

MUSIC OF LIFE FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1102827

Details

Other names MUSIC OF LIFE

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04963498](#)

Registered 2004-03-24

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 54 Portland Place
London
W1B 1DY

Phone 02078135472

Email mofl@mofl.co.uk

Website musicoflife.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 3.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EDUCATION OF DISABLED CHILDREN IN THE ARTS AND IN PARTICULAR THE ART OF MUSIC BY:-I) PROVIDING ACCESS TO FACILITIES FOR STUDY, FOR CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS TO BOTH STANDARD AND CREATIVE ORGANISATIONS, ON EQUAL TERMS WITH OTHER CHILDREN;II) THE ORGANISATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EVENTS, COMPETITIONS AND CONCERTS IN WHICH DISABLED CHILDREN CAN PARTICIPATE THUS HELPING THEM TO REALISE THEIR POTENTIAL; ANDIII) SUPPORTING RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN INTO THE EDUCATIONAL AND THERAPEUTIC USE OF THE ARTS AND IN PARTICULAR THE ART OF MUSIC FOR THE BENEFIT OF DISABLED CHILDREN.3.2 ANY OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES CONNECTED WITH THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PURPOSES AND IN PARTICULAR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EDUCATION OF DISABLED CHILDREN THROUGH THE USE OF THE ART OF MUSIC.

Activities: MUSIC OF LIFE FOUNDATION OFFERS HIGH-QUALITY MUSICAL TRAINING AND PERFORMING OPPORTUNITIES TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE AND MEDICAL CONDITIONS. IT PROVIDES ACCESS TO ALL ITS EVENTS INCLUDING ADAPTED TRANSPORT AND CARERS. ITS FOCUS IS ON DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN WHO HAVE EXTREMELY LIMITED OR NO ACCESS TO

MUSIC-MAKING.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£398,655	£304,267	-	-
2023-12-31	£239,644	£239,371	-	-
2022-12-31	£212,123	£235,040	-	-
2021-12-31	£163,330	£172,607	-	-
2020-12-31	£151,770	£140,625	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
RAY ALLAN LONGBOTTOM	Chair	
Alexander McHardy		2023-02-01
Belinda Mary Kembery		2024-05-01
Dinara Kenessary-Karava		2025-12-01
Dr Calvin Sidney Pike		2025-09-01
Lily Harriss		2023-02-01
Louise Schepherd-Evans		2024-10-14
Simon Christopher Perry		2025-12-01
Sophie Bruggemann		2020-12-12
Stefano Filippi		2023-01-18
Tristen Hennigs		2023-03-01
Valentina Di Venuta		2024-05-01

MUSIC OF LIFE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1102827

Accounts

Annual Report & Accounts 2024

**MUSIC
OF
LIFE**





Annual Report & Accounts 2024

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Charity Overview

Established in 2003, Music of Life is a specialist charity that supports the development and well-being of children and young people with disabilities and special needs through the provision of regular high-quality music-making opportunities. To date, we have worked with over 6,000 participants, many of whom engaged in term-time activities for six years or more.

The unique feature of our work is continuity. Positive impact can be traced at many levels – cognitively, physically, emotionally, academically, and socially. Furthermore, our activities positively affect wider groups – families, schools, local communities, and educational bodies. Our students come from disadvantaged backgrounds and many are extremely vulnerable and experience isolation.

In our work we address inequality, financial and social barriers and lack of provision within the educational sector. All of these prevent children and young people with multiple and complex disabilities and special needs from accessing music making that is vital and, in many cases, transformational to their development.

Our projects are based in London, the Midlands and North of England. In 2024 we worked with over 1400 direct beneficiaries and their school communities.

Our Vision

Our vision is for all disabled children and young people to be able to access, and benefit from, music-making opportunities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to build and strengthen the life skills, well-being and confidence of disabled children and young people through music-making

Our Programmes

- Choirs at Special Schools
- Music for Deaf Children
- Individual Music Lessons
- Teacher Training & Work Experience
- Community Integration

Welcome from the Chair of Trustees



2024 was a remarkable year for Music of Life. With continued support from trusts and foundations, and an exceptional individual gift, we were able to deepen our impact across all our programmes. We extended our support for children and young people with disabilities, launched pioneering inclusion sessions that brought together choirs from special needs and mainstream schools, and expanded our work with young people transitioning into adulthood. We also took important steps to strengthen the charity’s capacity as we prepare for the next stage of our development.

Building on this momentum, we felt there was a need to reframe the scope and direction of our work. This is now expressed in four key priority areas:

- Expand music provision for children with disabilities through cross-regional implementation of existing and new programmes.
- Enhance life choices and employability of young people with disabilities by training them to become music leaders and teachers.
- Foster inclusion through shared music projects between disabled children and their mainstream peers, reducing social isolation
- Increase the number of strategic partnerships to optimise joint project delivery, build digital resources and online services.

This strategic framework will not only guide our decisions but will also provide a clear structure for measuring and reporting our progress in the years ahead.

We are very grateful for the generous backing that has made this progress possible. Although our total grant income was 8% below the previous year, we received exceptional support from both long-standing and new donors. We greatly appreciate multi-year grants from the City Bridge Foundation, the Karlsson Jativa Charitable Trust Foundation, the Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust and the Edward Gostling Fund for their 5-year endowment. We are also very grateful for the many other grants including from the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Boots Charitable Trust, the Headley Trust, and The gunnercooke Foundation.

Recognising the need to continue to grow our visibility and diversify income, the Board made the decision to invest in a Head of Development and Communications,

thanks to an extremely generous donation with matched funding from a loyal supporter. We were pleased to welcome Katie Baxter into the role this year, with a designated reserve for two years supporting her work in building sustainable funding streams.

The Board met six times over the year, guiding our programme and organisation development, financial progress and fundraising strategy. A key focus was the preparation of our 2026–28 Strategy and Business Plan. We also undertook a full revision of our risk management framework, implementing a regular review process.

We welcomed four new trustees, including our new Treasurer, to the Board. They bring a wealth of expertise in finance, accounting and law, along with valuable lived experience supporting children with disabilities. We greatly look forward to their guidance and contributions as we move ahead. Cathy Clarke, our Vice Chair, stepped down at the end of the year after eight years on the Board. We are very grateful to her for her great contribution.

Our Advisory Council continues to provide excellent guidance and support. The Council was kept up to date on the implementation of the National Plan for Music Education, offered valuable feedback on Music of Life programmes and provided both context and very valuable insight for our planning. Three members left the Council at the end of its first three years, and we welcomed two new appointees with lived experience and specialist teaching knowledge.

None of our work would be possible without our incredible community. I want to sincerely thank Maria, our CEO, for her inspiring leadership, our outstanding music teachers who bring each session to life, as well as our volunteer administrator, our fundraising contractor, and our independent book-keeping firm.

As we look to 2025 and beyond, we are bringing with us the progress and the learning of this past year. With a clear strategy, committed supporters, and a passionate team, Music of Life is poised to reach even more children and young people- empowering them to express themselves, connect with others, and grow in confidence through music.

Ray Longbottom, Chair

CEO’s Report



I am delighted to present my report for 2024, a year filled with achievements, new initiatives, and our unwavering commitment to being driven by and inspired by the incredible potential of the young people we work with – our new best year to date, with a total of over 1,400 direct beneficiaries! This year has been particularly special as we celebrated our 20th anniversary, reflecting on the legacy of long-term provision and making significant strides in our strategic planning, which stems from years of collaboration with our stakeholders across key programmes.

We celebrated this milestone with our Choirs in Special Schools by initiating a series of concerts, bringing together a total of over 400 participants and pupils from local mainstream schools to rehearse and perform to supportive and welcoming audiences representing families from both schools – a model that received enthusiastic feedback and is set to continue next year. The format of our joint concerts has proven effective, utilising accessible venues such as school premises, which enable local school communities to connect through music and experience the joy of singing, shared by students from diverse backgrounds.

We have observed impressive growth among our long-term beneficiaries, many of whom have blossomed into confident leaders. We are excited to pilot a Young Leaders Programme, designed to nurture those interested in taking on leadership roles within our choirs, particularly focusing on students in Years 10–13.

The Music for Deaf Children Programme has demonstrated ongoing success, led by professional Deaf and hearing musicians. The participating schools report improved engagement among their students across subjects, along with enhanced musical skills and awareness, which open new opportunities for communication. In 2024, we introduced a peer support network aimed at fostering growth among less experienced practitioners – both Deaf and hearing – which facilitates shared learning through focus groups and mentoring sessions.

The inaugural year of the Music of Life pilot course, 'Music Education for Deaf Children,' at the Royal College of Music has proven highly successful, with the first group of students graduating in April. Their feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, particularly regarding the practical experiences gained through school visits. The second year of the programme commenced in September 2024 with a new cohort, adding emphasis on practical experience and an introduction to British Sign Language.

Our weekly individual music lessons with specialist teachers have expanded into new areas this year, while also serving an increasing number of students in previously reached schools. Throughout this programme, several beneficiaries achieved impressive musical milestones, such as top ABRSM grades and festival awards, while others experienced transformative benefits by learning an instrument or participating in group playing and singing for the very first time. Importantly, many students were able to overcome personal and social barriers through these enriching experiences.

As we reflect on the successes of 2024, it is both exciting and inspiring to see how the remarkable achievements of our choirs and individual students, the growth of our practitioner team, and the expansion of our initiatives reaffirm our mission. We look forward to building on this progress, exploring new opportunities, and continuing to support positive transformations through the power of music. I extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this journey, and I eagerly anticipate an even more impactful year ahead.

Maria Teterina, CEO

INDIVIDUAL MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES
PROVIDED BY MUSIC OF LIFE IN 2024

42,060

6

2024 IN NUMBERS

1402

DIRECT
BENEFICIARIES

126

STUDENTS RECEIVING
1:1 LESSONS

5

MUSIC FOR DEAF
CHILDREN SCHOOL
PROGRAMMES

10

CHOIRS IN
SPECIAL NEEDS
SCHOOLS

24

SCHOOLS WITH
INDIVIDUAL LESSON
PROVISION

MUSIC
OF
LIFE

Number of activities per programme

174

DAYS OF MUSIC
PROVISION IN DEAF
SCHOOLS

3,020

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

33

TEACHER TRAINING
DAYS AND PEER SUPPORT
SESSIONS

292

CHORAL SESSIONS
IN SPECIAL SCHOOLS

102

CONCERTS, ASSEMBLIES
AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT PROJECTS

Summary of music provision

1098

VOICES

40

KEYBOARDS

44

WOODWIND

18

STRING

26

PERCUSSION/
OTHER

120

MUSIC IN
CLASSROOM FOR
DEAF CHILDREN

11

MUSIC THEORY

23

FOLK /
TRADITIONAL

10

MUSIC
TECHNOLOGY

12

COMPOSITION

7

2024 Key Facts and Figures

Our beneficiaries'
primary conditions*

PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Disability)	66%
Deaf / Hard of Hearing	20%
Physical disability	8%
Blind / Visually Impaired	6%

*Many of our students have more than one condition, with 63% also on the autistic spectrum.

82%

of our current students
are on Pupil Premium

Ethnicity

- White British/ White Other
- Global Majority Groups

Individual Lessons Programme

Our Individual Lessons Programme are weekly specialist music lessons that can last, depending on students' level, needs and abilities, from 20 mins to 1.5 hours and are delivered on a vast variety of instruments and also include composition, music theory and music technology. We also support students who are ready to join a band, youth ensemble or choir, with their Music of Life teacher on their side, to attend these groups for several weeks to help both the students and the group to adjust.

Success stories in our Individual lessons can look very different. From deafblind children learning the concepts of rhythm and patterns through vibrations of the instrument through to young people with profound and multiple disabilities achieving performance-level degrees in music, they are always stories of dedication, perseverance and long-term commitment.

Our delivery partners:

- Birmingham Services for Education
- Liverpool Resonate Hub – Young Sounds
- Wandsworth Music Service
- 24 special schools in London, Midlands and North West
- Individual music teachers - lessons by special arrangement

“

Korede (originally from Africa) started James Wolfe School in January, facing emotional challenges and communication barriers. He found solace in the visual aspects of piano learning, which didn't rely heavily on verbal instruction. It's heartening to see his progress; he's grasped the concepts of high and low pitches, finger numbering, and can play several tunes. His confidence has blossomed, and we've even started using British Sign Language to discuss music.

”

“

"Michael has just sat his GCSEs (a huge achievement) and will now move on to A Levels. Over the past few years I have noticed a profound change in his ability to communicate. We are all seeing sides of Michael that were hidden a few year ago, including a great sense of irony and humour. His management of his own time is now much improved and he is able to answer questions and engage in dialogue in great detail, which was a barrier before. I have no doubt that the regular lessons we have had together over the years have been a great contributing factor to this."

”



Music for Deaf Children

This programme is a mix of classroom music provision (in small groups of 5-7 children) and 1:1 instrument teaching. It started in 2017 and has since grown from one to five schools for Deaf children in London and Hertfordshire. The unique methodology was developed by Ruth Montgomery, our Programme Lead and a professional Deaf musician and music teacher who has been associated with Music of Life since her student years. Ruth supports and mentors a small team of practitioners, some of them are also Deaf musicians, some are hearing music practitioners who are fluent in British Sign Language.

In 2024 Music of Life delivered weekly music sessions and lessons in five schools:

- Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children (Camden)
- Roding Primary School (Woodford)
- Blanche Neville School (Haringey)
- James Wolfe School (Greenwich)
- Heathlands School (St Albans)

“

All children have shown an understanding of different notes and reading music. Ruth has done an amazing job teaching them musical skills through visuals. The children are excited to learn from her every week! It is extremely empowering for pupils to have a positive deaf role model leading the sessions and sharing a 'can do' attitude.

”



Royal College of Music

The first year of the pilot Music of Life course at the Royal College of Music, designed to train young musicians interested in working with Deaf and Disabled children, was completed in April 2024. Led by Ruth Montgomery, it consists of seven seminars on specific topics, followed by school visits where students observe Ruth's teaching in schools for Deaf children involved in the Music of Life programme.

We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from students, especially regarding the school visits, which provided invaluable firsthand experience. Students observed lessons, participated in breakaway sessions, and performed for the children. Suggestions for improvement included teaching basic British Sign Language (BSL). Starting in September 2024, we commenced the second year of the course with a new cohort, maintaining the same structure while incorporating feedback, increasing school visits, and introducing more practical leadership experience.

Choirs in Special Schools

Our longest-standing programme started in 2014. The schools we work in cater for learners with complex mental, physical, learning and emotional needs. They come from wide geographical areas and are mainly from very disadvantaged backgrounds, including looked after children, those from low-income households and families with multiple members with disabilities.

In 2024, we worked in 10 special schools:

- Evergreen Primary School, Warwick
- Evergreen Secondary School, Warwick
- Selly Oak Special School, Birmingham
- Woodlands Special School, Coleshill
- Calthorpe Academy, Birmingham
- Bridge School, Birmingham
- Castle School, Cambridge
- Wilson Stuart School, Erdington (supported by Education Impact Academy Trust, EIAT)
- Mayfield School, Birmingham (supported by EIAT)
- Queensbury Horizons, Erdington (supported by EIAT)

Our weekly sessions, led by a minimum of three experienced musicians, are fully inclusive, being open to every student irrespective of the level of their access needs. The sessions bring together the whole school for an hour of joy and fun and are hugely anticipated. Staff comment frequently on how the school atmosphere is better on their Music of Life days, describing the very special “buzz” we bring with us! Most of the songs and singing games currently used in Music of Life sessions have been written by our music leaders – high-profile musicians, composers and experienced choral practitioners – specifically with our choirs in mind. The repertoire is uniquely versatile and accessible and provides opportunities to participate in many ways, including use of Makaton language, sensory equipment and assistive technology.



Young Leaders Programme

One of the most significant developments that we observed throughout the celebratory concerts was the level of engagement and confidence in our older students who have been singing in Music of Life choirs for many years. Capable and enthusiastic, they readily volunteer to lead the songs, standing in front of the choir and not being shy of the audience.

These promising young people don’t want to leave music behind after they finish school. In response to this need, we designed a programme to run focus groups for those students interested in music leadership. The pilot year of the Young Leaders Programme will commence in September 2025. We are exploring synergies with other organisations with a view to creating pathways to work for our participants through collaborative efforts.



Learners have made remarkable progress over time with their attention and listening skills. Participation in inclusion with the other school choir has developed some learners’ teamwork, communication, and cooperation, helping them to develop better social interactions and build friendships.



Several students who were initially non-verbal joined in with the choir and then started singing! 83% of learners who attend choir had met or exceeded their end of year target in Communication skills. The skills developed through the choir have definitely contributed to their overall achievement. Focus and safe behaviour are noticeably improved during Music of Life sessions and this is transferred to other areas of school.



Celebratory Concerts

June 2024 was full of amazing concerts and beautiful moments. Six of our schools presented concerts for the parents and friends as we celebrated Music of Life’s 20th anniversary and also 10-year anniversaries with some of our choirs.

This year for the first time our participants were performing with mainstream students in joint concerts that brought together local schools. Each concert was a full house and the atmosphere was incredible. All schools are keen for the collaboration to continue next year with further integration of the choirs on regular basis.

Plans for 2025

We are delighted to bring our Choirs in Special Schools programme to three special schools in Brent from September 2025. We are utilising our existing working link with the Brent Music Service and involving experienced practitioners who are currently running our choirs in several special schools in the Midlands.

Trustees' Report

For the year ending 31 December 2024

Introduction

The Trustees who are also the Directors of the limited company have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the financial statements of Music of Life Foundation Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Legal and administrative information set out on page 23 forms part of this Report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Articles of Association, applicable law and Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019.

Structure, Governance & Management

Music of Life Foundation is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association dated 12 November 2003 and amended by special resolution on 11 July 2019 to bring the Charity's governing documents into line with current company and charity law and good practice. The Charity is registered at Companies House as No. 4963498. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission as No. 1102827.

The Foundation is managed by a Board, the members of which have the legal status of directors of the charitable company (the Charity) and are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Board meets at least six times a year to have a close view on performance against objectives and to have more flexibility to react to arising issues.

Selection and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees appoint new members by general agreement. Regular reviews are conducted to ensure that the Board has the necessary skills. New trustees take part in an induction process when they receive copies of the Charity's Articles of Association, are fully briefed on their obligations under charity and company law, and are given information on the decision-making processes, the financial performance of the Charity, the regular review of the Risk Assessment and the business plan.

Trustees with specific expertise brief the Board from time to time on current topics, more broadly trustees are encouraged to keep up-to-date with developments in the sector and to take advantage of the many training opportunities available from various bodies.

Objectives and Activities of the Foundation for the Public Benefit

Music of Life Foundation's objectives are the advancement of the education of disabled children in the arts and, in particular, the art of music by:

- Providing access to facilities for study, for creative development and access to both standard and creative organisations, on equal terms with other children,
- Organising of national and international musical events, competitions and concerts in which disabled children can participate thus helping them to realise their potential, and
- Supporting research undertaken into the educational and therapeutic use of the arts and in particular the art of music for the benefit of disabled children

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and take action where appropriate to mitigate them. The Trustees consider the two greatest risks to be:

- the unpredictability and short-term nature of much of our funding to be the greatest risk in the short to medium term.
- the sudden loss of key individuals involved in the management of the charity and in delivering its programmes

Our fundraising is focussed on securing longer term grants and we have added a new role in our leadership team to work on diversifying our income streams. We are seeking to mitigate the loss of key individuals by regular training of additional contractors, who shadow and work with our workshop leaders.

Financial Review

Total income was £398,655 an increase of 66% over 2023. This major increase resulted from an unexpected and exceptionally generous match-funded individual donation. Income from Trusts and Foundations, which comprises the majority of our income, was 8% below the previous year as several multi-year grants came to an end. Many of the trusts and foundations have been regular supporters and we greatly appreciate their continuing support. Our overall charitable expenditure increased by 30% to £284,430 (2023: £219,264). Fundraising activities cost £19,837, giving total costs of £304,267.

Restricted reserves at year end at £53,248 were £14,499 (21%) lower than at the start of the year and whilst some programmes were well funded others required supplementary funding from unrestricted reserves. On receipt of the major donation, the Directors decided to take the opportunity to invest in the charity's ability to build sustainable income streams and set aside £100,000 in a designated reserve to support this work for 2 years. Excluding the designated reserve, unrestricted reserves at the start of 2025 were £72,340 an increase of £20,036. In early 2025 we received a further significant boost to our unrestricted reserves, which will support the existing programmes with a shortage of funding, whilst also enabling the development of new programmes. In total, we are carrying forward reserves of £214,439 (2023: £120,051). Excluding the balance of the designated reserve (£88,851), reserves stood at £125,588 (2023:£120,051). We continue to apply for restricted funding for the 25/26 academic year to supplement that already committed.

Going Concern

We will continue to focus on building long term relationships with new and existing funders. In addition to the funding mentioned above, we continue to actively apply for grants from Trusts & Foundations. The Board has adopted a rigorous risk assessment process to identify and mitigate any major risks. Consequently, the Trustees believe that it is appropriate to continue to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review the reserves policy at least annually, or on the occurrence of material changes in the Charity's activities. The Trustees have reviewed the Charity's requirements for reserves and have decided to hold a sufficient balance of unrestricted reserves to cover 6 months of planned expenditure to ensure financial stability and act as a safeguard against unpredictable income streams. In general, we do not commit to projects until funding is secured. These funds are usually received at the start of a project while expenditure follows on a monthly basis. Excluding the designated reserve, unrestricted reserves stand at £72,340 which represents 11 months of cover. This increase is being directed to programme funding to fill the short term gaps which resulted from multi year funding streams coming to an end in 2024 and thereby ensuring continuity of programme delivery.

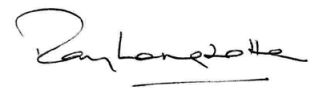
Free reserves are part of the charity's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes. Free reserves are cash or liquid funds and do not include tangible fixed assets.

Statement Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company. Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the Examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the Examiner is aware of such information. This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Act relating to small entities.

Approved by the Board on 15 May 2025 and signed on its behalf:

R A Longbottom, Chair of Trustees



Independent Examiner’s Report to the Trustees of Music of Life Foundation



JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 15 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and an independent examination is required under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the charitable company is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jing Lu, Chartered Certified Accountant
JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd
15 May 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

(For the year ended 31 December 2024)

		2024			2023		
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income From							
Donations	2	225,923	137,800	363,723	49,776	161,650	211,426
Invoiced income		22,952	11,318	34,270	15,228	12,533	27,761
Investment Income		662	-	662	457	-	457
Total Income		249,537	149,118	398,655	65,461	174,183	239,644
Expenditure on							
Raising Funds		19,837	-	19,837	20,107	-	20,107
Charitable Activities		119,750	164,680	284,430	71,105	148,159	219,264
Total Expenditure	3	139,587	164,860	304,267	91,212	148,159	239,371
Net Income/(Expenditure)							
		109,950	(15,562)	94,388	(25,751)	26,024	273
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		52,304	67,747	120,051	62,608	57,170	119,778
Transfer between funds		(1,063)	1,063	-	15,447	(15,447)	-
Total funds carried forward		161,191	53,248	214,439	52,304	67,747	120,051

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets	6	44	312
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	612	17,403
Cash at Bank		228,089	111,981
		228,701	129,384
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(14,306)	(9,645)
Net current assets		214,395	119,739
Total net assets		214,439	120,051
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	9	72,340	52,304
Designated Unrestricted Funds		88,851	
Restricted Funds	9, 10	53,248	67,747
Total charity funds		214,439	120,051

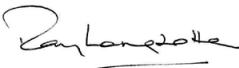
For the year ending 31 December 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors’ responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

These accounts were approved by the Board on 15 May 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



RA Longbottom
Chair

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cashflow from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	115,446	(14,527)
Cashflow from investing activities:		
Interest received	662	457
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	-	-
Net cash from investing activities	662	457
Cashflow from financing activities:	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalent in the reporting period	116,108	(14,070)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	111,981	126,051
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	228,089	111,981

Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	93,726	(184)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	268	268
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	16,791	(9,471)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	4,661	(5,140)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	115,446	(14,527)

Notes on Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Principal accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

(b) Company status

The Charity is limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 23. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

(c) Income recognition

Income from voluntary grants, legacies and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received unless the grant specifically funds the Charity’s expenditure, in which case income and expenditure are allocated to the relevant period and matched.

(d) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

(e) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Income arising on designated funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the Charity and is included in unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Office equipment and website - 20% per annum

2. Donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £
Donations for the year included:			
Events and individual donations	91,243		91,243
Corporate match funding for an individual donation	75,000		75,000
City Bridge Foundation		49,550	49,550
Garfield Weston Foundation	20,000		20,000
The Karlsson Játiva Charitable Foundation		20,000	20,000
The Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust		15,000	15,000
Boots Charitable Trust	10,000		10,000
The Eveson Trust		10,000	10,000
The Headley Trust		10,000	10,000
The gunnercooke Foundation		10,000	10,000
Hayes Foundation		5,750	5,750
Masonic Charitable Trust	5,000		5,000
The Powell Family Foundation		5,000	5,000
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust		4,000	4,000

2. Donations (continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £
Co-Op Community Fund	3,413		3,413
Woodlands Special School Fundraiser		3,000	3,000
The Grantham Yorke Trust		2,500	2,500
Frognal Foundation		2,000	2,000
Shanley Foundation		1,000	1,000
Gift Aid	21,267		21,267
Total	225,923	137,800	363,723

3. Analysis of total expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Other Direct Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance costs £	2024 £	2023 £
Raising Funds	-	19,200	-	637	19,837	20,107
Charitable Activities	55,501	219,531	268	9,130	284,430	219,264
Total for Charity	55,501	238,731	268	9,767	304,267	239,371

Governance Costs Include	2024 £	2023 £
Payroll fee	545	549
Independent examiner’s fee	984	956
Annual report design	1,100	1,100
Trustees recruitment	5,207	600
Trustees expenses and meeting costs	1,760	137
Other governance costs	171	86
Total	9,767	3,428

4. Staff Costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries and National Insurance	54,121	36,043
Pension costs	1,380	894
Total	55,501	36,937

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Administration and support	2	1
Total	2	1

No member of staff was paid £60,000 or more during the year (2023 - nil).

5. Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services as a member of the committee during the year (2023: £nil). Trustees were reimbursed £nil for travel and other expenses (2023: £nil).

Notes on Financial Statements

(Continued...)

6. Tangible fixed assets

	2024			2023		
	Office Equipm't	Website	Total	Office Equipm't	Website	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 31 December 2023	5,342	6,000	11,342	5,342	6,000	11,342
Addition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	5,342	6,000	11,342	5,342	6,000	11,342
Depreciation						
At 31 December 2023	5,030	6,000	11,030	4,762	6,000	10,762
Charge for the year	268	-	268	268	-	268
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	5,298	6,000	11,298	5,030	6,000	11,030
Net book value						
At 31 December 2024	44	-	44	312	-	312
At 31 December 2023	312	-	312	580	-	580

7. Debtors: Due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	-	1,863
Prepayments	612	612
Accrued Income	-	14,928
Total	612	17,403

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Creditor	4,526	5,050
Accruals	5,637	4,421
Deferred Income	3,672	0
Other creditor	471	174
Total	14,306	9,645

9. Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfer between funds	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Undesignated Funds	52,304	149,537	(128,438)	(1,063)	72,340
Unrestricted Designated Funds		100,000	(11,149)		88,851
Restricted Funds	67,747	149,118	(164,680)	1,063	53,248
Total Funds	120,051	398,655	(304,267)	-	214,439

An amount of the Unrestricted Fund has been designated for a specific development purpose spanning a two year period, and is shown separately on the accounts for clarity.

10. Restricted Funds

	Funds for Individual Lesson programmes	Funds for Choral Workshops	Funds for Deaf Schools Programme in London	Funds for Teacher Training	Concert	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Opening balance at 1st Jan 2024	15,803	27,142	21,265	3,537	-	67,747
New funds received	40,454	62,038	26,516	16,518	3,592	149,118
Transfer of funds to Project Administration	(5,277)	(8,571)	(3,459)	(2,154)	-	(19,461)
Expenses	(57,844)	(68,012)	(22,472)	(7,724)	(8,628)	(164,680)
Reserves transfer to cover Project Shortfall	12,670	-	-	-	7,854	20,524
Closing funds at 31 December 2024	5,806	12,597	21,850	10,177	2,818	53,248

11. Related party transactions

The Trustees in office during the year are listed on page 23. The trustees have no financial interests in the charity's results or assets and received no remuneration for acting in that capacity. There are no related party transactions for disclosure during the year.

Thank You to Our Donors

We are fully committed to sustaining our ongoing, long-term projects, and we greatly appreciate the support of our funders who share our values and believe in the importance of continuous engagement.

We are also deeply grateful for grants and donations that are forward-facing and enable us to pilot new, groundbreaking projects and strengthen our organisation, allowing us to meet the growing need for our services.



Message of support from our major individual supporters, Yuri and Irina Bedny:

"Words are the language of the brain, while music is the language of the soul. Giving children the opportunity to study music is a deeply meaningful pursuit—it brings purpose to life and enhances the wellbeing of so many around us.

Witnessing deaf children take part in music lessons felt nothing short of miraculous. The connection between the silent world and the hearing world, formed through music and choir, is a powerful bridge that transcends all boundaries."



We would like to thank our individual donors for their amazing support that empowers the young people we work with in so many ways:

- Yuri and Irina Bedny**

Jack Brierley

Birgitta Clift

James Cooper

M J Crane KC

Anna Francis

Katie Metcalfe

Ray and Julia Longbottom

Sylvia Stanbridge

Katherine Puffett

Barry Short

Marilyn Vincent

Rachel Portman
- Alison Herberts**

Michael Clarkson Webb

Natalie Hooper

Sara Caldwell

Professor Christopher Dingle

Rory Macleod

Nadine Shaw

Julia Orford

Katharine Wright

Pupils and parents at Bishop Wordsworths School

Students of the Spalding High School Chamber Choir

- Our Royal Parks Half Marathon Runner Fundraisers:
- William Hamlyn**
- Oliver Irwin**
- Simon Longbottom**
- Edward Ritchie**

Legal and Administrative Details

Charity number:	1102827
Company number:	4963498
Registered address:	54 Portland Place London, W1B 1DY
Trustees:	Ray Longbottom (Chair) Catherine Clarke (Vice Chair, resigned 28 November 2024) Sarah Kolkman (Treasurer, resigned 1 June 2024) Louise Shepherd-Evans (Treasurer, appointed 14 October 2024) Sophie Brüggemann Emma Dearnaley (appointed 1 May 2024) Valentina Di Venuta (appointed 1 May 2024) Stefano Filippi Lily Harriss Tristen Hennigs Belinda Kembery (appointed 1 May 2024) Alexander McHardy
Team	Maria Teterina, Chief Executive Katie Baxter - Head of Development and Communications (appointed 14 October 2024) Suzzie Vango, Head of Choirs Ruth Montgomery, Music for Deaf Children Programme Lead Gina Baker, Community Engagement and Events Manager Gina Baker, Naomi Berry, Zoe Challenor, Emma Cockbill, Miriam Dubois, Rachel Edmonds, Olga Elbourn, Charlotte Galloway, Lucy Hollins, Sofia Hunt, Jessica Lawrence-Hares, Robin Morton, Charlie Penn, Helena Raeburn, Shivani Rattan - Workshop leaders Shruti Soni, Accountant Diana Cripps, Administrative Support (volunteer) >50 music teachers and support musicians
Patrons	Evelyn Glennie CH, DBE Denise Leigh John Lubbock OBE
Advisory Council	Sophie Gray, Head of Inclusion, Services for Education, Birmingham Evangelos Himonides, Professor of Technology, Education, and Music, UCL Karen Irwin, Strategic Director (Children and Young People), Live Music Now Julian Knight, Creative Director, Creative Futures (UK) Kathryn Mason, Research Fellow, The Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre, UCL Adam Ockelford, Professor of Music, Roehampton University and Founder, Amber Trust Peter Smalley, Chief Executive, Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust Lorella Terzi, Professor of Philosophy of Education, University of Roehampton Graham Welch, Professor & Chair of Music Education, UCL Institute of Education Rachel Wolffsohn, General Manager, The OHMI Trust
Bankers:	The CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent, ME19 4JQ Shawbrook Bank Ltd Lutea House Warley Hill Business Park Brentwood Essex, CM13 3BE
Independent Examiner:	Jing Lu Chartered Certified Accountant JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd 108 Manor Way, Bexleyheath, DA7 6JN



**MUSIC
OF
LIFE**

Support us

Our work thrives thanks to the generous support of people like you. If you'd like to learn more or get involved—whether through fundraising, volunteering, or other opportunities—please contact Katie Baxter at katie.baxter@mofl.co.uk or visit the link below for details.

www.musicoflife.org.uk/support-our-work

If you would like to fundraise for us, please find Music of Life on Justgiving using this QR code



Contact us

Music of Life Foundation
mofl@mofl.co.uk

www.musicoflife.org.uk

Registered address:
54 Portland Place, London W1B 1DY

Find us @musicoflifeuk



**MUSIC
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MUSIC OF LIFE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1102827

Accounts



**MUSIC
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Annual Report & Accounts 2023



Annual Report & Accounts 2023

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Charity Overview

The charity was established in 2003 and since then has supported over 4,500 children. Our vision is of a world where disabled children and young people have the same access to music-making as any other child.

Through long-term engagement, the children experience the joy of making music, which positively impacts their academic performance, social life and health. Their schools, families and local communities also benefit from the improved health and well-being of the children.

We support children and young people aged 5 to 25 with a wide range of physical and learning disabilities, both individually and in group workshops in special needs schools. When they are ready, we help them to integrate into community-based activities such as joining a youth choir or playing in a band, which helps to widen their social circles and gain acceptance from their non-disabled peers. It also helps non-disabled groups learn how to accommodate the needs of our students and to value their contribution.

Our Vision

Our vision is for all disabled children and young people to be able to access, and benefit from, music-making opportunities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to build and strengthen the life skills, well-being and confidence of disabled children and young people through music-making

Our Programmes

- Choirs at Special Schools
- Music for Deaf Children
- Individual Music Lessons
- Teacher Training

INDIVIDUAL MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES
PROVIDED BY MUSIC OF LIFE IN 2023

34,280

4

2023 IN NUMBERS

1273

STUDENTS ATTENDING
GROUP SESSIONS

1340

DIRECT
BENEFICIARIES

122

STUDENTS RECEIVING
1:1 LESSONS

5

MUSIC FOR DEAF
CHILDREN SCHOOL
PROGRAMMES

10

CHOIRS IN
SPECIAL NEEDS
SCHOOLS

17

SCHOOLS WITH
INDIVIDUAL LESSON
PROVISION

MUSIC
OF
LIFE

Summary by Activity

170

DAYS OF MUSIC
PROVISION IN DEAF
SCHOOLS

252

CHORAL SESSIONS

2,982

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

86

CONCERTS, ASSEMBLIES
AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT PROJECTS

Summary of music provision

1044

VOICES

36

KEYBOARDS

44

WOODWIND

18

STRING

22

PERCUSSION/
OTHER

120

MUSIC IN
CLASSROOM FOR
DEAF CHILDREN

11

MUSIC THEORY

23

FOLK /
TRADITIONAL

10

MUSIC
TECHNOLOGY

12

COMPOSITION

5

2023 Key Facts and Figures

Our beneficiaries'
primary conditions*

PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Disability)	66%
Deaf / Hard of Hearing	20%
Physical disability	8%
Blind / Visually Impaired	6%

*Many of our students have more than one condition, with 63% also on the autistic spectrum.

82%

of our current students
are on Pupil Premium

Ethnicity

- White British/ White Other
- Global Majority Groups

Welcome from the Chair of Trustees



I am very pleased to report that Music of Life increased its income by 13% to a record £239,644. As a result we were able to maintain and increase the long-term support we provide to children and young people with disabilities.

The charity has maintained steady growth over the last 4 years with a 3X increase in the number of children participating in music-making sessions. Our success in offering alternative support through the pandemic allowed us to come out stronger, sustaining our ongoing relationships with our schools and providing continuity of engagement for our musicians. We are now building on that having completely transitioned back to our normal “live” services.

Funding

We ended the year strongly and on budget and are immensely grateful to all the Trusts, Foundations and donors who supported our work. Our challenge is to continue to build a steady stream of longer-term income so that we can further expand provision to more and more young students, build our organisation incrementally to create the essential capacity, and develop new services, especially for those leaving school who otherwise face the complete loss of access to music-making.

The Board

The Board continues to be actively engaged in the charity’s development. At the start of 2023, we welcomed 4 new trustees with expertise in finance, communications, and development. The Board met 6 times and set up 4 new sub-groups to focus on diversifying our income, creating an earned income stream, improving our social media presence and refining our risk framework.

During the year one trustee resigned due to ill-health and one due to pressure of work. We again conducted a skills audit and from May 1, 2024, we have been joined by a further 4 excellent people from diverse backgrounds who will further enhance the Board’s strength. Included in this group is a replacement for our Treasurer, Sarah Kolkman, who is moving to Finland. Sarah has made a huge contribution to Music of Life over the last 5 years, for which we are very grateful.

Advisory Council

The council was created in 2021 composed of experts in the education of children with special needs, including leading academics and researchers, partners from music education hubs, people with lived experience of disability and key individuals from charities working in the same field.

The Council continued to provide strong support in its 3rd year. We held 3 meetings and covered topics such as a review of our Music for Deaf Children programme and the charity’s ongoing development, the implementation of the National Plan for Music Education and a session on inclusion led by two Council members. We also heard reviews of members’ own activities and research.

Thanks

As always, I would like to thank Maria, our CEO, and all the outstanding music teachers who deliver our work, as well as our volunteer administrator, our fundraising contractor, and our independent book-keeping firm.

We are very grateful to the City Bridge Trust, the Karlsson Jativa Foundation, The Edward Gostling Foundation, The John Lyons Charity, The Headley Trust, The Noel Sweeney Foundation and all our other funders for their support. In addition we are enormously grateful to a loyal donor, who prefers to remain anonymous, for a large gift and their employer who matched it! This will appear in our 2024 accounts.

Looking ahead

Now in our 20th year, we are budgeting income growth of 19% in 2024 and an increase in programme expenditure of 23%. We have a well proven model which is capable of extension within existing and new geographic areas as we gain the necessary resources. The Board remain confident that Music of Life can continue to maintain its steady growth for many years to come.

CEO’s Report



It gives me great pleasure to report on 2023 as the best year to date for Music of Life, in which we saw a noticeable shift towards scaling up our delivery model through partnership work and shared funding.

We are very excited to have reached more young people than ever before through our regular activities and introduced a record number of new music practitioners to our projects, both through teacher training and ongoing team growth.

The young people we work with have blossomed in so many ways: evaluation and feedback brought some remarkable stories of individual achievements; new choirs were created that delivered smashing performances only weeks after they started; partnership projects with mainstream and local music hubs enabled our individual students, groups and choirs to perform at the Royal Albert Hall, Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham Symphony Hall and other concert venues; many students in our Individual Lessons programmes made progress through accredited schemes such as graded examinations and were able to perform solo in concerts and recitals as well as join youth groups and ensembles.

We are proud to have commenced a trial teacher training course at the Royal College of Music aimed at students who are interested in teaching music to Deaf and disabled children. The course consists of structured seminars, school visits and individual evaluation and offers a unique insight into the live programme at schools for Deaf children that we have been running since 2017.

Choirs in Special Schools

An area of swift growth for Music of Life, we introduced three new choirs in Sutton Coldfield in September through partnership with the Education Impact Academy Trust.

To deliver high-quality choral sessions in more schools, we continued to expand and strengthen our team of musicians and added new practitioners to our group of workshop leaders. Importantly, in 2023, we introduced professional growth opportunities for musicians with disabilities in our choral programmes by developing collaborations for them with other organisations, encouraging pathways towards employment for our older beneficiaries.

Music for Deaf Children

We continued to deliver in our London and Hertfordshire schools, enabling our students to grow in confidence and to thrive musically by attending weekly group sessions and learning instruments. This programme has the potential to expand rapidly once we have funding

and qualified music practitioners in place for new schools wishing to join the scheme. The effectiveness of the method has been demonstrated through years of uninterrupted provision, including during the pandemic.

Individual Lessons

Our individual lessons programme remained the pillar of our provision in several locations with lessons being delivered in a variety of settings. We have reintroduced 1:1 lessons in partnership with Resonate Hub, Liverpool through their “Furthering Talent” scheme; remained committed to all our students in Birmingham through an arrangement with Birmingham Services for Education; continued to work with students with special needs in some mainstream schools; strengthened the musical skills of Deaf students through lessons within the Music for Deaf Children programme.

In 2023, Music of Life provided weekly individual lessons for over 120 students, which is a significant cost to sustain annually. There is a growing number of partnership requests from local music services, demonstrating the urgent need for subsidised or free music lessons provision for special needs students. The overall majority of parents with disabled children cannot afford music tuition, but for many of our beneficiaries, the experience of learning an instrument with a specialist teacher is transformational, positively affecting many areas of their lives and wellbeing.

Teacher Training

In 2023, our training programme became more structured and is now largely divided into four main categories: practical training and work experience for practitioners to expand our Choirs team; upskilling and supervision for new practitioners for our Music for Deaf Children programme; developing work opportunities for young musicians with disabilities within our existing projects; commencing our Royal College of Music project aimed at students who are interested in exploring work with Deaf and disabled children. Additionally, from the start of 2024, Music of Life delivered seminars for local practitioners through regional music services, introducing mainstream music teachers to SEND work.

Maria Teterina,
CEO

Individual Lessons Programme

Music of Life provides weekly 1:1 music tuition on a wide range of instruments and in various music genres.

Our lessons are delivered in a number of settings:

- Schools where we run choirs
- Schools for Deaf children as part of the music curriculum
- In partnership with local music services
- In partnership with other organisations, such as youth ensembles
- By individual arrangement



"I was told in advance of the first session with A that as I was a new person, the support staff expected the session to last no more than 10 minutes, but we ended up doing the full half hour and the young person was really engaged and positive. A teaching assistant wrote to me afterwards: "It surpassed all of our expectations in every way and your incredible manner with A made that happen."

Jonathan Hering, Music of Life teacher



"I can certainly see an increase in confidence in my student who no longer says "I won't do it because I am no good at it anyway", but started saying "I'll try and give it my best" instead. She also started playing in a band with mainstream students and mixes with them really well".



Lesley Davies, Music of Life teacher



Music for Deaf Children

Music for Deaf children has been designed and for several years exclusively implemented by professional Deaf musicians. Now it also enables hearing musicians to learn to work with Deaf children. It includes classroom provision, working in small groups with activities tailored very specifically for the needs of each age group; 1:1 instrument tuition and support for schools to enable Deaf students' participation in major music partnership projects.

In 2023 Music of Life delivered weekly music sessions and lessons in 5 schools for Deaf children:

- Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children (Camden)
- Roding Primary School (Woodford)
- Blanche Neville School (Haringey)
- James Wolfe School (Greenwich)
- Heathlands School (St Albans)



Royal Albert Hall

Two of our schools appeared at the Royal Albert Hall within a week of each other in April 2023.

Music of Life students took part in the Camden School Festival alongside over 2000 children and young people from primary and secondary schools across Camden, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Camden youth bands. Claiming centre stage for a BSL performance, a group of Deaf students

from Frank Barnes School led the massed choirs in a signing version of the song that Ruth Montgomery had helped all the participating schools to learn in preparation for the event.

Only a week later, the Heathlands school pupils appeared at the Royal Albert Hall in the 2023 Hertfordshire Schools' Gala Give Life to Music.

Choirs in Special Schools

Our longest-running programme is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2024, and our oldest choirs are turning 10, too.

Sessions for choirs ranging from small groups to whole-school size singing communities are delivered by teams of three professional musicians – two singers and a pianist. They involve school staff and provide a unique opportunity for everyone at school to enjoy an hour of great songs, singing games and musical fun every week during term time.

In 2023 we welcomed three new choirs to our cohort, which brought us to the total of 10 schools receiving weekly provision:

- Evergreen Primary School, Warwick
- Evergreen Secondary School, Warwick
- Selly Oak Special School, Birmingham
- Woodlands Special School, Coleshill
- Calthorpe Academy, Birmingham
- Bridge School, Birmingham
- Castle School, Cambridge
- Wilson Stuart School, Erdington (supported by Education Impact Academy Trust, EIAT)
- Mayfield School, Birmingham (supported by EIAT)
- Queensbury Horizons, Erdington (supported by EIAT)

Better Together, June 2023

Music of Life choir in Castle School, Cambridge, is part of Better Together – an ongoing collaborative project with another choir from a local primary school.

In 2023 they presented the first joint concert following a term of visiting each other and learning to sing and create friendships together. Supported by many of the school staff, the concert was a celebration of true inclusion and joy that music brings with it.



Inspiring the sector: Music of Life choirs at the launch of the “Birmingham SEND”, July 2023

Music of Life choirs from Calthorpe Academy and Selly Oak Trust School performed at the launch of Birmingham’s SEND and Inclusion Strategies to an audience of hundreds of headteachers and representatives from charities and organisations working within the sector.

The enthusiasm, confidence and skill of our young people absolutely captivated the room for the duration of the performance. Our team included professional singers and a pianist, as well as a young percussionist with special needs named Barney, who has been attending Music of Life sessions at his school for many years and gradually became

part of the band. With support from his family and the Music of Life team, Barney is currently on a work experience placement with Music of Life, supporting our choirs at their performances.

In the Summer term 2023, the Music of Life team of choral workshop leaders was invited by the Education Impact Academy Trust Birmingham to work with primary pupils from their three special schools to

put together a performance as part of the EIAT Festival that took place on the 11th July. Pupils from Wilson Stuart School, Queensbury School and Mayfield School delivered a smashing performance of songs they learned with our team in just 3 weeks. This success resulted in Music of Life teams being invited to lead the choirs in these schools on a weekly basis from September 2023.



From right to left:
Emma Cockbill (Pianist and Team leader), Suzzie Vango (Head of Choirs), Gina Baker, Charlotte Galloway (workshop leaders), Barney (Music of Life Young Musician), Maria Teterina (CEO)

Plans for 2024

2024 marks our 20th anniversary and we are excited to celebrate with all our beneficiaries, partners and teams through a series of concerts and events aimed at showcasing the achievements of our choirs, groups and individuals.

We will be engaging local communities through partnership events, blending our special schools’ choirs with local mainstream school choirs, and supporting our practitioners in delivering teacher training to a growing number of musicians interested in working with special needs students. A significant expansion of our Board of Trustees and further development of our organisational structure will underpin our strategic plan to grow the charity to maximise its reach for the benefit of more young people with disabilities.

Trustees' Report

For the year ending 31 December 2023

Introduction

The Trustees who are also the Directors of the limited company have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the financial statements of Music of Life Foundation Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Legal and administrative information set out on page 23 forms part of this Report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Articles of Association, applicable law and Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019.

Structure, Governance & Management

Music of Life Foundation is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association dated 12 November 2003 and amended by special resolution on 11 July 2019 to bring the Charity's governing documents into line with current company and charity law and good practice. The Charity is registered at Companies House as No. 4963498. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission as No. 1102827.

The Foundation is managed by a Board, the members of which have the legal status of directors of the charitable company (the Charity) and are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Board meets at least six times a year to have a close view on performance against objectives and to have more flexibility to react to arising issues.

Selection and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees appoint new members by general agreement. Regular reviews are conducted to ensure that the Board has the necessary skills. New trustees take part in an induction process when they receive copies of the Charity's Articles of Association, are fully briefed on their obligations under charity and company law, and are given information on the decision-making processes, the financial performance of the Charity, the regular review of the Risk Assessment and the business plan.

Trustees with specific expertise brief the Board from time to time on current topics, more broadly trustees are encouraged to keep up-to-date with developments in the sector and to take advantage of the many training opportunities available from various bodies.

Objectives and Activities of the Foundation for the Public Benefit

Music of Life Foundation's objectives are the advancement of the education of disabled children in the arts and, in particular, the art of music by:

- Providing access to facilities for study, for creative development and access to both standard and creative organisations, on equal terms with other children,
- Organising of national and international musical events, competitions and concerts in which disabled children can participate thus helping them to realise their potential, and
- Supporting research undertaken into the educational and therapeutic use of the arts and in particular the art of music for the benefit of disabled children.

When reviewing the Foundation's aims and objectives, devising new programmes and setting policies for the year, the Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and complied with their duty under Section s17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and take action where appropriate to mitigate them. The Trustees consider the two greatest risks to be

- the unpredictability and short-term nature of much of our funding to be the greatest risk in the short to medium term.
- the sudden loss of key individuals involved in the management of the charity and in delivering its programmes

We have focussed our fundraising on securing longer term grants. In December 2022, funding was secured from City Bridge Trust which will support part of our programme for the next five years. Further grants covering three year periods have also been secured.

We are seeking to mitigate the loss of key individuals by regular training of additional contractors, who shadow and work with our workshop leaders, and by adding a new role in the leadership team.

Financial Review

Total income was £239,644, an increase of 13% on 2022. We continue to be supported by a large number of Trusts and Foundations. Some of these trusts commit to multiyear funding, and many are regular funders. We are extremely grateful for the support of all of our funders.

Our overall charitable expenditure increased by 1% to £219,264 (2022: £216,424). We also spent £20,107 on fundraising activities, giving total costs of £239,371.

We start 2024 with restricted reserves at £67,747 - 19% higher than at the start of 2023. This is encouraging as we had seen a drop in these reserves in the prior year. The Trustees consider all projects to have sufficient funds for the academic year to which they are committed. We are continuing to secure funding for the 24/25 academic year to supplement the multiyear funding already secured.

Unrestricted reserves have however decreased during 2023 from £62,608 to £52,304 as we have used some of our unrestricted funds to support shortfalls in some programmes. In early 2024 we have received a significant boost to our unrestricted reserves which will enable the Trustees to determine the most appropriate use of the funds – assisting programmes with a shortage of funding and increasing the capacity of the organisation to manage growth, extending our provision into new areas.

In total, we are carrying forward reserves of £120,051 (2022: £119,778)

Going Concern

We will continue to focus on building long term relationships with new and existing funders. In addition to the funding mentioned above, we continue to actively apply for grants from Trusts & Foundations, and will further develop our Earned Revenue base.

The Board has adopted a rigorous risk assessment process to identify and mitigate any major risks. Consequently, the Trustees believe that it is appropriate to continue to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review the reserves policy at least annually, or on the occurrence of material changes in the Charity's activities. The Trustees have reviewed the Charity's requirements for reserves and have decided to hold a sufficient balance of unrestricted reserves to cover 6 months of planned expenditure to ensure financial stability and act as a safeguard against unpredictable income streams. In general, we do not commit to projects until funding is secured. These funds are usually received at the start of a project while expenditure follows on a monthly basis. At the end of 2023, free reserves were £51,992 which represents cover of 8 months. Free reserves are part of the charity's unrestricted funds that is freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes. Free reserves are cash or liquid funds and do not include tangible fixed assets.

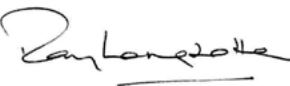
Statement Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the Examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the Examiner is aware of such information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Act relating to small entities.

Approved by the Board on 7 May 2024 and signed on its behalf:



R A Longbottom

Chair

Independent Examiner’s Report to the Trustees of Music of Life Foundation



I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages15 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and an independent examination is required under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the charitable company is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

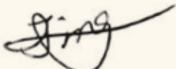
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

 Jing Lu, Chartered Certified Accountant
JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd
7 May 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

(For the year ended 31 December 2023)

		2023			2022		
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income From							
Donations	2	49,776	161,650	211,426	92,264	116,00	208,264
Invoiced income		15,228	12,533	27,761	-	3,467	3,467
Investment Income		457	-	457	392	-	392
Total Income		65,461	174,183	239,644	92,656	119,467	212,123
Expenditure on							
Raising Funds		20,107	-	20,107	18,616	-	18,616
Charitable Activities		71,105	148,159	219,264	52,022	164,402	216,424
Total Expenditure	3	91,212	148,159	239,371	70,638	164,402	235,040
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(25,751)	26,024	273	22,018	(44,935)	(22,917)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		62,608	57,170	119,778	35,329	107,366	142,695
Transfer between funds		15,447	(15,447)	-	5,261	(5,261)	-
Total funds carried forward		52,304	67,747	120,051	62,608	57,170	119,778

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets	6	312	580
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	17,403	7,932
Cash at Bank		111,981	126,051
		129,384	133,983
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(9,645)	(14,785)
Net current assets		119,739	119,198
Total net assets		120,051	119,778
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	9	52,304	62,608
Restricted Funds	9, 10	67,747	57,170
Total charity funds		120,051	119,778

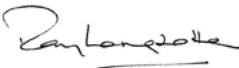
For the year ending 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors’ responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

These accounts were approved by the Board on 7 May 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



R A Longbottom
Chair

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Cashflow from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(14,527)	(22,368)
Cashflow from investing activities:		
Interest received	457	392
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	-	-
Net cash from investing activities	457	392
Cashflow from financing activities:	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalent in the reporting period	(14,070)	(21,976)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	126,051	148,027
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	111,981	126,051

Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(184)	(23,309)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	268	268
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(9,471)	(538)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(5,140)	1,211
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(14,527)	(22,368)

Notes on Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Principal accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

(b) Company status

The Charity is limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 23. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

(c) Income recognition

Income from voluntary grants, legacies and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received unless the grant specifically funds the Charity's expenditure, in which case income and expenditure are allocated to the relevant period and matched.

(d) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

(e) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Income arising on designated funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the Charity and is included in unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Office equipment and website - 20% per annum

2. Donations

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Donations for the year included:			
City Bridge Foundation		47,150	47,150
John Lyon's Charity		24,000	24,000
The Karlsson Jativa Foundation		20,000	20,000
The Edward Gostling Foundation		20,000	20,000
The Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust		15,000	15,000
The Headley Trust		10,000	10,000
The Noel Sweeney Foundation		10,000	10,000
The Eveson Charitable Trust		7,500	7,500
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust		5,000	5,000
The Souter Charitable Trust		3,000	3,000
Masonic Charitable Foundation	5,000		5,000
Other Trusts and Foundations	1,000		1,000
Events and Individual Donations	43,776		43,776
Total	49,776	161,650	211,426

3. Analysis of total expenditure

	Staff Costs	Other Direct Costs	Depreciation	Governance costs	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Raising Funds	-	19,819	-	288	20,107	18,616
Charitable Activities	36,937	178,919	268	3,140	219,264	216,424
Total for Charity	36,937	198,738	268	3,428	239,371	235,040

Governance Costs Include	2023	2022
	£	£
Payroll fee	549	312
Independent examiner's fee	956	954
Annual report design	1,100	1,100
Trustees recruitment	600	1,500-
Trustees expenses and meeting costs	137	1,260
Other governance costs	86	122
Total	3,428	5,248

4. Staff Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries and National Insurance	36,043	32,976
Pension costs	894	802
Total	36,937	33,778

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Administration and support	1	1
Total	1	1

No member of staff was paid £60,000 or more during the year (2022 - nil).

5. Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services as a member of the committee during the year (2022: £nil).

Trustees were reimbursed £nil for travel and other expenses (2022: £nil).

Notes on Financial Statements

(Continued...)

6. Tangible fixed assets

	2023			2022		
	Office Equipm't	Website	Total	Office Equipm't	Website	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 31 December 2022	5,342	6,000	11,342	5,342	6,000	11,342
Addition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	5,342	6,000	11,342	5,342	6,000	11,342
Depreciation						
At 31 December 2022	4,762	6,000	10,762	4,494	6,000	10,494
Charge for the year	268	-	268	268	-	268
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	5,030	6,000	11,030	4,762	6,000	10,762
Net book value						
At 31 December 2023	312	-	312	580	-	580
At 31 December 2022	580	-	580	848	-	848

7. Debtors: Due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	1,863	2,800
Prepayments	612	-
Accrued Income	14,928	5,132
Total	17,403	7,932

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditor	5,050	11,831
Accruals	4,595	2,954
Total	9,645	14,785

9. Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfer between funds	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	62,608	65,461	(91,212)	15,447	52,304
Restricted Funds	57,170	174,183	(148,159)	(15,447)	67,747
Total Funds	119,778	239,644	(239,371)	-	120,051

The unrestricted funds represent the free funds of the Charity which are not allocated for particular purposes.
The restricted funds relate to the development of projects started within the year but not completed by the year end.

10. Restricted Funds

	Funds for Individual Lesson programmes	Funds for Choral Workshops	Funds for Deaf Schools Programme in London	Funds for Teacher Training	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Opening balance at 1st Jan 2023	25,429	18,086	13,655	-	57,170
New funds received	55,738	79,284	27,661	11,500	174,183
Transfer of funds to Project Administration	(5,684)	(10,341)	(5,194)	(1,500)	(22,719)
Expenses	(66,952)	(59,887)	(14,857)	(6,463)	(148,159)
Reserves transfer to cover Project Shortfall	7,272	-	-	-	7,272
Closing funds at 31 December 2023	15,803	27,142	21,265	3,537	67,747

11. Related party transactions

The Trustees in office during the year are listed on page 23. The trustees have no financial interests in the charity's results or assets and received no remuneration for acting in that capacity. There are no related party transactions for disclosure during the year.

Thank You to Our Donors

Our first priority is to sustain our current, long-term projects and we greatly appreciate the support of our funders who share our values and believe in the importance of continuous support. To meet the growing demand for our services we need to succeed in gaining new grants and in diversifying our income streams, particularly to secure multi-year funding.

Message from one of our major funders in 2023, Karlsson Jativa Charitable Foundation:

“Our relationship with Music of Life was initiated in the depths of the pandemic when other sources of funding were curtailed putting great pressure on the charity sector, especially on those with less access to public sector funding. We proactively prioritised grant making to organisations with a very focussed mission and proven track record. In this search, Music of Life stood out. As restrictions have eased, we have now had the opportunity to see the work first hand and the undeniable impact it is having on the beneficiary communities. We look forward to what promises to be a long term partnership.”



We would like to thank our individual supporters for their contributions that made it possible for us to enjoy more flexibility in our work:

Anonymous donor

Alaina Sandford

Jack Brierley

Birgitta Clift

James Cooper

Ray Longbottom

Anna McClarnon

Gerard Pottinger

Barry Short

Inigo Ugarteburu

Marilyn Vincent



Our Royal Parks Half Marathon Runner Fundraisers:

Oliver Irwin

Simon Longbottom

Gary Solomons

Legal and Administrative Details

Charity number:	1102827
Company number:	4963498
Registered address:	54 Portland Place London, W1B 1DY
Trustees:	Ray Longbottom (Chair) Harvey Jones (resigned 30 November 2023) Catherine Clarke (Vice Chair) Sarah Kolkman (Treasurer) Kunal Jhanji (resigned 1 May 2023) Sophie Brüggemann Stefano Filippi (appointed 2 January 2023) Lily Harriss (appointed 1 February 2023) Tristen Hennigs (appointed 1 March 2023) Alexander McHardy (appointed 1 February 2023) Emma Dearnaley (appointed 1 May 2024) Belinda Kembery (appointed 1 May 2024) Valentina Di Venuta (appointed 1 May 2024) Gary Learmonth (appointed 1 May 2024)
Team	Maria Teterina, Chief Executive Suzzie Vango, Head of Choirs Ruth Montgomery, Music for Deaf Children Programme Lead Emma Cockbill, Lucy Hollins, Gina Baker, Charlotte Galloway, Helena Raeburn, Workshop leaders Shruti Soni, Accountant Diana Cripps, Administrative Support (volunteer) >50 music teachers and support musicians
Patrons	Evelyn Glennie CH, DBE Denise Leigh John Lubbock OBE
Advisory Council	Sophie Gray, Head of Inclusion, Services for Education, Birmingham Evangelos Himonides, Professor of Technology, Education, and Music, UCL Karen Irwin, Strategic Director (Children and Young People), Live Music Now Julian Knight, Creative Director, Creative Futures (UK) Kathryn Mason, Research Fellow, The Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre, UCL Adam Ockelford, Professor of Music, Roehampton University and Founder, Amber Trust Callum Russell, Disability Consultant, Crystal Eyes Peter Smalley, Chief Executive, Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust Lorella Terzi, Professor of Philosophy of Education, University of Roehampton Graham Welch, Professor & Chair of Music Education, UCL Institute of Education Rachel Wolffsohn, General Manager, The OHMI Trust
Bankers:	The CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent, ME19 4JQ Shawbrook Bank Ltd Lutea House Warley Hill Business Park Brentwood Essex, CM13 3BE
Independent Examiner:	Jing Lu Chartered Certified Accountant JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd 108 Manor Way, Bexleyheath, DA7 6JN



Support us

Please use QR code below
to go to our Donate page



If you would like to fundraise for us, please find
Music of Life on Justgiving using this QR code



Contact us

Music of Life Foundation
mofl@mofl.co.uk

www.musicoflife.org.uk

Registered address:
54 Portland Place, London W1B 1DY

Find us @musicoflifeuk



MUSIC OF LIFE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1102827

Accounts



**MUSIC
OF
LIFE**

**Annual
Report &
Accounts
2022**



Annual Report & Accounts 2022

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Charity Overview

The charity was established in 2003 and since then has supported over 4,500 children. Our vision is of a world where disabled children and young people have the same access to music-making as any other child.

Through long-term engagement, the children experience the joy of making music, which positively impacts their academic performance, social life and health. Their schools, families and local communities also benefit from the improved health and well-being of the children.

We support children and young people aged 5 to 25 with a wide range of physical and learning disabilities, both individually and in group workshops in special needs schools. When they are ready, we help them to integrate into community-based activities such as joining a youth choir or playing in a band, which helps to widen their social circles and gain acceptance from their non-disabled peers. It also helps non-disabled groups learn how to accommodate the needs of our students and to value their contribution.

Our Vision

Our vision is for all disabled children and young people to be able to access, and benefit from, music-making opportunities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to build and strengthen the life skills, well-being and confidence of disabled children and young people through music-making

Our Programmes

- Choirs at Special Schools
- Music for Deaf Children
- Individual Music Lessons
- Teacher Training

INDIVIDUAL MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES
PROVIDED BY MUSIC OF LIFE IN 2022

26,030

4

2022 IN NUMBERS



Summary by Activity



Summary of music provision



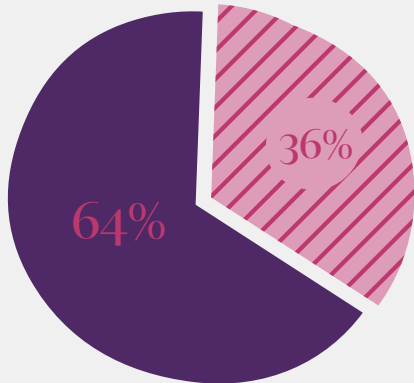
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2022 Key Facts and Figures

Our beneficiaries' primary conditions*

PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Disability)	38%
Deaf / Hard of Hearing	36%
Physical disability	14%
Blind / Visually Impaired	12%

*Many of our students have more than one condition, with 57% also on the autistic spectrum.



Ethnicity

- White British and White Other
- Ethnic Minority Groups



Welcome from the Chair of Trustees



Advisory Council

This was the second full year for the Council which comprises leaders in the fields of education, music and technology, research, music services and hubs, and kindred charities serving children and young people with disabilities.

We met twice; our first in-person meeting having had to be cancelled at short notice because of a rail-strike. Key topics included:

- A presentation and Q&A discussion with the leader of our choral workshops.
- A review of opportunities to further expand our partnerships.
- A detailed exploration of the new National Plan for Music Education led by Council member Peter Smalley of Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust. The Council welcomed the inclusion of SEN provision in the new plan and the opportunities it will provide to further develop Music of Life's work through partnerships.

Fundraising

The year ended on a high note with our first 5-year grant, from City Bridge Trust, worth £250,000 to continue and develop our Deaf schools' programme. This work is further supported by an ongoing grant of £20,000 a year from the John Lyons Charity. The Karlsson Jativa Charitable Foundation approved a new 3-year grant of £90,000 for choral workshops. In addition, we were delighted with the return of some regional funders who, understandably, had focused on other priorities during the pandemic. We greatly welcome the increasingly open dialogue and supportive stance of many Trusts and Foundations.

2023-25

We feel very positive about the next 3 years. We start with the greatest number of schools and pupils to date. We will expand our training programmes to increase capacity. We will seek new income streams and the longer-term funding on which our continuity depends. We will optimise the enhanced strength of the charity to deliver on our mission to support children and young people with disabilities.

RA Longbottom, Chair

CEO's Report



2022 was a big year for Music of Life and we are equally excited to look back at it and look forward to what we can build as a result of it. We have, again, reached a new record in the number of children we work with every week bringing the total of beneficiaries to 1008, which is a 46% increase from 2021.

We built foundations for new beginnings and continued perfecting our existing programmes. New excellent practitioners joined our teams as we extended our provision to more schools. We worked with staff at new schools to help them settle into the routine of music-making with our workshop leaders and to enable them to learn about our approach and how to best support the students in their care during our sessions.

The beginning of the Spring term was a bumpy start with lots of last-minute cancellations and school closures as the country was gradually coming out of Covid-19 restrictions. We were working closely with our teams and schools to ensure we protected the interests of all parties. We are grateful to everyone for their flexibility and understanding, as sessions were switching seamlessly from face-to-face to online provision and back. As the year progressed, we enjoyed uninterrupted provision throughout the second part of the Spring term as well as the Summer and Autumn terms.

Our Choirs in Special Schools teams were busy introducing new and less experienced choirs to our weekly sessions. Two new groups were formed in Evergreen School and two brand-new choirs started in Bridge School and Calthorpe Academy. Both new schools were an instant success. They represent some of the most deprived children among our students with 80% coming from the lowest 20% of the most disadvantaged households. Almost 100% of their families do not speak English at home. However, the Headteachers pointed out that there had been a "phenomenal" level of parental engagement in connection with the Music of Life's programmes.

Our "With a Smile and a Song" concert on 13th June 2022 at Birmingham Town Hall was one of the most significant events in the Charity's history so far. With a record number of children performing together, the largest and finest team of music leaders involved, the great partnership contribution from Birmingham Services for Education and the best-ever engagement and attendance levels from families, it was a true celebration of talent and teamwork, which left everyone uplifted and buzzing for weeks.

The choral sessions leading up to the concert and the whole event itself were beautifully captured by a professional filming team and released in two parts: the concert was published on our YouTube channel in the

summer and the exciting new film about Music of Life choirs came out later in the year. The full story and QR codes for both the concert and the film can be found on page 11 of this report.

Our Music for Deaf Children continued to develop rapidly in many directions. Early in the year it won us a new local authority collaboration with the Hertfordshire Music Service through our work at Heathlands School for Deaf Children in St Albans. The schools in London attracted a lot of interest from funders, educational specialists and potential collaborators and presented a fabulous showcase to enable us to secure funding for a major new round of teacher training that commences in 2023. Students from Frank Barnes School participated in the Camden Music Festival and recorded a song with a choir from the primary school next door.

In our Individual Lessons Programme, recent case studies about our longest-standing beneficiaries tell a story of impressive achievements. They illustrate the value of multi-year support and also the ever-important role of the teacher. At the other end of the spectrum there are some incredibly moving stories of young Deaf children including those with multiple and profound learning disabilities who take immense pride in the fact that they are learning an instrument, which is a point that all the Headteachers' reports also highlight. We have seen evidence from our evaluation studies that our offer of 1:1 instrumental lessons to all KS2 children in Deaf schools where we work, is highly beneficial and stimulating, even if the lessons are very short initially. It also increases visibility of our work and its benefits to the families who can witness their children practicing at home.

We were delighted to re-introduce individual singing lessons in schools where we run choirs. Several experienced teachers in the Midlands area volunteered for this work as soon as the funding became available.

As part of the preparation for a new round of our Teacher Training programme, we collaborated with some of our schools to provide shadowing and work experience opportunities (unpaid) to qualified music practitioners who are interested in joining the Music of Life team at some stage in the future. Implemented over the entire Autumn term, it allowed us to test our "hands-on" approach in a live environment and fine-tune our offer to future trainees – practitioners and young musicians, including those with disabilities.

Maria Teterina,
CEO

Individual Lessons Programme

Music of Life provides weekly 1:1 music tuition on a wide range of instruments and in various music genres.

Our lessons are delivered in a number of settings:

- Schools where we run choirs
- Schools for Deaf children as part of the music curriculum
- In partnership with local music services
- In partnership with other organisations, such as youth ensembles
- By individual arrangement



Kabir is much more grounded and calmer since having piano lessons. His class teacher informed me that he was surprised how good the pupil was in his music class and how musical he was. Teachers have noticed a huge difference with Kabir since doing piano lessons. He goes back to class in a happier mood. He is hardly able to answer the questions I ask, but he responds well in music at all times.

Harjit Singh, Music teacher, Birmingham



Marian is non-verbal, in terms of using speech, however is fluent in using BSL to communicate. This year I have been doing a lot of work on phrases, tonguing, timing and melody. All this falls under emotional expression, the extension of her voice, and I have also noticed, as she is a cochlear implant user, she knows if the note she is playing is not clear, and she will be consciously aware of it and will pay attention to improve on her sound. Music helps her with active listening and raising expectations.



Ruth Montgomery, Music teacher, London

Music for Deaf Children

Music for Deaf children has been designed and for several years exclusively implemented by professional Deaf musicians.

Now it also enables hearing musicians to learn to work with Deaf children. It includes classroom provision, working in small groups with activities tailored very specifically for the needs of each age group; 1:1 instrument tuition and support for schools to enable Deaf students' participation in major music partnership projects.

In 2022 Music of Life has been able to deliver weekly music sessions and lessons in 5 schools for Deaf children:

- Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children (Camden)
- Roding Primary School (Woodford)
- Blanche Neville School (Haringey)
- James Wolfe School (Greenwich)
- Heathlands School (St Albans)



There has been a vast improvement in the children's music ability since being part of this project. Pupils can now fully access and participate in sessions. They are being taught by an inspirational Deaf role model which has been massively empowering for our pupils. They are making great progress compared to when they joined mainstream sessions.



Sabrina Lee, Teacher of the Deaf, Heathlands School



Concert and lessons have had a really positive impact. Parents are beginning to recognise the benefits of music and are supportive of their children learning.



Kathryn McCarthy, Deputy Headteacher, Blanche Neville school

Choirs at Special Needs Schools

This is our longest-running project to date (started in 2014), an ongoing programme of weekly choral workshops delivered by a team of professional musicians.

Choir sizes range from 20 to 70 students, joined by many of the school staff. It's a very "all together now!" approach and a lot of fun.

In 2022 Music of Life ran weekly choral sessions at a record 7 schools:

- Evergreen Primary School, Warwick
- Evergreen Secondary School, Warwick
- Selly Oak Special School, Birmingham
- Woodlands Special School, Coleshill
- Calthorpe Academy, Birmingham
- Bridge School, Birmingham
- Castle School, Cambridge



The excited buzz coming from the school hall on a Music of Life day is extraordinary! Pupils and staff participate with enthusiasm and everyone has a voice. The social interactions are wonderful to see and after 2 years of Covid, it was one of the first opportunities to come back together. The performance skills of the pupils who were involved in the concert were brilliant, we were all so proud!

Lizzie Godwin, Deputy Headteacher, Woodlands school



Music of Life sessions have brought such joy to our school. They have given our pupils opportunities to use their voices and make choices, with instant results. We see high levels of engagement in sessions and whenever we repeat any of the songs outside of sessions. It has also given our pupils a sense of belonging and community, even during the online sessions, when they could see their friends on screen and join in together.



Sue Clark, Assistant Head, Evergreen Special School



It has helped some students retain information and be able to come back to class and talk about what they have been doing in their session

Daisy Hands, Evergreen school



"With a Smile and a Song" concert and the new Music of Life film

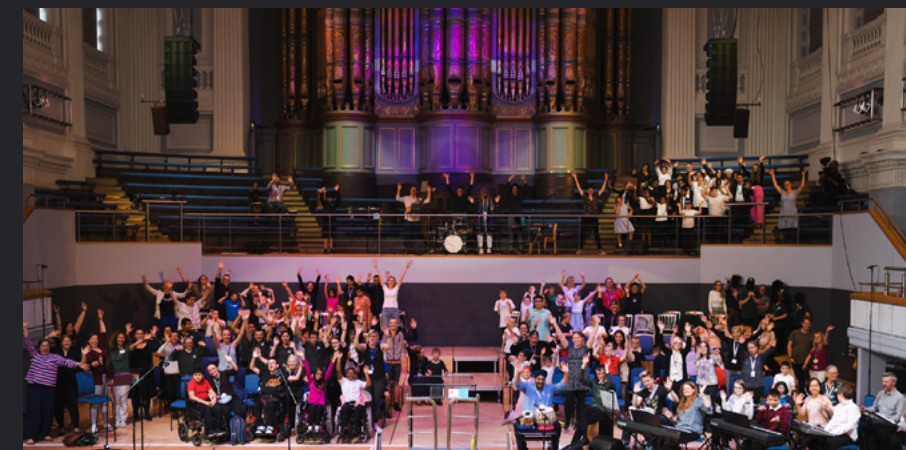
The concert brought together 5 of our choirs and individual students from over 10 special schools in Birmingham and Warwickshire. It featured our Patron, Denise Leigh and some of our older and most advanced students performing solos with the choir.

The whole event was a massive logistical challenge, managed calmly and efficiently by Ruth Massey, our concert manager. We also benefited tremendously from the ongoing support and cooperation of Sophie Gray, Amy Swallow and Birmingham Services for Education (S4E) teachers as well as staff at participating schools. There were many problems to overcome to secure the attendance of the individual students, but

no effort was spared by teachers, S4E staff and us to provide the young people with access to the event. It hammered home the critical need for complex arrangements to be in place to enable our students to participate in external events, and their complete dependency on others to make them. We believe this is one of Music of Life's key strengths and foremost duties to our students.

The Music of Life film includes unique footage from our singing sessions at schools, interviews with students, their teachers and Music of Life leaders and a much valued contribution from Professor Graham Welch talking about the benefits of singing from a scientific perspective.

Our brand new film about Music of Life Choirs and for the full version of the concert in Birmingham are available to watch on our YouTube channel. Please use your phone's camera to scan the QR codes below.



Scan this QR code to watch the film

Scan this QR code to watch the concert



Plans for 2023

At the time this report is being prepared, the year has got off to a flying start with the receipt of our largest multi-year grant ever and the arrival of several new trustees to join our Board.

New pathways and collaborations are being explored and we see the next few months as an exciting challenge for the organisation, having achieved a certain critical mass both in quality of provision and funding, to implement our 3-year plan for strategic development and further growth.

Trustees' Report

For the year ending 31 December 2022

Introduction

The Trustees who are also the Directors of the limited company have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the financial statements of Music of Life Foundation Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Legal and administrative information set out on page 23 forms part of this Report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Articles of Association, applicable law and Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019.

Structure, Governance & Management

Music of Life Foundation is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association dated 12 November 2003 and amended by special resolution on 11 July 2019 to bring the Charity's governing documents into line with current company and charity law and good practice. The Charity is registered at Companies House as No. 4963498. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission as No. 1102827.

The Foundation is managed by a Board, the members of which have the legal status of directors of the charitable company (the Charity) and are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Board meets at least six times a year to have a close view on performance against objectives and to have more flexibility to react to arising issues.

Selection and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees appoint new members by general agreement. Regular reviews are conducted to ensure that the Board has the necessary skills. New trustees take part in an induction process when they receive copies of the Charity's Articles of Association, are fully briefed on their obligations under charity and company law, and are given information on the decision-making processes, the financial performance of the Charity, the regular review of the Risk Assessment and the Business Plan.

Trustees with specific expertise brief the Board from time to time on current topics, more broadly trustees are encouraged to keep up-to-date with developments in the sector and to take advantage of the many training opportunities available from various bodies.

Objectives and Activities of the Foundation for the Public Benefit

Music of Life Foundation's objectives are the advancement of the education of disabled children in the arts and, in particular, the art of music by:

- Providing access to facilities for study, for creative development and access to both standard and creative organisations, on equal terms with other children,
- Organising of national and international musical events, competitions and concerts in which disabled children can participate thus helping them to realise their potential, and
- Supporting research undertaken into the educational and therapeutic use of the arts and in particular the art of music for the benefit of disabled children.

When reviewing the Foundation's aims and objectives, devising new programmes and setting policies for the year, the Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and complied with their duty under Section s17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and take action where appropriate to mitigate them. The Trustees consider the two greatest risks to be

- the unpredictability and short-term nature of much of our funding to be the greatest risk in the short to medium term.
- the sudden loss of key individuals involved in the management of the charity and in delivering its programmes

We have focussed our fundraising on securing longer term grants. In December 2022, funding was secured from City Bridge Trust which will support part of our programme for the next five years. Further grants covering three year periods have also been secured.

We are seeking to mitigate the loss of key individuals by regular training of additional contractors, who shadow and work with our workshop leaders, and by adding a new role in the leadership team.

Financial Review

Total income was £212,123, an increase of 30% on 2021. We continue to be supported by a large number of Trusts and Foundations. Some of these trusts commit to multiyear funding, and many are regular funders. We are extremely grateful for the support of all of our funders.

Our overall charitable expenditure increased by 42% to £216,424 (2021: £151,955). We also spent £18,616 on fundraising activities, giving total costs of £235,040. The costs have exceeded income in the year by £22,917.

We start 2023 with restricted reserves at £57,170 - 47% lower than at the start of 2022. This is a significant drop in our project reserves caused largely by spending in the previous year being delayed due to the pandemic. The Trustees consider all projects to have sufficient funds for the academic year. We are continuing to secure funding for the 23/24 academic year to supplement the multiyear funding already secured.

Unrestricted reserves have increased during 2022 from £35,329 to £62,608 as many funders have generously donated with no restrictions, enabling the trustees to determine the most appropriate use of the funds – supporting the concert, assisting programmes with a shortage of funding, and securing our ability to fund our core costs in the coming year.

In total, we are carrying forward reserves of £119,778 (2021: £142,695)

Going Concern

We have focussed this year on building long term relationships with new and existing funders, a strategy which will continue in 2023. This process was made slightly easier as our programmes resumed in schools, and we held a concert in the year. The Board is actively engaged in applying to an increasing number of Trusts and Foundations for support. The Board has adopted a rigorous risk assessment process to identify and mitigate any major risks. Consequently, the Trustees believe that it is appropriate to continue to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review the reserves policy at least annually, or on the occurrence of material changes in the Charity's activities. The Trustees have reviewed the Charity's requirements for reserves and have decided to hold a sufficient balance of unrestricted reserves to cover 6 months of planned expenditure to ensure financial

stability and act as a safeguard against unpredictable income streams. In general, we do not commit to projects until funding is secured. These funds are usually received at the start of a project while expenditure follows on a monthly basis. At the end of 2022, free reserves were £62,028 which represents cover of 11 months. Free reserves are part of the charity's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes. Free reserves are cash or liquid funds and do not include tangible fixed assets.

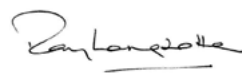
Statement Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the Examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the Examiner is aware of such information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Act relating to small entities.

Approved by the Board on 27 April 2023 and signed on its behalf:



R A Longbottom

Chair

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Music of Life Foundation



JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 15 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and an independent examination is required under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the charitable company is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jing Lu, Chartered Certified Accountant
JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd
Date: 27th April 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

(For the year ended 31 December 2022)

		2022			2021		
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income From							
Donations	2	92,264	116,000	208,264	43,521	118,741	162,262
Invoiced income		-	3,467	3,467	-	299	299
Investment Income		392	-	392	769	-	769
Total Income		92,656	119,467	212,123	44,290	119,040	163,330
Expenditure on							
Raising Funds		18,616	-	18,616	20,652	-	20,652
Charitable Activities		52,022	164,402	216,424	43,589	108,366	151,955
Total Expenditure	3	70,638	164,402	235,040	64,241	108,366	172,607
Net Income/(Expenditure)		22,018	(44,935)	(22,917)	(19,951)	10,674	(9,277)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		35,329	107,366	142,695	36,207	115,765	151,972
Transfer between funds		5,261	(5,261)	-	19,073	(19,073)	-
Total funds carried forward		62,608	57,170	119,778	35,329	107,366	142,695

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets	6	580	848
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	7,932	7,394
Cash at Bank		126,051	148,027
		133,983	155,421
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(14,785)	(13,574)
Net current assets		119,198	141,847
Total net assets		119,778	142,695
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	9	62,608	35,329
Restricted Funds	9, 10	57,170	107,366
Total charity funds		119,778	142,695

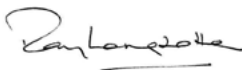
For the year ending 31 December 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

These accounts were approved by the Board on 27 April 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



R A Longbottom

Chair

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Cashflow from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(22,368)	(10,775)
Cashflow from investing activities:		
Interest received	392	769
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	-	-
Net cash from investing activities	392	769
Cashflow from financing activities:	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalent in the reporting period	(21,976)	(10,006)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	148,027	158,033
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	126,051	148,027

Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(23,309)	(10,046)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	268	268
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(538)	(2,421)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,211	1,424
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(22,368)	(10,775)

Notes on Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Principal accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

(b) Company status

The Charity is limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 23. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

(c) Income recognition

Income from voluntary grants, legacies and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received unless the grant specifically funds the Charity's expenditure, in which case income and expenditure are allocated to the relevant period and matched.

(d) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

(e) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Income arising on designated funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the Charity and is included in unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Office equipment and website - 20% per annum

2. Donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
Donations for the year included:			
The Karlsson Játiva Charitable Foundation		20,000	20,000
John Lyon's Charity		20,000	20,000
The Foyle Foundation	20,000		20,000
The Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust		15,000	15,000
The Edward Gostling Foundation	15,000		15,000
The Leathersellers' Foundation	10,000		10,000
The National Lottery Community Fund		10,000	10,000
The Grey Court Trust	6,500		6,500
Masonic Charitable Foundation	5,000		5,000
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust		5,000	5,000
The Norton Foundation		5,000	5,000
The Helen Rachael Mackaness Charitable Trust		5,000	5,000
The Childwick Trust		5,000	5,000
Schroder Charity Trust		5,000	5,000
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust		4,000	4,000

2. Donations (Continued)

Green Hall Foundation		4,000	4,000
James Howard		4,000	4,000
Michael Marsh		3,000	3,000
The Grantham Yorke Trust		2,500	2,500
Edward and Dorothy Cadbury		2,500	2,500
Bruce Wake		2,000	2,000
The George Henry Collins Charity		1,500	1,500
Kenneth Hargreaves Charity	1,200		1,200
George Perkins Charity		1,000	1,000
John Thaw Foundation		1,000	1,000
Other Trusts and Foundations		500	500
Events and individual donations	34,564		34,564
Total	92,264	116,000	208,264

3. Analysis of total expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Other Direct Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance costs £	2022 £	2021 £
Raising Funds	-	18,200	-	416	18,616	20,652
Charitable Activities	33,778	177,546	268	4,832	216,424	151,955
Total for Charity	33,778	195,746	268	5,248	235,040	172,607

Governance Costs Include

	2022 £	2021 £
Payroll fee	312	276
Independent examiner's fee	954	900
Annual report design	1,100	912
Trustees recruitment	1,500	-
Trustees expenses and meeting costs	1,260	1,012
Other governance costs	112	334
Total	5,248	3,434

4. Staff Costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries and National Insurance	32,976	31,784
Pension costs	802	766
Total	33,778	32,550

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Administration and support	1	1
Total	1	1

No member of staff was paid £60,000 or more during the year (2021 - nil).

Notes on Financial Statements

(Continued...)

5. Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services as a member of the committee during the year (2021: £nil).

Trustees were reimbursed £nil for travel and other expenses (2021: £nil).

6. Tangible fixed assets

	2022			2021		
	Office Equipm't	Website	Total	Office Equipm't	Website	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 31 December 2021	5,342	6,000	11,342	5,342	6,000	11,342
Addition	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	5,342	6,000	11,342	5,342	6,000	11,342
Depreciation						
At 31 December 2021	4,494	6,000	10,494	4,226	6,000	10,226
Charge for the year	268	-	268	268	-	268
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	4,762	6,000	10,762	4,494	6,000	10,494
Net book value						
At 31 December 2022	580	-	580	848	-	848
At 31 December 2021	848	-	848	1,116	-	1,116

7. Debtors: Due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Debtors	2,800	-
Accrued Income	5,132	7,394
Total	7,932	7,394

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Creditor	11,831	10,386
Accruals	2,954	3,189
Total	14,785	13,574

9. Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfer between funds	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	35,329	92,656	(70,638)	5,261	62,608
Restricted Funds	107,366	119,647	(164,402)	(5,261)	57,170
Total Funds	142,695	212,123	(235,040)	-	119,778

The unrestricted funds represent the free funds of the Charity which are not allocated for particular purposes.

The restricted funds relate to the development of projects started within the year but not completed by the year end.

10. Restricted Funds

	Funds for Individual Lesson programmes	Funds for Choral Workshops	Funds for Deaf Schools Programme in London	Funds for celebration concert	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Opening balance at 1st Jan 2022	52,312	26,040	29,014	-	107,366
New funds received	40,167	52,300	12,500	14,500	119,467
Transfer of funds to Project Administration	(5,239)	(6,822)	(1,630)	-	(13,691)
Expenses	(64,524)	(53,672)	(26,229)	(19,977)	(164,402)
Reserves transfer to cover Project Shortfall	2,713	240	-	5,477	8,430
Closing funds at 31 December 2022	25,429	18,086	13,655	-	57,170

11. Related party transactions

The Trustees in office during the year are listed on page 23. The trustees have no financial interests in the charity's results or assets and received no remuneration for acting in that capacity. There are no related party transactions for disclosure during the year.

Thank You to Our Donors

Our first priority is to sustain our current, long-term projects and we greatly appreciate the support of our funders who share our values and believe in the importance of continuous support. To meet the growing demand for our services we need to succeed in gaining new grants and in diversifying our income streams, particularly to secure multi-year funding.

Message from one of our major funders in 2022, Karlsson Jativa Charitable Foundation:

“Our relationship with Music of Life was initiated in the depths of the pandemic when other sources of funding were curtailed putting great pressure on the charity sector, especially on those with less access to public sector funding. We proactively prioritised grant making to organisations with a very focussed mission and proven track record. In this search, Music of Life stood out. As restrictions have eased, we have now had the opportunity to see the work first hand and the undeniable impact it is having on the beneficiary communities. We look forward to what promises to be a long term partnership.”



We would like to thank our individual supporters for their contributions that made it possible for us to enjoy more flexibility in our work:

Karen van Amersfoort

Jack Brierley

Robert Brown

Karen Campbell

Michael Clarkson Webb

Kenneth Elliott

Anne Gibson

Susan Horsewood-Lee

Chi Yum Hui

Ben Hui

Julia Orford

Katherine Puffett

Anjolie Rusius

Rosalyn Shaw

Barry Short

Anne Taylor

Marylin Vincent

Charles Watts

Paul Weston



Legal and Administrative Details

Charity number: 1102827

Company number: 4963498

Registered address: 54 Portland Place
London, W1B 1DY

Trustees:

Ray Longbottom (Chair)
Harvey Jones
Catherine Clarke (Vice Chair)
Sarah Kolkman (Treasurer)
Robert Blencowe (resigned 24 March 2022)
Clare Salters (resigned 31 December 2022)
Kunal Jhanji
Sophie Brüggemann
Stefano Filippi (appointed 2 January 2023)
Lily Harriss (appointed 1 February 2023)
Tristen Hennigs (appointed 1 March 2023)
Alexander McHardy (appointed 1 February 2023)

Team

Maria Teterina, Chief Executive
Suzzie Vango, Head of Choirs at Special Schools programme
Ruth Montgomery, Music for Deaf Children programme leader
Emma Cockbill, Eloise Garland, Elsie Gibbs, Naomi Berry, Lucy Hollins, Gina Baker, Workshop leaders
Shruti Soni, Accountant
Diana Cripps, Administrative Support
>50 music teachers and support musicians

Patrons

Evelyn Glennie CH, DBE
Denise Leigh
John Lubbock OBE

Advisory Council

Sophie Gray, Head of Inclusion, Services for Education, Birmingham
Evangelos Himonides, Professor of Technology, Education, and Music, UCL
Karen Irwin, Strategic Director (Children and Young People), Live Music Now
Julian Knight, Creative Director, Creative Futures (UK)
Kathryn Mason, Research Fellow, The Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre, UCL
Adam Ockelford, Professor of Music, Roehampton University and Founder, Amber Trust
Callum Russell, Disability Consultant, Crystal Eyes
Peter Smalley, Chief Executive, Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust
Lorella Terzi, Professor of Philosophy of Education, University of Roehampton
Graham Welch, Professor & Chair of Music Education, UCL Institute of Education
Rachel Wolffsohn, General Manager, The OHMI Trust

Bankers:

The CAF Bank Ltd	Shawbrook Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue	Lutea House
Kings Hill	Warley Hill Business Park
West Mallings	Brentwood
Kent, ME19 4JQ	Essex, CM13 3BE

Independent Examiner:

Jing Lu
Chartered Certified Accountant
JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd
108 Manor Way,
Bexleyheath, DA7 6JN

**MUSIC
OF
LIFE**

Support us

You can donate to Music of Life on our website
musicoflife.org.uk/support-our-work/donate-to-our-work/donate-online.

If you would like to find out more about how to support our work, including sponsoring a student or a school, please contact Maria Teterina, Chief Executive at mteterina@mofl.co.uk or by calling 020 7813 5472

Find us @musicoflifeuk



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

**MUSIC
OF
LIFE**

Contact us

Music of Life Foundation
mofl@mofl.co.uk

www.musicoflife.org.uk

Registered address:
54 Portland Place, London W1B 1DY

MUSIC OF LIFE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1102827

Accounts

A group of children, mostly of African descent, are wearing white t-shirts with a yellow circular logo that says 'MUSIC OF LIFE' and 'music makes me happy'. They are giving thumbs up. The background is dark and out of focus.

**MUSIC
OF
LIFE**

**Annual
Report &
Accounts
2021**



Annual Report & Accounts 2021

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Charity Overview

The charity was established in 2003 and since then has supported over 4,000 children. Our vision is of a world where disabled children and young people have the same access to music-making as any other child.

Through long-term engagement, the children experience the joy of making music, which positively impacts their academic performance, social life and health. Their schools, families and local communities also benefit from the improved health and well-being of the children.

We support children and young people aged 5 to 25 with a wide range of physical and learning disabilities, both individually and in group workshops in special needs schools. When they are ready, we help them to integrate into community-based activities such as joining a youth choir or playing in a band, which helps to widen their social circles and gain acceptance from their non-disabled peers. It also helps non-disabled groups learn how to accommodate the needs of our students and to value their contribution.

Our Vision

Our vision is for all disabled children and young people to be able to access, and benefit from, music-making opportunities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to build and strengthen the life skills, well-being and confidence of disabled children and young people through music-making

Our Programmes

- Choirs at Special Schools
- Music for Deaf Children
- Individual Music Lessons
- Teacher Training

17,140

INDIVIDUAL MUSIC
OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED
BY MUSIC OF LIFE IN 2021

2021 YEAR IN NUMBERS

90

STUDENTS RECEIVING
1:1 LESSONS

686

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES

651

STUDENTS ATTENDING
GROUP SESSIONS

6

CHOIRS AT SPECIAL
SCHOOLS

5

SCHOOLS FOR
DEAF CHILDREN

13

SCHOOLS WITH
INDIVIDUAL LESSONS
PROVISION

>10k

VEIWS OF MUSIC VIDEOS
WITH BSL AND SONG
TUTORIALS ON YOUTUBE

2,250

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

53

CHORAL SESSIONS
IN SCHOOLS

46

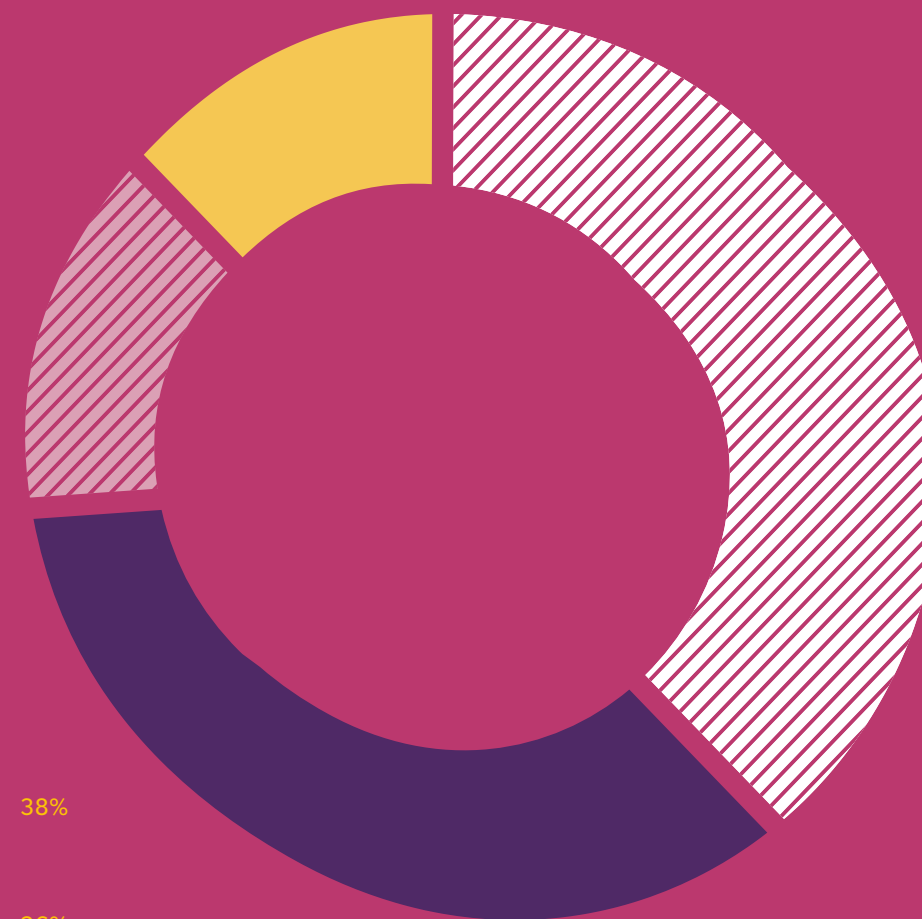
VIDEO TUTORIALS
PRODUCED

156

DAYS OF CLASSROOM
MUSIC PROVISION FOR
DEAF CHILDREN

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Our beneficiaries' primary conditions*



- PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Disability) 38%
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing 36%
- Physical disability 14%
- Blind/Visually impaired 12%

*Many of our students have more than one condition, with 57% also on the autistic spectrum.

Summary of music provision

Voice	407
Keyboard	34
Music technology	7
Strings	36
Wind	28
Percussion/Other	42
Folk/Traditional	22
Theory	5
Composition	12
Music in classroom for deaf children	93

Ethnicity



Welcome from the Chair of Trustees



Introduction

Music-making has never been more important to children and young people with disabilities than in the last two years when their normal routines were disrupted, and isolation increased, leading to negative impacts on their already fragile mental health and well-being. Music of Life's mission that "every child with a disability should have the same access to music-making opportunities as any other child" drove our determination to maintain our service by whatever means was possible, and to increase the number of children who could benefit which, in turn, has a very positive impact on their families and schools.

Thanks to the professionalism, dedication and adaptability of our teams, Music of Life reached more children and young people than ever before in 2021 and was described by some as a "lifeline". We are immensely grateful to the trusts and foundations who so willingly supported our work giving generously, and being flexible when we needed to adapt the use of their grants.

I would like to thank all the members of our team, our dedicated CEO Maria Teterina, our expert workshop leaders and individual lessons tutors who deliver our services, our fundraising consultant, our volunteer administrator and our Board of Trustees.

Advisory Council

A very exciting development in 2021 was the formation of the Music of Life Advisory Council. The Council was created to provide the charity with access to recognised experts and lived experience in the areas of music and disability and to be a forum for organisations who share our commitment to the development of children and young people with additional needs.

The Council currently comprises 11 members representing musical education and research, disability consultancy, music services, and charities in allied fields. It met 3 times in the year and explored in depth topics including research into musical provision for young people with additional needs, impact measurement, equality, diversity and inclusion, and the thorny subject of appropriate terminology.

We are very grateful to all the members of the Council for their unquestioning willingness to join the group and share their considerable knowledge and experience.

Fundraising

The pandemic greatly increased demand on grant-makers, however, despite the many challenges, our income increased by 8% and our charitable spending by 19%, thanks to generous support from some of our long-standing donors and several new funders.

I would particularly like to thank the Mercers Charitable Trust, the Karlsson-Jativa Foundation, the London Community Fund, The Sobell Foundation, BBC Children in Need, the Leathersellers Company and an anonymous donor as well as all the other grant-makers, individual donors and our intrepid runners in the Royal Parks Half Marathon.

The Board

The trustees met 7 times maintaining the increased frequency we agreed at the start of the pandemic. All these meetings were by video except the last in December 2021 when several of the trustees met in person for the first time.

We have an excellent and engaged board with a broad range of skills who have been very hands-on throughout the pandemic. We are looking to increase representation of other ethnicities and of lived experience of disability. Before starting an open recruitment process, we are conducting an Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) audit and will soon publish an EDI policy and action plan.

The Board classifies risks under 4 pillars and reviews one of these at each quarterly meeting. Key risks such as fundraising and the level of our reserves are, of course, kept under continuous review. We greatly appreciate the contribution of Jeff Sutherland-Kay, who left the Board at the end of the year, for his leadership of strategy and risk.

2022

Music of Life has made a strong start to 2022 with new schools and new students and all provision currently "live". Our opportunity and challenge is to raise sufficient funds each year so we can use our increased capacity and proven methods to support more and more children with disabilities and their communities.

R A Longbottom

Chair

CEO's Report



2021 was a year of dynamic growth and exciting development despite frequent changes and disruption as the country transitioned through lockdown to something approaching normality. In total we supported nearly 700 children, our greatest number yet, and an increase of 50% on the previous year. Our online resources, music videos with BSL for Deaf children and song tutorials, which our programme leads and their teams produced during the lockdown, attracted new audiences and made us even more aware of the acute need for musical activities for children with special needs during the pandemic. Our mission throughout was to support the mental health of children and provide them with vital positive interaction with our musicians through digital means, to help them battle isolation, anxiety and the lack of recreational opportunities. Our online materials attracted the interest of many more special schools highlighting the pressing need to extend our services to more children as we fully return to in-school, face-to-face provision.

Our **Music for Deaf Children programme** led by professional Deaf musicians and educators Ruth Montgomery and Eloise Garland went from strength to strength; children were able to attend their special schools in person so we could continue our face-to-face provision for the whole year at the Frank Barnes, Roding, Blanche Neville and James Wolfe schools. The reputation of the programme has been growing, with both school representatives and families with Deaf children becoming more aware of the unique benefits of engagement in music, leading to an increase in demand for our services. We started 1:1 instrumental teaching and classroom sessions with 59 new children at Heathlands School, St Albans from the Autumn term 2021, delivered by Elsie Gibbs, one of the inspiring young music practitioners who took part in the recent training programme conducted by our Deaf music leaders. She also recently achieved Level 6 British Sign Language qualification.

Our **Choirs in Special Schools programme** was more difficult to maintain due to the long-term ban on singing in groups related to the spread of Covid. Suzzie Vango, who leads this programme, and her team nonetheless found ways to engage our students in musical activities at home and in school. The Spring term was delivered mostly online, with our team working with the children in schools in their bubbles via scheduled weekly sessions through video conference facilities, while the Summer term saw a combination of online and in-person sessions. Finally in September we were delighted to be back to face-to-face singing with all our choirs and were able to start a new school, the Castle School in

Cambridge, where two choirs are now being led by a brand-new local team of Music of Life practitioners. Our regular choirs at the Woodlands School in Coleshill and the Selly Oak School in Birmingham, have been growing steadily, and two new ones were formed at the Evergreen School in Warwick where our team works on two sites with an exciting total of over 250 children, of both primary and secondary ages. We continued to grow our wonderful team of workshop leaders and teachers and got ready for more new schools that joined from January 2022.

Our **Individual Lessons programme** supported 90 children with weekly 1:1 lessons from specialist teachers on a wide selection of instruments as well as singing, composition, music technology and theory. Our close partnership with Birmingham Services for Education continued to flourish and now enables us to deliver lessons to 30 students from more than 10 special needs schools. We are proud to be providing uninterrupted specialist music education and creative opportunities to a growing number of children with a wide range of special needs and we hope that through our work we will help more people to embrace their creativity and talent. When asked what was the most unforgettable Music of Life moment last year, the Headteacher in one of the schools for the Deaf told us it was "one of our children telling us she was teaching her hearing twin how to play the keyboard at home and how proud she felt telling us this".

In all our programmes we are especially grateful to the teachers and members of staff at the schools for their ongoing support, flexibility and cooperation in organising and managing the sessions and lessons, despite all the pressures brought on by the pandemic. They are also a source of invaluable feedback and knowledge when it comes to the individual needs of students, enabling us to tailor our provision further, to suit the complex requirements and unlock some unique capabilities.

I would like to thank our amazing volunteer Financial Administrator, Diana Cripps, for looking after our day-to-day transactions, accounting and bookkeeping and working closely with our Treasurer and accountant. We have also been very lucky to work with our volunteer Social Media manager Silvia Epure in 2020-21, who helped us to take all our social media accounts to a new level.

Maria Teterina

CEO

Individual Lessons Programme



Sam has been brilliant with my daughter M, expertly adapting her teaching style to build on M's strengths and learning preferences. She managed to continue masterfully over FaceTime during the various lockdowns in 2020/2021 and it is no exaggeration to say that M's piano playing was one of the great consolations of that period. M has had such a sense of achievement and pleasure from it - and it has been fabulous for her development in so many ways.



Sarah, parent of a Music of Life student with a learning disability



8



Lilia is now 14 years old. Her musical journey with Music of Life began over 8 years ago, and it has now become an integral part of our lives. A talented musician with varied interests, Lilia has been keen to try different instruments and style of music, as well as composition and music theory. Throughout the past 6 years Lilia's clarinet teacher Stephen has been the biggest and the most steady part of this journey. He has been with us through the years of musical inspirations and tantrums, always sensitive to Lilia's emotional and behavioural needs. Stephen's flexible approach enabled Lilia to grow into a confident clarinetist, and this is the instrument that Lilia will carry on with her into her future life. She is currently preparing for Grade 7, and being only in year 10, we envisage that she will complete her journey through the grades well before the end of secondary school.

The support of Music of Life for many aspects of Lilia's musical development also means that she has been able to continue studying piano and music theory at the Watford School of Music, and is to sit grade 6 theory exam this term.

Music is a huge part of Lilia's life. She is involved with numerous school orchestras and choirs, and is looking forward to the Tour of Dorset with the London Youth Wind Band this summer. We are very grateful to Stephen and Music of Life for giving Lilia the skills to be able to fulfil her dreams.



Irina, parent of a Music of Life student with autism



When asked, all our students talk about learning an instrument (eg playing the guitar, piano or learning the recorder). Children understand what 'music' is and become animated when we talk about the subject. They are developing a love of music!

They are also more aware of rhythm and 2 students have approached me to ask for more music lessons. For one child with additional needs it has helped them to join in with more activities with their peers in general.



Kathryn McCarthy, Deputy Headteacher, Blanche Neville School for Deaf Children

Music for Deaf Children



You can use your phone's camera to read the QR code or click on the link to see the final performance of the song filmed for the Camden Music Festival



Rehearsals are well underway for the Camden Schools Music Festival. The Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children is joining forces with Kings Cross Academy, the mainstream primary school that occupies the adjoining premises. Children from both schools are gathered in the hall after lunchtime to have the first run-through of the song they have been learning in classes as a choir; the choir leader and pianist are joined by professional Deaf musicians, Ruth Montgomery on the flute and Eloise Garland on the violin, both have been leading the Music of Life programme at the school for the past 4 years.

Whilst the grown-ups are tuning their instruments and getting ready to start, the children are forming a circle, each school making half of it. For a few moments they are looking at each other, curiously. Then one of the students from the Frank Barnes school says to their teacher pointing at the group opposite them: "I know them, they are from next door, I saw them playing outside. They are just like us. But they can hear. So they will sing and we will sign!"



Ruth offers a unique approach in her pedagogy regarding music, as she adopts a visual approach that works effectively with our pupils. Her approach has helped my pupils' confidence, as they are now offering and volunteering to play in front of the class.



class teacher, Roding school for Deaf children



Without Ruth's visits I am unsure anything we provide would be as inclusive. I, as a hearing teacher, can seek advice but it is so important for Deaf children to be taught by specialist Deaf professionals they can admire and aspire to be.



class teacher, Blanche Neville School for Deaf Children

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Choirs at Special Needs Schools



Your practitioners are absolutely fantastic. The activities are appropriate to the abilities of the pupils and the whole thing is inclusive musical fun, full of freedom and expression for all.

Staff are committed to joining in and can see the benefit of the activities.

Pupils in our autism department who are usually with non-verbal peers are having the opportunity to sing and work with fellow verbal pupils.

The appropriateness of the activities and the way your team pitch the activities is the best thing about the project. It can be difficult to find workshops that tick these boxes.



Emily Tully, Head of Performing Arts,
Calthorpe Academy



Music of Life musicians have been fantastic during all the restrictions. They have worked with us online and in person when possible and all sessions have been engaging and fun. Online sessions worked well, with good interaction with pupils - they loved seeing other classes online when they couldn't meet in person. It also kept up familiarity ready for when we could resume in person sessions. Being able to access the recordings of sessions and songs has been fantastic for when pupils are at home or unable to attend live.



Christy del Strother, Music Teacher,
Woodlands School



Music of Life sessions have brought such joy to our school. It has given our pupils opportunities to use their voices and make choices, with instant results. We see high levels of engagement in sessions and whenever we repeat any of the songs outside of sessions. It has also given our pupils a sense of belonging and community, even during the online sessions, when they could see their friends on screen and join in together.



Sue Clark, Assistant Head,
Evergreen Special School



Plans for 2022



We are looking forward to a very busy year, working with more children than ever before, creating more opportunities for them to join in with mainstream schools and music groups and to participate in exciting partnership events. Our team of specialist music practitioners is growing proportionally, and we are delighted that through our sessions many excellent musicians start to work regularly with children with special needs. We are also planning to provide training and work experience placements for young musicians with disabilities in some of our projects.

Two new schools in the Midlands joined our Choirs in Special Schools programme in January 2022 for a pilot term and we are very keen to add them to our list of ongoing projects, subject to raising sufficient funding. In June we will finally stage the long-awaited Celebration concert "With a Smile and a Song" in Birmingham Town Hall which has been postponed twice due to the pandemic.

Our Music for Deaf Children programme will see many of the pupils taking part in joint events with hearing children from local schools. One of the most important aspects of our music education for Deaf children is that it opens up opportunities for them to engage more with children in mainstream settings.

We will continue to develop our social media and internet presence through working with skilled volunteers and networking with other charities and partner organisations. We will be capturing some of our work in a professionally-produced film. We want to create a powerful fundraising tool and raise public awareness of the unique abilities and talents of the children we work with and how the lives of many others could be transformed in the same positive way if music-making opportunities were more widely available across the country.

Trustees' Report

For the year ending 31 December 2021

Introduction

The Trustees who are also the Directors of the limited company have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the financial statements of Music of Life Foundation charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Legal and administrative information set out on page 23 forms part of this Report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Articles of Association, applicable law and Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019.

Structure, Governance & Management

Music of Life Foundation is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association dated 12 November 2003 and amended by special resolution on 11 July 2019 to bring the Charity's governing documents into line with current company and charity law and good practice. The Charity is registered at Companies House as No. 4963498. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission as No. 1102827.

The Foundation is managed by a Board, the members of which have the legal status of directors of the charitable company (the charity) and are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Board meets twice per quarter to have a close view on performance against objectives and to have more flexibility to react to arising issues.

Selection and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees appoint new members by general agreement. Regular reviews are conducted to ensure that the Board has the necessary skills. New trustees take part in an induction process when they receive copies of the charity's Articles of Association, are fully briefed on their obligations under charity and company law, and are given information on the decision-making processes, the financial performance of the charity and the business plan.

Trustees with specific expertise brief the Board from time to time on current topics, more broadly trustees are encouraged to keep up-to-date with developments in the sector and to take advantage of the many training opportunities available from various bodies.

Objectives and Activities of the Foundation for the Public Benefit

Music of Life Foundation's objectives are the advancement of the education of disabled children in the arts and in particular the art of music by:

- Providing access to facilities for study, for creative development and access to both standard and creative organisations, on equal terms with other children,
- Organising of national and international musical events, competitions and concerts in which disabled children can participate thus helping them to realise their potential, and
- Supporting research undertaken into the educational and therapeutic use of the arts and in particular the art of music for the benefit of disabled children.

When reviewing the Foundation's aims and objectives, devising new programmes and setting policies for the year, the Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and complied with their duty under Section s17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review the major risks to which the charity is exposed and take action where appropriate to mitigate them. The Trustees consider the unpredictability and short term nature of most of our funding to be the greatest risk in the short to medium term.

The COVID-19 pandemic has introduced additional risk to the charity particularly in relation to funding. We have worked hard to maintain our funding at prior levels and are beginning to see more positive signs for funding in the coming year.

Financial Review

Total income was £163,330, an increase of 8% on 2020. As well as receiving additional emergency funding from The London Community Fund, and the final year of several three year grants, we were able to attract some new funders. In addition, we held a fund raising event at London Royal Parks Half Marathon. We are very grateful to the trusts and foundations which have supported us during the year.

Our overall charitable expenditure increased by 19% to £151,955 (2020: £127,818) as we provided more workshops and individual lessons in our current schools and expanded in to some additional schools. We also spent £20,652 on fundraising activities, giving total costs of £172,607. The costs have exceeded income in the year by £9,277.

We start 2022 with project reserves at £107,366 - 7% lower than the start of the year. With permission from our funders, we have transferred funds from Restricted into Unrestricted funds. This then enables us to cover our project administration costs and to use reserves to fund taster sessions in new schools and the start-up of these projects if funding has not yet been received.

In total, we are carrying forward reserves of £142.695 (2020: £151,972)

Going Concern

Following the success in the prior year of applying for Emergency Funding, we have focussed this year on building relationships with new funders. This process is made slightly easier as our programmes resume in schools and we plan for a concert in 2022. Our funds are at a similar level to the prior year. The Board is actively engaged in applying to an increasing number of Trusts and Foundations for support. The Board has adopted a rigorous risk assessment process to identify and mitigate any major risks. Consequently, the trustees believe that it is appropriate to continue to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review the reserves policy at least annually, or on the occurrence of material changes in the charity's activities. The Trustees have reviewed the charity's requirements for reserves and have decided to hold a sufficient balance of unrestricted reserves to cover approx 6 months of planned expenditure to ensure financial stability and act as a safeguard against unpredictable income streams. In general, we do not commit to projects until funding is secured. These funds are received at the start of a project while expenditure follows on a monthly basis. At the end of 2021, unrestricted reserves were £35,329 which represents cover of 7 months.

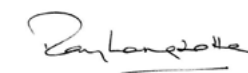
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the Examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the Examiner is aware of such information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Board on 24 March 2022 and signed on its behalf:



R A Longbottom
Chair

Independent Examiner’s Report to the Trustees of Music of Life Foundation



JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 15 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (“the 2006 Act”). The charity’s trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and an independent examination is required under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (“the 2011 Act”).

Having satisfied myself that the charitable company is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner’s report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a ‘true and fair view’ and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner’s statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair’ view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jing Lu, Chartered Certified Accountant

JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd

Date: 24th March 2022

Statement of Financial Activities

(For the year ended 31 December 2021)

		2021			2020		
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income From							
Donations	2	43,521	118,741	162,262	19,782	131,400	151,182
Invoiced income		-	299	299	-	-	-
Investment Income		769	-	769	588	-	588
Total Income		44,290	119,040	163,330	20,370	131,400	151,770
Expenditure on							
Raising Funds		20,652	-	20,652	12,807	-	12,807
Charitable Activities		43,589	108,366	151,955	29,551*	98,267*	127,818
Total Expenditure	3	64,241	108,366	172,607	42,358	98,267	140,625
Net Income/(Expenditure)							
		(19,951)	10,674	(9,277)	(21,988)	33,133	11,145
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		36,207	115,765	151,972	53,820	87,007	140,827
Transfer between funds		19,073	(19,073)	-	4,375*	(4,375)*	-
Total funds carried forward		35,329	107,366	142,695	36,207	115,765	151,972

* Restated figures due to separate disclosure of “transfer between funds” which was included in “charitable activities” last year.

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets	6	848	1,116
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	7,394	4,973
Cash at Bank		148,027	158,033
		155,421	163,006
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(13,574)	(12,150)
Net current assets		141,847	150,856
Total net assets		142,695	151,972
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	9	35,329	36,207
Restricted Funds	9, 10	107,366	115,765
Total charity funds		142,695	151,972

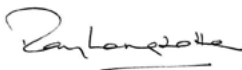
For the year ending 31 December 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

These accounts were approved by the Board on 24 March 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



R A Longbottom

Chair

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Cashflow from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(10,775)	9,344
Cashflow from investing activities:		
Interest received	769	588
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(1,339)
Net cash from investing activities	769	(751)
Cashflow from financing activities:	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalent in the reporting period	(10,006)	8,593
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	158,033	149,440
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	148,027	158,033

Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(10,046)	10,557
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	268	1,423
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(2,421)	(3,146)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,424	510
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(10,775)	9,344

Notes on Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Principal accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

(b) Company status

The Charity is limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 23. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

(c) Income recognition

Income from voluntary grants, legacies and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received unless the grant specifically funds the Charity's expenditure, in which case income and expenditure are allocated to the relevant period and matched.

(d) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

(e) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Income arising on designated funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the Charity and is included in unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Office equipment and website - 20% per annum

2. Donations

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total
	£	£	£
Donations for the year included:			
The Mercers' Company		25,000	25,000
The Karlsson Jativa Charitable Foundation		20,000	20,000
London Community Foundation		10,000	10,000
The Sobell Foundation		10,000	10,000
BBC Children In Need		10,000	10,000
Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund	10,000		10,000
Anonymous donor		10,000	10,000
The Edward Gostling Trust		5,000	5,000
The 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust	5,000		5,000
The David Family Foundation	5,000		5,000
The Eveson Charitable Trust		5,000	5,000
The Claude Ballard Southhall Memorial Charity		3,640	3,640
Rix Thompson Rothenberg Fund		3,500	3,500
The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust		3,500	3,500

2. Donations (Continued)

George Perkins Charity		3,000	3,000
Roger and Douglas Turner Trust		3,000	3,000
Warwick Relief in Need Charity		2,500	2,500
The Rowlands Trust		2,000	2,000
Grey Court Trust	2,000		2,000
Other Trusts and Foundations	9,745	2,601	12,346
Events and individual donations	11,776		11,776
Total	43,521	118,741	162,262

3. Analysis of total expenditure

	Staff Costs	Other Direct Costs	Depreciation	Governance costs	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Raising Funds	-	20,241	-	411	20,652	12,807
Charitable Activities	32,550	116,114	268	3,023	151,955	127,818
Total for Charity	32,550	136,355	268	3,434	172,607	140,625

Governance Costs Include	2021	2020
	£	£
Payroll fee	276	276
Independent examiner's fee	900	900
Annual report design	912	1,600
Trustees recruitment	-	600
Trustees expenses and meeting costs	1,012	-
Other governance costs	334	-
Total	3,434	3,376

4. Staff Costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries and National Insurance	31,784	31,566
Pension costs	766	758
Total	32,550	32,324
	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Administration and support	1	1
Total	1	1

No member of staff was paid £60,000 or more during the year (2020 - nil).

Notes on Financial Statements

(Continued...)

5. Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services as a member of the committee during the year (2020: £nil). Trustees were reimbursed £nil for travel and other expenses (2020: £nil).

6. Tangible fixed assets

	2021			2020		
	Office Equipm't	Website	Total	Office Equipm't	Website	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 31 December 2020	5,342	6,000	11,342	4,566	6,000	10,566
Addition	-	-	-	1,339	-	1,339
Disposal	-	-	-	(563)	-	(563)
At 31 December 2021	5,342	6,000	11,342	5,342	6,000	11,342
Depreciation						
At 31 December 2020	4,226	6,000	10,226	4,566	4,800	9,366
Charge for the year	268	-	268	223	1,200	1,423
Disposal	-	-	-	(563)	-	(563)
At 31 December 2021	4,494	6,000	10,494	4,226	6,000	10,226
Net book value						
At 31 December 2021	848	-	848	1,116	-	1,116
At 31 December 2020	1,116	-	1,116	-	1,200	1,200

7. Debtors: Due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Prepayments	-	1,400
Accrued Income	7,394	3,573
Total	7,394	4,973

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	(£)	(£)
Trade Creditor	10,386	6,052
Accruals	3,189	6,098
Total	13,574	12,150

9. Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfer between funds	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	36,207	44,290	(64,241)	19,073	35,329
Restricted Funds	115,765	119,040	(108,366)	(19,073)	107,366
Total Funds	151,972	163,330	(172,607)	-	142,695

The unrestricted funds represent the free funds of the Charity which are not allocated for particular purposes. The restricted funds relate to the development of projects started within the year but not completed by the year end.

10. Restricted Funds

	Funds for Individual Lesson programmes	Funds for Choral Workshops	Funds for Deaf Schools Programme in London	Emergency Funding for online provision and training	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Opening balance at 1st Jan 2021	46,463	32,865	23,286	13,151	115,765
New funds received	54,939	19,650	44,451	-	119,040
Transfer of funds to Project Administration*	(8,359)	(4,368)	(10,514)	-	(23,241)
Expenses	(40,731)	(22,107)	(28,210)	(17,319)	(108,366)
Reserves transfer to cover Project Shortfall	-	-	-	4,168	4,168
Closing funds at 31 December 2021	52,312	26,040	29,014	-	107,366

*The Board have decided to take the project administration charge as restricted funding is received which is a common practice. Last year the project administration fee was taken based on the total spend. The change has a net impact on the reserve transfer of £11,821

11. Related party transactions

The Trustees in office during the year are listed on page 23. The trustees have no financial interests in the charity's results or assets and received no remuneration for acting in that capacity. There are no related party transactions for disclosure during the year.

Thank You to Our Donors

Our first priority is to sustain our current, long-term projects and we greatly appreciate the support of our funders who share our values and believe in the importance of continuous support. To meet the growing demand for our services we need to succeed in gaining new grants and in diversifying our income streams, particularly to secure multi-year funding.

Message from one of our major funders in 2021, Karlsson Jativa Charitable Foundation:

“Our relationship with Music of Life was initiated in the depths of the pandemic when other sources of funding were curtailed putting great pressure on the charity sector, especially on those with less access to public sector funding. We proactively prioritised grant making to organisations with a very focussed mission and proven track record. In this search, Music of Life stood out. As restrictions have eased, we have now had the opportunity to see the work first hand and the undeniable impact it is having on the beneficiary communities. We look forward to what promises to be a long term partnership.”



We would like to thank our individual supporters for their contributions that made it possible for us to enjoy more flexibility in our work during this difficult year:

- Mr Ashwant Bihal
- Mr Michael Clarkson Webb
- Mr M J Crane Q.C.
- Holland, Hahn and Wills
- Mr James Knight
- Mrs Julia Orford
- Mr Adrian Osborne
- Mrs Katherine Puffett
- Mr Barry Short
- Mrs Marilyn Vincent

We would like to thank our fundraisers who took part in the London Royal Park Half Marathon, raising valuable funds to support our work

- Rob Blencowe
- William Hamlyn
- Martha Horan
- Oliver Irwin
- Emma Kolkman
- Tom May
- Chris Spreadbury
- Claire Tyler



Legal and Administrative Details

Charity number:	1102827
Company number:	4963498
Registered address:	54 Portland Place London, W1B 1DY
Trustees:	Ray Longbottom (Chair) Harvey Jones Catherine Clarke (Vice Chair) Sarah Kolkman (Treasurer) Jeff Sutherland-Kay (resigned 9 December 2021) Robert Blencowe (resigned 24 March 2022) Eleanor Chuck (resigned 5 February 2021) Clare Salters Kunal Jhanji Sophie Brüggemann
Team	Maria Teterina, Chief Executive Suzzie Vango, Head of Choirs at Special Schools programme Ruth Montgomery, Music for Deaf Children programme leader Emma Cockbill, Eloise Garland, Workshop leaders Birgitta Clift, Fundraiser Shruti Soni, Accountant Silvia Epure, Social Media Producer (volunteer role) Diana Cripps, Administrative Support >50 music teachers and support musicians
Patrons	Evelyn Glennie CH, DBE Denise Leigh John Lubbock OBE
Advisory Council	Sophie Gray, Head of Inclusion, Services for Education, Birmingham Evangelos Himonides, Professor of Technology, Education, and Music, UCL Karen Irwin, Strategic Director (Children and Young People), Live Music Now Julian Knight, Creative Director, Creative Futures (UK) Kathryn Mason, Postdoctoral Researcher, The Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre, UCL Adam Ockelford, Professor of Music, Roehampton University and Founder, Amber Trust Callum Russell, Disability Consultant, Crystal Eyes Peter Smalley, Chief Executive, Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust Lorella Terzi, Professor of Philosophy of Education, University of Roehampton Graham Welch, Professor & Chair of Music Education, UCL Institute of Education Rachel Wolffsohn, General Manager, The OHMI Trust
Bankers:	The CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent, ME19 4JQ Shawbrook Bank Ltd Lutea House Warley Hill Business Park Brentwood Essex, CM13 3BE
Independent Examiner:	Jing Lu Chartered Certified Accountant JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd 108 Manor Way, Bexleyheath, DA7 6JN



Support us

You can donate to Music of Life on our website musicoflife.org.uk/support-our-work/donate-to-our-work/donate-online.

If you would like to find out more about how to support our work, including sponsoring a student or a school, please contact Maria Teterina, Chief Executive at mteterina@mofl.co.uk or by calling **020 7813 5472**

Find us @musicoflifeuk



Contact us

Music of Life Foundation
mofl@mofl.co.uk

www.musicoflife.org.uk

Registered address:
54 Portland Place, London W1B 1DY

MUSIC OF LIFE FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1102827

Accounts

A young girl with dark hair tied back, wearing a white t-shirt and dark blue pants, is playing a cello. She is looking towards the right with a focused expression. To her left, another student in a blue shirt is also playing a cello. In the foreground, a hand from an adult is visible, gesturing towards the girl. The background shows a music room with large windows and blue circular signs on the wall.

**MUSIC
OF
LIFE**

**Annual
Report &
Accounts
2020**



Annual Report & Accounts 2020

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Charity Overview

The charity was established in 2003 and since then has supported over 3,000 children. Our vision is of a world where disabled children and young people have the same access to music-making as any other child.

Through long-term engagement, the children experience the joy of making music, which positively impacts their academic performance, social life and health. Their schools, families and local communities also benefit from the improved health and well-being of the children.

We support children and young people aged 5 to 25 with a wide range of physical and learning disabilities, both individually and in group workshops in special needs schools. When they are ready, we help them to integrate into community community-based activities such as joining a youth choir or playing in a band, which helps to widen their social circles and gain acceptance from their non-disabled peers. It also helps non-disabled groups learn how to accommodate the needs of our students and to value their contribution.

Our Vision

Our vision is for all disabled children and young people to be able to access, and benefit from, music-making opportunities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to build and strengthen the life skills, well-being and confidence of disabled children and young people through music making

Our Programmes

- Choirs at Special Schools
- Music for Deaf Children
- Individual Music Lessons
- Community Integration

5,442

INDIVIDUAL IN-PERSON MUSIC
OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED
BY MUSIC OF LIFE IN 2020

8,681

THE NUMBER OF TIMES OUR
EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS WERE
VIEWED IN 2020

2020 YEAR IN NUMBERS



Our beneficiaries' conditions*

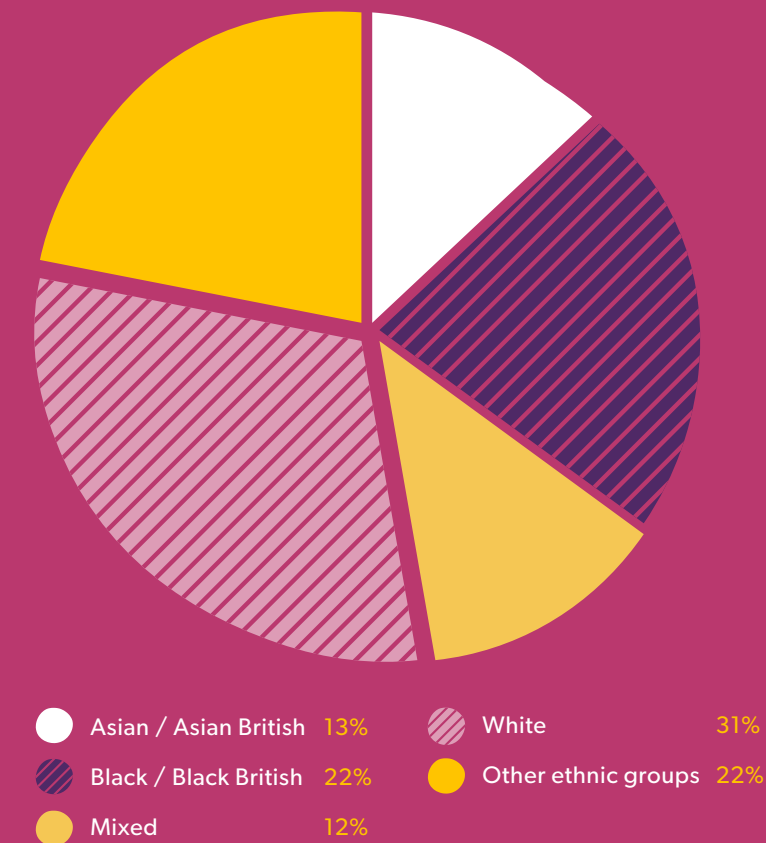
Autistic spectrum disorders	48%
Deaf / Hard of hearing	37%
Blind / Visually impaired	12%
Down's syndrome	09%
Cerebral palsy	12%
Other learning disabilities	22%
Other physical disabilities	12%
Beneficiaries on pupil premium	76%

*Many of our students have more than one condition, therefore the total above exceeds 100%

Summary of music provision

Voice	242
Keyboard	14
Music technology	5
Strings	27
Wind	20
Percussion/Other	86

Ethnicity



“

What a wonderful group of people you are and what wonderful students you have. Mia's smile while she was singing her solo is something I will never forget.

”

Local music service education team member
(partnership project at Royal Albert Hall)



Welcome from the Chair of Trustees



When schools started telling us in March last year that, because of Covid-19, we couldn't come in to conduct our weekly choral workshops and music lessons with their children and young people with disabilities, we realised we had a very short time to completely reinvent ourselves!

Our teachers and workshops leaders, supported by the Board and our free-lance fundraiser, responded magnificently. Barely three weeks later, from the start of the Summer term, we were able to provide new videos each week for the children to follow at home, and online lessons for individual pupils. Through these new media, we continued to support the children who depend on us throughout the lockdown. Parents described our materials as a "lifeline", at a time when their children received little other teaching.

We are immensely grateful to London Funders, via City Bridge Trust, and the Arts Council who responded rapidly to the crisis, providing us with major emergency grants to cover the cost of adapting our programmes.

We made progress in a lot of areas. Income was maintained at a similar level to the previous year, excluding a one-off grant in 2019 of £50,000. Direct spending on programmes increased by 24%.

Highlights of the year included pupils from the Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children in Camden taking part, before the lockdown, in performing a major new work at the Camden Music Festival in the Royal Albert Hall; our first Music of Life Conference for teachers and our wider stakeholders, including existing and potential partners, funders, beneficiaries and researchers, held virtually in July with 64 participants; a greatly improved presence on social media thanks to Silvia Epure, an outstandingly capable and generous volunteer; the continuing development of our relationship with Music Services in a number of Boroughs and Counties.

The fundraising "scene" changed dramatically as a result of the pandemic. Grant-making trusts responded quickly and positively, permitting repurposing of existing grants and making new grants available to support continuity.

We greatly appreciated the on-going support of the Mercers' Charitable Trust, BBC Children in Need, a first time grant from the Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund and a further grant from the Loveday Charitable Trust.

We were delighted to receive our first award from the John Lyons Charity in the form of a 3-year grant for work in schools for Deaf children and towards the cost of capacity-building. As a result we are currently training 10 new teachers to work with disabled children who will be ready to deliver our programmes commencing in the next academic year.

A direct impact of the pandemic however has been the loss of event income and a significant drop in the number of smaller, annual grants often from grant-makers located near our programmes. Core funding remains a significant challenge.

We doubled the number of Board meetings, getting together monthly at the start of the crisis. We appointed our first-ever Vice Chair, Catherine Clarke, who has been on the Board for four years. Cathy has also recently been elected to the Council of the Royal College of Music. We were also able to attract three new Trustees who bring distinct additional skills and expertise to an already strong Board.

Music of Life is in a very good position to increase its support of disabled children and young people. Our work is most impactful when we are in the room with the children, however we do now have a library of resources when needed. Our team of workshop leaders and teachers combine great enthusiasm and caring personalities with outstanding musical knowledge and teaching ability. With increased teaching capacity we will be able to meet the growing demand from special schools and individual pupils. Our work has been increasingly recognised with larger grants and we will continue to refine our evaluation and monitoring processes.

Ray Longbottom
Chair of Trustees

CEO's Report



2020 is quite a year to report on! We got off to a flying start with carefully planned new projects and were happy to see our established programmes becoming increasingly ambitious, which included our Deaf students taking part in a dazzling performance at the Royal Albert Hall. Then at a stroke, we had to rethink everything we do in the space of just a few weeks and find a way to provide uninterrupted support to our children and their families throughout the first lockdown. We stayed true to our values and mission and fulfilled our commitments to the most vulnerable and isolated children and their families the best we could under the extraordinary circumstances.

We started the year working live with three schools in the West Midlands where we were running our Choirs at Special Schools programme and adding a new school in Cambridge. Sadly, the plans to start a new school project had to be put on hold when we went into lockdown. The regular choirs had to stop too and our workshop leaders had to quickly adapt our provision to online training. Song tutorials were recorded in their home studios and sent out by the schools along with weekly homework assignments. We also uploaded the tutorials to our YouTube channel, which gave the students and their families quick and easy access to their favourite songs. From September, we introduced hybrid provision, consisting of online sessions for those schools that could not accommodate our workshops and in-class sessions with children at schools which we could access, one class bubble at a time. Some schools even managed Christmas performances streamed from their classrooms!

Our Music for Deaf Children programme has been thriving throughout the year, despite lockdowns and numerous logistical challenges in the schools. Our workshop leaders provided classroom sessions to all year groups and we offered individual music lessons to all KS2 children. We extended our provision to one new school in 2020 and continued to work with all four existing schools. Deaf and disabled children from the Frank Barnes school in Camden joined other school children in the performance of a new work at the Royal Albert Hall in March. Then came the lockdown and we had to switch from face-to-face sessions at the schools and so our workshop leaders started recording weekly video tutorials for each school. These lively videos, described by one parent as "the best free music resources currently available online", quickly attracted hundreds of views on our YouTube channel. A few Deaf children were able to continue their music lessons online.

Individual Lessons was the most disrupted project during lockdown. Despite our best efforts, many of our students were simply unable to cope with the online format even after we had teamed up with our provision partners – local music services and youth music groups – to ensure the teachers who deliver individual music lessons for Music of Life had received appropriate online safety training funded by the charity, issued all necessary policies and consent forms for parents, provided extra support to Music of Life teachers and parents to set up safe and efficient online lessons. Sadly, only about 20% of all lessons took place during the lockdown. From September 2020, we rapidly increased our provision of lessons offering more students the opportunity to join our partnership projects with Birmingham Services for Education and Young DaDa Ensemble in Liverpool and we also increased our intake in London. The overall number of students this year as a result has been greater than in previous years, but the number of lessons decreased.

We were very excited about our Online Conference in July, which provided a great opportunity to bring together all those people who have been part of Music of Life for many years without being able to get together. We told our story and heard from our key stakeholders, partners and beneficiaries, and launched our Teacher Training programme. Following this announcement, we conducted a series of interviews and recruited 10 young music practitioners who chose to learn from our experienced workshop leaders in a year-long programme that comprised online training, interactive face-to-face sessions, observations, shadowing and hands-on experience of working with groups of special needs children at our schools. We were delighted with their progress and fantastic attitude to learning, and they are already making a great contribution to the charity's work. We hope the programme will proceed to its planned in-school mode in the Summer term 2021 so that each of the newly graduated workshop leaders can start new projects for Music of Life during the 2021-22 academic year.

Maria Teterina
CEO

Individual Lessons Programme



The following quotes are drawn from Teacher Reports we introduced in 2020 to capture the extraordinary nature of the lessons during lockdown and their impact on students.

“

Music has benefited my students by releasing their emotions and escaping any worries. Music has built up their confidence. Music has helped them to switch off for half an hour. Playing music has made them smile or go off humming to themselves.

”

“

One parent whose two children were receiving weekly 1-1 lessons with me said that the lessons were invaluable for several reasons – not only were the children receiving some consistency in their learning, but they were also benefitting from weekly contact with someone who could communicate with them in their own language - BSL. The parent felt that this was very important for her children's mental health and well-being throughout lockdown, especially as they, as a Deaf family, were otherwise largely cut off from the rest of the school community.

”

“

Michael has continued to make excellent progress. He struggled at first with the abrupt change in habit and routine (as did we all) but once we had established a regular pattern and understood that we were in it for the long haul, he adapted well. A positive change in the lockdown is that Michael has had more time to practise. He has used this time well and seems to have enjoyed the extra hours available to him to play the piano. One other benefit of online lessons has been that we are both able to sit at our own piano and it is easier to demonstrate for him. Michael responds well to direct aural demonstrations rather than verbal explanations. This set-up is unusual in a private setting since most people cannot have two pianos. However, it has got me thinking about how this can be replicated when we return to in-person lessons.

I have been delighted and surprised with how easily our lessons have migrated online. Obviously, nothing can beat real human contact and the subtleties of non-verbal communication in a room. But I do believe the music-making itself has continued almost as before. The music-making has been of a profound benefit to Michael because it has enabled him to have a regular contact with me and carry on his music lessons, which is one of the few references back to 'normal life' that he has. It is also his passion and a huge part of his life and to deny it would have been unthinkable. I do believe our lessons together have contributed to his wellbeing throughout this period and it shows how important regular music-making is.

”

Music for Deaf Children

By Eloise Garland,
Music of Life workshop
leader, musician, educator
and Deaf campaigner.

“

There are profoundly deaf identical twin boys who started at the school in September. From my understanding they were asylum seekers and only arrived in the UK earlier this year. They have only very recently received cochlear implants and had never had any language input (signed or spoken) before starting at the school 2 months ago.

When I first met them in October they were totally cut off - they just stared and had completely blank faces. Absolutely no level of engagement would elicit a change in expression with either of them. Then 3 weeks ago in one of our music lessons, they both smiled for the first time while we were playing a game using drums and shakers.

Today, however, both boys had a major break-through and the teachers and TAs were stunned. We were playing the conducting game and learning the vocabulary loud/soft, fast/slow and STOP.

Two other children came up to sit in my chair and lead the class, and then one of the twins shot his hand up to ask to lead. He sat in my chair and proceeded to use all the vocabulary we had learnt to control the class. I was told this is the first time either of the twins have used expressive language in this way! After the first twin finished leading, the second one took a turn.

I am convinced that the power of music has helped the boys to understand the connection between language/actions/having the power to influence others, and I hope this has triggered a snowball effect where their language will begin to explode from here on. Thank you for the opportunities you have given to so many children like them through Music of Life. I feel so privileged to be working with you and to be part of such a wonderful team!

”



Choirs at Special Needs Schools

Music of Life may be a small charity but its impact is huge

Lizzie Godwin, Assistant Head,
Woodlands Special School, July 2020



Lizzie Godwin,
Assistant Head,
Woodlands Special School,
July 2020

“

We value music immensely at Woodlands. It’s important for everyone’s enjoyment and wellbeing and it should be accessible to all. Music of Life brings the opportunity for our school to have a fully inclusive choir. Anyone who wants to be involved can be.

The youngest pupils in our choir are 5 and the oldest 19. The range of abilities and needs is vast but they are all included. We have pupils who sing everything; some who join in with the songs that they choose; others who like to move to the music; and those who make choices using alternative communication such as symbols or Makaton signing. Pupils join in at their own level, whatever they are comfortable with. And if they need to leave the room, they can; if they can only cope with 10 minutes of the session, that’s fine.

Music of Life is totally inclusive. It is one of the only times in school that we have pupils from across the school choosing to work together and enjoy each other’s company. The Music of Life sessions have helped to develop an identity for those involved in it and the relationships between the pupils, the staff, the workshop leaders and, importantly, the audience.

The sessions bring so much: the sense of community for both pupils and adults in the choir; the participation; the collaboration, both working together in school and with the other schools; the opportunities for the pupils to perform, when the parents get to see and hear them, not something that is always available to children with additional needs. We believe it to be very important and strive for it to happen but we do know that it’s not always the case. Music of Life brings that to our children. We passionately believe that young people should be given lots of choice in their life and through many of the different songs and activities they get to choose and take the songs further, so in their own way they are doing some composition.

”

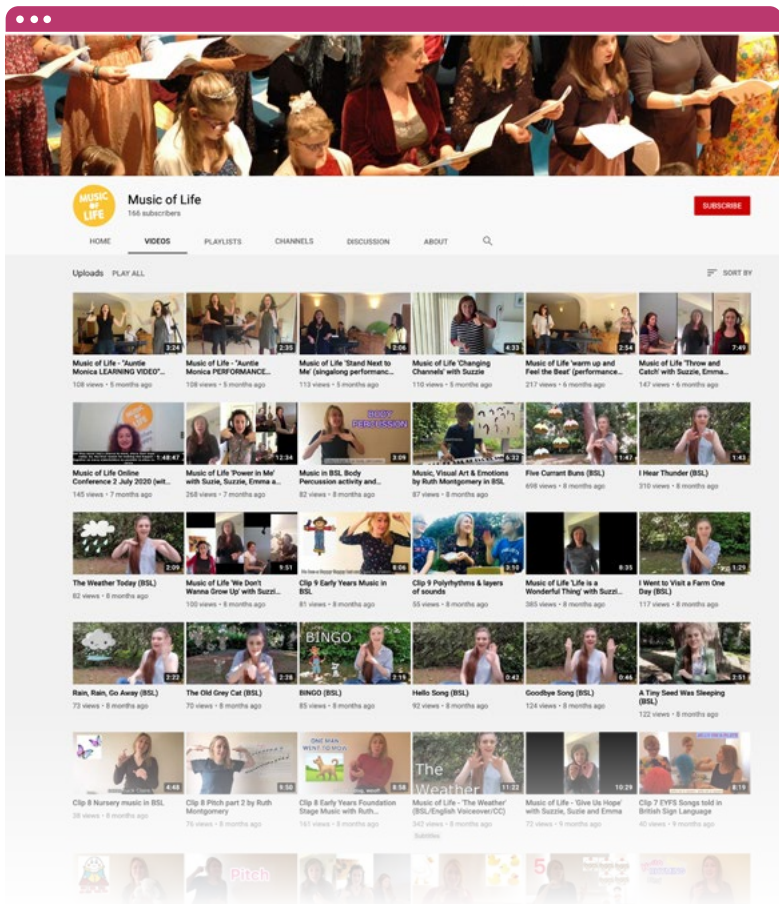


Lockdown 2020

Music of Life is privileged to work with outstanding musicians and individuals. As a team, we were able to adapt to remote provision within a matter of days and carried on with the work of inspiring and nurturing the students through the production of weekly high-quality educational music materials that were referred to as “the best free educational lockdown resources available” by the parents.

Over 60 videos were created and uploaded to our YouTube channel and distributed to the schools between March and July 2020. This way of working will continue so long as schools are unable to invite music practitioners back in person.

In July we held our first online conference that brought together key Music of Life workshop leaders and teachers, experts in music education for special needs children, existing and prospective project partners. Recorded and fully subtitled, it is now available on our YouTube channel providing an excellent opportunity to learn about the scope of the organisation, its unique experience and knowledge. The speakers include Music of Life Patron Denise Leigh, programme leaders, project partners and direct beneficiaries.



Plans for 2021



Although, like everyone, we have to be cautious about making firm plans in the middle of the pandemic, once the restrictions are lifted, Music of Life is in a strong position to resume normal activities and continue with our ambitious growth plans.

Our teacher training programme is ready to enter its final phase where our trainees will join our practitioners at schools and gain hands-on experience in preparing and delivering music sessions for children with a wide range of disabilities and special needs.

We were sad to have to postpone the Summer Celebration concert planned for June 2021 at Birmingham Town Hall with our West Midlands choirs. We will substitute it with in-school end of year projects that could be streamed and shared on the internet, to celebrate the achievement of our students during this most challenging academic year.

We have a number of schools waiting for our provision to start and a growing number of individual requests for lessons and career support. We are actively looking for new partnerships and development schemes that will allow us to reach out to many more disabled children than we are able to at present, without compromising the quality of our provision. Our growth

plans are ambitious, yet we recognise the funding and capacity limits we are facing. We are hoping that carefully considered partnerships will allow consistent growth and ensure the charity’s unique experience and knowledge are used to enable more external practitioners to provide better music opportunities to disabled students.

We are keen to learn more about the broader, multi-level impact of our work through research and further develop our monitoring and evaluation process. We will be seeking advice from experts in key areas that influence the work we do – education, disability, music, social services. We will continue to involve our students, their families, schools and support workers in our planning and decision making to ensure our provision addresses the most urgent need and is fully accessible to all our service users.

Trustees' Report

For the year ending 31 December 2020

Introduction

The Trustees who are also the Directors of the limited company have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the financial statements of Music of Life Foundation Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Legal and administrative information set out on page 27 forms part of this Report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Articles of Association, applicable law and Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2019.

Structure, Governance & Management

Music of Life Foundation ("the Charity") is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Articles of Association dated 12 November 2003 and amended by special resolution on 11 July 2019 to bring the Charity's governing documents into line with current company and charity law and good practice. The Charity is registered at Companies House as No. 4963498. It is a charity registered with the Charity Commission as No. 1102827.

The Foundation is managed by a Board, the members of which have the legal status of directors of the charitable company and are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Board meets twice per quarter to have a close view on performance against objectives and to have more flexibility to react to arising issues (e.g. COVID-19)

Selection and Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees appoint new members by general agreement. Regular reviews are conducted to ensure that the Board has the necessary skills. New trustees take part in an induction process when they receive copies of the Charity's Articles of Association, are fully briefed on their obligations under charity and company law, and are given information on the decision-making processes, the financial performance of the Charity and the business plan.

Trustees with specific expertise brief the Board from time to time on current topics more broadly, trustees are encouraged to keep up-to-date with developments in the sector and to take advantage of the many training opportunities available from various bodies.

Objectives and Activities of the Foundation for the Public Benefit

Music of Life Foundation's objectives are the advancement of the education of disabled children in the arts and in particular the art of music by:

- Providing access to facilities for study, for creative development and access to both standard and creative organisations, on equal terms with other children,
- Organising of national and international musical events, competitions and concerts in which disabled children can participate thus helping them to realise their potential, and
- Supporting research undertaken into the educational and therapeutic use of the arts and in particular the art of music for the benefit of disabled children.

When reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, devising new programmes and setting policies for the year, the Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and complied with their duty under Section s17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and take action where appropriate to mitigate them. The Trustees consider the unpredictability and short term nature of most of our funding to be the greatest risk in the short to medium term.

The COVID-19 pandemic has introduced additional risk to the Charity particularly in relation to funding. We have been granted Emergency Funding by two bodies during the year which has alleviated the risk in the short term.

Financial Review

Total income was £151,770, a decrease of 27% on 2019 due to an exceptional unrestricted grant of £50,000 received in that year. As mentioned above we secured Emergency Funding of £63,800 from the Arts Council and The City Bridge Trust. These, together with previously secured multi-year grants have comprised the majority of the Charity's income in the year. There have been no fundraising events held during the year and we have seen a significant drop in the number of donations from smaller and local trust funds which have usually been a reliable source of income. We are very grateful to the trusts and foundations which have supported us during the year.

Raising unrestricted income continued to be challenging and was exacerbated by the postponement of the Royal Parks Half Marathon and the non-repeat nature of last year's major grant. Unrestricted income came in at £20,370 (2019: £67,715).

In 2020 our overall charitable expenditure increased by 21% to £127,818 (2019: £105,974). To cater for the growth in our programmes we commenced a teacher training programme – building capacity for our further expansion.

We start 2021 with project reserves at £115,765 - 33% higher than the start of the year. Due to the pandemic and children not being accessible, we have been unable to provide as many individual lessons as planned, resulting in a larger than normal carry-over of funds in these projects. For the Choral Workshops and our Deaf Programme, we anticipate that the reserves will cover the first two terms of 2021. In order to provide certainty for the schools and children we support, we need to continue our fundraising programme in order to have funding in place for the 2021/22 academic year.

In total, we are carrying forward reserves of £151,972 (2019: £140,827)

Going Concern

Throughout the pandemic, we managed to maintain a steady level of support for our special schools and individual students. Several grant-makers recognised our contribution by providing major funding to adapt our programmes. We are now well-placed financially to return to in-school activities or to expand the provision of online materials, if necessary. The Board is actively engaged in a newly-formed sub-committee focused on diversifying our income streams and we are currently applying to an increasing number of Trusts and Foundations for support. The Board has adopted a rigorous risk assessment process to identify and mitigate any major risks. Consequently, the trustees believe that it is appropriate to continue to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review the reserves policy at least annually, or on the occurrence of material changes in the Charity's activities. The Trustees have reviewed the Charity's requirements for reserves and have decided to hold a sufficient balance of unrestricted reserves to cover 3 to 6 months of planned expenditure to ensure financial stability

and act as a safeguard against unpredictable income streams. In general, we do not commit to projects until funding is secured. These funds are received at the start of a project while expenditure follows on a monthly basis. At the end of 2020, unrestricted reserves were £36,207 which represents cover of 7.2 months.

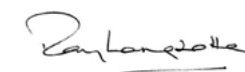
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the Charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the Examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the Examiner is aware of such information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Act relating to small entities.

Approved by the Board on 9 April 2021 and signed on its behalf:



R A Longbottom
Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner’s Report to the Trustees of Music of Life Foundation



JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 19 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity’s trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner’s report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a ‘true and fair view’ and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner’s statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jing Lu, Chartered Certified Accountant

JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd

Date: 9 April 2021

Statement of Financial Activities

(For the year ended 31 December 2020)

		2020			2019		
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £
Income From							
Donations	2	19,782	131,400	151,182	67,715	140,283	207,998
Investment Income		588	-	588	-	-	-
Total Income		20,370	131,400	151,770	67,715	140,283	207,998
Expenditure on							
Raising Funds		12,807	-	12,807	16,060	-	16,060
Charitable Activities		25,176	102,642	127,818	18,183	87,791	105,974
Total Expenditure	3	37,983	102,642	140,625	34,243	87,791	122,034
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(17,613)	28,758	11,145	33,472	52,492	85,964
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		53,820	87,007	140,827	20,348	34,515	54,863
Total funds carried forward		36,207	115,765	151,972	53,820	87,007	140,827

Balance Sheet

At 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed Assets	6	1,116	1,200
Current Assets			
Debtors	7	4,973	1,827
Cash at Bank		158,033	149,440
		163,006	151,267
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(12,150)	(11,640)
Net current assets		150,856	139,627
Total net assets		151,972	140,827
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	9	36,207	53,820
Restricted Funds	9, 10	115,765	87,007
Total charity funds		151,972	140,827

For the year ending 31 December 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

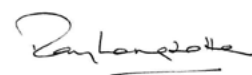
- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006;

Companies Act 2006;

- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to the small companies.

These accounts were approved by the Board on 9 April 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



R A Longbottom

Chair

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Cashflow from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	9,344	75,708
Cashflow from investing activities:		
Interest received	588	-
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(1,339)	-
Net cash from investing activities	(751)	-
Cashflow from financing activities:	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalent in the reporting period	8,593	75,708
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	149,440	73,732
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	158,033	149,440

Reconciliation of net income/ (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	10,557	85,964
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	1,423	1,200
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(3,146)	2,040
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	510	(13,496)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	9,344	75,708

Notes on Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Principal accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

(b) Company status

The Charity is limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 27. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

(c) Income recognition

Income from voluntary grants, legacies and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when received unless the grant specifically funds the Charity’s expenditure, in which case income and expenditure are allocated to the relevant period and matched.

(d) Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Fundraising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

(e) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Income arising on designated funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the Charity and is included in unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

(f) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Office equipment and website - 20% per annum

2. Donations

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
Donations for the year included:			
City Bridge Trust		33,800	33,800
Arts Council England		30,000	30,000
The Mercers’ Charitable Foundation		25,000	25,000
John Lyons Charity		20,000	20,000
BBC Children In Need		10,000	10,000
Leathersellers’ Company Charitable Fund	10,000		10,000
Anonymous donor		10,000	10,000
Mark Loveday	5,000		5,000
Edith & Jack Griffith Trust		2,000	2,000
Other Trusts and Foundations		600	600
Events and individual donations	4,782		4,782
Total	19,782	131,400	151,182

3. Analysis of total expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Other Direct Costs £	Depreciation £	Governance costs £	2020 £	2019 £
Raising Funds	-	12,500	-	307	12,807	16,060
Charitable Activities	32,324	91,002	1,423	3,069	127,818	105,974
Total for Charity	32,324	103,502	1,423	3,376	140,625	122,034

Governance Costs Include	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
Payroll fee	276	276
Independent examiner fee	900	1,200
Annual report design	1,600	-
Trustees recruitment	600	4,800
Trustees expenses	-	-
Total	3,376	6,276

4. Staff Costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Staff costs were as follows:		
Salaries and National Insurance	31,566	30,943
Pension costs	758	745
Total	32,324	31,688

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Administration and support	1	1
Total	1	1

No member of staff was paid £60,000 or more during the year (2019 - nil).

5. Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services as a member of the committee during the year(2019: £nil). Trustees were reimbursed £nil for travel and other expenses (2019: £nil).

Notes on Financial Statements (Continued...)

6. Tangible fixed assets

	2020			2019		
	Office Equipm't £	Website £	Total £	Office Equipm't £	Website £	Total £
Cost						
At 31 December 2019	4,566	6,000	10,566	4,566	6,000	10,566
Addition	1,339	-	1,339	-	-	-
Disposal	(563)	-	(563)	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	5,342	6,000	11,342	4,566	6,000	10,566
Depreciation						
At 31 December 2019	4,566	4,800	9,366	4,566	3,600	8,166
Charge for the year	223	1,200	1,423	-	1,200	1,200
Disposal	(563)	-	(563)	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	4,226	6,000	10,226	4,566	4,800	9,366
Net book value						
At 31 December 2020	1,116	-	1,116	-	1,200	1,200
At 31 December 2019	-	1,200	1,200	-	2,400	2,400

7. Debtors: Due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Prepayments	1,400	-
Accrued Income	3,573	1,827
Total	4,973	1,827

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
Trade Creditor	6,052	10,320
Accruals	6,098	1,320
Total	12,150	11,640

9. Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2020 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	At 31 December 2020 £
Unrestricted Funds	53,820	20,370	(37,983)	36,207
Restricted Funds	87,007	131,400	(102,642)	115,765
Total Funds	140,827	151,770	(140,625)	151,972

The unrestricted funds represent the free funds of the Charity which are not allocated for particular purposes.

The restricted funds relate to the development of projects started within the year but not completed by the year end.

10. Restricted Funds

	Funds for Individual Lesson programmes £	Funds for Choral Workshops £	Funds for Deaf Schools Programme in London £	Emergency Funding for online provision and training £	Total £
Opening balance at 1st Jan 2020	37,922	29,651	19,434	-	87,007
New funds received	35,000	12,600	20,000	63,800	131,400
Transfer of funds to Project Administration	(1,492)	(950)	(1,933)	-	(4,375)
Expenses	(24,968)	(8,436)	(14,215)	(50,649)	(98,267)
Closing funds at 31 December 2020	46,462	32,865	23,286	13,151	115,765

11. Related party transactions

The Trustees in office during the year are listed on page 27. The trustees have no financial interests in the charity's results or assets and received no remuneration for acting in that capacity. There are no related party transactions for disclosure during the year.

Thank You to Our Donors

With no public or statutory funding, we rely entirely on donations from individuals, trusts and foundations to support our work. The generosity of our benefactors helps us to ensure the sustainability and further development of our long-term programmes during this challenging period in the funding of music education.



Mark Loveday Edith & Jack Griffith Trust

We would like to thank our individual supporters for their contributions that made it possible for us to enjoy more flexibility in our work during this difficult year:

- Mr and Mrs Bennett
- Mr M J Crane Q.C.
- Mr Kenneth Elliott
- Mrs Kathrine Puffett
- Mr Barry Short
- Mrs Marilyn Vincent



Legal and Administrative Details

Charity number:	1102827
Company number:	4963498
Registered address:	54 Portland Place London W1B 1DY
Trustees:	Ray Longbottom (Chair) Harvey Jones Catherine Clarke (Vice Chair) Sarah Kolkman (Treasurer) Jeff Sutherland-Kay Robert Blencowe Theresa Veith (resigned 26 March 2020) Eleanor Chuck (resigned 5 February 2021) Clare Salters (appointed 2 November 2020) Kunal Jhanji (appointed 1 December 2020) Sophie Bruggemann (appointed 12 December 2020)
Team	Maria Teterina, Chief Executive Suzzie Vango, Head of Choirs at Special Schools programme Ruth Montgomery, Music for Deaf Children programme leader Suzie Purkis, Emma Cockbill, Eloise Garland, Workshop leaders Birgitta Clift, Fundraiser Shruti Soni, Accountant Silvia Epure, Social Media Producer (volunteer role) >50 music teachers and support musicians
Patrons	Evelyn Glennie CH, DBE Denise Leigh John Lubbock OBE
Our delivery partners	Birmingham Services for Education Camden Music Services, London DaDa Youth Ensemble, Liverpool
Banker:	The CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
Independent Examiner:	Jing Lu Chartered Certified Accountant JK Barnehurst Accounting Ltd 108 Manor Way Bexleyheath DA7 6JN



Support us

You can donate to Music of Life on our website musicoflife.org.uk/support-our-work/donate-to-our-work/donate-online.

If you would like to find out more about how to support our work, including sponsoring a student or a school, please contact Maria Teterina, Chief Executive at mteterina@mofl.co.uk or by calling 020 7813 5472

Contact us

Music of Life Foundation
mofl@mofl.co.uk

www.musicoflife.org.uk

Registered address:
54 Portland Place, London W1B 1DY