

ACTION EDUCATION

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2020





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VISION, MISSION, & VALUES

Vision

Young people are free to express their diversity and inherent creativity.

Mission

To use creative and action-based methods to engage young people in a journey of reflection and exploration. It is through this journey that they become actively involved in their own development.

Values

Engagement- Action Education has a rich history of effectively engaging with young people. This is the foundation we stand on. We continue to meet young people where they are, use their strengths and ignite their passion.

Growth- Growth is a reflective learning process that allows for holistic integration of self.

Journey- Personal development is a lifelong journey. By acknowledging this, we can walk alongside others in theirs. Authenticity- Authenticity is crucial for building an environment of trust so that an effective working relationship can occur.

Diversity- Diversity articulates the celebration and richness that is the human experience. Everyone's experience is unique and we all require opportunities to honour this.

Creativity- Creativity is necessary.

TRUST BOARD





JULIAN PRIOR





RICHARD JOLLY



EZEKIEL RAUI



MAGGIE WINTERSTEIN



CHRISTIAN MAY

KARI JONES



SHELLEY KOPU



MATTHEW AUSTIN

"It is no exaggeration when I say, Word The Front Line has saved lives."

Aigagalefili is Head Girl at Aorere College. She has been participating in WORD - The Front Line since she was in Year 9.

A MESSAGE FROM, AIGAGALEFILI FEPULA'I TAPUA'I

In the last year Fili has made headlines, appeared on television, opened international conferences and been invited to attend the Global Young Leaders Conference in New York. She has been recognized for her work to centre Pacific voices in the climate movement, and founded an organisation called 4TK, 4 Tha Kulture - a South Auckland based indigenous environmentalist group of youth who are committed to advocating against climate change through a lens that considers minorities.

Through her poetry Fili has been a powerful voice of advocacy and pride for South Auckland.

We are deeply proud of the role our programmes have played in Fili's development and leadership. We would also like to acknowledge how much Fili has taught and nurtured us and our community.

We asked Fili if she would open our FY2020 Annual Report. I first heard about WORD when I was Year 9 at my school poetry club. It was my first time hearing of a platform for students to voice their truths and that's what made me fall in love with it. My first audition is where I really fell in love with spoken word and never looked back. Listening to people express themselves and being able to do so myself was something I never experienced before.

WORD is not only where the future leaders of tomorrow are nurtured, but where you meet such beautiful people and find yourself. Supporting or participating in WORD has changed so many of our lives. The way we all support each other is so special and rare that it's a safe space for you to express yourself without judgement.

The most important thing I've learnt about myself through WORD is how much things aren't about me. My experience with WORD taught me that the most important things are bigger than myself, and everyone's voices matter within that. Which taught me my voice matters just as much. WORD is extremely helpful for those of us who grew up in the hood being told our stories were too ratchet or didn't matter enough to be on a stage. WORD taught me that we matter and we deserve to thrive and be heard.

If I had a magic wand of unlimited resources I would invest in more and stronger in-school mental health support systems, invest in all parts of the arts and replace things like detention with meditative art practices, and provide more indigenous courses in mainstream schooling.

It is no exaggeration when I say Word The Front Line has saved lives. When you invest in Action Education, you are investing in today's generation and tomorrow's future leaders. Thank you for making what we do possible.

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Woah! This time of year is always incredibly humbling. Our calendar is always so action-packed, we rarely get the time to take a moment and reflect on our accomplishments. And what a year it has been!

We couldn't have started in a more spectacular way. Taking a team from Aotearoa to the world's largest youth poetry slam, Brave New Voices, this has been a goal of mine since I first attended with the South Auckland Poets Collective in 2012. Taking Ngā Hine Pūkōrero, four of the most outstanding young leaders and poets I have met in a long time, was literally a dream come true.

Their journey to Brave New Voices was possible thanks to the growth of our flagship programme, WORD - The Front Line, over the last six years. I can say without a doubt that this last year has been our best yet. After a healthy participant evaluation last year, we incorporated feedback from our young people, coaches and the core Action Education team to produce what was the most powerful Slam Camp experience any of us have ever had. I am particularly proud of the number of young male participants in our programme last year. These young men are writing history, challenging stereotypes and standing in their mana in ways that consistently moves me to tears. Beyond proud, I also send out a huge mihi to our 2019 Slam Champions, the fierce squad from Auckland Girls Grammar School - Krisha Kumar, Gracina Kints, Fine Aholelei, Maria Lavemai and Lianne Brown.

This programme continues to nurture and develop young people beyond the boundaries of competition, artistry and poetry. We have built a community, a whānau which connects hearts and values, that champions reflection and accountability, that fosters artistry and galvanises into a fearless voice. All of which was evident when our world changed in 2020, a year which will not be forgotten. We had to reimagine what Youth and Community Development could look like in a digital space, what connection could look like from a distance and how we could continue to nurture the whānau we had connected together.

I have always been open with my experiences of mental health and the challenges I faced growing up, they were in fact the driving force behind me pursuing Youth Work as a career. To be very candid, the experience of Lockdown was extremely challenging for me personally, we could also see the impact it was having on our young people and their families. It is not a stretch to say that the strength of the poetry community and the way everyone rallied to participate and support one another got us through. I am deeply grateful for the aroha and the compassion of our young people. It is a pleasure for me to share their accomplishments and highlights in this report.

Their kindness and resilience in the face of unprecedented isolation and uncertainty fills me with confidence. Our young people speak the truth, if we strengthen the platforms they have to speak it, they will lead us forward.

Thank you all for everything you have done for me.

Last but not least a huge mihi to our supporters, stakeholders, facilitators, coaches, mentors, volunteers and funders who enable all of what we do to happen.

NGĀ MIHI NUI RAMON MANAGER, ACTION EDUCATION





RAMON NARAYAN

Ramon is a Poet, DJ, Youth Worker and Facilitator and has worked with young people for the last 19 years. In 2016 he was honoured with a Local Hero Award for his work in the community. He is the co-founder of the South Auckland Poets Collective and has served young people in many different capacities from facilitating groups, leading youth advisory and participation processes, mentoring to coordinating events and developing youth development tools and models. In 2010 Ramon took on the role of Action Education Manager, which has seen him facilitate and develop several programmes including the Drama Toolkit, WORD – The Front Line and spoken word poetry programmes, while supporting a team of youth workers and facilitators.



KEN ARKIND

Ken is an American National Poetry Slam Champion, Tedx Speaker, Nuyorican Poets Cafe Grand Slam Champion and published author who has performed his work in 49 States, 6 countries and at over 200 colleges and universities. He is the founding Program Director of Denver Minor Disturbance, an independent literary arts organization dedicated to helping Colorado youth find voice through the mediums of poetry and performance. Ken has recently completed his Bachelor of Creative Arts at Manukau Institute of Technology specialising in creative writing.



JULIA RAHUI

Julia comes from a large Irish/Māori whānau and is passionate about culture, art, music, social justice and community. She is particularly interested in the intersection between the arts and youth development. Julia works as the Action Education Funding Coordinator. She has more than 17 years experience in the non-profit sector. Her career spans project management, youth development work, coordination of a community radio station and art gallery and experience working in Vanuatu for an indigenous music and arts Trust.



STEVIE DAVIS-TANA

Stevie (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Porou, Te Arawa) has worked as a Youth Development Worker and spoken word poet for Action Education for the last several years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Māori Development and Social Sciences, and a Masters of Human Rights from AUT. Stevie's poetry often reflects her Māori identity, and her journey of reconnecting to her Māoritanga. She is passionate about young people, culture, creativity, education, and community. Stevie also sits on the Ministry of Youth Development Partnership Fund Board.

This year we said farewell to Stevie in her role with Action Education. Her journey in youth development began as a 14 year old volunteering for Youthline and in the intervening years she has developed into a tremendous poet, facilitator and colleague. The Action Education team wishes Stevie all the best in her future endeavours and on behalf of the many young people and community members you have inspired over the years - thank you.

"The last 5 years working here at Youthline and Action Education have been nothing short of amazing. I feel absolutely privileged to have been a part of such a beautiful and supportive community, and want to thank everyone for making these years so special. To my brothers Ramon and Ken, I couldn't have asked for a better team to work with and journey alongside. You are both the absolute embodiment of love for our communities and young people. You put your heart and souls into the work and it shows in the difference you make and how much the young people love you back. I feel so grateful to have been a part of our team, and have learned so much from you. Youthline and Action Ed have been a huge part of my life and have ingrained in me a deep love for youth development. I have learnt so much about myself and the work, and am forever grateful for everything I have gained here."

COLLABORATORS

SOUTH AUCKLAND POETS COLLECTIVE

Action Education continues to collaborate with the great South Auckland Poets Collective, also known as SAPC, to enhance creativity through poetry. The Collective was established in 2008 by co-founders Grace Taylor, Ramon Narayan and Daren Kamali as part of a Youth Development Project funded by Youthline and Creative Communities. The collective now works in partnership with Action Education and continues to use spoken word poetry as a tool for positive social change with a focus on young people. Within this collective are national and international poetry slam finalists and champions. In addition, some are published poets. These voices are seasoned with an eclectic array of stories, experiences and personal truths. Their performance styles differ from one poet to the next, which will leave audience members artistically and soulfully satisfied. This very talented team of poets and educators delivers spoken word workshops and programmes alongside Action Education in the community.

WORD THE FRONT LINE COACHES

A huge mihi to our WORD - The Front Line coaching team. These powerful artists support and nourish our participants personally and creatively and help produce what our audiences get to enjoy at the Semi-Finals and Grand Slam.

Eric Soakai - Sheldon Rua - Mafi Tufunga - Roimata Prendergast Liam Jacobson - Lastman So'oula - Kyla De La Cruz Onehou Strickland - Marcus Mackenzie - Vanessa Crofskey Jessie Fenton - Dominic Hoey - Shania Pablo - Talia Stanley

LAURENT DUNNIGHAM

Laurent is a passionate spoken word artist, professional Hip Hop dancer, Choreographer and singer. She started writing at a young age and in 2010 she moved to Melbourne where she competed in the Victorian State slam finals, and soon after became a member and facilitator for The Centre for Poetics and Justice. She has travelled to NYC where she taught spoken word poetry at Camp Amerikids in 2011/12 and did her first poetry tour around NZ with Luka Lesson in 2012. She has also been a member of The South Auckland Collective Poets since 2015.

SHELDON RUA

Born and raised in the heart of South Auckland, Sheldon Rua of Tainui/Waikato descent, aspires to inspire, encourage and to motivate. He completed Year 13 at Alfriston College as the 2016 School Dux. Sheldon has crafted a flair for the arts. From playing music in local and national bars and competitions, to Hip Hop dancing on regional, national and internationally renowned platforms, to sharing his passion for spoken word poetry. Sheldon believes that to fully accept and understand a person, assumptions can never be made, but rather an open heart and the willingness to engage with people.

ERIC SOAKAI

Eric Soakai is a performance artist and child of South Auckland. He is a coach and mentor for Word the Front Line, has performed extensively throughout Tamaki Makaurau, and currently facilitates our Spoken Word Incubator Alumni programme. Part of the Niu Wave collective, he is the 2019 New Zealand Poetry Slam Champion and was recently awarded an Indigenous Storytellers and Spoken Word Residency at Banff in Canada.



A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF ACTION EDUCATION

It is hard to believe what our small team of dedicated artists and educators achieve in twelve short months. We are pleased to provide you with a snapshot of our key programmes, events and activities from the last year to give you a sense of the impact and range of our work.

"WORD - The Front Line transforms young writers into powerhouse performers and activists who wield their words with strength and precision. Each participant brings their own story to the stage with emotion, vulnerability, and passion. The Grand Slam is a moving event which offers audiences an insight into the glowing community of these young poets, alongside their mentors and coaches, and highlights how they are changing our world, one poem at a time."

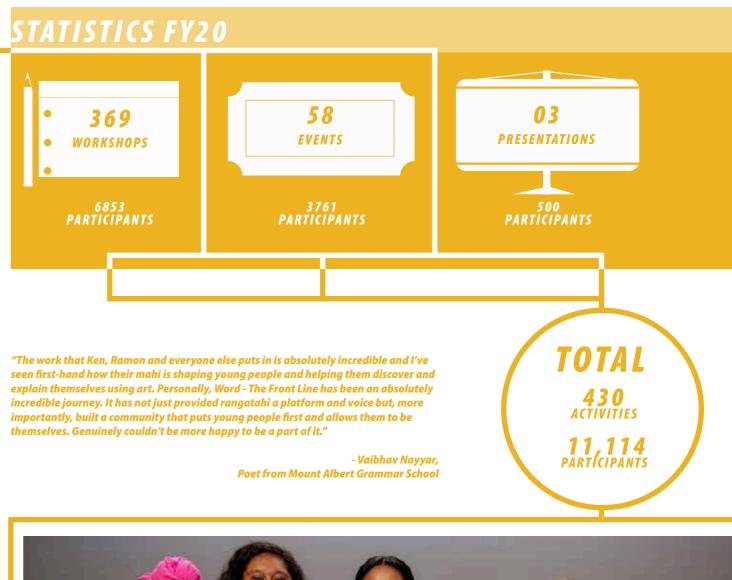
> - Carrie Rudzinski, Poet, Performance Artist, Teacher

WORD THE FRONT LINE FEBRUARY 19 - SEPTEMBER 2019

Our flagship programme, an Inter-High School spoken word poetry competition and leadership programme, bringing together teams of young people from across Auckland to share their stories in an explosion of youth expression. It is a poetry slam with the purpose of engaging and growing the potential of our future leaders. In 2019, 180 young people from 36 high schools participated in the programme.

This programme not only fosters the artistic and personal development of participants, but more than 600 audience members from the Semi-Finals and Grand Slam listened to the important stories being shared by young people. Important and diverse stories from different genders, cultures, sexualities stories about family, the environment, society, school, stereotype, friendship, love and power. This content is also uploaded to our YouTube channel which receives thousands of views and provides a platform for spoken word poetry which rivals many of our international counterparts.

No small commitment, the programme lasts from Term 1 to Term 3. Auditions are held at regional heats, and from there the top 14 teams attend Slam Camp, a wananga-style programme at Te Puea Memorial Marae. The focus here is whakawhanaungatanga to weave together an environment of safety and one conducive to inspire creativity and growth. This is our favourite weekend of the year, where participants get to know each other, the values of the poetry community and participate in workshops with local and international artists specialising in writing, movement, mindfulness and theatre. Each team is assigned a coach who works with the young people over the course of the programme. All our coaches are established artists in their own right with slam and performance poetry experience, and are supervised by the experienced Action Education staff team. WORD - The Front Line is a programme that fosters and promotes excellence, in terms of community leadership and artistic potential.





A huge congratulations to the 2019 Grand Slam Champions, Auckland Girls' Grammar School: Gracina Kints, Lianne Brown, Maria Lavemai, Krisha Kumar, and Fine Aholelei.

DE LA SALLE: POETRY | BROTHERHOOD | COMMUNITY





De La Salle College is an all-boys Catholic High School in Mangere. Their participation in WORD - The Front Line over the last year has been outstanding. Two teams, a Senior and Junior Team, who both made it all the way to the Grand Slam Finals.

"My usos and I had one of the best journeys of our lives with WORD - The Front Line. We were able to build bonds and friendships with people and were able to build our voices up too. Having the amazing spaces and outlets for our brown stories really helped us all find our own identity and we are forever grateful for what Action Education does." - Noah Brown

De La Salle exemplified the values of WORD - The Front Line, lifting up their team mates and other performers, challenging themselves with their writing and putting in the work to pull off incredible performances. Highlighting their commitment to the poetry community, the teams from De La Salle independently organised a sold-out poetry showcase at the Mangere Arts Centre and founded their own Spoken Word Poetry Collective.

"First off, cheers! to Ken, Ramon, and Stevie for last year's Welcome, and appreciated, on-going, everlasting, supercalifragilistic, SHAWLIDDDD support into and out of the WORD - The Front Line journey. They really helped me and my lads feel truly welcomed into the space, and we responded from the Alofa received, with a greater Alofa!! Chances to practice, perform, and most of all preach in the form of Open Mics were really helpful! We attended many, not only to perform, but also to be informed of the several issues which, in their own ways, allowed us to connect together as a WTFL Squad or, to be exact, WTFL Whanau!! We resonated with those willing to share, and these beautiful people became familiar faces." - Luani Nansen

The enthusiasm, effort and excellence demonstrated by the De La Salle teams, together with the themes of culture and masculinity they explore in their poetry, made them a natural choice for us to assist in delivering a professional development workshop for the Auckland Blues - a highlight for both the rugby and poetry squads!



To celebrate Youth Week this year we held our inaugural National Youth Poetry Conference: The WORD Summit. We have been hoping to grow our WORD community nationally for some time, and it was such a thrill to host students for this summit from Whangārei and Opononi, in addition to a wide range of regional schools from across Auckland.

50 young people participated in the summit which included workshops from renowned Kiwi poets like Michael Moore, Marina Alefosio, Carrie Rudzinski and Ngā Hinepūkōrero. Alongside these nationally and internationally renowned artists, our WORD - The Front Line alumni poets performed, organised and supported the conference in key roles on the day including registration, facilitation, mentoring, DJing and judging.

We want to extend a deep thank you to our longtime supporters, Auckland Libraries, for the space, the manaakitanga and the unwavering support of our mahi and poetry whānau in Tāmaki Makaurau and beyond. We concluded this memorable day with our Second Annual Stand Up Poetry Slam, supported by Ara Taiohi and their Youth Week grants - thank you. All conference participants were welcome to compete, and this popular event drew a crowd of well over **100 young poets**, their friends, families, supporters and educators.

Congratulations to Lala and Aimee for their Second and Third place finishes, and to our Stand Up Poetry Champion, Stella.

We cannot wait to grow the WORD Summit and welcome more young poets from across Aotearoa. If you are an educator, community organiser or Youth Worker who is interested in participating in future events like these, please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.



WORKSHOPS OFFERED

AT THE WORD SUMMIT - 24 MAY 2019

The workshops facilitated on the day were world class and we felt so blessed to facilitate these for our aspiring young poets.

PICTURE THIS

What's happening in the world around us plays a big part in shaping our creativity. This workshop explored poetic devices such as metaphor, personification, rhyme scheme and alliteration. The participants reflected on provocative images from recent events to create poetry that speaks to the world. Facilitated by Ramon Narayan and Stevie Davis-Tana

WRITING PERFORMANCE POETRY

Write your truth and tell your story. The workshop provided a unique blend in the art of storytelling: write, edit and polish your own poetry then learn tools to help you bring it to life for an audience. Participants wrote poems delving into personal identity and narrative before learning some skills and techniques for an engaging performance.

Facilitated by Carrie Rudzinski

Carrie Rudzinski ranked 4th in the World at the 2014 Women of the World Poetry Slam and was named Best Female Poet in 2008 at her first national poetry competition. Featured in Bustle, the Huffington Post, and Teen Vogue, she has performed her work over the past 12 years in 5 countries and in almost all 50 of the United States. A published author, Carrie has taught writing workshops around the world and was most recently a Lecturer at Manukau Institute of Technology's Faculty of Creative Arts teaching performing arts and creative writing.



SPOKEN WORD IS THE ART OF STORY TELLING This workshop is based on the kaupapa of 'Word – The Front Line': using poetry to slay our giants. Our aim is to teach the fundamentals of effective spoken word poetry through the biblical story arc of King David who, in his youth, courageously defeated the enemy of his people – a giant named Goliath – with

Facilitated by Marina Alefosio

Marina Alefosio is a spoken word artist and past member of the critically acclaimed South Auckland Poets Collective. She has performed both locally and internationally including at New York's Nuyorican Poets Café, Te Papa and TEDx Auckland.



STAND UP POETRY

OPEN MIC NIGHT APRIL 2019 - MARCH 2020





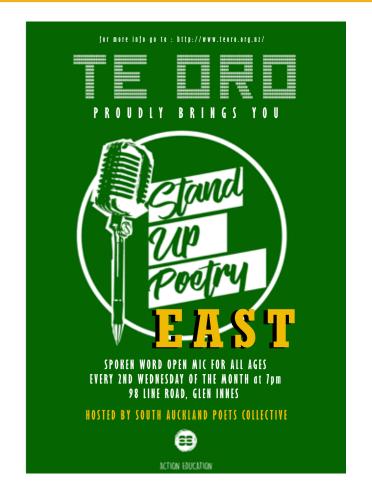
Stand Up Poetry Open Mic Nights make spoken word poetry relevant and accessible by providing a public platform for emerging spoken word poets. These events are held once a month and occasionally twice a month and rotate between various community locations. Last year we held 25 Stand Up Poetry events with more than 973 participants and audience members. Our Stand Up Poetry events provide important performance opportunities for the young people competing in WORD - The Front Line, those considering competing, and young (and older!) adults who want to share their creativity. Spoken word gives people the opportunity to share their stories, views and words in front of an audience. It provides a base for reflection, and offers a positive space for improved confidence and engagement. SUP Open Mic Nights encourage the sharing of stories from all backgrounds, enhancing community and increasing collaboration. The set up cultivates a culture of using your voice to be an active participant in your community, and transforms the culture of storytelling into something that is relevant to younger generations. Once a month the event is hosted at Te Oro in Glen Innes, which is also home to an ongoing Spoken Word Poetry programme which emphasises writing and development and offers young people an opportunity to workshop their pieces before performing them. A special thank you to Auckland City Libraries who often host us for these events.

"I've been coming to the Te Oro Spoken Word Club regularly since it began in 2017. During normal times, the workshops are a great space to unwind, release creatively, and spend time with the poetry community that has developed there over the past 3 years. Since COVID-19 interrupted the world and all our social activities, finding social connection has been really hard. So many ways of connecting with people have fallen through, especially in the arts. The Te Oro Spoken Word Club has continued, we went online and it has worked remarkably well. The workshops going online have been amazing – it has enabled myself and many others to continue to connect with each other and our art, whilst also enabling us to keep some semblance of stability that we have lost during these strange times."

- Marcus Mackenzie, 21

"I really enjoy the prompts we run through, the share-spaces I look forward to each meeting as I feel welcome and valued in the space, and I also appreciate everything I get in return from the workshops. I would recommend the workshops to anyone who is looking to expand their craft and meet new people within the community. The international guests have been especially interesting as I am getting to meet people who have turned poetry into their careers, ask questions about it and hear their stories and poetry."

- Clemence Williams, 17





BRAVE NEW VOICES

"The New Zealand team made me remember why I fell in love with Slam. How the nature of call and response, of truth and urgency, is the oldest Pacific tradition. It was an honour to meet with these contemporary navigators."

- William Nu'utupu, Coach of the Seattle Brave New Voices Team



In July 2019, Ngā Hine Pūkōrero, a group of four Rangatahi Maori poets, made history by competing at the 2019 Brave New Voices International Youth Poetry Slam in Las Vegas, USA. They were the first team from Australasia to ever compete in the festival, the largest of its kind in the world with over **500 young poets** in attendance. They finished between **9th and 11th out of 50 teams**, farther than any international team in its first year of competition, and earned the chance to share their work on the Finals stage in front of the entire BNV community.

As the first NZ poets to attend Brave New Voices they were tasked with the unique challenge of sharing stories and language that many of the other participants may not be familiar with. In order to bring their true stories to BNV, and the United States, they not only had to be poets but also historians and cultural ambassadors, something that most other teams never had to consider.

They covered topics such as land rights, domestic abuse within Aotearoa, language reclamation, gun violence and the Christchurch terror attacks, the power of indigenous women's voices, colonisation, Captain Cook and the Dawn Raids.

While visiting the United States, Ngā Hine Pūkōrero were the featured artists at Da Poetry Lounge, the largest weekly poetry event in the United States which draws over **300 audience members** to historic Greenway Court Theatre in Hollywood California.

The team spent more than **186 hours** rehearsing, including a facilitation role at our annual Slam Camp where they worked on material for the competition and provided inspiration to the next generation of WORD - The Front Line participants, who were thrilled that a local team were going to represent 'them' on the world stage.

During the Brave New Voices competition, Ngā Hine Pūkōrero shared their stories with more than 4,500 live audience members and a further 122,000 viewers through Facebook Live.



WORD ALUMNI

AN ARTIST INCUBATOR, FEB 2019 - DEC 2019

After six years of WORD - The Front Line we have built a tremendous community of talent and passion. Many of the young people who participate in our programme want to continue to express themselves creatively after they graduate high school, some are particularly passionate about pursuing a future in the arts. Simultaneously, at Action Education we have been focused on the topics of succession and growth. After leaving school many students are disconnected for opportunities in the arts and this programme serves as a conduit to reconnect them.

The workshops and programmes we provide require a unique blend of creative ability and facilitation and youth work experience. Given the challenges we have faced in recruiting this skill mix, we have developed our own training pipeline. We know that this development programme will benefit future generations of young people through the work that Action Education does, but also the broader artistic and education community as we train and develop the next generation of creative educators, artists and youth workers. Moreover, the young adults who participate in our Alumni programme are staying connected to the creative community, continuing to hone their craft and developing an employable skill base. Now in its second year, our Alumni programme is held fortnightly at the Ellen Melville Centre in Central Auckland. The format each week includes peer connection, writing exercises, space to share work and creative ideas, and a module on professional facilitation skills. This moved into an online space during the lockdown.

The transition to adulthood can be uniquely challenging. Of the **30 young people** who participated in the programme last year, approximately **two thirds** were studying at university and at technical institutes. **One third** were in their first year of full-time work. Through our fortnightly sessions, a strong theme that emerged was managing the stress and anxiety that came with transitioning from school into further education or employment.

Many expressed the role of the Alumni programme in creating a supportive community, providing them with a creative outlet, emotional support, social connection and networking.Within this safe space they were able to share their challenges and stretch their comfort zones.

This programme has allowed us to identify young people who may be in need of additional mentoring, as well as those who are particularly interested in a career pathway, and tailor our delivery. Given the success and interest this year, we are thrilled to be expanding and deepening delivery for the next generation of New Zealand artists.

MAORI RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

HUI ONE 28 FEB 2019 | HUI TWO 8 AUGUST 2019

In all our work we strive to create an inclusive environment that allows individuals and their diversity, identity and creativity to shine.

We are proud to regularly receive feedback about the high levels of engagement students display when we run workshops in schools.

We are conscious that through our programmes and platforms we provide rangatahi Māori with the opportunity to be heard for who they are, and these voices have become a pivotal part of our community. Though we have had some success through the experience and diversity of our facilitation team, we knew we could strengthen this kaupapa. On that basis, over the last year we have been engaging with key community leaders of all ages working in youth development, mental health, education and the arts to ensure that our programmes are respectfully and appropriately implementing principles of Te Ao Māori for the benefit of all of our young people, and in particular our young Māori voices.

Under the guidance of our Kaumatua, Rawiri Wharemate, and over the course of two deeply enriching hui, we have developed a blueprint for six specific resources for rangatahi Māori. We are indebted to the individuals who participated in both hui who shared their personal experience, expertise, ideas and feedback openly and in the spirit of learning and development - kia ora.

Te Kahu Rolleston, Onehou Strickland, Sheldon Rua, Roimata Prendergast, Matua Rawiri Wharemate, Ezekiel Raui, Trent Hohaia, Amiria Puia-Taylor, Chloe Manihera, Veesh Patuwai - tēnā koutou katoa.

"My daughter, Matariki, is a member of Ngā Hine Pūkōrero, a spoken word group formed to participate in WORD - The Front Line representing their school Ngā Puna O Waiorea.

Over two years, [the programme] has been pivotal in Matariki's creative development. Her love of words and writing has been with her since an early age, but WORD - The Front Line has given Matariki a platform and nurturing community to develop craft and to experience the power of working collaboratively. The vibrancy, power and energy that surrounds WORD, and the openness of participants to dig deep and share is extraordinary. The spoken word poetry competition pushes them to aim high, but at the same time is inclusive and celebratory.

It has been inspiring, uplifting and at times confronting to walk beside her as she has developed as an artist. On a personal level she has gained confidence and identity in developing her creative voice but has also benefited holistically through connection to a wide and diverse group of talented and empowered young people. Matariki's path as a writer and wordsmith has been enormously enriched by her spoken word poetry experience and at age 16 she is now one of the youngest students at South Seas Film School, taking her place as a writing and directing student." - Jane Holland (Mother)

We are pleased to have a clear direction for our framework which breaks our sessions for these resources into two themes: Whakapapa and Tikanga/Kawa. Next year we look forward to piloting these workshops and reporting back.

WHAKAPAPA 1. WAKA - The journey that got you here 2. WHĀNAU - Your genealogy and connection to people **3. TŪRANGAWAEWAE – Where do you** belong? TIKANGA / KAWA **1. CUSTOMS & VALUES - The written** and unwritten rules of your family and friends 2. PERSONAL PROTECTION/SAFETY -What do you do to keep safe in terms of your wellbeing? 3. PRINCIPLES - What are the values that guide you?

"This is the best process I have been involved in, in terms of developing a resource for rangatahi Māori, from the facilitation to the manaakitanga, it was outstanding." - Amiria Puia Taylor, 312 Hub Onehunga





TRANS-TASMAN SLAM DECEMBER 3 - 4, 2019

For the first time we played host to the Trans-Tasman Slam last year. In its 3rd year, The Trans-Tasman Poetry Slam is the only event of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, in which the top ranked High School Poetry Slam Teams from both sides of the Tasman compete in a battle of words, rhymes, and performance.

Australia's 2019 OutLoud Eco!Slam Champions from Nossall High School in Melbourne, travelled across the sea to compete against New Zealand's WORD - The Front Line Poetry Slam Champions from Auckland Girls Grammar School and two of the other finalist teams from Mt Albert Grammar and De La Salle College.

We were pleased to host the team from Nossall High School for a celebration of youth voice, culture, and the spoken word. The team from Australia had the opportunity to participate in a whakatau, poetry workshops, a bush hike, team building activities with the New Zealand participants, an artistic development workshop and finally the Slam itself.

The teams competed in front of a crowd of 80+ spectators at Cityside Church in Mt Eden.

We were so grateful to host the team from Australia, and hope they enjoyed their experience and welcome to our beautiful country. Until we meet again!

"The Trans-Tasman slam is more than just a competition. Beyond this it is a chance for networking and building friendships between young artists and leaders from both New Zealand and Australia." - Emilie Zoey Baker - Australian Facilitator/Chaperone/Poet



SCHOOL WORKSHOPS

A key plank of our work is in the education system. We have a range of workshops that align to the English curriculum that we deliver through the school year. Workshops in schools are also a great way to introduce students to the idea of spoken word poetry, and for many these workshops and performances are a catalyst to audition for WORD - The Front Line.

We are proud of the working relationships we have built with more than 117 schools in Auckland alone. It is always a privilege to deliver programmes for schools in Northland and Hamilton, and we have had requests from as far away as Southland.

Last year we delivered more than 367 workshops across the North Island.

"Recently Ken held a workshop at our school. He started with icebreakers so that the students became more at ease at expressing themselves, and sharing with each other. Some students who had barely written all year were writing and wanting to share what they had written. I know that Ken wants to uncover the students' voices and give them the confidence to express themselves. He has compassion and wants to equip young people to engage with the challenges that they face and to develop leadership."

- Penny Bradford, Teacher, Manurewa College

"I've received so many responses from whanau, who are saying that they appreciate the rangatahi having these opportunities to thrive and enjoy learning." - Whaea Alice, Ngā Puna O Waiorea

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our workshops can be highly effective in a corporate and team environment, and we've been pleased to continue providing professional development workshops this year for organisations like New Zealand Cricket. The Crusaders and Cisco New Zealand.

Ramon Narayan is also one of the most skilled and experienced group facilitators in the Youth Work profession in Aotearoa. He regularly provides workshops and supervision for youth workers and youth development organisations. Last year was no exception and included workshops developed for the Graeme Dingle Foundation, Youthline, YWCA and others.

COVID PIVOT

MARCH 2020

On March 25, 2020, we all received the same SMS Alert:

"This message is for all of New Zealand. We are depending on you. Where you stay tonight is where you must stay from now on."

And for the next five weeks we went into Lockdown.

What happened for Action Education during this challenging period is nothing short of incredible. We moved quickly to offer alternative ways for our community to connect and share during a time where social connection had never been so important. We didn't know how it would go, and we were blown away.

Our online engagement increased by 4300% during the Lockdown period. Our video views, with content created by the amazing young people in our community, increased by 8500%.

While Aotearoa and our team of 5 million began to battle the pandemic we sought out ways to be kind and support one another. Over the Lockdown and at Level 3 we were able to accomplish the following:

- From week one of lockdown Action Education offered a weekly Stand Up Poetry Open Mic streaming live online featuring incredible poets throughout Aotearoa and internationally who performed their own original work and also read poems from aspiring young poets. For many of our young people this was a highlight of their week.

- A number of workshops for both students and adults over this time through schools, community organisations and networks. - One-on-One mentoring and support.

- The Te Oro Spoken Word club continued to meet in an online space.

- Our Alumni programme continued to meet every fortnight online.

- During Youth Week we held an online Youth Open Mic. - We held our annual Stand Up Poetry Slam online with 14 competitors.

- We launched a specific campaign called #howwegetthrough featuring poems highlighting the experience of Lockdown which was featured on Breakfast TV.

"The Te Oro workshops have been a great way for me to express my creativity and emotions. It has been really helpful for me, seeing as I'm stuck in a house full of people who think very differently, to be able to connect with like-minded people who are all gathered for the same reason, to create and to find inspiration. I am so grateful for what Action Education has provided for their communities, especially during these trying times. He aroha mutunga kore." - Arihia Hall, Youth Poet

"Te Oro spoken word workshops moving online was the highlight of my lockdown. It gave me something I could look forward to each week, knowing I'd see a bunch of familiar faces and having an amazing safe space to create and share poetry. Te Oro workshops moving online has been extremely beneficial for me as I now am able to attend the workshops, I often wasn't able to attend in person workshops due to university or work commitments never allowing me enough time to be able to commute to and from the workshops. They have also been extremely helpful in getting me through this uncertain time that we are in at the moment."

- Tamrin Duckmanton, Youth Poet



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Auckland Council Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board Auckland Council Upper Harbour Local Board Auckland Council Devonport Takapuna Local Board Auckland Council Mangere Otahuhu Local Board **Auckland Council Manurewa Local Board** Auckland Council Kaipātiki Local Board Auckland Council Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Auckland Council Whau Local Board **Auckland Council Albert - Eden Local Board** Auckland Council Creative Communities Scheme Auckland Council Mangere Otahuhu Local Board **Auckland Council Regional Arts and Culture Grant** Auckland Council Puketāpapa Local Board Auckland Council Waitematā **Auckland Foundation - Grassroots Fund Auckland Airport Community Trust COGS Auckland City** COGS Far North **COGS Rodney North Shore COGS Waitākere COGS Manukau COGS Papakura/Franklin COGS Whangarei/Kaipara Constellation Communities Trust Creative NZ** Foundation North **Lottery Community Auckland Lottery Support For Volunteers Fund Ministry of Youth Development NZ Community Post Pro Care Charitable Trust Pub Charity** Stout Family Trust **The Lion Foundation** Youthline Auckland Charitable Trust



ACTION EDUCATION INCORPORATED

For the year ended 31 March 2020

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Independent Review Report

To the Trustees of Action Education Incorporated

Report on the financial statements

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements on 4 to 13 do not:

- Present fairly in all material respects the incorporated society's financial position as at 31 March 2020 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- comply with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (Not-For-Profit).

Basis for conclusion

A review of financial statements in accordance with International Standard on Review Engagements (New Zealand) (ISRE (NZ)) 2400, Review of Historical Financial Statements Performed by an Assurance Practitioner who is not the Auditor of the Entity ("ISRE (NZ) 2400") is a limited assurance engagement. The auditor performs procedures consisting of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures.

This Standard also requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

on normal terms within the ordinary course of trading activities of the business of the incorporated society. These matters have not impaired our independence as reviewer of the incorporated society. Other than in our capacity as assurance practioners we have no relationship with, or interests in, the incorporated society.

Use of this Independent Review Report

This report is made solely to the Trustees as a body. Our review work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trustees of the incorporated society those matters we are required to state to them in the Independent Review Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees as a body for our review work, this report, or any of the opinions we have formed.

- We have completed a review of the accompanying financial statements which comprise:
- the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2020;
- the statements of comprehensive revenue and expenses, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Subject to certain restrictions, partners and employees of our firm may also deal with the incorporated society

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ACTION EDUCATION INCORPORATED

Responsibilities of the Trustees for the financial statements The Trustees, on behalf of the incorporated society, are responsible for:

- the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand (being Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (Not-For-Profit));

- implementing necessary internal control to enable the preparation of a financial statements that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- assessing the ability to continue as a going concern. This includes disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

× L Assurance Practitioner's Responsibilities for the review of the financial statements

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with ISRE (NZ) 2400. ISRE (NZ) 2400 requires us to conclude whether anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements are not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (Not-For-Profit));

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less than those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand). Accordingly we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

This description forms part of our Independent Review Report.

KPML

KPMG Auckland

9 July 2020

Directory:

Nature of the Organisation	Action Education is range of communic courses with the air and the community cultural and spiritur
Registered Office	13 Maidstone Stree Ponsonby AUCKLAND 1021 Telephone: 09 376- Facsimile: 09 376-0
Incorporation Number	547624
Charities Registration no	CC24073
IRD Number	28-030-101
Board of Trustees	Mr J Prior (Chair) Mr D Wong-Tung Ms M Winterstein Mr R Jolly Ms K Jens (resigne Mr C May Ms K Jones Ms S Kopu (joined Mr E Raui (joined 2 Mr M Austin (joined
Independent Reviewer	KPMG Chartered Account
Bank	ASB Bank Ltd
Business Location	13 Maidstone Stree Ponsonby AUCKLAND 102

Nature of the Organisation Action Education is a not-for-profit organisation providing a cation, life skills and personal development im to promote wellness for individuals, groups y, and concurrently observing Society's al values.

et

-6645 -6650

(resigned 28th May 2019)

ed 10th December 2019)

ed 27th August 2019) 27th August 2019) ned 18th February 2020) voting CEO)

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ACTION EDUCATION INCORPORATED

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended 31 March 2020

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	Notes 2020		2019
		\$	\$
Revenue			
Contracts for service		47,386	91,480
Training and support services		7,048	13,423
Donations		410	11,549
Grants		274,821	168,899
Total revenue		329,665	285,351
Expenditure			
Employee costs		195,053	186,856
Facilities and technology expense		11,086	3,880
Service delivery and social enterprise expense		56,378	57,510
Depreciation expense	3	2,500	3,607
Travel and vehicle expense		45,683	18,813
Organisation and management expense		9,806	11,272
Total expenditure		320,506	281,938
Surplus for the year		9,159	3,413
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for	•	9,159	3,4

The notes on pages 8-13 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements

ACTION EDUCATION INCORPORATED **Statement of Financial Position** As at 31 March 2020

	Note	2020	2019
		\$	\$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Accounts receivable	4	19,117	35,756
Cash at bank	5	152,334	45,098
Total Current Assets		171,451	80,854
Non-current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	3	5,302	7,802
Total Non-current Assets		5,302	7,802
Total Assets		176,753	88,656
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Employee benefits	6	7,612	7,826
Grants in advance	8	107,928	36,830
Payables and provisions	7	26,206	18,152
Total Liabilities		141,746	62,808
Net Assets		35,007	25,848
EQUITY			
Accumulated comprehensive revenue a	nd expenses	35,007	25,848
Total Equity		35,007	25,848

Julian Prior, (Chair)

Signed for and on behalf of Action Education Incorporated: 7710

The notes on pages 8-13 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

Date

KPMG

Richard Jolly, Trystee

KPMG

ACTION EDUCATION Statement of Changes in Equity For the year ended 31 March 2020

	Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense	Total	
Balance at 1 April 2018	22,435	22,435	
Surplus for the year	3,413	3,413	
Balance at 31 March 2019	25,848	25,848	
	25,848	25,848	
Balance at 1 April 2019	,		
Surplus for the year	9,159	9,159	
Balance at 31 March 2020	35,007	35,007	

The notes on pages 8-13 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

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ACTION EDUCATION INCORPORATED Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 31 March 2020

Cash flo	ows from operating activities
Receipts	s:
Contrac	cts
Suppor	t services
Grants	
Donatio	ons
Paymen	ts:
Paymer	nts to suppliers
Paymer	nts to employees
Net cash	1 flows from operating
activitie	S
Cash flo	ws from investing activities
Receipts	
Interest	received
Paymen	ts:
•	expenditure
	flows from investing
activities	5
Net incr	ease in cash
Opening	g cash 1 April
	cash balance 31 March

2020	2019
\$	\$
64,025	110,683
7,048	11,180
345,919	199,190
410	13,604
(114,898)	(137,484)
(195,268)	(176,929)
107,236	20,244
<u> </u>	(11,085)
-	(11,085)
	9,159
107,236	
107,236 45,098	35,939

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ACTION EDUCATION INCORPORATED

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2020

1) Introduction

Reporting Entity:

Action Education Incorporated ("the Society") is an incorporated society under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 on 29th June 1992.

The Society delivers community services including personal development, counselling, and youth development programmes.

The Society is a public benefit entity and its primary objective is to provide services for community and social benefit, rather then making a financial return. Accordingly, the Society has designated themselves as a not-for- profit public benefit entity (notfor -profit PBE's) for the purpose of financial reporting.

Basis of Preparation:

The financial statements of the Society has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of its constitution and the Charities Act 2005, which require compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand ("NZ GAAP").

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Public Benefit Entities Accounting Standards (PBE standards), issued by the External Reporting Board (XRB), in accordance with Tier 2 PBE Standards. They comply with PBE Standards, as appropriate for not-for -profits (PBEs), and all available reduced disclosure concessions have been applied. The Society qualifies for the reduced disclosure regime on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of less than \$30 million.

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical basis cost basis.

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars, which is the Society's functional currency, rounded to the nearest dollar.

Standards and Interpretation issued and not yet adopted

There were no new PBE Standards, amendments and interpretation issued but not yet effective that have not been adopted.

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Action Education Incorporated Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2020

Taxes

The Society is a registered charity with Charities Services and has charitable status with the Inland Revenue so is not liable for income tax, under the Income Tax Act 2007.

All items in the financial statements are stated exclusive of GST, except for receivables and payables, which are stated on a GST inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as input tax then it is recognised as part of the related asset or expenses.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

The net GST paid to, or received from the Inland Revenue, including the GST relating to investing and financing activities, is classified as an operating cash flow in the Statement of Cash Flows.

2 Revenue

Revenue from exchange transactions is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

a) Contracts: Revenue from contracts is recognised as the services provided by reference to the stage of completion. Where the contract outcome cannot be measured reliably, revenue is recognised only to the extent that the expenses incurred are recoverable.

b) Interest & dividends: Interest income is accrued and dividends or similar distributions shall be recognised when the Society's right to receive payment is established.

c) Non-exchange revenue : Cash donations, grants, fundraising and sponsorships are classified as non-exchange transactions. Revenue from these transactions is recognised in full on receipt. In some cases non-exchange transactions contain a condition that will result in the repayment of the amount if these conditions are not met. In this case the Society recognises a liability for deferred income (Revenue in Advance) and revenue is recognised only once the Society has satisfied these conditions.



Action Education Incorporated Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2020

3 Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, Plant and Equipment is measured at cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes items directly attributed to the acquisition as an asset, have future economic benefits and the cost or fair value of the items can be measured reliably. Where an asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, it is recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the useful life of the asset. Depreciation is charged at rates calculated to allocate the cost or valuation of the asset less any estimated value over its remaining useful life. The useful lives of major classes of assets has been estimated as follows:

Office Equipment	3-5 years
Computers	3 years
Other Equipment	12 years
Motor Vehicles	4 years

	Equipment Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Cost or Valuation			
As at 1 April 2019	18,214	4,996	23,210
Additions	-	-	
As at 31 March 2020	18,214	4,996	23,210
Depreciation			
As at 1 April 2019	14,005	1,403	15,408
Depreciation	1,273	1,227	2,500
As at 31 March 2020	15,278	2,630	17,908
Net Book Values			
As at 1 April 2019	4,209	3,593	7,802
As at 31 March 2020	2,936	2,366	5,302

Action Education Incorporated Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2020

4 Receivables from exchange transactions

Receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost less any provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of receivables is established when there is evidence that the Society will not be able to collect all amounts due.

Trade Debtors

5 Cash

Cash includes cash on hand and cash at bank.

6 Employee benefits

Liabilities for wages and salaries and annual leave are recognised in surplus or deficit during the period in which the employee rendered the services, and are generally expected to be settled within 12 months of the balance date. The liabilities for these short-term benefits are measured at the amounts expected to be paid. Sick leave is recognised as an expense when the leave is taken and is measured at the rates paid.

Employee benefits

7 Payables and provisions

The Society recognises a provision for future expenditure when there is a present obligation as a result of a past event and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Payables and provisions

(KPMG)

2020 \$	2019 \$
19,117	35,756
19,117	35,756

2020 \$	2019 \$	
7,612	7,826	
7,612	7,826	

0000	4010		
2020	2019		
\$	\$		
26,206	18,152		
26,206	18,152		

Action Education Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2020

8 Grants in advance

The following funding was received by the Society prior to balance date and relates to the subsequent financial year. These amounts are only recognised when the conditions attached are satisfied:

conditions allored are ballshed.	2020 \$	2019 \$
Grants in advance	107,928	36,830
	107,928	36,830

9 Financial Risk Management

Financial assets are classified as loans and other receivables and include cash at bank and receivables. Financial liabilities are classified at amortised cost and include payables and provisions. The carrying value of financial assets and liabilities closely approximate their fair value. The Trustees assess whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or liability is impaired. Any impairment losses are recognised in surplus or deficit.

10 Related Parties

There have been no impairment of related party balances during the year (2019: nil) and there have been no write offs of related party balances during the year (2019: nil). The Society has a related party relationship with its parent entity, Youthline Auckland Charitable Trust. Related party transactions of a material nature that were incurred during the financial year were:

	-	2020 \$	2019 \$
Youthline Auckland			
Income :	Fees collected by Youthline		38,539
	Youthline contracts	16,095	
Expenses:	Cost payment to Youthline	36,082	11,342
Balances Receivable:		-	19,006
Balances Payable:		2,732	5,504

Action Education Incorporated Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2020

11 Commitments & Contingencies:

12 Subsequent Events COVID -19

On 11th March 2020 the World Health Organisation announced that the coronavirus ('COVID-19') outbreak be classified as a pandemic. This resulted in the New Zealand government introducing various measures to combat the outbreak, including travel restrictions, quarantines, closure on non-essential businesses and lock-down of the country. The pandemic has caused significant uncertainty and has impacted the economy in New Zealand and globally.

These financial statements are required to reflect the impact of COVID-19 given that, in accordance with PBE IPSAS 14 Events after the Reporting Date, this is considered an adjusting event.

The Board is of the opinion that the Society is a going concern due to the availability of future forecast operating cash-flows after taking into account the impacts of COVID-19, still being sufficient to cover future obligations when they fall due. (2019:nil)

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12

No significant contingent liabilities are known to exist at balance date.



CONTACT



www.actioneducation.co.nz



ACTION EDUCATION