



Building a stronger
performing arts
community in Ireland.

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Theatre Forum Company Limited by Guarantee Minutes of Annual General Meeting (AGM) Held at 11.30am on 30 September 2020

Following the Government's restrictions in relation to travel and public gatherings, the Annual General Meeting of the company was held at 11.30am, 30 September 2020 at Mermaid County Wicklow Arts Centre, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow and virtually on Zoom to consider and, if agreed, pass resolutions as to the ordinary business of the company.

Previous AGM minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous AGM held on Thursday 26 September, Fringe Lab, Dublin Fringe Festival, Sycamore Street, Dublin 1 and those minutes were approved by the members for signing by the Chair.

Directors' Report and Financial Statements

The Directors' Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2019, previously circulated to the members and filed with the CRO in July 2020, were presented to the members. The audit had been carried out by UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited. On behalf of the directors, the Chair thanked the auditors and pointed to the careful financial management that had produced a surplus of €23,917 in unrestricted funds after depreciation. Combined with 2017 and 2018 surpluses, the 2019 surplus allowed the company to build its reserves. This is in line with its reserves policy, adopted in 2019, which set the target of building operational reserves of 3-6 months over 5 years. The Chair invited questions to the Auditors and other than a summary of their own report in the Financial Statements and clarification on reserves, there were no questions. Members voted in favour of the resolution to adopt the 2019 Financial Statements.

Remuneration and appointment of the Auditors

The resolution to authorise the Directors to appoint, fix their term at one year and confirm the fee for the 2020 audit of the company's statutory auditor UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited was adopted by the members.

Chair's Report

Report on January 2018-2019 activities

To accompany the 2019 Directors' Report and Financial Statements, Julie Kelleher presented the Chair's Report. Julie was happy to report a surplus in 2019 putting company in a strong position to support members. of €23,917 in 2019. She thanked the auditor Alison Gray of UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited for sound advice on the company's audit and related governance issues. Julie emphasised the company's aim of helping to build a truly sustainable performing arts sector for artists and arts organisations had new resonance since the start of the Covid-19 crisis. Deepening that sense of community is crucial to the company's purpose and strategic plans.

In 2019, Reframing Theatre Forum's traditional Payscales survey enabled comparisons with national and sectoral employment data, as well as hearing directly from artists, created interest amongst policy makers and the public about the prevalence of low pay, poor conditions and precarious work in the performing arts. This proved useful in making a strong follow-up case with elected representatives, policy makers and funders.

Julie concluded her Report with an overview of the company's proposed strategy for 2021-2022 and its adaptation to a Covid-19 operating environment.



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Election

The Chair thanked directors Anne Maher and John Crumlish retiring at the AGM by rotation in accordance with the company's Constitution for all their work on behalf of members and contributions over their terms of office. Aaron Monaghan, a co-opted director, was also retiring but standing candidate for re-election.

Four candidates, Tom Creed, Paul Johnson, Catherine Mahon-Buckley and Aaron Monaghan, stood for election for three board positions.

Following a ballot, three of the candidates, Tom Creed, Paul Johnson and Aaron Monaghan were elected to the board.

AOB

Theatre Forum outlined plans to convene an Independent Artist Working Group.

Tom Creed acknowledged and thanked Theatre Forum for its work in relation to independent artists.

With no other business, the AGM concluded.