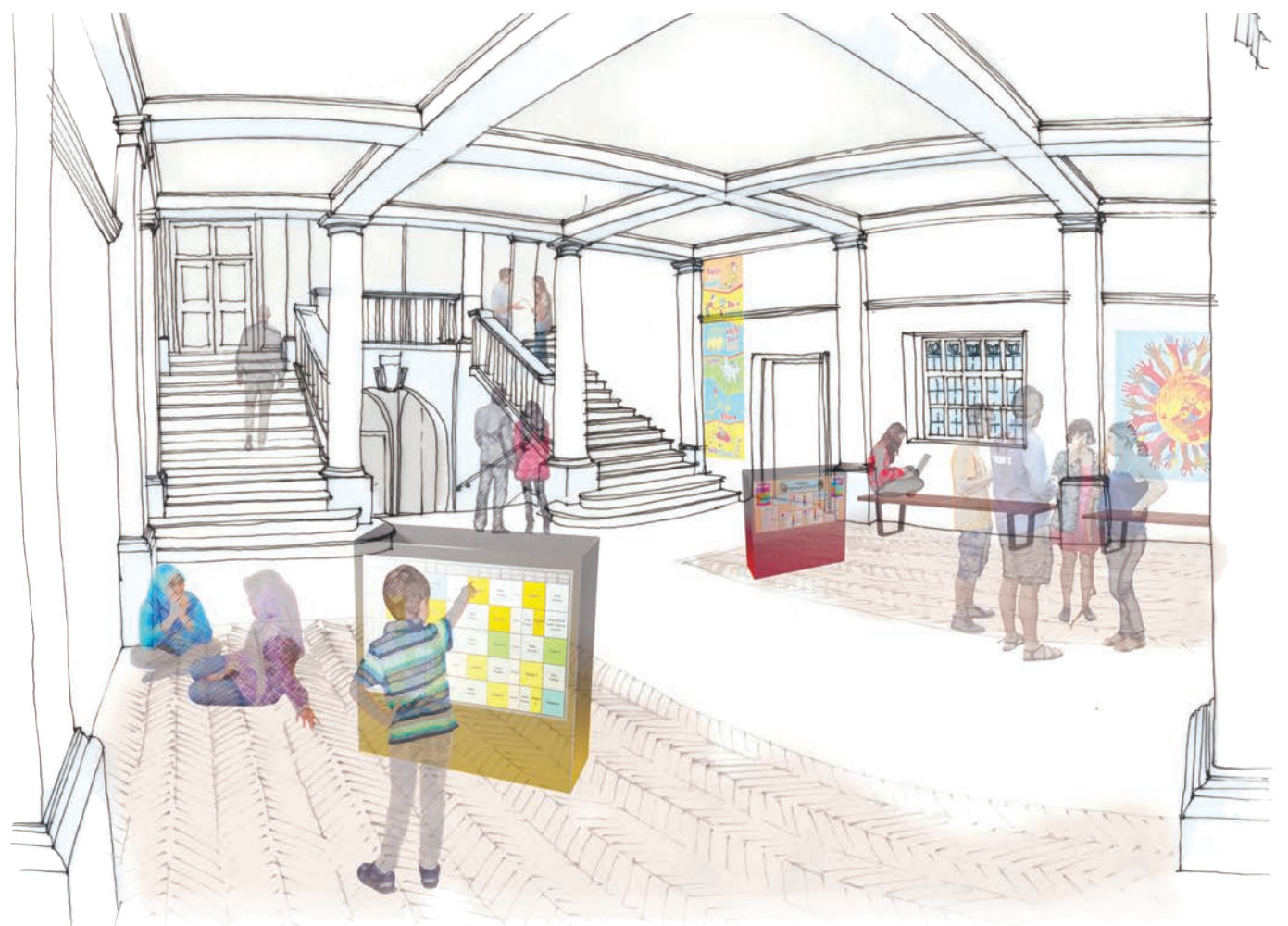


NATIONAL FUNDING



The heart of the community

Despite MMCA maintaining the site to the best of its ability, including replacing the roof, rewiring the building and installing a new heating and security system, over time the exterior continued to suffer from weather and pollution. Local fund raising could not keep up with the expense of maintaining this historic building. The owners were not allowed to make any piece-meal repairs to this Grade II* Listed building by Birmingham Council.

In 2002 the Moseley School of Art Association (MSAA) was formed by ex-pupils from the old school

The School Association bought a new emphasis and publicity to the building's dilapidated condition. They encouraged the MMCA to apply for national funds. Conservation specialists were commissioned to prepare a plan for restoration. Finally, in 2017, the MMCA was successful in obtaining funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England and the Pilgrim Trust for a major restoration and refurbishment.

"We are delighted to have received the development grant from HLF to complete the restoration project for this important building and create a hub to meet the diverse needs of the local community. We hope that the success of this project can be a catalyst for the rejuvenation of the local area."
Javed Arain on behalf of the Association

The restored Bidlake Art School is now the heart and soul of the Balsall Heath community

The old Moseley Road Art School is now a major Birmingham City asset. This important historic building provides the best possible facilities to enable local people of all backgrounds to meet, learn, exchange and grow together. By reconnecting the building to its heritage, new commercial uses as a centre for creativity are planned with an expanding programme of events, exhibitions and educational.

As a registered charity the MMCA has the following aims and objectives:

- To promote Social and Cultural activities
- To provide Educational, Recreational and Welfare facilities
- To promote good relations and create better understanding amongst all communities

Birmingham Civic Society

NEWS
Set in Baskerville — the Birmingham typeface

President: The Lord Mayor
Chairman: Bruce Tanner
Autumn 1998

Drawing the line at the Art College

THE inside of the former Moseley Arts College building in Moseley Road has been extensively refurbished by the British Association of Muslims at a cost of £350,000 — but a start cannot be made on the outside, short of a total refurbishment for a similar outlay, as the owners are not allowed simply to do running repairs to the Grade 2* listed building.

Derek Lea, Civic Society representative on the Conservation Area Advisory Committee, told the Executive Council: "This worries me quite a bit. There are pillars there with stone balls on the top. It looked to me as if someone could push two or three of these things off."

"It's in a very run-down state. The owners are not allowed by the listed-buildings authorities to do any work which might secure it. There is no doubt that the British Association of Muslims would put a substantial amount of money into this, but it can't afford the whole lot. I understand that English Heritage would be willing to put up £100,000, so they are optimistic that they can find a way through this and refurbish the whole of the front — so it's looking fairly hopeful."

At risk

"I suggest that if they do go ahead and start a programme to rebuild, we should make a generous contribution."

He said that the building was one of seven in Birmingham listed by English Heritage as being at risk. The city council was preparing a schedule of required repairs.

Vernon Crofts said he would hate to see a notice of repairs served on the owners. Negotiation would be the far better course.

