

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



## Center for Online Safety and Liberty

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## Introduction

The Center for Online Safety and Liberty (COSL) is the reimagining of an organization that was formed in 2018 to promote a simple concept: that online safety and liberty are not in opposition, but rather are complementary values. Indeed, fostering safer, more inclusive digital spaces depends on embracing freedom of expression and privacy as foundational principles.

For instance, encrypted communication tools not only protect users' privacy but also enable survivors of abuse to seek help without fear of being tracked or retaliated against. Similarly, robust protections for free expression allow marginalized voices to share their experiences and advocate for change, which is essential for creating safer and more inclusive online spaces.

Without these rights, safety becomes selective – often at the expense of those who are already most vulnerable – or conditional on the silencing of those who express critical or controversial thoughts. Thus our mission is to empower individuals and communities to thrive online by building safer spaces, fostering creativity, combating harm, and championing digital rights and freedom.

# Leadership and Governance

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As part of the organization's preparations for relaunch, the Board of Directors was dissolved and new appointments were made in November 2024. In parting with previous Executive Director Gilian Tenbergen, the organization passed a motion of thanks to her for the experienced and credible voice that she provided during its transitional period.

Short biographies of the new volunteer COSL leadership team are provided below. In addition, individual COSL supported projects have their own independent leadership and personnel, details of which may be requested using the contact details provided below. We also welcome expressions of interest from prospective new volunteers for COSL or its supported projects.

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**Jeremy Malcolm, Chair**

Jeremy Malcolm is a Trust & Safety consultant who specializes in public health approaches to the reduction and prevention of harm online. Jeremy has 20 years of experience in the not-for-profit sector working on child protection, digital rights, consumer rights, and global governance. He is also a lawyer, admitted in New York and Australia, and the Founder of legal AI startup AskLex.ai.

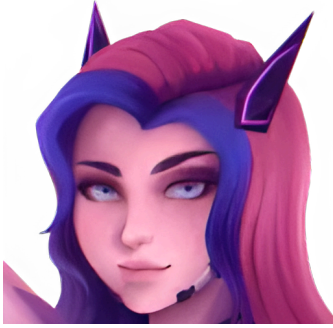
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Fay Brown is a qualified person-centred Counsellor with 17 yrs experience, specialising in trauma processing, child-part work, and creative therapy. Fay founded her charity [Projectsnowball.org](https://www.projectsnowball.org) in 2017 offering support and signposting for those affected by paedophilia, CSA or incest. Fay authored 'How I Became A Person' available as a free Ecopy resource, for anyone wanting to meet Self-actualisation work.



**Fay Brown, Treasurer**

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**Brandy Brightman,  
Secretary**

Brandy Brightman has been a denizen of online communities since the early 2000s, and has watched the shape and zeitgeist of these communities change over time. With a background in the tech sector and an education in philosophy, Brandy is interested in how new technologies in concert with critical thinking and scientific reasoning can be used to optimize harmony, freedom, safety, creativity, and positive discourse in these online spaces.

Maggie McNeill is a writer, sex worker, and former librarian. She writes a daily blog called “The Honest Courtesan” which examines the realities, myths, history, lore, science, philosophy, art, and every other aspect of prostitution; she also reports sex work news, critiques the way her profession is treated in the media and by governments, and is frequently consulted by academics and journalists as an expert on the subject.



**Maggie McNeill**



**Kristin Spooner**

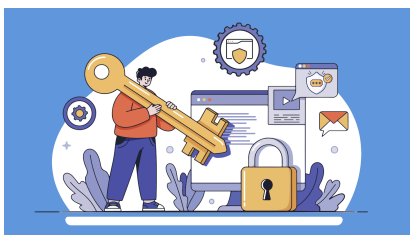
Kristin received her Master of Social Work with a concentration in Health & Mental Health from the Boston College Graduate School of Social Work. She then trained at the South Shore Sexual Health Center, working toward her certification in Sex Therapy through the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT). Additionally, she went on to earn her Doctor of Social Work degree at Simmons University, focusing on antiracism, social justice, anti-stigma, and problematic sexual behaviors.

# Priority Areas

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In 2024, COSL commenced the process of relaunching the organization under its new name as an umbrella s.501(c)(3) nonprofit to provide fiscal sponsorship to multiple independent projects that support our mission. For the upcoming five year period, we are organizing these projects within four priority areas:

## Safer Hosting



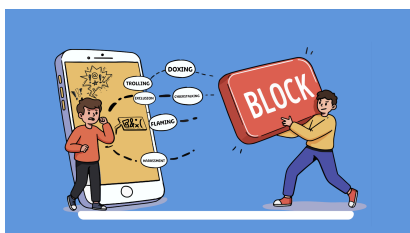
Maintaining online spaces that are safer both for users and for creators is essential, and increasingly under threat. In this priority area COSL supports Liberato, a web hosting service that's secure, privacy-first, and pro-creator, along with a suite of open source trust and safety tools that are under development.

## Supporting Fans



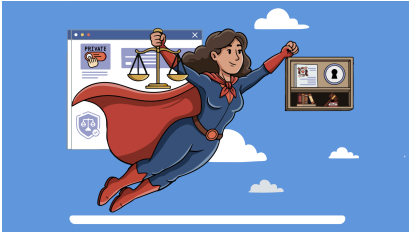
We promote self-expression, creativity, and connection in fan communities because these can be powerful spaces for shared joy, identity exploration, and creative collaboration. During 2025 COSL will be launching a new fan and creator platform with unique safety features, as well as a Beyond the Filter podcast.

## Cyberbullying and Abuse



Treating online abuse as a preventable public health issue fosters empathy, prevention, and long-term solutions that reduce harm for everyone. COSL is sponsoring the evaluation of a peer support initiative for an at-risk community, and a successful anti-abuse deterrence campaign on Google Ads.

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We stand up for the human rights of freedom of expression and privacy online because they are vital for inclusive, democratic societies. Among other projects, during 2025 we plan to launch a new transparency archive to shine a light on how platforms' child safety policies are being applied.

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# Financial Performance

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As the organization relaunches, it is also effectively rebuilding itself financially. In the meantime, we are solvent and financially stable. Our current revenue comprises of donations from a small base of dedicated supporters. Our key financial objective for 2025 is to lessen our reliance on these donors by building revenue from business activities that support our charitable aims.

The main expenses incurred during 2024 were for exhibiting at two professional conferences: Sex Pos Con (Positive Sexuality Conference), sponsored by the Center for Positive Sexuality in February 2024, and the New York State Association for the Treatment and Prevention of Sexual Abuse/New York State Alliance for the Prevention of Sexual Abuse Joint Conference in May 2024.

## Revenue and Income

Name	Total
Donations	745.93
Memberships	3,595.00
Miscellaneous	0.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,341.37</b>

## Expenses

Name	Total
Events	-1,788.34
Communications	-807.42
Hosting Fees	-718.68
Software Licensing	-683.16
Bank Fees	-203.00
Contractors	-105.00
Miscellaneous	-55.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>-4,360.64</b>

## Account Balances

Name	Balance at Start	Balance at End	Difference
Credit Card	221.49	244.99	23.50
Intangible Assets	387.95	387.95	0.00
Petty Cash	134.37	134.37	0.00
US Bank	10,600.21	10,604.44	4.23
<b>Sum of Sums</b>	<b>10,901.04</b>	<b>10,881.77</b>	<b>-19.27</b>

# Future Plans

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COSL's future begins now, as we continue preparations for a formal relaunch during 2025, headlining a few keystone projects in each of our priority areas. Our hope is that these will inspire the coordinators of other new or existing projects that align with our mission to reach out to join COSL as beneficiaries of our fiscal sponsorship and oversight.

By bridging the gap between safety and liberty, COSL aims to provide solutions that governments and corporations overlook. Whether through our independent projects or through partnerships with aligned initiatives, COSL ensures that the voices advocating for user empowerment and human rights are not drowned out by corporate interests or heavy-handed legislation.

As we prepare for a more formal relaunch during 2025, we invite collaborators, supporters, and visionaries to join us in championing a safer, freer internet for all. Together, we can confront these pressing challenges and shape a digital landscape that respects both safety and liberty in equal measure.

# Reach Out

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Want to get in touch with the Center for Online Safety and Liberty? Check out our contact details below.

**Address:** 18 Bartol Street #995, San Francisco, CA 94133

**Email:** [info@c4osl.org](mailto:info@c4osl.org)

**Phone:** 415-650-2557

**Website:** [www.c4osl.org](http://www.c4osl.org)