

Arts and Entertainments Board Report
A note by Rachel D'oliveiro, Arts and Entertainments Board Chair

Financial Report

1. Summary

See Appendix 1.

2. Expenditure and Turnover

For the number of clubs, the AEB has quite a high turnover, particularly with DramSoc, the two orchestras and Choir, and this year is no exception. DramSoc especially are spending a lot according to their 5 year equipment replacement plan, which they have been saving towards. They have invested in new lighting among other things. Sinfonietta having recently been on their annual tour with Big Band has likewise been dealing with quite a large turnover. Their balance is still swollen from the slow nature of Romanian admin. Choir and Orchestra are expected to be spending a lot more as their Cadogan Hall concert draws nearer. Income in general is expected to increase as we approach the end of term where many of the societies exhibit what they have been working towards during the term and societies start selling tickets for their events.

Also, Music Tech has recently used their Harlington Trust grant to purchase new sound equipment.

The AEB has spent roughly 40% of the total grant money allocated. In general, societies under AEB spend much of the grant money on Copyrights & Royalties which can be surprisingly costly (£100-£200 for rental of orchestral scores for 2-3 months, similar amounts for performance rights for some plays and musicals etc.) as well as instructing fees which again can be expensive if a professional instructor is involved.

3. Financial Health

Most societies under AEB are in good health, most of which have a substantial amount of reserve in SGI. The only exception is ICU Cinema which is currently in debt. The main reason given for this is the general increase in the use of digital media which puts the screening of film under heavy competitive pressure. Also, the fact that only slightly older films can be obtained for screening using this method means that ICU Cinema is also in direct competition with high street cinemas. A solution to this problem is currently being sought and discussions with the Cinema Chair, DFPS and DPCS and myself are due to resume in January.

A further note should be made for MTSoc Tour which seems to be in debt. They however have special financial arrangements having been established before tours were done the way they are now.

4. Budget Testing

The AEB has recently been involved with the testing of the new online annual budgeting system which is anticipated to be used for this year's budgeting. All parts of the budgeting process have been tested on the software and faults that were detected in testing are now being addressed.

Constitution Changes

There have been no constitution changes this term.

Exec Meetings

There have been two AEB Exec meetings so far this term (Wednesday 15th October and Wednesday 12th November. The next will be held at 1630 on Wednesday 10th December.

Contingency Awards

Only one contingency award has been made so far this year. £164.26 was awarded jointly to ICSO, Sinfonietta and Windband to replace a 18" Sabian suspended orchestral cymbal that went missing. This claim was actually supposed to come out of contingency for 2007 – 2008, however due to a few communication problems with the supplier it ended up coming out of contingency for this year instead.

Club Activities

1. Events

The second half of term is traditionally very busy for the AEB with clubs and societies putting on their termly shows, concerts, exhibitions and plays.

Newly formed Classical Guitar Society kicked things off by putting on their second ever concert on 20th November. They are going from strength to strength with more people both joining the society and coming along to concerts, and with plans for a Flamenco-style collaboration with one of the dance societies next term things are looking very promising. ICSO and IC Choir also joined forces to perform a Belshazzar's Feast to a sellout audience at Cadogan Hall and Music Technology hosted the first "Soc Soc", a society social event featuring KnitSock, Tea Soc, Cheese Society and many more.

On the UCH stage this term was DramSoc's Fresher's Play and Autumn Play as well as Musical Theatre Society's Winter Revue.

Still to come are the majority of the musical ensemble's concerts; String Ensemble's concert takes place on 13th December, while Sinfonietta's concert is on 16th December, the same night that Gospel Choir make their debut performance at Imperial with the "Songs for Angels" concert and Jazz and Rock host their Christmas Party at dB's. Chamber Music's Autumn Concert is on 15th December and Windband's Winter concert is on 18th December along with the Jazz Big Band Christmas Gig.

2. Tours/Trips

Sinfonietta's Weekend away to Salisbury took place on 15th -16th November 2008, and was a very useful rehearsal weekend and opportunity for old and new members to get to know each other.

3. Achievements

Jazz Big Band won a Gold Award in the Open Big Band Category at the regional heat of the National Concert Band Festival on Sunday 30th November. This prestigious award means that that the band will take part in the national finals of the festival in Cardiff in April and compete against the winners of the other regional heats.

4. Coming Up

January 21st sees Windband join forces with the Coldstream Guards for a concert and gala dinner in aid of the College Fund. The idea started out as a joint workshop with the Coldstream Guards to promote the band, and with the input of the College Events Team swiftly turned into something far greater, with great opportunities for Windband members to be involved with an event on such a large scale.

Artsfest 2009, the annual College Arts festival run by the Arts and Ents Board will run from 16th – 20th February 2009. Plans are well underway and the finalised timetable should be published by the end of term. In addition to showcasing all the artistic talent Imperial has to offer, this year's festival aims to increase awareness of the Arts beyond the South Kensington campus.

Particular issues

On the whole, AEB clubs have not encountered any major problems so far. There have been a few issues with room bookings clashes due to some problems with the room bookings software used by College and ICU but these have been resolved without too much disruption.

Cinema have also had a few problems with one of their film distributors being unresponsive and unreliable, but they have since ceased to use them and this solved the problem.

Appendix 1. AEB Expenditure

| | Members | | | Grant | | | Members' Funds | SGI | | | Harlington | | | IC Trust | | |
|----------------------|---------|----------|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Target | Achieved | % | CR | DR | Balance | | CR | DR | Balance | CR | DR | Balance | CR | DR | Balance |
| 400 Exec | 0 | 0 | - | 900.00 | -164.26 | 735.74 | 1,595.09 | 680.85 | -191.81 | 2,084.13 | | | 0.00 | -10.20 | 0.00 | -10.20 |
| 401 Orchestra | 75 | 59 | 78.7 | 629.33 | -1,008.00 | -378.67 | 6,231.78 | 1,250.99 | 0.00 | 7,482.77 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 402 Sinfonietta | 70 | 83 | 118.6 | 1,200.00 | -839.27 | 360.73 | 5,771.53 | 12,643.88 | -7,948.07 | 10,467.34 | | | 0.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 100.00 |
| 403 Choir | 100 | 118 | 118.0 | 2,100.00 | -459.45 | 1,640.55 | 4,425.52 | 3,204.09 | -1,317.96 | 6,311.65 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 405 LeoSoc | 50 | 59 | 118.0 | 629.73 | -243.84 | 385.89 | 849.26 | 705.53 | -58.75 | 1,496.04 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 406 DramSoc | 50 | 52 | 104.0 | 605.00 | -15.28 | 589.72 | 52,385.26 | 3,519.38 | -22,020.16 | 33,884.48 | | | 0.00 | 283.35 | 0.00 | 283.35 |
| 408 Big Band | 33 | 28 | 84.8 | 933.33 | -274.34 | 658.99 | 1,965.48 | 1,063.95 | -131.62 | 2,897.81 | 421.77 | -307.98 | 113.79 | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| 409 Classical Guitar | 35 | 25 | 71.4 | 78.57 | 0.00 | 78.57 | 0.00 | 245.53 | 0.00 | 245.53 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 411 Cinema | 100 | 80 | 80.0 | 720.00 | -28.08 | 691.92 | -6,311.37 | 2,686.07 | -2,485.19 | -6,110.49 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 412 Chamber Music | 33 | 22 | 66.7 | 146.67 | 0.00 | 146.67 | 162.85 | 102.22 | 0.00 | 265.07 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 413 Jazz & Rock | 110 | 73 | 66.4 | 1,258.75 | -1,528.30 | -269.55 | 3,121.32 | 1,104.77 | -259.66 | 3,966.43 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 414 Music Tech | 50 | 23 | 46.0 | 391.00 | -100.47 | 290.53 | 28.82 | 293.69 | -123.08 | 199.43 | 2,585.00 | -2,700.00 | -115.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 415 MTSoc | 24 | 24 | 100.0 | 817.45 | 0.00 | 817.45 | 3,004.31 | 29.79 | 0.00 | 3,034.10 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 416 MTSoc Tour | 30 | 3 | 10.0 | | | 0.00 | -19,905.14 | 12,127.57 | -13,390.60 | -21,168.17 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 417 String Ensemble | 35 | 26 | 74.3 | 638.86 | -325.70 | 313.16 | 1,892.74 | 332.02 | -171.78 | 2,052.98 | | | 0.00 | 162.98 | 0.00 | 162.98 |
| 418 Gospel Choir | 35 | 28 | 80.0 | 408.00 | 0.00 | 408.00 | 123.85 | 229.01 | -46.36 | 306.50 | | | 0.00 | | | 0.00 |
| 419 Windband | 35 | 37 | 105.7 | 500.94 | 0.00 | 500.94 | 468.60 | 331.89 | -83.12 | 717.37 | 13.62 | 0.00 | 13.62 | | | 0.00 |
| Totals | 865 | 740 | | 11,957.63 | -4,986.99 | 6,970.64 | 55,809.90 | 40,551.23 | -48,228.16 | 48,132.97 | 3,020.39 | -3,007.98 | 12.41 | 4,486.13 | 4,050.00 | 8,536.13 |