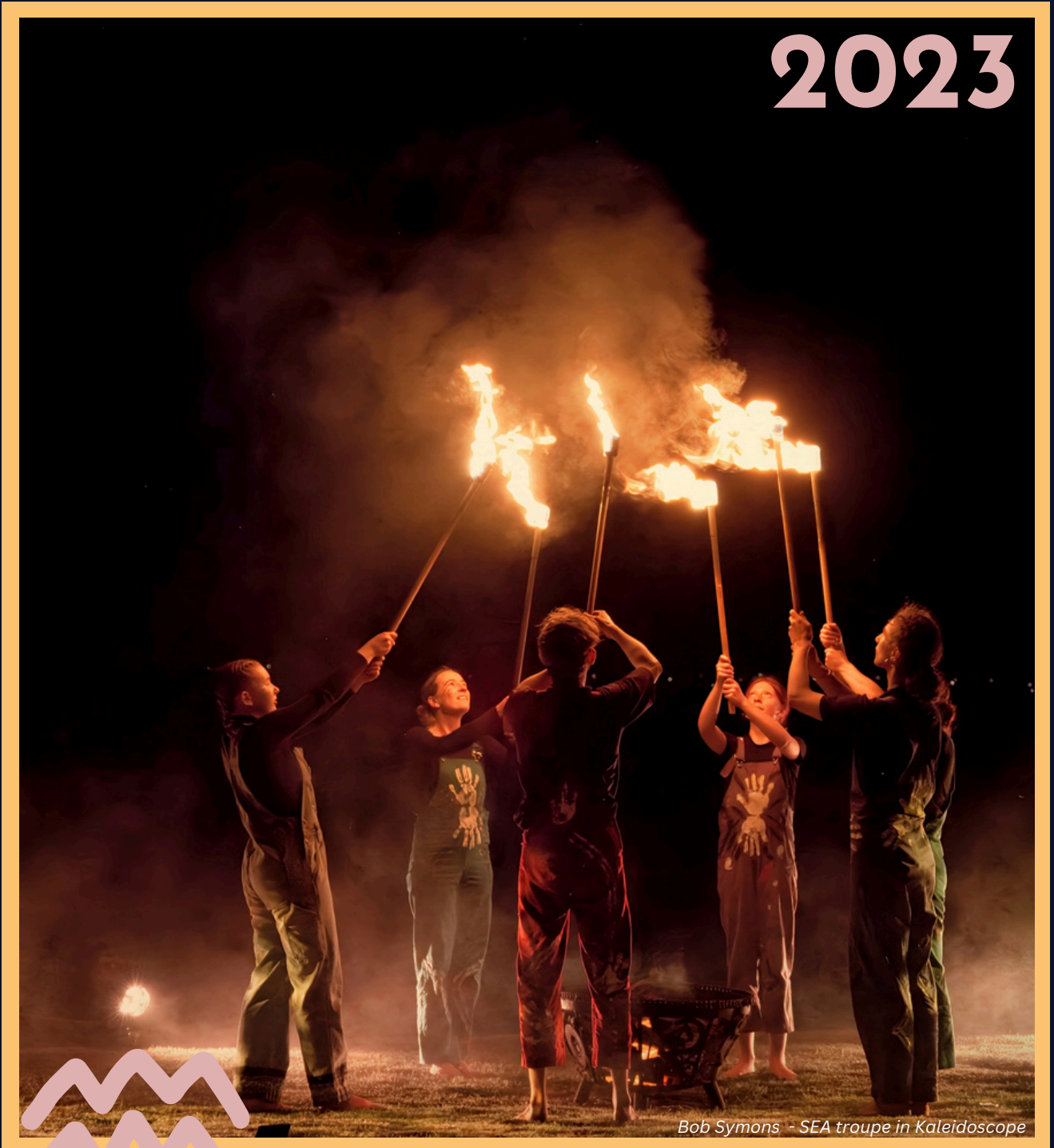




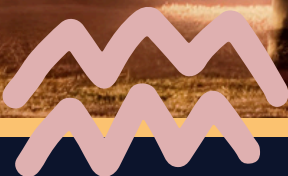
Annual Report



2023



Bob Symons - SEA troupe in Kaleidoscope



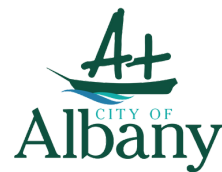
2023 Supporters & Partners



Sponsorship and funders:



Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



Partnerships:



Table of Contents




2 About Southern Edge Arts

3 Chairperson Report

4 SEA Board and Team

5 SEA 2023 Program

14 Financial Report



We acknowledge with deep respect, the continued custodianship of the Menang peoples of this ancient boodja in which we live and work. We acknowledge the resilience of the Noongar peoples, and all of the First Nations peoples of this land now known as Australia. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.



About Southern Edge Arts



Bob Symons - SEA troupe in Kaleidoscope

Southern Edge Arts is a not for profit youth performing arts organisation with an almost 40 year history in the Great Southern, championing creativity and the expression of imagination in young people and the community through stimulating arts experiences and opportunities.

Mission

Ensure regional young people are prepared and inspired to become the most innovative generation of cultural industry workers (Artists) who will sustain the artistic vibrancy of regional WA.

Vision

Our vision is an organisation that is flexible and responsive in our approach to providing contemporary and community arts experiences, for regional young people to; improve wellbeing, contribute to a vibrant creative community and set the stage for a future career through participation in the arts.

Objectives

1. Committed to flexibility and responsiveness
2. Improve well being through participation in the arts
3. Contribute to a vibrant creative community
4. Setting the stage for a future in the arts
5. A sustainable and resilient organisation

Values

- nurturing
- diversity
- flexibility
- empowering
- engaging

*from 2023-2025 SEA Strat plan

Chairperson Report

It is a pleasure to reflect on the work and achievements of Southern Edge Arts in this 2023 Annual Report.

Another successful year was enjoyed by hundreds of participants, performers, artists, tutors and audience members. SEA's significant over thirty-year legacy continues to support the impact of artistic creativity, youth and community in the Great Southern.

The Living on the Edge festival was a wonderful spectacle with highlights of youth theatre, physical and fire art and the inaugural Coco's Cabaret, a hat tip to SEA's predecessor Coco and our adult members. Amazing local performers that demonstrate benefits of acting, belonging and committing.

SEA went through significant change in 2023 with Anne Sorenson, our Artistic Director of eight years stepping down in October. Anne's contribution to SEA was celebrated in a Glitterati Party attended by many sparkling clad current and former members recognising Anne's accomplishments as SEA Artistic Director and in developing great community art projects.

I would like to acknowledge our amazing SEA staff. Megan Turpin, SEA General Manager has again steered us through another successful year with great support from Lead Circus Trainer, Cassy and Administration Assistant, Kore and many wonderful teaching artists that share their expertise through our numerous workshops.

I would like to thank the volunteers on SEA's Board of Management. Deputy Chair Terrell Lacey has been of great assistance during times of change. Many thanks to Linda Taylor for providing oversight as Treasurer, Clair Trainor's significant contribution as Secretary, and Board member Tobias Merkle. I am very appreciative of the youth representation and input provided since 2019 by outgoing Board member Jasmine Reeves. We will also miss the contribution from SEA youth representative Imogen Taylor who is continuing her arts journey at WAAPA.

I am looking forward to working with experienced and new Board members to support SEA staff and members to achieve our goals. It is with great excitement that I welcome our new Artistic Director Annette Carmichael to guide us going forward to 2024.

Warmest regards
Natalie Reeves
Chairperson



SEA Board and Team



Executive and Admin

Anne Sorenson - Artistic Director (to October)
Megan Turpin - General Manager
Cassy Turner - Creative Capacity Leader/
Lead Circus Tutor
Kore Ford - Admin Assistant

Teaching artists

Sharni Bracknell - Circus Tutor
Jackson Burrell - Aerial Tutor
Zak Launay - Street Acro Tutor
Jodie Sexton - Circus Tutor
Nelson Gilmour - Theatre Tutor (until May)
Michael Nield - Theatre Tutor (from Oct)
Yazmin Ryan - Assistant Aerial Tutor
Nina Giuntoli - Assistant Aerial Tutor
Erin McCahon - Assistant Aerial Tutor
Imogen Taylor - Assistant Circus Tutor

Junior Volunteers

Meg Furphy - Aerials
Abi Bailey - Circus



Board of Management

Natalie Reeves - Chairperson
Iain Marshall - Vice Chair (till June)
Terrell Lacey - Vice Chair (June onwards)
Linda Taylor - Treasurer
Clair Trainor - Secretary
Board Members - Tobias Merkle (June onwards)
Jasmine Reeves
Imogen Taylor (Youth Rep)

Guest & project artists

Verity Byth - My Money Matters
Josephine Hayes - My Money Matters
Luke Simpson - Lighting Tech, Living on the Edge
Campbell Creswick - Sound design & FX,
Sarah Healy - Kaleidoscope
Olly Watkins - Kaleidoscope
Christopher Miller - Kaleidoscope
Matt Bracknell - Kaleidoscope
Larry Blight - Kaleidoscope
Kelly Fregon - Coco's Cabaret



Healthway Sponsorship

Aim: *Engage regional people in arts activities that contribute towards improved mental health and wellbeing.*

Why: *Maintaining good mental health and wellbeing for Healthway priority populations: Children, young people and their families & People living in regional communities.*

Southern Edge Arts uses communication, organisational, educational, behavioural and community engagement strategies to promote the following health objectives:

- Promote Act Belong Commit message
- Create an increased sense of belonging by providing accessible and inclusive workshop program
- Improve mental health through delivery of activities that increase social and emotional wellbeing of members
- Provide a safe and inclusive space for youth to express themselves, feel safe and grow
- Improve the mental health of young people by empowering them through the arts
- Nurture wellbeing through participation in the arts
- Support young trainers to be mental health peer mentors
- Make a positive contribution to community wellbeing through the arts

Implementations of the health objective and strategies are delivered through three SEA programs:

- **Act Belong Commit Arts Workshop Program**
- **Act Belong Commit Community Engagement Program**
- **Act Belong Commit Arts Youth Devised Performance Program**



Smircus mid year showing

Act Belong Commit Arts Workshop

The **Act Belong Commit** Arts workshop program delivers a **diverse range of after school arts** workshops for regional children and youth to engage them in inclusive, non competitive and physical arts activities to **improve mental health and wellbeing**.

Workshops include, but are not limited to; Theatre, Circus, Aerial Arts, Street Acrobatics. Teachers are regional based artists who have skills in their art form and **demonstrated experience** in supporting and **encouraging wellbeing through the arts**.

Workshops are delivered in our purpose built circus arts training space, where parents and caregivers are invited to watch and/or participate as helpers in the workshops as a way of creating a **greater sense of belonging**.

Youth are supported to become mentors and training assistants to **encourage and inspire** participation and commitment for their younger peers.

Each week during school term SEA delivered 17 different workshops in circus, aerials and physical theatre for ages 2yr+ with an average of 140 - 160 participants each week.

2023 weekly workshop program included

- 3 x Street Acro workshops for ages 6-18 yrs
- 3 x Circus Workshops for ages 5-24yrs
- 6 x Aerials workshops for ages 8-25 years
- 2 x Theatre workshops for ages 8-25 years
- 2 x Adult Aerial workshop for ages 16 years+
- 1 x Junior Circus workshop for ages 2-4y years



School Holiday Workshops

We have created a school holiday class that appeals to our target audiences and has been successful in attracting new enrolments. Have a go Circus workshops offer participants a chance to engage with multiple activities and try their hand at what we offer.

We have also created an open training session time to cater for our older and more experienced participants who want an informal opportunity to practice their skills.

Have a go circus workshops

Open circus training

Delivered 6 - 163 participants

Delivered 3 -47 participants



Aerial 3 participants

Act Belong Commit Community Engagement

The Act Belong Commit Community Engagement Program aims to **engage** people of the Great Southern Community, who are **not currently members of SEA**, in arts activities that contribute toward mental health and wellbeing by delivering specifically designed arts workshops to community festivals, school groups, Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) groups as well as other visiting youth groups, upon request or by arrangement.

2023 workshop program included

- 6 x Have a go circus workshop
- 4 x School group workshops
- 6 x OSHC workshops
- 4 x Workshops for participants outside SEA members





Coco's Cabaret



SEA troupe in Interwoven



Jacob Morgan De Laine - SEA Theatre Ensemble in RESET



Bob Symons - Archie Ryan in Kaleidoscope

Act Belong Commit Youth Devised Performance Season

In 2023 SEA presented the fourth annual Living on the Edge festival. With additional funding from Regional Arts WA project fund and City of Albany community events, SEA developed and presented four original contemporary performances- Reset (Theatre), Kaleidoscope (Circus - Fire), Interwoven (Aerials) and Coco's Cabaret (Circus, Dance, Aerials).

Four SEA artists were engaged to direct the performances and supported by SEA's admin team who produced the festival. These artists guided regional youth through a process of gathering ideas, skills development and performance producing, to create content and stage the performances

Reset

A reality TV show with a difference. A game show with a twist. We were absorbed in this thought provoking contemporary theatre piece, created by the Theatre Ensemble at Southern Edge Arts. Brimming with ethical dilemmas, influencers and entertainers, RESET had you rethinking your reality and considering your choices. **What would you choose? A new reality or stick with the same**

RESET was an example of young people collaborating to create a contemporary theatre performance that is relevant to their lives. SEA's Theatre Ensemble may be small in number this year, but they are big on talent, ideas and initiative. The characters, themes and design have all come from their conversations and improvisations. It is such a joy to see these amazing young people working together, taking ownership over the direction, script and the development of this performance. It certainly made my job easier! I congratulate them and celebrate their achievement in taking an idea and transforming into an intelligent and thought provoking play.



Creative Team

Artist Director: Anne Sorenson
Writer/Director: Poppy Algie
Lighting: Luke Simpson
(Plantagenet Production Services)
Sound Design & FX: Campbell Creswick
Stage Manager: Sharni Bracknell
RESET Theme song: Hannah Sorenson
SEA team
General Manager: Megan Turpin
Production Assistant: Kore Ford
Special Thanks: Nelson Blake



Jacob Morgan De Laine - SEA Theatre Ensemble in RESET

Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope – A Story of Fire and Family

Southern Edge Arts, in collaboration with Kurrah Mia, proudly presented a colourful, kaleidoscopic and moving production of fire, flow arts and storytelling.

An audience of 600 people gathered under the peppermint trees in Ellen Cove to watch and listen to the unfolding of a Story of Fire, spoken by Menang man Larry Blight and shown in fire and dance by SEA's youth troupe and fire performers from across the South West.



Creative Team

Director: Sharni Bracknell

Collaborators: Cassy Turner & Jackson Burrell

Producer: Megan Turpin

Lighting: Luke Simpson

(Plantagenet Production Services)

Sound Design: Matt Bracknell (Echo-Omen)

SEA Performers: Jackson Burrell, Cassy Turner, Jorja Whitehurst, Imogen Taylor, Archie Ryan & Charlotte Neely

Solo Performers: Sharni Bracknell,

Christopher Miller, Sarah Healy, Zak Launay & Olly Watkins

Crew: Kore Ford, Yazmin Ryan & Thomas Brooks

Bob Symons - Kaleidoscope performers





Creative Team

Director: Cassy Turner
Collaborators: Yazmin Ryan, Jackson Burrell, Sharni Bracknell
Lighting: Luke Simpson
(Plantagenet Production Services)
Sound Design/Composition: Campbell Creswick

The SEA Team
General Manager: Megan Turpin
Production Assistant: Kore Ford



Brian McCahon - SEA Aerials Troupe in Interwoven

Interwoven

Interwoven was a boundary-pushing contemporary aerial performance that wove together athleticism and art, friendship and fabric, movement and music. SEA's Youth Performance Troupe blended impressive aerial skills with contemporary elements of dance, movement and sound composed especially for this abstract show.

Three silks, thirteen friends and one unique performance of aerial arts.

Interwoven was a 6 month long collaborative process delving into the world of contemporary circus. Drawing inspiration from modern Australian circus, SEA's Performance Troupe pushed the boundaries of what they know in the world of aerial arts, innovating and creating this bold new work. Venturing beyond the classic big trick, "ta-da" approach, they explored new ways to lift each other, both physically and metaphorically. This progressive approach to aerials proved challenging yet left an unforgettable impression. The most magical moments were the improvised accidents, the beautiful interactions that happened during rehearsals between our cast and crew.

Coco's Cabaret

Emerge with us from the verdant cold of winter for a delightful and intimate evening at Coco's Cabaret. You will be hosted to a night of performances, from song, dance and circus, by artists rising in their journey on stage

Coco's Cabaret consisted of 14 acts showcasing various forms of circus, aerials, dance, and clowning by SEA's 16yrs+ members SEA's space was transformed into Coco's Cabaret for an intimate evening full of laughs and intrigue, with an intermission break for the Albany Agricultural Show fireworks. Performance levels ranged from first-time performers entering the stage for the first time to skilled professionals.

Creative Team

Creative Team
Director: Jackson Burrell
Producer: Megan Turpin

Lighting & Sound: Luke Simpson
& Flynn Huntley
(Plantagenet Production Services)
Set Design: Kelly Fregon
Set Construction: Kore Ford, Megan Turpin,
Jackson Burrell & Cassy Turner

Poster Design: Chelsea Cecelia

Front of House: Kore Ford



Community Performance and Events

In 2023 SEA engaged with multiple community events in Great Southern

Binalup Festival & Cranbrook Show

The SEA Aerials Troupe performed on the outdoor aerial rig at the City of Albany's Binalup Festival in January. They then performed again at the Cranbrook Agricultural Show in April.



First Lights: Binalup

Members of the SEA circus troupe performed a fire spinning pre-show for the City of Albany's First Lights: Binalup drone show in April.



Christmas Festival

SEA provided roving entertainment for the Christmas Festival markets with some Christmas clowns trapped in bubbles, and the ever-popular roaming present boxes, both on and off rollerskates/blades.



Christmas Pageant

SEA staff and 40+ SEA members from our Act Belong Commit workshops program joined together as a walking float for the City of Albany's Christmas Pageant.

We had clowns, angels, presents, stars, a Christmas tree and a little dog too! We also managed to win the people's choice for best float!



Community Projects

My Money Matters- Stitching our money stories together to make meaningful change.

My Money Matters was a series of workshops for financial awareness and agency.

Inspired by Verity's RISE! exhibition at the Vancouver Arts Centre in 2022, My Money Matters was an opportunity to continue the conversation about the importance of financial literacy for women's empowerment with women in the Great Southern.

In 2023 groups of women and young people gathered at workshops facilitated by Verity Byth and Anne Sorenson hosted at Southern Edge Arts, Denmark Arts, Rainbow Coast Neighbourhood Centre and Albany Youth Supports Open Access to share their money stories. Their Money stories were then collected through films created by Gneiss Designs's Josephine Hayes.

An exhibition and screening of the films was held in 2024 at Denmark Arts Brave New Works festival.

My Money Matters is funded by The State of Western Australia Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries



Financial Report

Profit & Loss

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>Income</u> | | |
| Grants & sponsorship | 174,854 | 156,391 |
| Income from Activities | 82,936 | 75,372 |
| Donations | 0 | 0 |
| Interest | 16 | 16 |
| Membership Fees | 3070 | 1790 |
| Paid Parental Funds | 0 | 9749 |
| | 260,876 | 243,318 |
| <u>Expenditure</u> | | |
| Advertising & Marketing | 597 | 513 |
| Bank Fees | 700 | 716 |
| Depreciation | 4,984 | 5,263 |
| Insurance | 8,439 | 8,821 |
| Legal Finance Governance | 1,850 | 1,650 |
| Office Administration | 4,063 | 3,762 |
| Performance Artists | 250 | 0 |
| Postage, Printing, Stationery & Office Supplies | 578 | 745 |
| Production/ Technical Artists | 9,638 | 1,130 |
| Rent & Running Costs | 0 | 429 |
| Scenic Stagaging Materials | 17,592 | 18,497 |
| Staff Travel Expenses | 495 | 301 |
| Subcontractors | 11,632 | 19,675 |
| Superannuation | 19,153 | 18,8564 |
| Travel & Freight | 920 | 425 |
| Wages - Creative Artists | 73,610 | 67,134 |
| Wages - Management/ Administration | 123,201 | 131,187 |
| Wages- Paid Parental Leave | 1,625 | 6,662 |
| | 279,327 | 285,766 |
| Operating Result Surplus/(loss) | (18,451) | (42,448) |

Balance Sheet

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <u>CURRENT ASSETS</u> | | |
| Cash at Bank | 93,722 | 161,202 |
| Accounts Receivable | 9,760 | 6,626 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | <u>103,482</u> | <u>167,828</u> |
| NON CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Plant and Equipment | 20,716 | 25,700 |
| TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS | <u>20,716</u> | <u>25,700</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>124,198</u> | <u>193,528</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Trade Creditors | 980 | 589 |
| Deferred Income | 6 | 39,825 |
| Other Accounts Payable | 15,713 | 27,331 |
| Provision for Employees Entitlements | 14,500 | 24,8589 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | <u>31,199</u> | <u>2,603</u> |
| NON CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Provision for Employee Entitlements | 18,244 | 0 |
| TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES | <u>18,244</u> | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | <u>49,443</u> | <u>92,603</u> |
| NET ASSETS | <u>74,755</u> | <u>100,925</u> |
| Represented by: | | |
| EQUITY | | |
| Accumulated Surplus | 64,942 | 91,112 |
| Assest Revaluation Reserve | 9,813 | 9,813 |
| | <u>74,755</u> | <u>100,925</u> |



www.southernedge.org.au