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Kusuma Nature Play at the
Horniman Museum and
Gardens



Kusuma Trust Annual Review 2024



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Front cover: Alameda Kusuma
Education Zone inauguration
Facing page: National Gallery

Clockwise from top left: Royal Parks, Science Museum,
Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School shared
library, King's College Business School, The Palais des Nations
in Geneva, visited by Bayside Comprehensive School and
Westside School while on an educational visit to the European
Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland,
Natural History Museum



“Reflecting on the year gone by, we feel very privileged to collaborate with exceptional partners doing excellent work”

“ As we look back on 2024, we celebrate another exciting year in the life of Kusuma Trust. We saw our partners delivering some amazing projects, programmes and buildings and applauded them on receiving awards and accolades that recognise their hard work.

We also started some new and exciting programmes. We have partnered with top UK universities and research institutes to launch new cardiac research fellowships. This initiative will fund fellows to conduct advanced research on preventing and managing heart failure. With limited treatment options currently available, we hope these fellowships will pave the way for improving outcomes for thousands of patients.

In July, it was a pleasure to attend the inauguration of the Alameda Kusuma Education Zone at the Gibraltar Botanic

Gardens. It serves as a centre for nature and environmental education, providing learning opportunities for both students and visitors. We also saw ‘Fern’, the 25-metre long and 4-metre-tall, life-size bronze sculpture of a diplodocus welcome domestic and international visitors in the newly transformed Jurassic Garden at the Natural History Museum.

We developed a new portfolio of grants supporting neurodiverse learners. This includes a grant to the National Children’s Bureau’s ‘Belonging Matters’ programme addressing the role of belonging in social, emotional and mental health outcomes in schools. In addition, a grant to Cambridge University’s Faculty of Education is supporting research into approaches to make neurodiverse-affirming practice part of every classroom.

Nearly 150 grants were active in 2024, and over £5 million went to organisations advancing

health and wellbeing, providing access to opportunities for young people, and improving our local green spaces in London. We committed over £10 million in total in current and future funding. Our 38 new grants included large capital grants to Moorfields Eye Charity and Great Ormond Street Hospital Children’s Charity. Together, the impact of all these grants will reach approximately 2 million people over the course of the grant period.

We are delighted that our partners continue to receive recognition for the work that they do. Thames21 won the River Restoration Centre’s prestigious UK River Prize for their collaborative ‘Rewilding the Rom’ project, and the Science Museum received a Bronze Award for Best Schools Programme from BETA for their Careers Uncovered programme. Kusuma Trust funded both these projects.

As a family-led trust, we are constantly reviewing our work

and developing our areas of interest. In 2025, we are looking forward to updating our strategy and sharpening our focus to make our grants more efficient.

Reflecting on the year gone by, we feel very privileged to collaborate with exceptional partners doing excellent work. In this review, you can read about just some of our partners’ achievements and the difference our grants made in 2024.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners, staff and advisers who have joined us on this journey. This annual review celebrates the joy of giving. We invite you to join us in this celebration.

Soma Pujari, Co-founder and Executive Trustee
Anurag Dikshit, Co-founder and Chair



Visit to UCLH



Our work in the UK

Our UK partners are organisations of all shapes and sizes: leaders in their fields that we trust will have the strongest impact on people and places, now and in the future. Our grants focus on three priority areas:

Access to opportunities:

These grants support organisations that serve young people from all backgrounds, including those with special educational needs, to learn beyond the curriculum and gain experiences to enhance their futures. The projects are chosen to stimulate interest and curiosity in the world around us, build confidence and soft skills to make them good community members,

and open pathways to employment.

Health and wellbeing:

We support London hospitals to invest in state-of-the-art equipment, improve their facilities and care, and boost their ability to see more patients. We also award grants for medical research that encourages innovation and helps develop life-changing treatments.

Community and green spaces:

Our partners improve the connections between green spaces and the communities around them. We also support projects that increase biodiversity and education

about endangered species in our city. Projects include co-creating local community gardens and opening green spaces in hospitals, museums and schools. These spaces offer people opportunities to volunteer and give back, learn skills and make social connections.

In addition to our priority focus areas, we make Random Acts of Kindness grants every year during the festive season. These are one-off donations of up to £10,000 for not-for-profit organisations whose work we want to recognise. Kusuma Trust staff and trustees each nominate charities, anonymously, that they would like to support.

Facing page: Royal Parks

Our achievements in 2024

105
active grants
during 2024

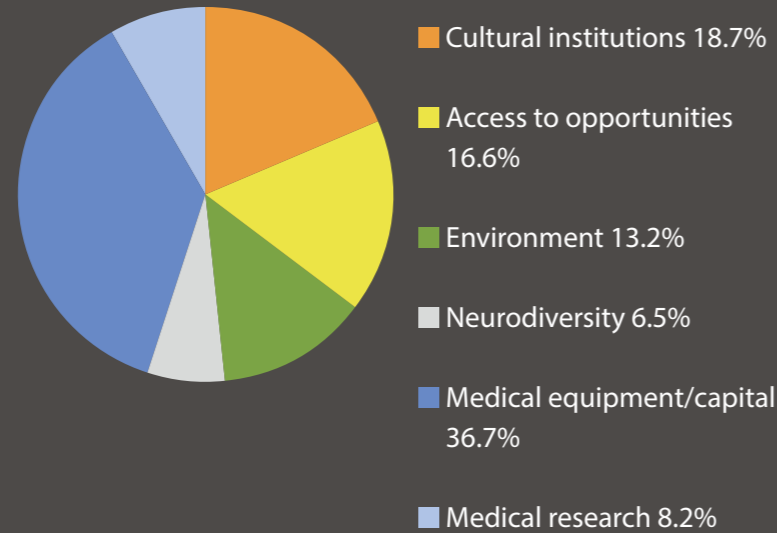
29 grants totalling
£9.7M

These grants will reach
well over two million
people throughout
their lifetime

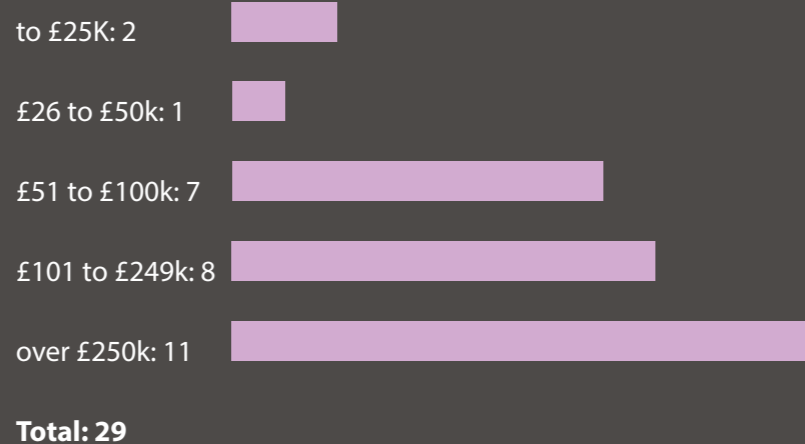
£1.3M
green grants,
enhancing five green
spaces across London,
with potential to reach
over 730,000 people

£3.5M
medical grants,
enhancing five hospitals,
with potential to reach
over 330,000 people

2024 priority areas



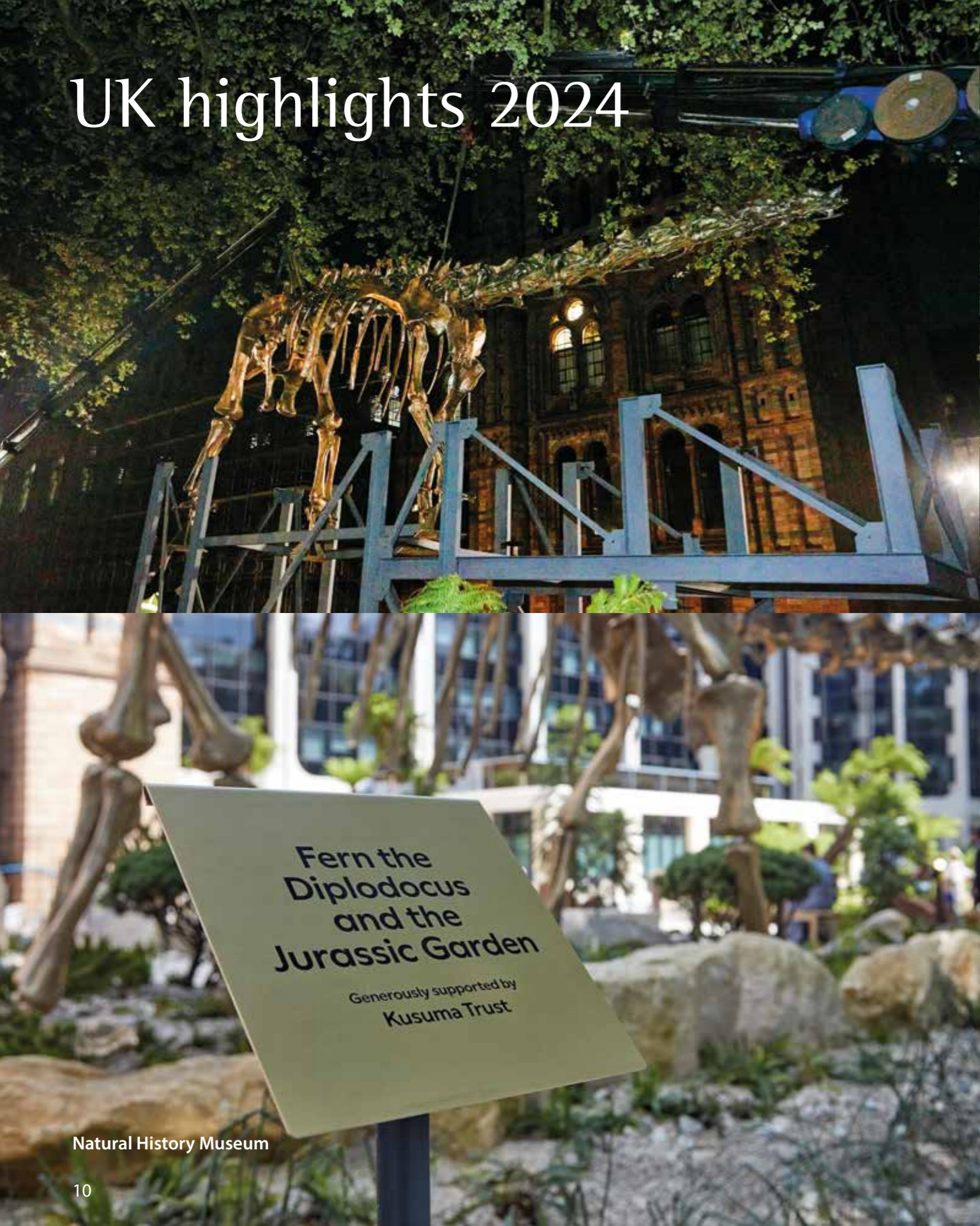
Grant size distribution



Facing page, from top:
St Paul's Girls' School, Science Museum



UK highlights 2024



Fern the
Diplodocus
and the
Jurassic Garden

Generously supported by
Kusuma Trust

Natural History Museum



Uncovering careers in science

Science Museum

Controlling a robotic arm. Creating life-saving drugs. Being involved in making a blockbuster movie. These are just some of the experiences being recreated at the Science Museum as part of a careers programme we are supporting. Careers Uncovered sessions are for 11 to 16-year-olds to meet technical professionals working for top organisations in the UK and

explore what it's like to do their job. As well as taking part in hands-on activities developed by technicians to showcase their work and the skills they use, learners will participate in Q&As to discover more about technical careers and pathways.

So far our funding has helped expand the live programme so another 12,642 visitors could take part.

"It inspired me to think you can do anything in life. No matter where you come from, you can do what you want to do, not what people want you to do." Year 10 student

"It opened the students' eyes to a type of science career they were not aware of before." Teacher



Telling stories that matter

National Theatre



We supported London students to tap into the power of storytelling, while improving their literacy and communication skills. Our grant to the National Theatre funded their New Views programme, a specially designed

writing course, which pairs schools with a professional playwright for workshops and mentoring.

12 mentor playwrights ran group workshops with 31 London schools; 30 in-person and one online, reaching 220 students.

"New Views has given our pupils a voice and a chance to experience something far beyond both the reach and the expectations of the community they live in. They have seen that theatre can change things by speaking out and making a difference." Teacher

Tackling poverty and youth employment through sport

Street League

Sport and fitness are powerful ways to build confidence, break down barriers and develop life skills. That's why we wanted to partner with Street League, a charity supporting young people from some of the UK's most underserved communities. Across London, 16 to 24-year-olds will gain life and employability skills, accredited qualifications and the confidence to make the life-changing transition into work, study or training through Street League's Sport and Employability Academy programmes.

Street League will run eight Sport and Employability Academy programmes in Southwark over two years. Each programme lasts 10 weeks. In total, 140 young people will take part.



"Street League has helped me so much. I've gained more work experience, and now I know how to apply for jobs properly and even how to use the trains, which I used to find confusing and stressful. I feel much more confident about getting around and managing things on my own. It's made a big difference to me having a place like this to go to where I can learn and feel welcomed at the same time."
Onick, Street League participant

Improving the way heart failure is diagnosed and managed

University of Oxford

We funded a Senior Research Fellowship to carry out research into new technology that will help diagnose and manage heart failure. Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine Vanessa Ferreira and her team are working towards a faster, simpler, radiation-free heart scan. The technology is aimed towards developing a 10-minute cardiac MRI scan that will provide comprehensive information but be safer and

more cost-effective than current scans. The new scan can evaluate not only the heart's structure and function but, importantly, any build-up of scar tissue in the heart muscle.

This grant is one of three medical fellowships we've issued so far to support cardiac research that addresses heart failure for patients under 60.

"[We are working on] an exciting and potentially transformative innovation that can greatly accelerate MRI scans, to make them safer, cheaper and faster, in a single comprehensive scan of the heart. I very much look forward to working with the Kusuma Trust in the years to come, to develop clinical tools aimed at benefiting patients worldwide."
Professor Vanessa Ferreira, MD DPhil FSCMR FRCPC. Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, Kusuma Senior Research Fellow in Cardiovascular Medicine



Accelerating genetic testing

Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity



Often people with a heart condition don't experience any symptoms. Yet, if it goes untreated, a heart condition can be fatal. That's why screening and genetic testing are so important; they play a vital role in helping people get the diagnosis and treatment they need. Our grant to Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity helped buy equipment that provides fast

and accurate genetic testing – a NextSeq 550 system.

In the first 12 months with the new sequencer, the number of samples processed increased by 25%. The data generated is also being used for research projects into cardiac and respiratory conditions.

"Knowledge is power, so [being genetically tested] definitely helped us. We can take preventive steps to reduce the risk of dangerous and potentially life-threatening arrhythmias, which is of course what we're doing." Parent of a child with a rare genetic heart condition.

Revolutionising cancer screening

Royal Free Hospital



"The Siemens Quadra PET-CT will change the game. It will allow us to do higher quality imaging at a lower radiation dose for a higher throughput of patients, whilst creating ground-breaking possibilities for research. I can't emphasise enough: it's amazing."
Danny McCool, Head of Nuclear Medicine, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust

When cancer is diagnosed at an early stage, treatment options and chances of a full recovery are greater. Our grant to the Royal Free Hospital in London has helped buy a state-of-the-art Siemens Quadra PET-CT scanner – the first in the UK.

The images produced by the new scanner will be 35 times more sensitive than typical NHS scanners. These more precise images with greater definition make it easier for clinicians to detect masses and small lesions. As a result, doctors will be able to treat patients more

effectively and improve their outcomes.

With this equipment, more than double the number of patients can undergo PET-CT scans – increasing from the current 5,000 to 12,200 people a year.

Creating an urban nature icon

Natural History Museum



“Nature isn’t just nice to have, it’s the linchpin of our very existence and ventures like the Urban Nature Project help the next generation develop the strong connection with nature that is needed to protect it.” Sir David Attenborough

A 25-metre long bronze diplodocus in the heart of London might sound like the stuff of science fiction. But this jaw-dropping site became a permanent fixture on the grounds of the Natural History Museum in South Kensington in July

2024. It’s part of the museum’s Urban Nature Project, which we also supported, and aims to give people, particularly children, the opportunity to understand more about urban nature and ultimately become advocates for our planet.

Every year, an estimated 5 million visitors and commuters will pass by Fern, the bronze statue, which is made up of 292 separate bones and took three years to build.

Encouraging biodiversity in east London

Bumblebee Conservation Trust

The Buzzing in the East End (BEE) project combines bumblebee conservation with inspiration for climate action. Run by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, BEE aims to create, restore and improve a minimum of 200 hectares of land across 11 east London boroughs. This greenspace, which will include green roofs and wildflower meadows,

provides habitat for bees and other wildlife, encourages biodiversity and, ultimately, helps mitigate against climate change.

Our grant also helped the project to:

- **Establish 16 new BeeWalks, a citizen-science scheme where volunteers gather bumblebee data**

- **Give habitat advice to 24 landowners on improving over 75 hectares of land**

- **Create new educational resources including a leaflet, Bumblebees in a Changing Climate, and a display, Bumblebees of the World.**



“This is the first time we are incorporating climate action and nature-based solutions to climate change into our work to save rare bumblebees. The lessons we learn will likely impact future projects that we develop, meaning that BEE is of great strategic importance to the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.”
Gill Perkins,
CEO, Bumblebee Conservation Trust

Therapeutic green space for growing and gardening

Sufra - NW London



Getting involved in garden-based activities can have a range of benefits, including increasing educational attainment, skills and employability; improving physical and mental health and wellbeing; and reducing social isolation. Our grant to Sufra - NW London supported local groups to take part in activities, events and workshops in their beautiful community garden, which produces organic fruit,

vegetables, nuts and eggs for the local community.

Of the participants surveyed:

- **75% said they learnt more about food waste and how to eat more healthily**
- **79% said they feel connected to their local community by attending the garden**
- **86% said they have met new people by attending a workshop, event or course.**

“I’ve taken a lot more than cooking from these sessions... enjoying a sense of community regardless of background or ethnicity, sharing and caring while cooking nutritious food in an outdoor setting, with kind people, is a far greater privilege than just accreditation.”
Course participant

Random Acts of Kindness

In addition to our priority focus areas, we make Random Acts of Kindness grants every year during the festive season. These are one-off donations of up to £10,000 for not-for-profit organisations whose work we want to recognise. Kusuma Trust staff and trustees each nominate charities, anonymously, that they would like to support. You’ll find a list of all the organisations nominated in 2024 on page 28.

“I love the RAOK grants! It’s great to be given the opportunity to support a charity or cause close to my own heart that Kusuma Trust wouldn’t normally pick. Although it’s only a small grant in comparison to our other work, it feels like it’s a grant that can make a big difference to the charity – and knowing that I did that is a lovely feeling.” Kusuma Trust staff member

“It’s uplifting to work for an organisation that gives us the opportunity to champion the charities closest to our hearts.” Kusuma Trust staff member





Access to opportunities

ADHD Foundation, for their neurodiversity project in London schools.

Ambitious About Autism, for the evaluation of their work programme.



Bonny Downs Community Association, for a toddler group and parents programme.

British Educational Research Association (BERA) for up to four institutions to do research on neurodiversity.

Camden Art Centre, for their SEN and schools art programmes.



Caxton Youth, for their Creating Communities, Opportunities and Employment Support project.

Chess in Schools, for their Chess Fest 2024 event in London.

Construction Youth Trust, for their careers training programme for 16 to 18-year-olds.

Create (Arts), for a project bringing SEND and mainstream schools together through creativity.

Equal People Mencap, for a life skills training programme for people with special educational needs.

Future Frontiers, for coaching for young people to fulfil their potential in school.

Go Live Theatre Projects, for a playwriting programme for deaf children.

Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, for the Proto Maker Challenge for young people to learn STEM.

IPSEA (Independent Provider of Special Education Advice), for advice services and e-learning.

Kensington and Chelsea Foundation, to contribute to the core needs of the organisation.

King's College London, for bursary places at their summer business school.

London Transport Museum, for their 21st Century Skills: Preparing for the Future programme for teachers and students.

Marylebone Cricket Club Foundation, to create opportunities for underrepresented young Londoners.

Migration Museum, for an exhibition of their work over the past decade.

Museum of Brands, to make their collection and learning resources accessible to a wider audience.

National Children's Bureau, for a programme to develop pupils' sense of belonging in school.

National Portrait Gallery, for their Faces and Places schools outreach programme.

National Theatre, for a nationwide in-school playwriting programme for 14 to 19-year-olds.

Nova New Opportunities, to run a school holiday activity programme for families.

Photographers' Gallery, for talks, mentoring and workshops giving young people insight into photography-related careers.

Pursuing Independent Paths, to support young adults with learning disabilities to achieve their ambitions.

Royal Academy of Dance, towards their SEND dance class programme and core work.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, for their Science in Schools programme.

Somerset House, for their Makerversity exhibition and learning programme for young people.

Southbank Centre, to fund performances and activities at their children's festival, Imagine.

Speakers Trust, for a programme to engage students with culture, heritage and oracy.

St Paul's Girls' School, towards the exhibition hall in the new Centre for Design and Innovation building.

St Paul's School, for a peer tutoring programme in the UK and in the Republic of South Sudan.

Street League, towards their Sport and Employability Academy in Southwark.

The Brilliant Club, to help implement their Join the Club strategy 2023-2026.

From top: Caxton Youth, Speakers Trust, Camden Art Centre

The Difference, to fund the Losing Learning Coalition to look at causes and solutions to lost learning.

The Education Endowment Foundation, to support the development of Cognitive Science programmes.

The Friends of Leighton House, to help develop their learning centre.

The Literacy Pirates, to support their volunteer programme to boost literacy.

The National Gallery, for Articulation, a public speaking initiative for young people.

The Smallpeice Trust, for their STEM Educational Enrichment project.

Transform Schools UK, to support a project improving the education of millions of children across India.

University of Cambridge, Faculty of Education, to research what positive learning looks like for neurodiverse groups.

Victoria & Albert Museum, for The Kusuma Gallery – Photography and the Book, in the newly developed Photography Centre.

Young Westminster Foundation, for a needs analysis to help understand the diverse experiences of young people across the borough.

Health and wellbeing

CW+, to remodel the treatment centre at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

Evelina London Children’s Charity, to upgrade the MRI scanner in the Centre for the Developing Brain.

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children’s Charity, for equipment used for image-guided surgery.

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children’s Charity, to help build a brand new Children’s Cancer Centre.

Imperial Health Charity, to redevelop a play and therapy room.

Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust General Charitable Fund, to extend the Royal Eye Unit and Paediatric Unit.

Moorfields Eye Charity, to fund a microscope and improve research into eye conditions.

Raise, West Hertfordshire Hospitals Charity, for a radiology ‘super scanner’.

Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospital Charity, for a new genetic sequencer.

St John & St Elizabeth Hospital Charity, to renovate the garden at St John’s Hospice.

The Royal Free Charity, for a state-of-the-art PET-CT scanner.

The Royal Free Charity, to refurbish the resus and urgent treatment centre waiting rooms.

The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, for state-of-the-art imaging equipment.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Charity, towards two new ultrasound machines.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Charity, towards a Curvebeam Hi-Rise weight-bearing Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) scanner.

UCL, for one of our research fellowships to support translational cardiac research.

University of Cambridge, for research into restoring heart function after a heart attack.

University College London Hospitals Charity, towards upgrading cancer equipment and improving services.

University of Leicester, for one of our research fellowships to support translational cardiac research.

University of Oxford, for research into the link between diabetes and heart-related illnesses.

University of Oxford, for one of our research fellowships to support translational cardiac research.

Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology, to upgrade their pain clinic for older people.



From top: The Royal Free Charity, Great Ormond Street Hospital Children’s Charity, Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust General Charitable Fund

Community and green spaces

Ashden Climate Solutions, to help community groups develop convening spaces to share climate friendly actions.

Asthma + Lung UK, for the Little Lungs project to tackle air pollution and improve lung health.

Buglife, for pollinator information sessions and site development to help get London buzzing.

Bumblebee Conservation, for their Buzzing in the East End project.

Castlehaven Community Association, to improve a community growing space.

Chiswick House and Gardens Trust, to create a new education centre, volunteer hub and community garden.

Conservation Education and Research Trust (Earthwatch), to train teachers to include environmental education in lessons.

Core Arts, to build a garden and promote wellbeing through horticulture.

Crisis UK, for a gardening project for people experiencing homelessness in Brent.

Design Museum, for a gardening space and intergenerational volunteering programme.

Dulwich Picture Gallery, to expand the green space around the gallery.

Freightliners City Farm, for core farming and gardening projects.

Fulham Palace Trust, to build a greenhouse and pond to support environmental education initiatives.

Global Generation, for a permanent home with a garden and education buildings.

Kew Gardens, for a seminar room in their new learning centre.

London Metropolitan University, for research into increasing urban-rewilding.

London Wildlife Trust, to improve Sydenham and Dulwich Woods.

Loughborough Junction Action Group, to enhance a community growing and environmental learning space.

Museum of the Home, to build their Discovery Garden for children and families.

Natural History Museum, towards Fern the Diplodocus and the Jurassic Garden, as part of the Urban Nature Project.

Oasis Children's Venture, to engage young people in nature and the environment.

Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration, to create a garden at the museum's new building.

Royal Horticultural Society, to co-create a therapeutic garden at Lewisham Hospital.

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), to connect girls with nature and the outdoors.

Social Farms and Gardens, for training and advice for nature-based organisations.

Sufra – NW London, to employ a Community Garden Manager.

Thames Explorer Trust, for a database to help staff accommodate more pupils attending learning trips to explore the River Thames.

Thames21, to improve the waterway at the River Rom nature reserve.

The Garden Classroom, for a 'A Very Urban Forest School' outdoor classroom.

The Horniman Public Museum and Public Park Trust, for a nature-themed play area and to improve access to the Horniman Nature Trail.

The Orchard Project, to help bring orchards into urban communities.

The Ramblers' Association, to record and protect historic and unrecorded rights of way.

The Royal Parks, to support hands-on environmental conservation experiences for school children.

Woodland Trust, for a visitor centre and improvements at Hainault Forest.

Trees For Cities, for Planting Healthy Air, Edible Playgrounds and Healthy Playground projects.

Vauxhall City Farm, to build a new community garden and outdoor education spaces.

Walworth Garden, to create new learning spaces to help educate volunteers.



From top: Buglife, Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Kew Gardens Learning Centre

Random Acts of Kindness

C4WS Homeless Project, supporting those without a home to rebuild their lives.

Campaign Against Living Miserably, helping take a stand against suicide.

Feast With Us, improving the nutrition, wellbeing and health of people at risk of food insecurity in London.

Forest Gate Community Garden, a community-led green space maintained by dedicated volunteers.

Home-Start WKCHF, befriending families experiencing difficulties.

Jessie's Fund, helping children with additional and complex needs or serious illness to communicate using music.

Kentish Town City Farm, the UK's first city farm.

London Inner City Kitties, a no-kill, volunteer-run cat rescue.

Luma Foundation, providing essential medical equipment for children in hospitals across Yorkshire.

Music Venue Trust, to protect, secure and improve UK grassroots music venues.

North East London Community Healthcare Charity, for the Brookside Sensory Garden.

Possible, inspiring people in the UK to take the action the climate crisis demands.

Rosetta Art Centre, a hub for art and creative learning in the heart of east London.

Sebby's Corner, providing essential items for children and babies.

Street Doctors, empowering young people affected by violence with first aid skills and knowledge to save lives.

The Arts Emergency Service, providing mentoring, support and advice to young people.

The Mayhew Home, an animal welfare charity working to improve life for dogs, cats and people in London and internationally.

The Whittington Health Trust, to support their world-renowned speech and language therapy centre.

Tomorrow's Warriors Trust, to nurture the talent of aspiring young jazz artists.

UK for UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Agency's national charity partner for the UK.

Woman's Trust, a specialist charity providing counselling and support services to women in London who have experienced domestic violence.

Yard Theatre, a Hackney-based theatre that promotes diverse voices and stages modern shows.

Facing page: Royal Parks, students from St Cecilia's CoE School





Our work in Gibraltar

We partner with the Government, education institutions and community organisations in Gibraltar to enhance people's health, wellbeing, education and cultural life. We form partnerships and work closely with those who share our aims and values.

We work alongside the Gibraltar Health Authority to improve healthcare, by funding new equipment and specialist training.

'We form partnerships and work closely with those who share our aims and values.'

We run the Kusuma Trust University Talks in schools to introduce and prepare students for the world of higher education. Our Excellence Awards recognise the commitment and hard work of high achieving students. We partner with organisations offering programmes outside the classroom that improve

young people's confidence, soft skills and life skills.

We also work alongside many different community and cultural organisations. The projects we support range from classical concerts and literary festivals to training courses for volunteers and charities. Professional development grants are given to applicants who can demonstrate how the skills they learn can be used to improve people's lives in the local community.

Facing page: Students with some of the 200 books that Kusuma Trust has purchased from the Oxford Very Short Introduction series for Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School shared library



Paterson Joseph speaking at Gibraltar Literary Festival

Gibraltar highlights 2024



The Palais des Nations in Geneva, visited by Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School while on an educational visit to the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland

Empowering charities with vital data protection knowledge

Gibraltar Regulatory Authority



“The value of in-person events such as this cannot be underestimated – they provide direct access to the regulator and allow opportunities for attendees to address concerns and clarify matters. We thank the attendees for their interest in learning about data protection, and of course Kusuma Trust for making the event possible through their funding.” Joelle Hernandez, Head of Information Rights, Gibraltar Regulatory Authority

Our grant funded 50 places for local charities to attend a free data protection and privacy workshop. The charities gained the

knowledge and skills they need to collect and manage sensitive personal data in line with data protection legislation. The interactive workshop was

delivered by the Gibraltar Regulatory Authority and covered a wide range of issues that are particularly relevant for local charities.

Providing employment and training for the neurodiverse community

PossAbilities

PossAbilities is Gibraltar’s first centre for the neurodiverse community. It offers support seven days a week, throughout the year, for individuals and families, including workshops, training and after-school clubs. There

are soft play rooms, an adapted fitness gym, an interactive sensory suite and even a petting zoo. At the heart of the centre is the Kusuma Cafeteria. As well as being open to the public for food and drink and raising funds for the centre,

most importantly, it offers supported employment and training initiatives to people with special educational needs. Our grant funded the industrial kitchen, decorating, tables and chairs and all the cafeteria’s resources.



“The PossAbilities Cafeteria would not exist without the immense support received from the Kusuma Trust. The generous donation allows us to create an inclusive and integrated cafeteria, with the intent to provide employment and vocational opportunities with our adapted facilities to support persons with disabilities, the neurodiverse community and their families, all throughout the year.”
Nicole Buckley, Managing Director, PossAbilities

Seeing scientific research in action Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School



Our partnership with two schools in Gibraltar has led to a field trip with a difference – a visit to the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), in Geneva, Switzerland. In June 2024, 32 A-level students from Westside and Bayside schools in Gibraltar witnessed cutting-edge scientific research in action at the premier research facility for particle and nuclear physics. Organisers hope it will become a regular event that will support the A-level curriculum, while encouraging more girls to choose Physics A-level and go on to study science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) subjects at university.

“A visit to CERN is not just a field trip; it’s an immersive experience that transcends classroom boundaries, bringing the marvels of physics to life. By encouraging more girls to pursue physics at A-level and embark on STEM related journeys, we aim to bridge the gender gap and ensure that every mind, regardless of gender, feels empowered to explore, question, and shape the future of scientific discovery.”
Caitlin Marsden, Head of Physics, Bayside School

Upskilling the healthcare workforce in Gibraltar

Gibraltar School of Health Sciences

Simulation has a vital part to play in training health and social care professionals, providing an opportunity to practise clinical skills in a safe environment. Our grant to the School of Health Sciences at the University of Gibraltar funded the relocation and complete overhaul of the School of Health Sciences, including the Kusuma Trust Training and Simulation Ward, which replicates a local hospital ward. Learning and practising in the safe environment of the Simulation Ward will build students’ confidence, knowledge and understanding and make it less stressful when they experience situations with actual patients for the first time. The suite includes six bed spaces that have simulated oxygen and suction, nurse call buttons, emergency buzzers, name

boards and bed lights, and all the clinical equipment found in a Gibraltar hospital ward.

The new simulation suite will benefit around 160 nursing, healthcare and paramedic students at the

University of Gibraltar’s School of Health Sciences. Numbers are due to increase every year, and the facilities are also open to Gibraltar Health Authority medical professionals to use for training.



“The Kusuma Trust’s generous donation has enabled us to create a space that provides students with a safe, immersive environment where they can develop essential clinical skills before stepping into real-world healthcare settings. Their support has strengthened healthcare education in Gibraltar and will have a lasting impact on the industries and communities we serve.” Professor Catherine Bachleda, Vice-Chancellor and CEO, the University of Gibraltar

Outdoor education at Gibraltar's Botanic Gardens

Alameda Education Zone



Back in 2020, we awarded a grant to build the Alameda Kusuma Education Zone, part of Gibraltar's Botanic Gardens. The purpose-built education area opened in July 2024 and provides school children and people of all ages with an opportunity to discover the wonders of nature. Inside the zone, they can learn about the environment, wildlife, horticulture,

environmental science, and how to care for the natural world. The space includes a biodome, outdoor classroom, planting areas and ponds, and provides a purpose-built facility for the Alameda Education team to host schools, local organisations and clubs. The space also gives the Botanic Gardens the opportunity to raise funds by hosting private and corporate events.

"Thousands of children have benefited from Gibraltar Botanic Gardens' education programme, which seeks to educate children on all aspects of the environment, using plants and horticulture as a vehicle. The programme grew to such a scale that the Gardens needed a new, large and purpose-built education area to cater to the needs of children of all abilities."
Dr Keith Bensusan, Director, Gibraltar Botanic Gardens

Putting classical music centre stage

The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society

Listening to classical music can help reduce stress, lower blood pressure and even relieve pain. That's why we wanted to support the Gibraltar Philharmonic Society in bringing more live classical music to the people of Gibraltar – particularly those who wouldn't usually have the opportunity to experience it. We will have sponsored a concert every year between 2024 and 2026. The funding means Gibraltar Philharmonic

Society can attract new audiences by offering half-price tickets to students and senior citizens and free tickets for under-18s. All local schools and the Gibraltar Academy of Music and Performing Art (GAMPA) will receive tickets.

The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society has hosted over 100 classical musicians over the last three years from around the world, including Asia, Europe and America.

"We cannot overstate the importance of such a generous financial contribution from the Kusuma Trust. It will enable us to continue providing a high-calibre classical music experience to our community and fulfil our aim of widening the scope of our audience and developing further our educational initiatives."
Ernest Gomez, Chairman, The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society



Supporting professional development

Every year, we celebrate Gibraltar's strong community spirit by awarding grants for professional development that will benefit the people who live and work there. The successful Professional Development Award applicants for 2024 chose the following courses:

- Genevieve Bossino-Soussi**, Accredited Mediator Training Foundation Course
- Nicole Byrne**, Understanding PTSD Level 3
- Claire Francis**, Level 4 Neurodiversity Workplace Needs Assessor
- Kate Howarth**, DipHE Clinical Hypnosis, Language & Communication techniques in Healthcare
- Lois Soiza**, Counselling Level 3
- Lorena Soler Casale**, MSc Football Medicine
- Marco Zavagni**, MBA Clinical Leadership

"The Kusuma Trust award enabled me to pursue a Master's in Football Medicine, supported by FIFA and the University of Bath. This has strengthened my role as a paediatrician working with young athletes in Gibraltar and allowed me to contribute my expertise to the Gibraltar FA Women's Team, promoting evidence-based care in football."
Lorena Soler Casale

"This generous funding has allowed me to enhance my skills to further support people accessing Cancer Relief Gibraltar. By incorporating hypnosis techniques, I can enhance patient comfort and give them more tools for self-care. This approach not only helps improve patient outcomes but also expands my ability to provide holistic, patient-centred care. It is amazing to see the benefits of this approach and feedback from my clients has been very positive." Kate Howarth



Kusuma University Talks

Celebrating Gibraltar's high-achieving students

Our yearly Excellence Prize, a one-off grant of £3,000, is an incentive for students to study their chosen subject at some of the best universities. In 2024, we awarded grants for the following university places:



Karizma Daswani,
BMBS Medicine,
University of
Southampton



Eva Devincenzi,
BA English,
University
of Cambridge



Rebecca Gross,
MPharm Pharmacy,
University College
London



Pablo Kussner,
BMBS Medicine,
University of Bristol



Shanaya Nandwani,
BSc Mathematics,
Operational
Research, Statistics
and Economics,
University of Warwick



Iona Sacarello,
BA Natural Sciences,
University of
Cambridge



**Christopher
Wszeborowski**,
MSc Mathematics,
University of
Warwick.

Grants in Gibraltar in 2024

Grants awarded in Gibraltar in 2024



Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School, for 200 books from the Oxford University Press collection.

Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School, to support local physics and geography A-level students to undertake educational visits to Iceland and Croatia.

Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School, for an educational visit to the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland.

BrightMed, to support the Gibraltar World Music Festival.

Childline Gibraltar, to support new volunteers to undertake a three-month training course.

CYE-CYL, for a summer camp and Innovation Hub, helping young people develop skills for further education or employment.

Excellence Prize, an incentive for committed students to study their chosen subjects at university.

Futures Forward Academy, to fund a representative from Gibraltar to attend the UN Summit for the Future in New York.

Gibraltar Botanic Gardens, to develop the Alameda-Kusuma Education Zone, a purpose-built education area.

Gibraltar Health Authority, to deliver an internationally recognised European Trauma Course.

Gibraltar Health Authority and Prostate Cancer Gibraltar, for medical equipment for St Bernard's Hospital.

Gibraltar Regulatory Authority, for a free workshop for local charities on data protection and privacy.

Gibraltar Youth Service, for a careers advice website.

HM Government of Gibraltar, to sponsor a talk at the Gibraltar International Literary Festival.

Knit Gibraltar, to buy yarn to make their charitable products.

Musicians Association of Gibraltar, to refurbish their premises so more musicians can be inspired and supported.

No.2 Overseas (Gibraltar) Squadron, Air Training Corps, for IT equipment and synthetic flight training resources for Gibraltar Air Cadets.

Optimising Futures and the University of Cambridge, for Kusuma University Talks, advice sessions that prepare students for life at university.

Optimising Futures, for workshops to improve students' interview techniques.

Professional Development Awards, one-off grants for professional development that will benefit the people who live and work in Gibraltar.

Rotary Club International, for a campaign to improve beachside safety led by Rotary Gibraltar.

The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society, to support classical music events for the local community.

University of Gibraltar, to help relocate and refurbish their School of Health Studies.

Young Enterprise Gibraltar, to provide young people with practical education and experience of running a business.



From top: Gibraltar Literary Festival, Prostate Cancer One Stop Shop, Young Enterprise Gibraltar



Gibraltar Regulatory Authority charity workshop



Grants paid by Kusuma Trust UK

1 January 2024 - 31 December 2024

Grants paid by Kusuma Trust UK 1 January 2024 - 31 December 2024

UK GRANTS

Ashden Climate Solutions	£90,416	National Gallery	£85,000
Barts Charity	£24,400	National Portrait Gallery	£30,000
British Educational Research Association	£24,091	National Theatre	£69,791
Bumblebee Conservation Trust	£20,000	Natural History Museum	£575,000
Buglife	£20,000	North East London	
Camden Art Centre	£28,597	Community Healthcare	£10,000
Chess in Schools	£25,000	Oasis Children's Venture	£31,015
Construction Industry Trust for Youth	£25,000	Photographers' Gallery	£21,099
Dulwich Picture Gallery	£100,000	Pursuing Independent Paths	£32,745
Feast With Us	£10,000	Quentin Blake Centre for Illustration	£70,000
Forest Gate Community Garden	£5,000	Royal Horticultural Society	£58,504
Fulham Palace Trust	£106,892	Royal Institution of Great Britain	£48,865
Global Generation	£140,000	Somerset House Trust	£57,652
Imperial College	£51,771	Speakers Trust	£39,990
Imperial Health Charity	£70,000	SS John & Elizabeth Charity	£77,652
IPSEA	£29,396	St Paul's Girls' School	£700,000
Jessie's Fund	£10,000	Street League	£43,722
King's College School	£20,280	Sufra - NW London	£23,973
London Inner City Kitties	£10,000	Thames21 Limited	£11,640
London Metropolitan University	£15,489	The 1010 Foundation, aka possible	£10,000
Luma Foundation	£10,000	The Brilliant Club	£165,000
Migration Museum	£25,435	The Difference	£50,000
Museum of the Home	£10,900	The Kensington and Chelsea	
National Children's Bureau	£103,638	Foundation	£50,000

The Mayhew Home	£10,000
The Royal Free Charity	£168,649
The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity	£90,722
The Royal Parks	£96,500
The Smallpeice Trust	£24,702
The Whittington Health Trust	£10,000
The Woodland Trust	£77,779
The Zoological Society of London	£45,000
Trees for Cities	£80,000
University College London	
Hospitals Charity	£490,000
University of Cambridge	£113,365
Young Westminster Foundation	£10,000

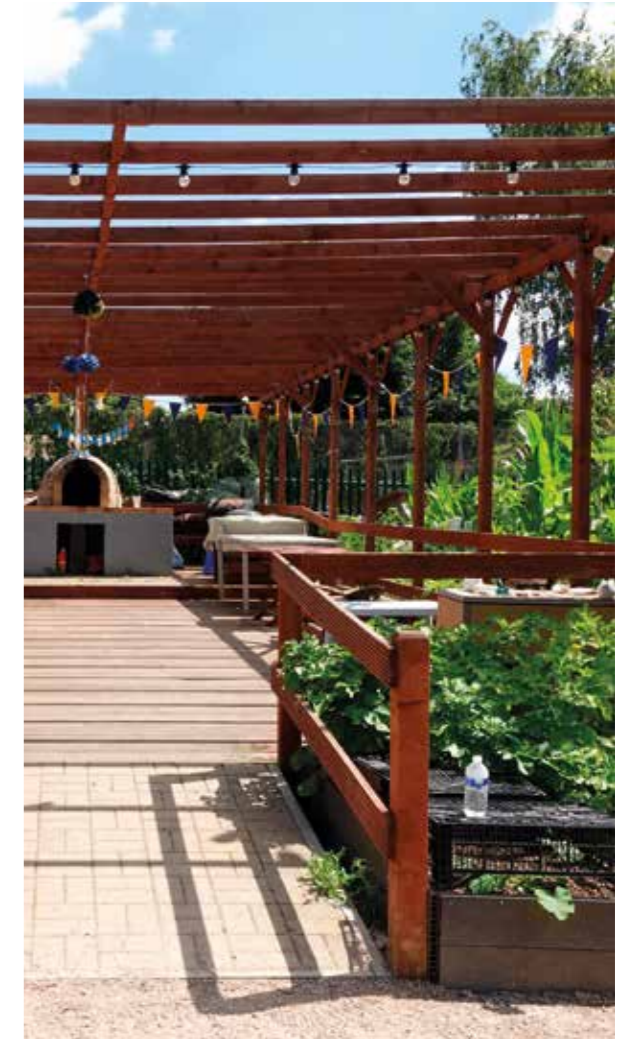
TOTAL £4,454,670

GIBRALTAR GRANTS

Kusuma Trust Gibraltar £620,292

TOTAL £620,292

TOTAL £5,074,962



Sufra - NW London

Grants paid by Kusuma Trust Gibraltar

1 January 2024 - 31 December 2024

GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS AND PROJECTS

Bayside & Westside School	£3,158
Change Your Energy - Change Your Life	£20,000
Childline Gibraltar	£10,615
Futures Forward Academy	£3,000
Gibraltar Air Cadets	£6,520
Gibraltar Health Authority (GHA)	£80,000
Gibraltar Philharmonic Society	£10,000
Gibraltar Regulatory Authority	£1,956
Gibraltar Tourist Board	£3,000
Gibraltar Youth Service	£1,500
Knit Gibraltar	£1,000
Musicians Associations of Gibraltar	£30,000
Prostate Cancer Gibraltar	£100,706
Rotary Club of Gibraltar	£1,970
University of Gibraltar	£205,269
Young Enterprise Gibraltar	£5,000

TOTAL **£483,694**

GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS

Excellence Awards	£21,000
Kusuma University Talks	£15,835
Professional Development Awards	£18,660

TOTAL **£55,495**

TOTAL **£539,189**

Facing page: Camden Art Centre



Trustees

Soma Pujari, Co-Founder and Executive Trustee (KT-UK and KT-Gib)
Anurag Dikshit, Co-Founder and Chair (KT-UK and KT-Gib)
Nitin Jain (KT-UK)
Peter Isola (KT-Gib)

Advisors

Rebecca Eastmond (KT-UK)
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