with the opportunity to take the Trinity examination, and I am delighted to report that 4 out of 6 beneficiaries earned distinctions, highlighting their unwavering dedication and exceptional talent.

Besides this, our objective to encourage our beneficiaries to actively participate in productions, projects and exhibitions remained intact, achieving a remarkable 100% participation rate. Furthermore, the audience outreach for our physical performances and exhibitions increased to 932, compared to 402 in FY2021/2022. This heightened engagement allowed our beneficiaries to collaborate with artists, including international talents, providing them with invaluable skills and experiences.

This growth is a testament to the unwavering efforts of our team, and I wish to express my deep appreciation to our dedicated board members for their tireless efforts in steering TRCL through these transformative times. Their dedication and wisdom have been invaluable.

Lastly, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our beneficiaries, their families, our staff, volunteers, and all our supporters who enable our mission. Together, we have achieved significant milestones and I am eagerly anticipating the future as we continue to empower the next generation through the arts.

As we look ahead, I am filled with optimism and enthusiasm for the coming year. We will build upon the solid foundation we have established and strive for even greater impact and excellence in our programmes.

I extend my thanks for your steadfast support and unwavering belief in TRCL's mission.

Colin Goh
CEO, TRCL

Board Of Directors

Chairman



Ms Jennie Chua Kheng Yeng

Deputy
Chairman



Mr Alvin Tay Tuan Hearn

Members



Ms Genni Koh
Hui Peng



Mr Lim Yeong Seng



Mr Kelvin Tan Teck San



Mr Pius Tan Teck Hong



Ms Tan Xui Fen



Ms Savitha
Ramachandran

Ex-officio
Member



Mr Colin Goh

Nomination Committee

Mr Pius Tan Teck Hong (Chairman)
Mr Alvin Tay Tuan Hearn

HR Committee

Mr Alvin Tay Tuan Hearn (Chairman)
Ms Jennie Chua Kheng Yeng
Mr Colin Goh

Finance Committee

Mr Pius Tan Teck Hong (Chairman)
Mr Edwin Yeo Thiam Lock
Mr Colin Goh

Audit Advisor

Mr Lim Yeong Seng

Whistle Blowing Committee

Mr Kelvin Tan Teck San (Chairman)
Mr Koh Chye Hock
Ms Florence Lee

Charity Status

Charity Registration Date: 24 April 2014
Constitution: Company limited by guarantee
Incorporation Date: 26 March 2014
UEN:201408699H

IPC Status

Effective Period:
01 Dec 2021 to 31 Jan 2024

Statutory Auditors

Ernst & Young LLP

Internal Auditors

Chase Farm Pte Ltd

Company Secretary

Vistra Corporate Services (SEA) Pte Ltd

Principal Bankers

Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited
United Overseas Bank
RHB Singapore
Standard Chartered Bank

Our Vision

We believe in supporting the intent of any individual keen to be part of the arts, culture, and creative industries. We serve to empower young people and connect communities through the arts.

TRCL's purpose rests on three pillars where we exist. We impart, create, and build with an education in the arts can transform your



which define why
with the belief that
young lives.



Impart

We inspire children and youth to pursue the arts through progressive and sustained training in Music, Dance, Theatre, Visual Arts, and Tech+Art (Digital Art). Our training programmes are open to children aged 6 to 12 at The Little Arts Academy and youth aged 13 to 19 at 10 Square @ Orchard Central, regardless of their financial circumstances

Create

TRCL is well-placed within the various communities that involve children, youths, family, school, and the business community at large. This is largely through two community funds we manage — The Business Times Budding Artist Fund (BTBAF) and the #Engage initiative — which serve to benefit our young who will build up Singapore's legacy in arts and music. These funds enable us to curate artistic content and programming by which our beneficiaries grow and develop in character as well as in arts training and creative expression. Creativity and innovative mindsets are recognised qualities which endow the next generation with employable skills to fit into an increasingly complex and volatile world.

Build

We build spaces that embody the needs and aspirations of our communities — the Children, the Youth and the Enterprising. Our spaces include The Little Arts Academy and 10 Square @ Orchard Central.

What's New



Inaugural ribbon cutting of The Idea of North

Launch of The Idea of North

The Idea of North was a festival in Singapore fostering ties with regional neighbours through curated events. It showcased Melaka, Perak, and Sarawak. Highlights included *Fortune Kooky*, a Malaysian comedy, an art exhibition *Memories from Bumi Kenyalang* — introducing Sarawak's cultural heritage — and a panel discussion titled *States of Time* — covering heritage preservation, royal succession, eco-tourism and culinary arts.



Unveiling art from Sarawak

Launch of Fund for Fun

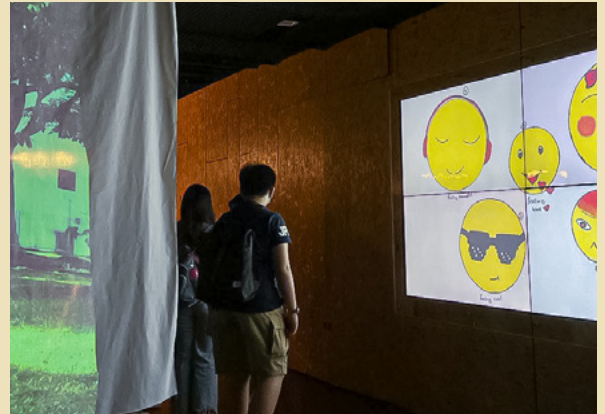
In 2022, TRCL launched the Fund for Fun, a new initiative aimed at providing free arts and creative activities to individuals aged 15 to 35. The Fund was established to address mental health issues exacerbated by the pandemic, with a specific focus on the well-being of Singaporean youth. During the launch event, TRCL introduced SEASONS, a community initiative offering activities inspired by the essence of autumn, winter, spring, and summer.

Attendees had the opportunity to participate in three activities, each representing a different season: A marble coaster making workshop showcasing the colours of autumn and summer; a board game 'wellness café' representing a cosy winter's night for young families; and a floral paper quilling workshop symbolising the rejuvenation of spring.





Guests snapping artwork by SAMH beneficiaries



Traversing through the walkway with art by BT BAF beneficiaries

Launch of Souljour

Souljour, an immersive art experience co-organised by the Singapore Association of Mental Health (SAMH) and the alumni of TRCL's programmes, showcased the role of art in self-care and self-discovery. The event featured works in progress from SAMH beneficiaries and responses from BT BAF beneficiaries, providing unique perspectives on life's journey. TRCL's multi-disciplinary arts space, 10 Square, hosted the interactive event, inviting audiences to engage with visual arts, movement, texts and food. Souljour raised more than \$230,000 in support of SAMH and BT BAF through its fundraising efforts.



Floral paper quilling workshop during the launch of Fund for Fun

Our Funds

The Business Times Budding Artists Fund

**EMPOWERING YOUNG LIVES
SUPPORTING YOUNG DREAMS
LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND**

Empowering Young Lives

Initiated in 2004 and adopted by *The Business Times* in 2005, The Business Times Budding Artists Fund (BT BAF) empowers children and youth from financially disadvantaged backgrounds, helping them gain self-confidence, a sense of purpose and community through the arts.

The fund gives them access to training programmes and resources to fulfil their potential, hone their creativity, and develop creative thinking skills which are also applicable in daily life.

Supporting Young Dreams

Through support from BT BAF, beneficiaries are able to attend arts training courses, gain access to production facilities and art materials, and participate in performances and exhibitions, at no cost to them. The fund also supports beneficiaries who participate in international exams like ABRSM. Our beneficiaries stage and participate in at least two productions annually.

The fund gives them the opportunity to hold visual arts exhibitions, participate in arts-related projects with partners and engage in various community give-back events. Through the support of our partners, our beneficiaries also have opportunities to perform at various events and showcases.





The Little Arts Academy and 10 Square Youth performers in The Crows & The Cranes



Through a holistic arts programme funded by BT BAF, the next generation learns creative expression, develops social competencies and forges a growth mindset. They acquire foundations in painting, hip-hop and contemporary dance, learning a musical instrument, digital literacy and entrepreneurial skills. Their emotional and mental well-being is nurtured through a community of dedicated trainers and school administrators.

#Engage



The #Engage Initiative by TRCL aims to build a digitally inclusive society by providing digital devices for vulnerable children, developing original arts and culture programmes that engender creativity, inspire the acquisition of new skills and impart wholesome values, and developing online arts festival platforms that showcase the creativity and voices of children and youth to the community.

Since its launch in 2020, the #Engage Initiative has reached out to over 1,350 children and youths across 74 primary and secondary schools in Singapore.

Our Academies

The Little Arts Academy (LAA)

Located in Northpoint City in Yishun, LAA offers a six-month multidisciplinary art course which exposes children aged 6 to 12, to the basic aspects of dance, music, theatre, visual arts, and tech+arts, followed by an 18-month course where beneficiaries can choose to specialise in one art form.

10 Square Youth

Located at Orchard Central, 10 Square Youth offers a two-year Arts Incubation Programme (AIP) aimed at cultivating performance-oriented skills and imparting industry knowledge for youth aged 13 to 19 years. The centre also provides alumni with a platform to give back by supporting LAA and 10 Square Youth productions.



The Little Arts Academy and 10 Square Youth performers in *The Crows & The Cranes*

Impart Skills

Imparting artistic skills is vital for the development of children and youths. It encourages creativity, discipline, critical thinking, empathy, and academic performance. These soft skills are increasingly valuable in a technology-driven world, by fostering adaptable and well-rounded individuals capable of handling situations in school, at work, or life in general.



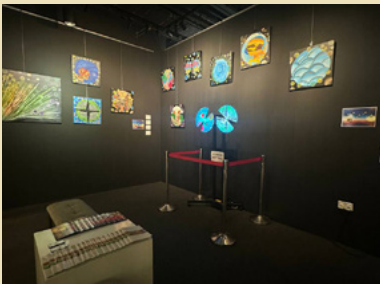
The Little Arts Academy and 10 Square Youth performers in *The Crows & The Cranes*

BT BAF 17th Anniversary Production — The Crows & The Cranes

The show featured 39 young performers from The Little Arts Academy and 10 Square Youth, telling a story of a crow longing to be like a crane through a fusion of dance, song, text and moving images. The performance, inspired by a poem from renowned Singaporean playwright Chay Yew's *Porcelain* emphasised themes of self-love and acceptance of others. The production was a success as it aptly touched on the themes of mental health and well-being, subjects that have come to the fore since the advent of the pandemic. The performance also drove home the point that people who encountered such issues were widespread yet, most importantly, were not alone.

Children's Festival - A Creative Journey of Self-Discovery

The 2022 Children's Festival at The Little Arts Academy (LAA) celebrated creativity and self-discovery through two exciting exhibitions: *Mini Monet: Pinbokeh* and *Reflect10ns: Balance & Chaos*. The Festival, which marked LAA's 14th anniversary, provided a platform for young artists from under-served backgrounds to showcase their talents and artistic expressions. Through captivating exhibitions and performances, the festival allowed these young minds to share their creativity with the community. Moreover, special workshops offered children in the community the opportunity to discover their own artistic potential and embark on a journey of self-discovery.



Showcase of Mini Monet artworks

Mini Monet: Pinbokeh

Mini Monet: Pinbokeh was an extraordinary visual arts exhibition supported by UOB and conducted at LAA, providing equal opportunities for all children to explore the arts. Participants ingeniously combined traditional painting techniques with digital vision styles, focusing on bokeh and fish-eye effects. Their artworks not only displayed innovative ideas but also reflected their experiences as students post-COVID, when life underwent significant changes.



Showcase of Reflect10ns artworks

Reflect10ns: Balance and Chaos

Reflect10ns: Balance & Chaos was a thought-provoking exhibition presented by 10 Square Youths. Chaos, an inevitable aspect of daily life, was explored by the youth artists, who revealed how they found equilibrium amid unpredictability. Through their unique perspectives, the artists delved into various mediums, reflecting on their identities, the cycle of life, and chaos throughout history. "Reflect10ns" tied into the broader theme of the festival, "You. Me. Who Am I?"



Stars of The Little Arts Academy

It's Talent Time in Westhill Village

To bring audiences back to the '50s when Chong Pang was known as Westhill Village, little actors from The Little Arts Academy shared famous stories that happened during that era; from owning a pet shop to saving a bakery. The production was performed by students across all genres, talking about the history of Yishun. Wahid, Mei-Mei, Anisah, Ah-Boy & Ahmad from the Theatre Genre brought audiences on an adventure to tell these tales with their peers. In conjunction with the 14th Anniversary of The Little Arts Academy and Children's Festival, *It's Talent Time in Westhill Village* was performed live as LAA's year-end production, featuring over a 100 children, youth and crew members.

Impart Values

Imparting values through the arts nurtures character, emotional intelligence, and empathy. Creative expression teaches virtues, teamwork, and resilience, fostering compassionate and responsible individuals.

Art of Play

Art of Play is a six-month introduction programme for children to explore the basics of dance, music, theatre and visual arts. Beyond the skills learnt in the programme, the curriculum encourages the children to reach into their creative side and express their authentic selves. Through fun and play integrated within the programme, the children are enabled to learn and explore the arts, and, via their experimenting, the trainers assist the children in understanding their strengths. The introduction programme covers the foundational ages of 6-12 years old, thereby enhancing the personal development of the children from a young age. Upon completion of Art of Play, the children can focus on key areas to grow in the Foundation programme, which builds on the skills and values learnt in Art of Play.



Children participating in Art of Play



思念 (*Missing*) by Kaden Teoh

The Little Old Man by Liao Quanxin



A Sleepy Morning by Nayla Alyaa



Imprints by Rui Xi Yap



Soon To Be by Noh Sangeun



Feudal by Yang Xinyu



Welcome To The Internet by Khanatip Chokoonkit

13-19 Art Prize 2022

The 13-19 Art Prize is an annual visual arts competition exclusively for youths aged 13 to 19 in Singapore and Southeast Asia. Launched in 2021, the competition aims to recognise and celebrate young art talents while fostering values of giving back to the community. In 2022, the competition expanded its reach to include talents from Southeast Asia, welcoming entries from youths residing in the region.

The competition comprises two categories: Canvas Artwork and Digital Artwork. Winning works from both categories will be exhibited and auctioned to raise funds for BT BAF. Judging is based on concept, creativity/originality, aesthetic quality and technical skills. Winners receive cash prizes in various categories. Through the 13-19 Art Prize, youths have used their artistic talents to address meaningful issues, spark conversations and express their creativity. The competition encourages young artists to explore and develop their skills, and promotes a diversity of artistic expressions.

Certis Give-back

Certis held the fourth edition of its annual Community Give-Back programme. The event consisted of three workshops spread over seven months. This year's workshops focused on using arts and technology to raise awareness about mental wellness and sustainability. The programme allowed BT BAF beneficiaries, who were volunteering as student trainers, to propose workshop activities for their peers. The launch event involved a tech-enhanced dance workshop where Certis volunteers and BT BAF beneficiaries engaged with 15 children from New Life Children and Student Care, marking the programme's first in-person event since the pandemic.

Since its inception in 2019, the Community Give-Back programme has reached out to over 300 underserved children and youth through various workshops that included dance, visual arts, and technology activities. Certis has been committed to supporting this initiative and promoting the spirit of giving back by helping children and youth adapt to unpredictable environments. Certis also donated \$20,000 to support BT BAF's programmes.



Cheque presentation to Certis

Citibank Calendar

Beneficiaries from Little Arts Academy and 10 Square Youth took part in the Citibank Calendar 2023 design contest for their annual calendar. The theme was 'Recovery and Renewal', aligned with the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions and our society's road to recovery from the after-effects. The participants explored myriad themes including, but not limited to, clean energy for sustainable development, self-care and healing, remembering your roots, and education and interaction. All these concepts were turned into beacons of hope for a better age by the participants. The Head of Citi's South Asia & ASEAN cluster, Amol Gupte, graced the event and gave out the prizes at the end of the event.



Participants of Citibank Calendar 2023

Thomas Dambo Project

In March 2023, the beneficiaries from Little Arts Academy took part in the *Explorers of Sentosa* exhibition by Thomas Dambo. Thomas Dambo is an internationally renowned recycling artists, and the exhibit was created in conjunction with Sentosa's 50th anniversary, focusing on a Sustainable Sentosa. The beneficiaries not only took part in learning how to upcycle plastics and other waste materials into art, they also created an exploratory adventure for visitors. This also sparked their reflection on their interactions with nature, as well as keeping in mind the carbon footprint they leave behind.



Waypoint for Thomas Dambo exhibit

UOB Mural Project

UOB invited visual artists from Little Arts Academy and 10 Square Youth to paint a large mural with UOB staff and members. In a show of community spirit, the young artists drew the everyday Singaporean, and how people could realise their dreams and illuminate their passions with UOB. The project spoke of civic consciousness — a rare value found in our young artists — as well as the need to work hand in hand to piece together the final mural, which was ultimately unveiled as the 41st UOB Painting of the Year.



41st UOB Painting of the Year unveiling

TRCL seeks to create a sustainable arts ecosystem that not only benefits underserved children and youths, but also enables economic opportunities in the arts and creative industries to thrive.

With this intent, TRCL set up Global Cultural Alliance Ltd (GCA), a wholly-owned subsidiary to drive content development and employment opportunities that will allow local industry players and businesses to gain greater access into regional markets.

Founded in 2014, GCA is a not-for-profit organisation which focuses on building communities and bridging borders.

GCA is committed to developing an inclusive Singapore society through arts and culture programmes and positioning Singapore as a cultural hub for the exchange of ideas and shared experiences.

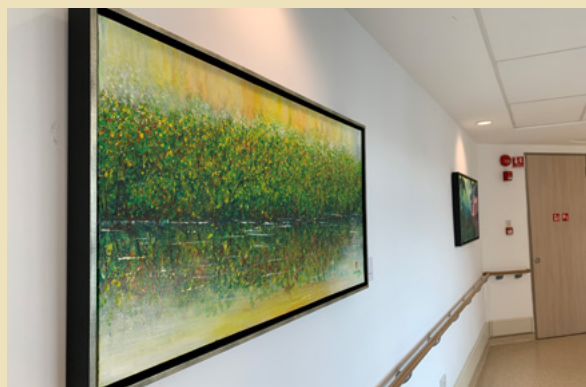
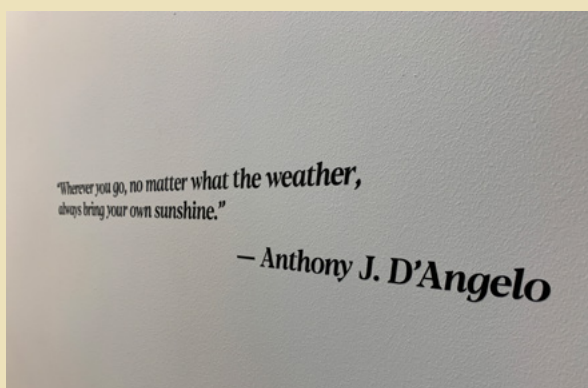
Create Content

Through commissioned projects, GCA is able to partner with various community organisations to create meaningful content which seeks to uplift the different facets of society. Be it the elderly, those with disabilities or those with experience of incarceration, GCA has been able to play a part in providing a platform to promote integration, connectivity, and positivity, through projects like fundraising concerts, exhibitions, and short films.

Here are some commissioned projects:

Sengkang Hospital: Art Curate

The project sought to uplift patients, visitors, and hospital staff by bringing light, familiar scenes of nature, as well as inspiring scenes of the world outside into the hospital premises. This process saw the curation and installation of existing works of various media — photographic works from Tan Ngiap Heng and Richard Koh, acrylic paintings from aspiring and established community-based artists (Barry Yeow and Dawn Kwan, inmate artists in Changi Prisons' Visual Arts Hub programme, beneficiaries of The Business Times Budding Artists Fund trained in Visual Arts), and mixed media works from established Singaporean artist, Kumari Nahappan.



Artworks in Sengkang General Hospital



Always, Mother film screen capture

St Luke's Hospital Anniversary Fundraiser: *Always, Mother*

St. Luke's launched *Always, Mother*, a charity film that aims to highlight the personhood of individuals living with dementia. Research has indicated that a person's personhood, which encompasses their values and life experiences, remains unchanged even as the disease progresses. The film specifically focuses on the story of a caregiver who is taking care of his mother with dementia. It provides an interactive experience for viewers, allowing them to step into the caregiver's shoes, make choices, and navigate different care options for the mother.



Convergence poster

Convergence: A Dialogue in Dance between Hong Kong and Singapore

GCA produced *Convergence: A Dialogue in Dance between Hong Kong and Singapore*, a hybrid collaboration held on 30 July 2022. The event brought together the Hong Kong Dance Company (HKDC) and Singapore's Maya Dance Theatre (MDT), uniting martial arts, Chinese dance, and contemporary dance in a mesmerizing blend inspired by Asian and Southeast Asian traditions.

The event featured a collaborative film, a virtual dialogue session, and a live performance by MDT, incorporating elements from HKDC's original *Convergence* film. This cross-city hybrid experience transcended geographical boundaries, celebrating global dance traditions while promoting cultural diversity and understanding.

HKDC's Artistic Director, Yang Yuntao, presented a series of four tutorial videos demonstrating the movements of Hung Kuen, a southern Chinese martial art seamlessly integrated into the original dance production. The tutorials provided participants an understanding of the techniques behind the choreography.



Guests eating and interacting in Souljour

Souljour

GCA was commissioned as executive producer for the inaugural edition of *Souljour*, organized jointly by the Singapore Association of Mental Health (SAMH) and TRCL, which showcased the role of art in self-care and self-discovery.

The pandemic revealed the need for mental well-being, especially among the vulnerable. *Souljour* comprised a series of experiential spaces that explore the themes of Future, Comfort, Reflection, Dream and Journey featuring actual works in progress from SAMH's sessions with its beneficiaries and responses to the works by beneficiaries of The Business Times Budding Artists Fund. *Souljour* invited audiences to engage with the installations that featured visual arts, movement, texts, and food.

Create Networks

Collaborative Projects Mental Health and Wellness Programmes Fundraising with Mutual Compassion

The Idea of North

The Idea of North was a festival held in Singapore with the purpose of fostering closer ties between the country and its regional neighbours through a series of curated events and discussions. The inaugural edition of the festival showcased the states of Melaka, Perak, and Sarawak.

The Idea of North featured a Malaysian musical comedy production titled *Fortune Kooky*, presented by KuLT Productions. This original theatrical performance previously garnered acclaim during its premiere in Malaysia, and depicted the valuable life lessons learned by an entrepreneur who, despite experiencing a period of hardship, unexpectedly comes into great wealth.

In conjunction with the festival, an art exhibition titled *Memories from Bumi Kenyalang* was organised, featuring the works of nine artists. The exhibition served as an introduction to the cultural heritage of Sarawak, also known as Bumi Kenyalang, which translates to “land of the rhinoceros hornbill”. Through 11 artworks, the exhibition showcased various aspects of Sarawak, including its natural landscapes, unique flora and fauna, vibrant way of life, and the rich tapestry of its ethnic communities. This exhibition was supported by the Sarawak Trade and Tourism Office Singapore.

The Idea of North also featured a panel discussion entitled *States of Time*. Experts and practitioners hailing from Perak, Sarawak, and Melaka engaged in reflections on their respective homelands. The discussions encompassed a range of pertinent topics, including the significance of heritage preservation, the dynamics of royal succession, the potential of eco-tourism, and the importance of safeguarding authentic culinary arts.



Group photo with Malaysian delegates



Unveiling of artwork from Sarawak

Steinway Youth Piano Competition 2022

Following the lifting of pandemic restrictions, the Steinway Youth Piano Competition transitioned back to its offline format after being held online during the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. As part of the Steinway Youth Festival organised by Steinway & Sons in Hamburg, Germany, the competition continued its mission to identify, encourage, and promote young pianists in the early stages of their careers.

Steinway Gallery Singapore and GCA played a vital role in ensuring a smooth transition from the virtual to the physical setting. The return to in-person performances brought back the ambiance of live concerts and provided a platform for young pianists to showcase their talents before a live audience. The competition's legacy of nurturing musical talent remained steadfast, and continued to inspire young musicians on their journey in the world of classical music.

For the first time, Steinway Youth Piano Competition 2022 also saw the addition of the Youth-at-Heart category in the Amateur Class, recognising the efforts of amateur pianists aged 35 and above. The addition aimed to encourage working professionals who love music and piano playing in their pursuit of their musical passion, all the while balancing emotional, mental, and physical well-being in their lifestyle through music. The Youth-at-Heart category in the Amateur Class was opened to those whose main source of income was not related to music, but to those who purely enjoyed playing the piano and Steinway intended to give them the opportunity to be recognised for their technical and musical ability.



Steinway Youth Piano Competition 2022 overall champion and Youth-at-Heart category winner

Urban Culture Asia: Melaka

Urban Culture Asia saw a delegation of over 80 entrepreneurs from Singapore and Malaysia, from various industries, gather to further enhance cross-border culture and business relationships in Melaka. Supported by property and community developer Hatten, this initiative seeks to accelerate a digitisation journey towards a more sustainable digital future together, and act as a catalyst for new business collaborations and economic activities within the Melaka Waterfront Economic Zone. During the trip, visual arts students from BT BAF went on an exploratory art walk alongside students from Melaka's Oakrich International School, to capture the sights of Melaka through their art.



Delegates and visual arts students during Urban Culture Asia: Melaka

Collaborative Projects

AEA(S) Fun Club

The Association of Employment Agencies (Singapore) [AEA(S)] partnered with TRCL to launch the AEA(S) Fun Club, an initiative providing weekly mental wellness programmes for migrant domestic workers (MDWs). The club offers arts and creative activities such as dance therapy workshops, percussion sessions, and health and self-development talks. This initiative was introduced in response to new legislation mandating at least one rest day per month for MDWs. The lack of organized activities for MDWs on their rest days led to the creation of the Fun Club, which aims to provide a safe space for MDWs to recharge and interact with their friends. The club activities are hosted at three venues, including 10 Square in Orchard Central, managed by TRCL. AEA(S) intends to expand the programme to more locations across Singapore to better serve MDWs.



Migrant domestic workers at a workshop

Mental Health and Wellness Programmes



Workshop participants of Fund for Fun

Fund for Fund: Seasons of Well-being

TRCL launched Fund for Fun, which was established to provide free arts and creative activities for individuals aged between 15 and 35 years old, recognising the pressing mental health issues that arose as a consequence of the pandemic. Notably, the fund went beyond catering solely to youths and children, acknowledging the toll the pandemic had taken on caregivers' mental wellness as well.

The Fund for Fun launch event announced the community initiative titled SEASONS. Inspired by the essence of the four seasons — autumn, winter, spring, and summer — SEASONS aimed to create a positive impact on the community's mental wellness as they navigated uncertainties after Covid-19. The activities under SEASONS promised a range of experiences that fostered rejuvenation, comfort, and creativity.

Fund for Fun and AEA(S) jointly inaugurated the AEA(S) Fun Club to cater to migrant domestic workers (MDWs). This initiative was a response to new legislation that required employers to grant MDWs at least one rest day a month. Acknowledging the lack of organised activities for MDWs during their rest days, the AEA(S) Fun Club offered weekly mental wellness programmes, including dance therapy workshops, percussion sessions, and talks on health and self-development. With venues at 10 Square in Orchard Central, Tekka Mall in Little India, and Yishun's Northpoint, the association aspired to bring these activities closer to the MDWs, aiming to establish a trusted and safe space for them to recharge and interact with their friends.

Fundraising With Mutual Compassion



ChariTrees lighting up Marina Bay Waterfront

Children for Children 2022: Sow the Seeds, Share the Blessings

The Children for Children (CFC) annual community fundraiser took place on October 6, 2022, marking the first in-person event since the pandemic began. Over 1,000 underserved children from primary schools in Singapore gathered at an iconic attraction, followed by a day at Universal Studios Singapore. CFC, organised by TRCL, CHIJ Kellock, and *The Business Times* with support from Resorts World Sentosa, featured a carnival format for the first time. The event included a flash-mob performance by beneficiaries of The Business Times Budding Artists Fund and various carnival booths with activities and food. Since its launch in 2008, CFC has impacted over 13,000 children by providing memorable experiences at renowned Singapore attractions. The event also served as a fundraiser for The Business Times Budding Artists Fund (BT BAF), which supports the arts and promotes creativity, resilience, and confidence in children and youth aged six to 19. CFC 2022 raised \$233,000 for BT BAF from corporations, foundations, and individual donors.

ChariTrees 2022

ChariTrees 2022, the annual fundraiser, returned on a larger scale this year. The event featured over 50 Christmas trees that illuminated the Marina Bay Waterfront Promenade from November 20 to December 26, 2022, an increase from the usual average of 30 trees in previous editions. The fundraiser expanded its reach by including a new charity, SPD, alongside TRCL and SOS, the beneficiaries from the previous two years, and successfully raised \$698,000, a 1.5-fold increase compared to the previous years. The funds raised will be distributed among the three charities. The official Light Up Ceremony of ChariTrees 2022 was officiated by President Halimah Yacob at the Event Square of Marina Bay Waterfront Promenade.

ChariTrees 2022 aimed to reach a wider community and generate support for pressing causes, such as improving the availability and accessibility of physical and mental health services and bridging the digital divide for children and youth. In conjunction with the addition of SPD as a beneficiary, winners and finalists of the annual Singapore Silent Hero Awards and organisations that have uplifted the lives of individuals with physical and mental challenges were honoured as community heroes.

ChildAid 2022: All Together Now

Themed “All Together Now,” ChildAid 2022 marked its 18th consecutive year with a concert featuring a variety of musical performances, ranging from popular hits by BTS and ABBA to songs from *The Greatest Showman* and the classical compositions of Mozart. The concert brought back the spectacle and storytelling that were hindered by pandemic restrictions in the previous editions. ChildAid 2022 also incorporated a fantastical tale about a group of friends who embark on a journey through strange and enchanted worlds in order to find their way home. The cast for this production consisted of five actors, three instrumentalists, 30 singers, and 65 dancers, representing around 40 different schools. ChildAid 2022 raised a total of \$2.16m.

Build

TRCL maintains the need to create spaces for cultural and art activities for the communities it serves. The Community/Sports Facilities Scheme (CSFS) spaces help to foster the connection between the arts and the community through place management. 2022 was year of recovery, due to the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions in the later part of the year.

Build Spaces

Currently, TRCL manages three spaces under CSFS — Little Arts Academy (LAA), North Campus I (NC 1) and North Campus II (NC II), and 10 Square (Orchard Central) — which provides arts training for underserved children (6-12 years old) and youth (13-19 years old), respectively. Community bookings increased in demand after the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, a stark contrast to the beginning of the year. Some of the bookings were for Skillsfuture workshops, another upskilling initiative by the government, while others were for more private events such as camps and classes.

Café One O, the food and beverage arm of 10 Square, also saw more catering bookings for corporate and private functions. With the resumption of working from office, the café served more public patrons during mealtimes.

At North Campus I and II, the focus still remained to ensure beneficiaries had a space for learning and cultivating the arts. The multipurpose studios were let out for enrichment classes by independent teachers and trainers during periods when there were no classes scheduled for our beneficiaries.



Café One O



North Campus I Classroom

Safe spaces are not just literal places for people to gather in; for most of us, a safe space can be a community where we find like-minded compatriots sharing the same interests, hopes, and dreams. Just as the tenets of GCA is to build communities and bridge borders, TRCL has also made strides in making havens for artists to share their works and their stories.

Another subsidiary, Millet World, also took up place management for Tekka 1001, a commercial space at Tekka Place. The focus was to hold programmes and activities to increase footfall to the mall, as well as venue hire for the Rooftop Pavilion. Notable workshops and exhibits, including Comic Embassy, CAN x CANVAS, and Do You See Me?, were held at Tekka Place.

Comic Embassy

Comics act as an effective bridge between exposition and illustrations with the use of sequential art. Comic Embassy showcased Singapore's comics and the artists' illustrations and storytelling found in sequential art. The exhibit provided a place to celebrate the dynamic community of established artists and creators, while also introducing emerging comic talents in Singapore.



Comic Ambassador at Comics Embassy

CAN x CANVAS

CAN x CANVAS spoke of local artists who turned to art while serving time behind bars. The exhibit not only provided the opportunity for the artists to display their artworks, it also acted as a place for their stories to be told and on full display to the public. CAN x CANVAS served as a tale borne of positive mindsets looking towards change and productivity.



Artists explaining their works to guests at CAN x CANVAS

Do You See Me?

Do You See Me? was an exhibit focused on migrant workers in Singapore. Collectively, the exhibit featured stories of migrant workers in Singapore, and panel sharing and workshops organised by migrant workers. The exhibit broached on the topic of migrant workers who leave their families and homes in a bid to provide more, and while migrant workers make up a significant portion of our community, they are often deemed as socially invisible. "Out of sight, out of mind." This phrase was the basis on which the exhibit is formed and chooses to deny.



Letters and a video by Do You See Me?

Our Gratitude and Appreciation to Friends, Donors, and Supporters

You believe in our vision and make it a reality in so many ways to so many lives.

Thanks to the support and partnership of donors like you, we are able to thrive and evolve to meet the needs of our young and vulnerable, as well as the rise in demand for imparting arts training to children in need.

Corporate Donors

S\$250,000 and above

Citibank N.A Singapore (ChildAid Concert 2022 fundrasier)

United Overseas Bank Limited (ChildAid Concert 2022 fundraiser)

S\$100,000 to S\$249,999

Garena Online Pte Ltd

\$10,000 to \$99,999

Arrowcrest Technologies Pte Ltd

Association of Employment Agencies (Singapore)

Beautehub International Pte Ltd

BNP Paribas Foundation

Certis CISCO Security Pte Ltd

Chemical Industries (Far East) Limited

CWT Pte. Limited

DBS Bank Ltd

ERA Realty Network Pte Ltd

Hong Leong Foundation

Jardine Cycle and Carriage Limited

LEE Foundation

Lion Peak Pte Ltd

Maybank Singapore Limited

Nokia Solutions & Networks Singapore Pte Ltd

NTUC FairPrice Foundation

OCBC BANK

Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) Limited

SymAsia Singapore Fund

The Community Foundation of Singapore

V3 Brands Pte Ltd

Individual Donors

S\$5,000 and above

William Koh Chee Wei
Wong Lok Hiong

We regret that we are not able to list all donors and supporters in this page. Our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all who have supported The RICE Company Limited, The Business Times Budding Artists Fund, and the #Engage initiative, in one way or another in enabling us to make the arts accessible and inclusive for all. TRCL strives to be complete and accurate in recognizing the generous support of our donors. We regret any omissions or errors.

“The things we do outlast our mort are like monuments that people bu they’ve died. They’re like the pyram to honour the pharaohs. Only inste they’re made out of the memories



ality. The things we do
uild to honour heroes after
hids that the Egyptians built
ad of being made of stone,
people have of you."

– R.J. Palacio, Wonder (2012) *



You Helped Us

Impart Create Build

Together we are equipping the next generation of creators, thinkers and leaders to build a better world.

Post-pandemic, we continue to engage our children online as imaginatively as possible. We will keep reaching out through community initiatives like #Engage which partners community organisations to give a sense of normalcy, hope, and cheer to vulnerable children. We continue to evolve and upskill our team with digital skills so we can help communities stay connected in safe ways, and so that our neighbours don't get left behind.

If you'd like to partner us in empowering tomorrow's leaders by making a donation, please use your mobile phone to scan the QR code here:



Your donation qualifies for a 250% tax deduction.

Governance

The Governance Evaluation Checklist (GEC) covers the key guidelines in the Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs ("the Code").

Below is TRCL's GEC (Enhanced Tier) for the year ended 31 Mar 2023.

S/No. Code	Guideline	Code ID	Compliance	Explanation (if Code guideline is not complied with)
BOARD GOVERNANCE				
1	Induction and orientation are provided to incoming Board members on joining the Board.	1.1.2	Complied	
	Are there Board members holding staff appointments?		Yes	
2	Staff does not chair the Board and does not comprise more than one third of the Board.	1.1.3	Complied	
3	There are written job descriptions for their executive functions and operational duties which are distinct from their Board roles.	1.1.5	Complied	
4	There is a maximum limit of four consecutive years for the Treasurer position (or equivalent, e.g. Finance Committee Chairman or person on Board responsible for overseeing the finances of the charity). Should the charity not have an appointed Board member, it will be taken that the Chairman oversees the finances.	1.1.7	Complied	
5	All Board members submit themselves for renomination and reappointment, at least once every three years.	1.1.8	Complied	
6	There are documented terms of reference for the Board and each of its Board committees.	1.2.1	Complied	
CONFLICT OF INTEREST				
7	There are documented procedures for Board members and staff to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Board.	2.1	Complied	
8	Board members do not vote or participate in decisionmaking on matters where they have a conflict of interest.	2.4	Complied	
STRATEGIC PLANNING				
9	The Board approves and reviews a strategic plan for the charity to ensure that the activities are in line with its objectives.	3.2.2	Complied	

S/No. Code	Guideline	Code ID	Compliance	Explanation (if Code guideline is not complied with)
HUMAN RESOURCE AND VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT				
10	The Board approves documented human resource policies for staff.	5.1	Complied	
11	There is a documented Code of Conduct for Board members, staff* and volunteers* (where applicable) which is approved by the Board.	5.3	Complied	
12	There are processes for regular supervision, appraisal and professional development of staff.	5.5	Complied	
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROLS				
13	There is a documented policy to seek Board's approval for any loans donations, grants or financial assistance provided by the charity which are not part of its core charitable programmes.	6.1.1	Complied	
14	The Board ensures internal controls for financial matters in key areas are in place with documented procedures.	6.1.2	Complied	
15	The Board ensures reviews on the charity's internal controls, processes, key programmes and events are regularly conducted.	6.1.3	Complied	
16	The Board ensures that there is a process to identify, regularly monitor and review the charity's key risks.	6.1.4	Complied	
17	The Board approves an annual budget for the charity's plans and regularly monitors its expenditure.	6.2.1	Complied	
	Does the charity invest its reserves, including fixed deposits?		Yes	
18	The charity has a documented investment policy approved by the Board.	6.4.3	Complied	
FUNDRAISING PRACTICES				
	Did the charity receive cash donations (solicited or unsolicited) during the year?		Yes	
19	All collections received (solicited or unsolicited) are properly accounted for and promptly deposited by the charity.	7.2.2	Complied	
	Did the charity receive donations-in-kind during the year?		No	
20	All donations-in-kind received are properly recorded and accounted for by the charity.	7.2.3		

S/No. Code	Guideline	Code ID	Compliance	Explanation (if Code guideline is not complied with)
DISCLOSURE AND TRANSPARENCY				
21	The charity discloses in its annual report: i. Number of Board meetings in the year; and ii. Individual Board member's attendance. Are Board members remunerated for their Board services?	8.2	Complied	
22	No Board member is involved in setting his or her own remuneration.	2.2	No	
23	The charity discloses the exact remuneration and benefits received by each Board member in its annual report. OR The charity discloses that no Board members are remunerated. Does the charity employ paid staff?	8.3	Yes	
24	No staff is involved in setting his or her own remuneration.	2.2	Complied	
25	The charity discloses in its annual report: i) the total annual remuneration (including any remuneration received in its subsidiaries), for each its three highest paid staff, who each receives remuneration exceeding \$100,000, in bands of \$100,000; and ii) If any of the 3 highest paid staff also serves on the Board of the charity. The information relating to the remuneration of the staff must be presented in bands of \$100,000. OR The charity discloses that none of its staff* receives more than \$100,000 in annual remuneration each.	8.4	Complied	

Attendance at Board Meetings

TRCL
(UEN#201408699H)
Incorporated 26 Mar 2014

A total of four Board meetings were held during the financial year.

The following sets out the individual Board member's attendance at the meetings

Main Board	Appointment since	Attendance in FY21
Jennie Chua Kheng Yeng	26-Mar-14	50%
Alvin Tay Tuan Hearn	26-Mar-14	100%
Colin Goh*	26-Mar-14	100%
Genii Koh Hui Peng	17-Aug-20	75%
Lim Yeong Seng	1-May-15	50%
Kelvin Tan Teck San	1-May-15	100%
Pius Tan Teck Hong	1-Sep-17	100%
Tan Xui Fen	9-Jan-23	100%
Savita Ramachandran	9-Jan-23	0%
Wong Wei Kong (resigned 9 Jan 2023)	1-Sep-17	0%

*CEO of TRCL

DISCLOSURE OF REMUNERATION OF THREE HIGHEST PAID STAFF

Disclosure of annual remuneration of three highest paid staff who each receives more than \$100,000, in bands of \$100,000:

Remuneration band	Number of staff
\$100,000 to \$200,000	1
\$200,001 to \$300,000	1
\$300,001 to \$400,000	1

One of the three staff disclosed above serves as a Board member of the charity.

The charity has no paid staff, who are close members of the family of the Executive Head or Board members, who each receives total remuneration of more than \$50,000 during the year.

DISCLOSURE OF REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS RECEIVED BY BOARD MEMBERS

No Board members are remunerated for their Board Services in the financial year.

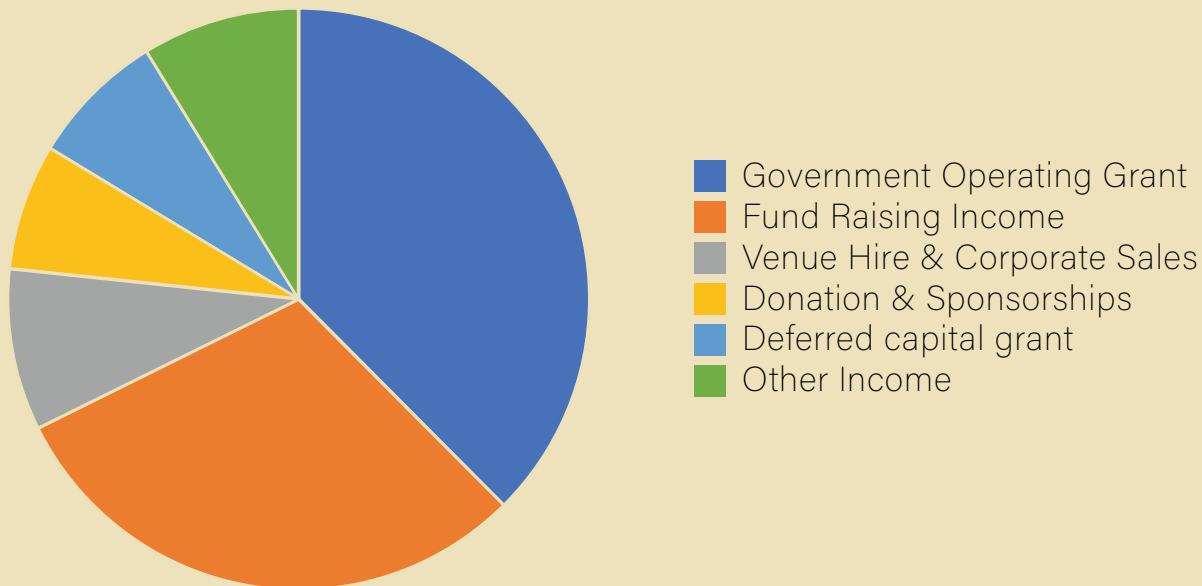
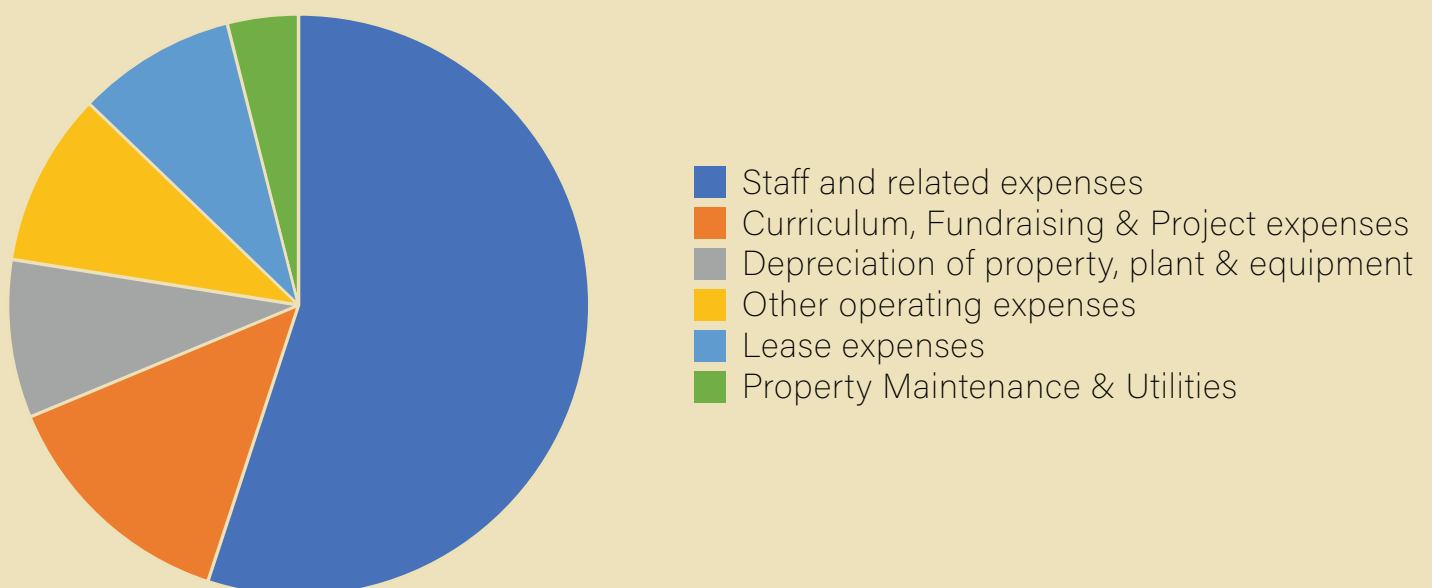
Conflict of Interest Policy

TRCL has a Conflict of Interest Policy where all members of the Board, Sub-Committees and staff, when acting on behalf of the TRCL, must ensure that the deliberations and decisions made are in the interest of TRCL, and the interest of TRCL is protected when entering into a transaction, contract or arrangement. All members and staff shall promptly and fully disclose, in accordance with the procedures laid down by TRCL, all interests (actual or potential) which could conflict with their duties and shall recuse from participating in any discussion and decision on the matter.

Whistleblowing Policy

TRCL has a Whistleblowing Policy that provides Board members, Sub-Committee members, staff, contractors, volunteers and beneficiaries with accessible channel to the Chairman of the Whistleblowing Committee for reporting suspected fraud, corruption, dishonest practices or other similar matters. All whistle-blower complaints will be reviewed by the Whistleblowing Committee immediately to ensure independent and thorough investigation and appropriate follow-up.

Summary Financial Performance

Income**\$4,643,404****Expenditure****\$4,579,188**

Reserves policy

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Unrestricted Funds (Reserves)		
— General Fund	1,397,432	896,507
Restricted Funds (Reserves):		
— Business Times Budding Artists Fund	5,565,010	5,996,091
— Sing50	979,346	984,974
Total funds	7,941,788	7,877,572
Total expenditure	4,579,188	4,617,171
Ratio of reserves to annual operating expenditure	1:0.58	1:0.59

The reserves that the Group have set aside provide financial stability and the means for the development of its principal activities.

The board of directors regularly reviews the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the Group's continuing obligations.

TRCL (The RICE Company Ltd) is a not-for-profit organisation and registered charity with IPC (Institutions of a Public Character) status. TRCL seeks to harness the potential of the arts to benefit under-served children and youths in the community. TRCL manages The Business Times Budding Artists Fund, arts training centres (The Little Arts Academy and 10 Square Youth) and two wholly-owned subsidiaries (Global Cultural Alliance Ltd and Millet Holdings Pte Ltd).

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of the annual report. We would appreciate notification of any errors or omissions in order to correct our records.

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