



Royal Albert Hall

Charity Review 2022





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Bonobo, May 2022

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Thank you

Thank you for giving to the Royal Albert Hall.

The Royal Albert Hall was founded in 1871 on two principles: to promote the Arts and Sciences and to preserve and enhance the Grade I listed building.

These are as important to us now as they were to Prince Albert and Queen Victoria, and we remain dedicated to our vision to bring people together for inspirational events on the world's most eclectic stage.

Many of the challenges we face today – inflation, the cost of living and energy prices, on top of the seismic shock of Covid and a national recruitment crisis – are not unique to the Royal Albert Hall. But the costs of staging almost 400 events a year in a Grade I listed building have ballooned, and where pre-pandemic we budgeted to make surpluses in excess of £4m each year, our costs (mostly energy and staffing) now outweigh our income.

It is thanks to your generosity that we can continue to look after this wonderful building, enrich people's lives through music and live performance and enhance the cultural life of the nation. I look forward to welcoming you to the Hall this year and to thanking you in person for your friendship and support.



Ian McCulloch

President, Royal Albert Hall



Cat Power, November 2022

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2022 in numbers



1.3m

Tickets issued



9,869,006

Visits to royalalberthall.com



371

Total events in the auditorium



84

Events by Royal Albert Hall Presents



76%

Average attendance



838,927

Email subscribers



221

Events in spaces beyond the main stage



£3.7m

Spent on Engagement and building improvements



440

Workshops and other engagement activities



365

Items catalogued by archives team



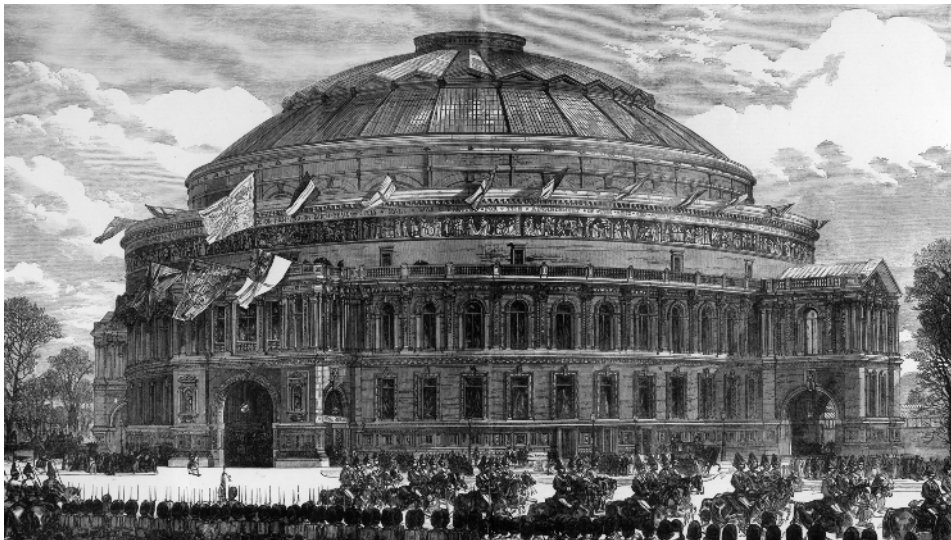
Foundations

Prince Albert's Vision

The Royal Albert Hall was the brainchild of Prince Albert, who wanted to create a space that was open for all, where artists and audiences could be inspired by the arts and sciences to create life-enriching, unforgettable experiences for everyone.

150 years later and the Hall is one of the most iconic and recognisable performance venues in the world.

We have been creating unforgettable experiences and inspiring artists and audiences since our doors opened in 1871. We have been the home for the BBC Proms since 1941, the Teenage Cancer Trust series for over 20 years, and have hosted Adele, Arctic Monkeys, Sumo wrestling, and were affectionately referred to as a 'Temple of Liberty' by the Suffragettes.



Opening of the Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences by the Queen, 1871



Making history

The Royal Albert Hall is the world's most eclectic concert venue and has seen some of the leading figures in music, dance, sport and politics take centre stage.

We have been creating unforgettable experiences and inspiring artists and audiences for over 150 years through our diverse programming across the Hall's auditorium and beyond.

The Royal Albert Hall remains committed to delivering Prince Albert's original vision of the Hall to promote accessibility, understanding and appreciation of the Arts and Sciences, and conserving our nation's heritage by preserving and enhancing our Grade I listed building and archives.

Our award-winning Engagement Programme and wide-reaching public benefit work support our goals to enrich people's lives through music, nurture

tomorrow's artists, and make our extraordinary building open to as many people as possible.

Together, our artists, audiences, staff and supporters are continuing to write the story of this very special place.



Benedict Cumberbatch performing at Letters Live, November 2022



James Arthur, March 2022



Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, May 2022



BBC Proms, July 2022



YUNGBLUD, TCT March 2022



The Nutcracker, December 2022



Where our funding comes from

Our charity, the Corporation for the Hall of Arts and Sciences (Registered charity No.254543) does not receive regular government funding.

Philanthropy is at the heart of all that we do and we are reliant on donations and support so we can continue to change lives through music, whilst investing in our Grade I listed building.

Alongside commercial revenue from events and our corporate partners and the income from ticket sales, the Hall is funded by donations from:

Seatholders – Original founders acquired seats and took on the obligation to govern the Hall for the nation's benefit

Major Donors – Individuals and families who have donated significant gifts to the Hall either as a one-off, or pledged over a number of years

- **Trusts and Foundations** – Charitable organisations and public bodies that support our charitable endeavours
- **Patrons** – Individuals who choose to join at one of five annual membership levels ranging from £500 to £20,000
- **Legacy Donors** – Individuals who choose to support the Hall through their Will
- **Friends** – Supporters of the Hall who pay £55 a year, or £45 via Direct Debit and receive benefits such as priority booking
- **General Audiences** – 1.7million people visit the Hall each year. We ask our audiences to support in numerous ways, including adding a gift to their ticket purchase; donations on restaurant bills; Tap to Donate via portals in the building and **DONATING ONLINE**



Where our funding comes from



5 Seconds of Summer, September 2022

- Donations support our award-winning Engagement programme, our Associate Artists and Apprenticeship Schemes and our ongoing efforts to preserve and enhance our Grade I listed building.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who donates to the Royal Albert Hall and a full list of our current supporters can be found [HERE](#).

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)





Engagement

Engagement at the Royal Albert Hall creates memories, changes lives and provides inspiration through music for all, regardless of age or background.

From storytelling for babies and toddlers to interactive concerts featuring Albert's Band, there is something to fascinate and inspire children of every age. We also support young people who want to develop a career in music and the arts, through a series of career days, talks from experienced music industry professionals and unique and inspiring workshops with some of the biggest names in music.

We launched Associate Artists in 2022, as part of a wider push around innovation and diversity at the Hall.

The scheme aims to increase young people's engagement with more traditional artforms, with the four artists delivering ambitious projects across the worlds of classical music, dance and spoken word.

Through our access and outreach projects we are proud to enable a wide range of people to experience the Royal Albert Hall who may not otherwise be able to do so. These events welcome groups and individuals who are engaged with a charity or community group.



Associate Artists, Corey Baker, Jess Gillam, LionHeart and Anna Lapwood, March 2022



Engagement

...I took my twin boys to an Albert's Band concert...The concerts introduced us to a new world we had never encountered before...

The conductor saying to the children in the audience that maybe one day, some of them might play a musical instrument to the same high standard as the musicians...

At the time, it seemed unachievable...

Years have passed and they have been excelling in their chosen instruments.

Indeed, they have both successfully auditioned for a place at the Royal College of Music Junior Department and they were both chosen to meet HRH King Charles in May 2022...

As a single mother raising two young black boys in a council estate in London, it has always been a fear of mine that they could be drawn into less favourable activities...

Thank you so much for your outreach work! It has changed our life for the better."



Sensory Journey, October 2023



Young Producers, May 2022



John Legend Workshop, April 2022





Caring for our Grade I listed building

The Royal Albert Hall has stood tall as one of the most recognisable buildings in London for over 150 years.

Over that time, the Hall has been significantly upgraded both inside and out to ensure that it remains fit for purpose, providing a venue for people to be entertained with an incredible variety of music and performance.

Given our financial situation following the global pandemic, we were forced to re-evaluate our planned capital projects in 2022, prioritising essential works only, including extensive repair works to our vast glass roof, and essential works to our Victorian ceiling plaster, repairing any damage cause by glazing leaks.

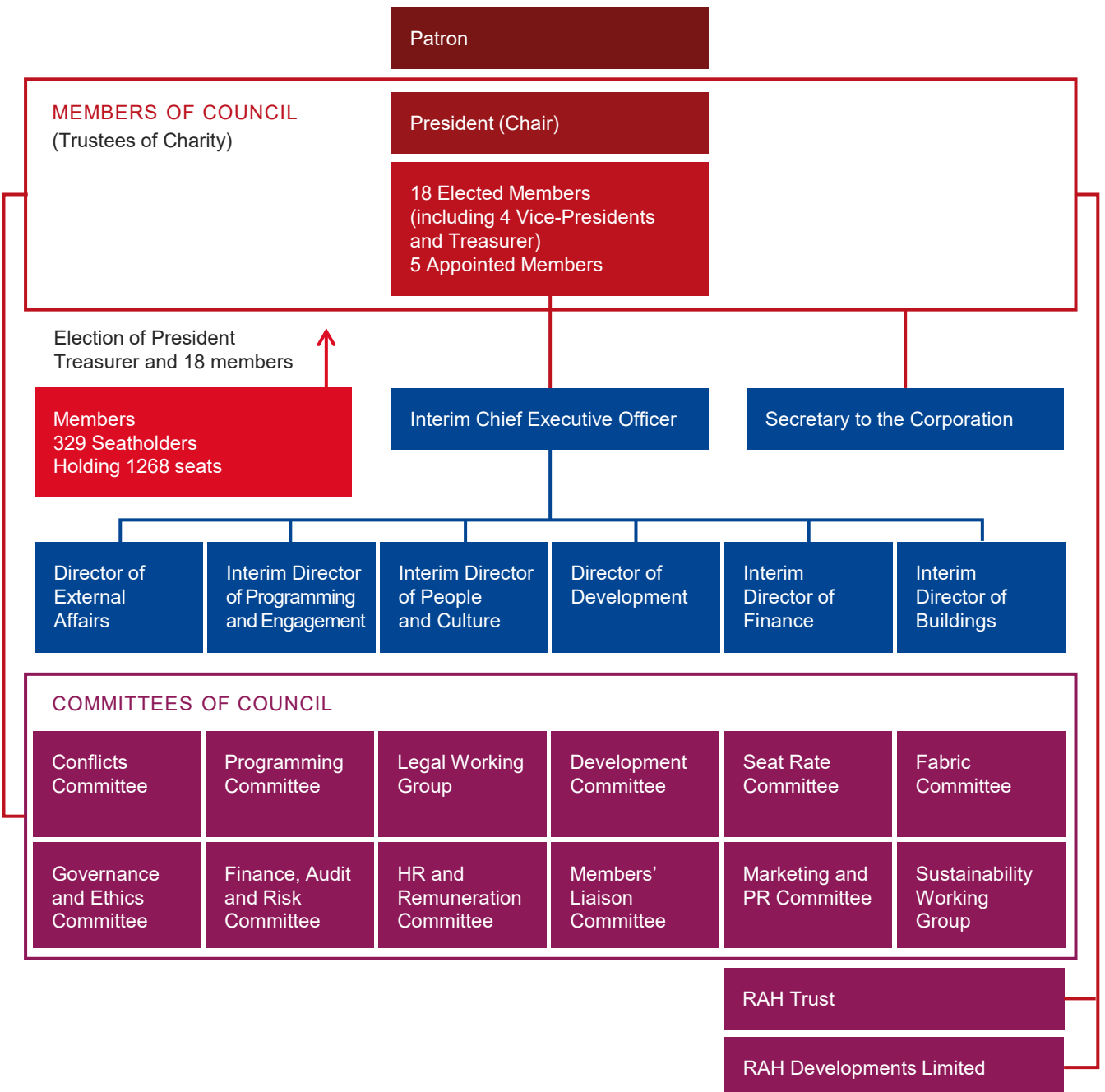
As we embark on the next 150 years of our story, we have developed a 20-year Estate Plan that provides a framework for a variety of capital works that will enable us to fulfil our charitable objectives and give us a platform from which to be a dynamic force for good in the cultural life of the nation.



Structure and governance

The Corporation of the Hall of Arts and Sciences (the Royal Albert Hall)

Both a Royal Charter body and a registered charity





Cirque du Soleil: KURIOS Cabinet of Curiosities, January 2023



How you can help

For over 150 years, we have cared for the Royal Albert Hall and enriched people's lives through the power of music.

By donating to the Royal Albert Hall, you will be directly benefitting the next generation of artists and audiences and helping us to look after our Grade I listed building, create opportunities for disadvantaged children and young people through our work with schools and community groups, and provide a Hall for all, welcoming people of every age and background.

Please donate today

- Join as a Friend of the Hall, [HERE](#)
- Visit our website [HERE](#) to donate online
- If you have a UK mobile:
 - Text **20ALBERT** to 70490 to donate £20
 - Text **10ALBERT** to 70490 to donate £10
 - Text **5ALBERT** to 70490 to donate £5

Consider leaving a gift in your Will, further details can be found [HERE](#).

Registered charity No.254543. Text-to-donate operates via major UK networks only and cost the donation amount plus one standard rate message.





Royal Albert Hall
royalalberthall.com

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Registered Charity
Number 254543