

# THE LONDON BALLET CIRCLE

## CHARITABLE AND OTHER DONATIONS POLICY

The London Ballet Circle is a registered charity, and its objects are set out in the Constitution. The Trustees are required to ensure that the charity acts within its defined purposes and the relevant law.

In a typical year over two-thirds of expenditure is of a charity nature to give financial support to ballet students, schools, companies and other ballet related organisations.

The Trustees will take account of the following in allocating its charitable and other donations:

1. The expenditure must further the LBC's charitable objects and be in its best interests.
2. Where the recipient is also a charity, LBC can assume that there is an overlap of charitable purpose and check as necessary through Charity Commission information on financial and reporting history.
3. Where the recipient is not a charity, a charitable donation can still be made if the Trustees are satisfied that the donation is to a genuine organisation and necessary to achieve its own objectives.
4. Money charged for visits to or rehearsals by a ballet company, school or other dance related organisation will normally be given as a charitable donation to that organisation (or a dance charity that it nominates) recognising their role in furthering LBC's charitable objects. Where the Trustees consider it appropriate, additional funds from general reserves will be donated.
5. The LBC's charity office is in England, and it is therefore regulated by the Charity Commission for England and Wales and subject to English law. However, this does not preclude charitable donations to organisations elsewhere in the UK if it falls within the LBC's objectives which do not restrict its geographical scope, even though London is in the name. However, the LBC will not support activity outside the UK because of the additional financial and other risks.
6. There are some activities which in themselves are not charitable - performance and Dance Awards being examples. However, access to student and dancer training and rehearsal is part of educational activity and permissible. The LBC can support activities which are not charitable if it still meets its objectives - Dance Awards encourage excellence and enhance public knowledge as an example. The LBC will make it clear in its reports and accounts the separate nature of this support. The LBC does not see its role subsidising access to performance, although it will make members aware of relevant offers from companies or schools.
7. The LBC has historically funded some bursaries and awards on an annual basis. For continuity and to allow future planning the LBC will continue to fund these

annually and should it be in a position where it cannot continue, it will give extended notice to the organisers.

8. The LBC does not make individual awards, bursaries or similar directly to students or dancers. It does not have the relevant skills to decide. It will make charitable donations to student or dancer programmes run by others and rely on their expertise to determine best outcomes.

9. The LBC is accountable to its members and the Charity Commission for its use of the funds available. It recognises the need to report on events and make those available. Where events have taken place or where students or dancers have been awarded prizes every effort will be made to receive feedback for reporting and evaluation. The Annual Report and Accounts will detail spend of a charitable nature. The LBC also needs to reflect member views on the allocation of donations each year although final decisions are made by the Trustees.

10. The LBC has set up a Choreographic Award every 2 years to promote new classically inspired work. The decision on how the funds will be distributed is delegated to an independent panel of experienced experts. Because the fund-raising straddles financial years, a separate designated Fund has been set up. This can be augmented by member and public donations should they wish.

**If this Charitable & Other Donations Policy is modified at any time, the LBC will publish the most current version on its website and notify the changes in its newsletter.**

**Approved:** 10.01.2024

**Reviewed:** 26.01.2026

**Next review date no later than May 2028**