

# Greater Shantallow Community Arts

Northern Ireland · Charity number 104604

## Details

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**Known as**

GSCA

**Status**

Received

**Registered**

2016-03-14

**Register**

[View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

## Contact

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**Address**

Units 1-3  
4 Beraghmore Road  
Foyle Business Park  
Skeoge Industr  
Derry  
Bt48 8se  
BT48 8SE

**Phone**

02871358750

**Email**

[info@gscaderry.com](mailto:info@gscaderry.com)

**Website**

[www.studio2derry.com](http://www.studio2derry.com)

## Activities

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**Purposes:** Greater Shantallow Community Arts (GSCA) seeks The Advancement of Arts Culture & Heritage as a community arts organisation that aims to provide direct access to the arts within disadvantaged communities in the Greater Shantallow Area/Outer North region of Derry and to be a conduit to bring communities from “edge to centre” into strategic plans for the arts locally, regionally and nationally. GSCA seeks The advancement of education, citizenship and community development, as we aim to promote artists, cultural activity, grow audiences, increase participation in the arts and provide opportunity for communities and individuals to develop skills and provide showcases for talent using a wide range of art forms. GSCA seeks The advancement of health and the saving of lives by acknowledging the transformative power of the arts to make strategic social interventions to alleviate complex problems such as: social exclusion, isolation, lack of opportunity and poverty. GSCA is committed to equality regardless of cultural background, age, disability, sexual orientation or economic status.

**What the charity does:** The advancement of education, The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

**How the charity works:** Arts,Community development,Cultural,Education/training,Volunteer development,Youth development

**Who the charity helps:** Adult training,Children (5-13 year olds),Community safety/crime prevention,Ethnic minorities,General public,Men,Mental health,Older people,Parents,Preschool (0-5 year olds),Specific areas of deprivation,Unemployed/low income,Voluntary and community sector,Volunteers,Women,Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£499,170	£507,932	£-19,681	8

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ann Mckeever		
Anmarie Kelly		
Bobby Kelly		
Eleanor Plummer		
John Mclaughlin		
Lynn Mccarron		
Miss Kayleigh Doherty		
Mr Brian Hasson		
Mr Conor Stanley		
Mr Jim Collins		
Ms Catrina Mcfeely Pgce		
Ms Maura Ebbs		

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104604

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# Accounts

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**Charity No: NIC 104604**

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

**Accounts**

**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

# Greater Shantallow Community Arts

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## Greater Shantallow Community Arts

### Legal and Administrative Information

<b>Charity Name</b>	Greater Shantallow Community Arts
<b>Charity Number</b>	NIC 104604
<b>Operational Address</b>	Unit 2/3 4 Beraghmore Road Skeoge Ind Estate Derry BT48 8SE
<b>Trustees of Greater Shantallow Community Arts</b>	Bobby Kelly Eleanor Plummer Lynn McCarron John McLaughlin Annmarie Kelly Ann McKeever Maura Ebbs Catrina McFeely Jim Collins Conor Stanley Kayleigh Doherty
<b>Accountants</b>	McGroarty McCafferty & Company Ltd Accountants and Tax Consultants 2 Carlisle Terrace Derry BT48 6JX
<b>Bankers</b>	Bank of Ireland 27 Culmore Road Derry BT48 8JB

## **Greater Shantallow Community Arts Report of The Management Committee**

The Management Committee present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### **Principal activity and objectives**

Greater Shantallow Community Arts (GSCA) seeks the advancement of arts culture & heritage as a community arts organisation that aims to provide direct access to the arts within disadvantaged communities in the Greater Shantallow Area/Outer North region of Derry and to be a conduit to bring communities from “edge to centre” into strategic plans for the arts locally, regionally and nationally. GSCA seeks the advancement of education, citizenship and community development, as GSCA aims to promote artists, cultural activity, grow audiences, increase participation in the arts and provide opportunity for communities and individuals to develop skills and provide showcases for talent using a wide range of art forms. GSCA seeks the advancement of health and the saving of lives by acknowledging the transformative power of the arts to make strategic social interventions to alleviate complex problems such as: social exclusion, isolation, lack of opportunity and poverty. GSCA is committed to equality regardless of cultural background, age, disability, sexual orientation or economic status.

### **Management Committee**

The members of the charity for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

The trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Bobby Kelly	Ann McKeever
Eleanor Plummer	Maura Ebbs
Lynn McCarron	Catrina McFeely
John McLaughlin	Jim Collins
Annmarie Kelly	Kayleigh Doherty
Conor Stanley	

### **Risk Management**

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the association is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the association, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to the major risks.

### **Financial review**

The financial performance is summarised in the enclosed accounts.

### **Plans for Future Periods**

As Greater Shantallow Community Arts enters its 24th year of providing vital community arts services to the residents of our city, it is appropriate that we take time to reflect upon the impact of our work to date and how we can continue to service the artistic, creative and cultural needs of our communities in the time ahead. To this end GSCA have implemented a 2 year programme of impact assessment, consultation and development of a New Five-Year Strategic Plan and Business Plan to run alongside senior management and board training with development programmes designed to support our organisations sustainability, resilience and growth in the time ahead. This process together with our work with a wide range of strategic statutory and community partners to identify and implement a strategic growth plan that will service the future capital requirements of the delivery of Arts and Cultural provision for the Ballyarnett DEA in which we are based and indeed the Community Arts physical requirements of our city and region offering exciting opportunities to ensure that we progress with a sense of optimism, excitement and confidence in the forward momentum of our organisational objectives.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts  
Report of The Management Committee**

**Members Responsibilities In Relation To The Financial Statements**

The members are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.


The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the members to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit in the financial year. In doing so the members are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

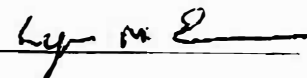
The members are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that McGroarty McCafferty & Company Ltd be re-appointed as accountants for the charity for the ensuing year.

By Order of the Management Committee:

Committee Member 

Date: 10 July 2025

Committee Member 

Date: 10 July 2025

## Greater Shantallow Community Arts

### Independent Examiner's report to the charity committee members of Greater Shantallow Community Arts

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 5 - 11.

#### Respective responsibilities of charity committee members and examiner

As the charity's members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9) (b) of the Charities Act;
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### Basis of Independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65 (9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Our examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as charity members concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

We can confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination as we are registered members of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters 1 - 4 listed above and, in connection with the following Directions of the Charity Commission Northern Ireland; we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

  
McGroarty Mc Cafferty & Company Limited  
Accountants and Tax Consultants  
2 Carlisle Terrace  
Derry  
BT48 6JX

Date: 10 July 2025

## Greater Shantallow Community Arts

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>					
<b>Incoming Resources</b>					
Grants Received & Other Income	50,438	448,732	-	499,170	422,171
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>2.</b> <u>50,438</u>	<u>448,732</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>499,170</u>	<u>422,171</u>
<b>Resources Expended</b>					
Management & Administration	49,997	457,935	-	507,932	580,317
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>2.1</b> <u>49,997</u>	<u>457,935</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>507,932</u>	<u>580,317</u>
<b>Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources</b>	441	(9,203)	-	(8,762)	(158,146)
Balances brought forward 1 April 2024	<u>36,369</u>	194,340	-	<u>230,709</u>	<u>388,855</u>
	36,810	185,137	-	221,947	230,709
Transfer of funds	(10,000)	-	10,000	-	-
Balances carried forward 31 March 2025	<b>10.</b> <u>26,810</u>	<u>185,137</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>221,947</u>	<u>230,709</u>

The above amounts relate to continuing operations of the charity.

The organisation has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the results above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented. There is no difference between the net incoming resources for the year stated above and their historical cost equivalents.

Greater Shantallow Community Arts

Balance sheet  
as at 31 March 2025

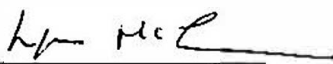
	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	6.		185,136		194,340
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7.	43,683		35,470	
Cash at bank and in hand		12,809		8,954	
		<u>56,492</u>		<u>44,424</u>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Bank loans and overdrafts		2,114		2,726	
Other creditors		15,347		3,297	
Accruals		2,220		2,032	
	8.	<u>19,681</u>		<u>8,055</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>36,811</u>		<u>36,369</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>221,947</u>		<u>230,709</u>
<b>Capital account</b>					
Restricted funds			185,137		194,340
Unrestricted funds			26,810		36,369
Designated funds	9.		10,000		-
	10.		<u>221,947</u>		<u>230,709</u>

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.



Committee Member

Date: 10th July 2025



Committee Member

Date: 10th July 2025

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**1. Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

**1.1. Accounting convention**

The Financial Statements have been prepared 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 Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

**1.2. Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Gifts donated for resale are included as incoming resources within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

**1.3. Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Renovations	-	10% Straight Line
Equipment	-	20% Straight Line

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**2. Income**

	<b>Year Ended 2025 £</b>	<b>Year Ended 2024 £</b>
<b><u>Restricted Income</u></b>		
Department for Communities	18,577	15,463
Derry City and Strabane District Council	46,873	26,065
The Executive Office	79,973	59,759
Halifax	-	5,000
Clear Project grant	4,920	-
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	162,015	155,272
Education Authority	73,820	82,865
The National Lottery Dormant Accounts	2,000	8,000
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Reconciliation Fund	28,956	-
Future Screens NI	21,038	20,977
Department for Justice	-	8,000
Other grants	10,560	-
	448,732	381,401
<b><u>Unrestricted Income</u></b>		
Donations	50,438	40,770
	50,438	40,770
<b>Total Income</b>	499,170	422,171

**(i) Restricted Funds**

Funds received which are earmarked by the Funder for specific purposes. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

**(ii) Unrestricted Funds**

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the company in furtherance of the aims of the charity. In addition funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**2.1 Resources Expended**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Year Ended 2025 £	Year Ended 2024 £
<b>Management &amp; Administration</b>				
Wages & salaries	-	161,995	161,995	164,977
Pension costs	-	8,133	8,133	9,268
Programme & tutor costs	49,617	160,968	210,585	159,899
Rent, rates & water	-	61,465	61,465	56,231
Insurance	-	3,351	3,351	3,898
Light & heat	-	19,007	19,007	22,335
Repairs & maintenance	-	19,959	19,959	16,680
Postage, stationery & advertising	-	4,789	4,789	4,199
Telephone, fax & internet	-	5,696	5,696	3,191
Professional fees	-	2,072	2,072	9,000
Accountancy	-	1,296	1,296	1,260
Bank charges	380	-	380	133
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	193
Depreciation	-	9,204	9,204	129,053
	<u>49,997</u>	<u>457,935</u>	<u>507,932</u>	<u>580,317</u>

**3. Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the Period**

	Year Ended 2025 £	Year Ended 2024 £
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	9,204	4,915
Accountancy fees	<u>1,296</u>	<u>1,260</u>

**4. Staff note**

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year amounted to 8 (2024 - 7).

The aggregate payroll costs incurred during the year were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	161,995	164,977
Pension contributions	8,133	9,268
	<u>170,128</u>	<u>174,245</u>

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**5. Taxation**

As a charity, Greater Shantallow Community Arts is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its chargeable objects. Accordingly, no tax charges have arisen in the charity.

**6. Tangible assets**

	<b>Renovations</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2024	312,575	85,047	397,622
At 31 March 2025	<u>312,575</u>	<u>85,047</u>	<u>397,622</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2024	124,138	79,144	203,282
Charge for the year	6,252	2,952	9,204
At 31 March 2025	<u>130,390</u>	<u>82,096</u>	<u>212,486</u>
<b>Net book values</b>			
At 31 March 2025	<u>182,185</u>	<u>2,951</u>	<u>185,136</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>188,437</u>	<u>5,903</u>	<u>194,340</u>

**7. Debtors**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Grants Due	37,603	35,470
Prepayments and accrued income	6,080	-
	<u>43,683</u>	<u>35,470</u>

**8. Current liabilities**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
Loans and overdrafts	2,114	2,726
Taxes and social security costs	3,347	3,297
Other creditors	12,000	-
Accruals & deferred income	2,220	2,032
	<u>19,681</u>	<u>8,055</u>

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

**9. Designated Funds**

The designated fund of £10,000 has been agreed by the trustees to ensure that there are adequate funds to cover operating costs.

<b>10. Movements in Funds</b>	<b>At 1 April 2024 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Outgoing resources £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2025 £</b>
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Total restricted funds	194,340	448,732	(457,935)	-	185,137
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>					
Total unrestricted funds	36,369	50,438	(49,997)	(10,000)	26,810
<b>Designated funds:</b>	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>230,709</u>	<u>499,170</u>	<u>(507,932)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>221,947</u>

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Restricted grants awarded to the charity is provided to cover the core objects as explained in directors report.

**11. Controlling interest**

Ultimate control of the charity lies with the committee members.

**12. Related Party Transactions**

There were no related party transactions in year under review.

**9. Designated Funds**

The designated fund of £10,000 has been agreed by the trustees to ensure that there are adequate funds to cover operating costs.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104604

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# Accounts

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**Charity No: NIC 104604**

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

**Accounts**

**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

# Greater Shantallow Community Arts

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## Greater Shantallow Community Arts

### Legal and Administrative Information

<b>Charity Name</b>	Greater Shantallow Community Arts
<b>Charity Number</b>	NIC 104604
<b>Operational Address</b>	Unit 2/3 4 Beraghmore Road Skeoge Ind Estate Derry BT48 8SE
<b>Trustees of Greater Shantallow Community Arts</b>	Bobby Kelly Philomena Gillen Eleanor Plummer Lynn McCarron John McLaughlin Annmarie Kelly Ann McKeever Maura Ebbs Catrina McFeely Jim Collins Conor Stanley Kayleigh Doherty
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## **Greater Shantallow Community Arts Report of The Management Committee**

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The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the association is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the association, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to the major risks.

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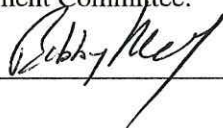
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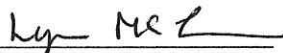
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A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that McGroarty McCafferty & Company Ltd be re-appointed as accountants for the charity for the ensuing year.

By Order of the Management Committee:

Committee Member 

Date: 24 June 2024

Committee Member 

Date: 24 June 2024

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It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9) (b) of the Charities Act;
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### Basis of Independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65 (9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Our examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as charity members concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

We can confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination as we are registered members of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters 1 - 4 listed above and, in connection with the following Directions of the Charity Commission Northern Ireland; we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

  
**McGroarty Mc Cafferty & Company Limited**  
Accountants and Tax Consultants  
2 Carlisle Terrace  
Derry  
BT48 6JX

Date: 24 June 2024

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>				
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Grants Received & Other Income	40,770	381,401	422,171	495,486
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>2.</b> <u>40,770</u>	<u>381,401</u>	<u>422,171</u>	<u>495,486</u>
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
Management & Administration	69,863	510,454	580,317	514,837
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>2.</b> <u>69,863</u>	<u>510,454</u>	<u>580,317</u>	<u>514,837</u>
<b>Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources</b>	(29,093)	(129,053)	(158,146)	(19,351)
Balances brought forward 1 April 2023	65,462	323,393	388,855	408,206
	<u>36,369</u>	<u>194,340</u>	<u>230,709</u>	<u>388,855</u>
Balances carried forward 31 March 2024	<b>9.</b> <u>36,369</u>	<u>194,340</u>	<u>230,709</u>	<u>388,855</u>

The above amounts relate to continuing operations of the group.

The organisation has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the results above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented. There is no difference between the net incoming resources for the year stated above and their historical cost equivalents.

Greater Shantallow Community Arts

Balance sheet  
as at 31 March 2024

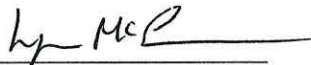
	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	6		194,340		323,393
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7	35,470		32,436	
Cash at bank and in hand		8,954		78,093	
		<u>44,424</u>		<u>110,529</u>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Bank loans and overdrafts		2,726		-	
Other creditors		3,297		4,994	
Accruals		2,032		40,073	
	8	<u>8,055</u>		<u>45,067</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>36,369</u>		<u>65,462</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>230,709</u>		<u>388,855</u>
<b>Capital account</b>					
Restricted funds			194,340		323,393
Unrestricted funds			36,369		65,462
	9.		<u>230,709</u>		<u>388,855</u>

I approve these accounts and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.



Committee Member

Date: 24th June 2024



Committee Member

Date: 24th June 2024

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**1. Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

**1.1. Accounting convention**

The Financial Statements have been prepared 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 Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

**1.2. Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Gifts donated for resale are included as incoming resources within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

**1.3. Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Renovations	-	Not depreciated
Equipment	-	20% Straight Line

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**2. Income**

	<b>Year Ended 2024 £</b>	<b>Year Ended 2023 £</b>
<b><u>Restricted Income</u></b>		
Department for Communities	15,463	9,535
Derry City and Strabane District Council	26,065	37,342
Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum	-	2,000
The Executive Office	59,759	94,094
Community Foundation NI	-	3,500
Halifax	5,000	-
Clear Project grant	-	9,900
Greater Shantallow Area Partnership	-	5,332
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	155,272	191,140
Education Authority	82,865	65,233
The National Lottery Awards for All	-	10,000
The National Lottery Dormant Accounts	8,000	15,000
Future Screens NI	20,977	21,919
Department for Justice	8,000	8,000
WHST	-	2,116
	381,401	475,111
<b><u>Unrestricted Income</u></b>		
Donations	40,770	20,375
	40,770	20,375
<b>Total Income</b>	422,171	495,486

**(i) Restricted Funds**

Funds received which are earmarked by the Funder for specific purposes. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

**(ii) Unrestricted Funds**

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the company in furtherance of the aims of the charity. In addition funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**2.1 Resources Expended**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Year Ended Total 2024</b>	<b>Year Ended Total 2023</b>
<b>Management &amp; Administration</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages & salaries	-	164,977	164,977	167,030
Pension costs	-	9,268	9,268	9,499
Programme & tutor costs	69,730	90,169	159,899	195,129
Rent, rates & water	-	56,231	56,231	49,234
Insurance	-	3,898	3,898	3,637
Light & heat	-	22,335	22,335	34,325
Repairs & maintenance	-	16,680	16,680	19,557
Postage, stationery & advertising	-	4,199	4,199	13,421
Telephone, fax & internet	-	3,191	3,191	4,557
Professional fees	-	9,000	9,000	-
Accountancy	-	1,260	1,260	1,272
Bank charges	133	-	133	378
Bank interest	-	-	-	-
Sundry expenses	-	193	193	235
Depreciation	-	129,053	129,053	16,563
	<u>69,863</u>	<u>510,454</u>	<u>580,317</u>	<u>514,837</u>

**3. Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the Period**

	<b>Year Ended 2024</b>	<b>Year Ended 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	129,053	16,563
Accountancy fees	<u>1,260</u>	<u>1,272</u>

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**4. Staff note**

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year amounted to 7 (2023 - 8).

The aggregate payroll costs incurred during the year were:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	164,977	167,030
Pension contributions	9,268	9,499
	<u>174,245</u>	<u>176,529</u>

**5. Taxation**

As a charity, Greater Shantallow Community Arts is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its chargeable objects. Accordingly, no tax charges have arisen in the charity.

**6. Tangible assets**

	Renovations	Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2023	312,575	85,047	397,622
At 31 March 2024	<u>312,575</u>	<u>85,047</u>	<u>397,622</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2023	-	74,229	74,229
Charge for the year	124,138	4,915	129,053
At 31 March 2024	<u>124,138</u>	<u>79,144</u>	<u>203,282</u>
<b>Net book values</b>			
At 31 March 2024	<u>188,437</u>	<u>5,903</u>	<u>194,340</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>312,575</u>	<u>10,818</u>	<u>323,393</u>

**7. Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants Due	<u>35,470</u>	<u>32,436</u>

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

8. <b>Current liabilities</b>	<b>2024</b> £	<b>2023</b> £
Loans and overdrafts	2,726	-
Taxes and social security costs	3,297	4,994
Accruals & deferred income	2,032	40,073
	<u>8,055</u>	<u>45,067</u>

9. <b>Movements in Funds</b>	<b>At</b> <b>1 April</b> <b>2023</b> £	<b>Incoming</b> <b>resources</b> £	<b>Outgoing</b> <b>resources</b> £	<b>At</b> <b>31 March</b> <b>2024</b> £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>				
Total restricted funds	323,393	381,401	(510,454)	194,340
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>				
Total unrestricted funds	65,462	40,770	(69,863)	36,369
Total funds	<u>388,855</u>	<u>422,171</u>	<u>(580,317)</u>	<u>230,709</u>

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Restricted grants awarded to the charity is provided to cover the core objects as explained in directors report.

**10. Controlling interest**

Ultimate control of the charity lies with the committee members.

**11. Related Party Transactions**

There were no related party transactions in year under review.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104604

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# Annual report

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# CREATE CONNECT INSPIRE



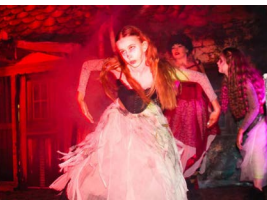
24<sup>th</sup>

Annual Report 27th June 2024  
Greater Shantallow Community Arts

# 24 YEARS OF COMMUNITY ARTS



# 25 YEARS



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BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

### Special Thanks To Our Funders



LOTTERY FUNDED



# THE ARTS IS FOR EVERYONE!



## OUR MISSION

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts (GSCA) is a community arts registered charity whose aim is to provide direct access to the arts within disadvantaged communities in the Greater Shantallow Area/Outer North region and right across Derry while also being a conduit in bringing communities from “edge to centre” and into strategic plans for the arts, both locally, regionally and nationally.**

GSCA aims to promote artists, cultural activity, grow audiences, increase participation in the arts and provide opportunities for communities and individuals to develop skills and provide showcasing for talent using a wide range of art forms.

We also acknowledge the transformative powers of the arts in making strategic social interventions to alleviate complex problems such as social exclusion, isolation, lack of opportunity and poverty.

GSCA is committed to equality regardless of cultural background, age, disability, sexual orientation or economic status.

Our aim is to bring the joy and magic of the Arts into the lives of residents and enhance their health and wellbeing through engagement in the arts at every level



# CHAIRPERSONS REPORT



## Welcome everyone, as Chairperson of Greater Shantallow Community Arts I am delighted to present for your kind consideration our 24th Annual Report.

As I reflect upon what has been another extremely busy and challenging year for GSCA I must say how proud I am of the extraordinary efforts made by all our team to rise to the challenges and to continue to work relentlessly towards delivering GSCA's stated aims and objectives on behalf of the communities we serve.

In times of increased cuts to resources, of insufficient funding to deliver on the needs and the creative aspirations of our people, our GSCA team has stepped up with innovation, determination, and a resilience to deliver the Arts engagement that is so badly needed and longed for within our communities and across our city and region.

I want to personally thank our whole staff team, our amazing arts facilitators, our wonderful volunteers, of all ages, who give so generously of their time and energy and also my fellow Management Board members, it is with All your combined hard work, commitment and passion for the Arts and understanding of the value of Arts engagement to positively enhance the quality of life for all the peoples we serve, and your collective refusal to "Standstill" when more is needed that drives GSCA forward now and into the future. I thank each and everyone of you for all that you do, your work and efforts are so appreciated and respected.

Throughout 2023/24, we have delivered an innovative, comprehensive, and exciting programme of Community Arts activities, engaging participants of all ages and all interests in all forms of arts programming that were tailored to their needs, aspirations and individual creativity providing clear avenues for skills development and progression as well as opportunities for creative and cultural expression and showcasing of new talent.

Our Annual Report will not only reflect in depth the sheer range of GSCA's Arts Engagement throughout the year and its direct contribution to our city's cultural and creative calendar as well as GSCA's contribution to delivering upon the strategic ambitions and key objectives of our statutory and creative partners within Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Derry City and Strabane District Council, The NI Executive Office, The Department of Communities and the Departments of Health, Education and Justice all of whom have supported our work throughout 2023/24. This alongside GSCA's contributions to our city's Arts & Cultural Strategy Co-Delivery Group and locally the Ballyarnett DEA Growth Partnership and other city wide Arts Partnerships ensures that our communities creative ambitions are being reflected and are reflective of our societies collective ambitions for the Arts.

Importantly our ongoing work to develop the physical infrastructure to support and sustain the Arts and Creative Industries to grow and thrive in the ever expanding Outer North area of Derry has taken a significant step forward this year with DCSDC ratifying its support for the development of major new Arts Capital development in the council owned Ballyarnett Country Park which GSCA have been pushing forward with for many years. GSCA have long recognised that the long-term sustainability of Arts provision in the Outer North Region of Derry would require committed council support and we see this formal declaration by DCSDC as a hugely positive first step forward to achieve both GSCA's and DCSDC's ambitions for the future of the Arts in this region.

When I reflect upon our achievements, the term togetherness has never been so fitting, particularly in this a year filled with creativity, opportunity, fun and joy, a year in which we at GSCA have been delighted to have played our part in guaranteeing that our community here in the Outer North Area has remained submerged in the cultural and artistic life of our city and that our people's creativity has continued to be unlocked, showcased and celebrated. With so many amazing highlight events such as, The Summer of Love Festival, Viral Project, Halloween Awakening the Walls, Hocus Pocus, St Patrick's Day Spring Carnival Celebrations, T'was the Week Before Christmas, our Creative Youth Drop in, 'Spill the Tae' Podcast, Our Space Your Place Project Central Good Relations programme, Fleadh Dhoire Mhor 2024, Four Days in Derry theatre production and hosting the National Gallery's Art Road Trip to name but a few, reflects an organisation that really does Create, Connects and truly Inspires and an organisation that we should all be genuinely proud to be have been part of building.

As chairperson of GSCA I direct my most genuine gratitude and admiration to everyone who has contributed and supported our efforts throughout this year and offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to all our funders and especially the Arts Council of Northern Ireland for its core support. Thank you all.

As I offer for your kind consideration GSCA's 24th Annual Report I do so with hope and confidence that in the year ahead we will continue to build upon this great work and continue to grow and deliver upon our charities ambitions to make the Arts Accessible for All our peoples.

**Mr Bobby Kelly**  
Chairperson  
Greater Shantallow  
Community Arts



# BRINGING THE ARTS TO THE HEART OF COMMUNITIES



## Arts Reaching Communities 2023/24

We created a comprehensive exciting programme of community arts activities, offering a blended menu of weekly classes attracting on average 2300 participants of various ages and of various experiences to engage in classes tailored to meet their needs, aspirations, and individual abilities in more than 94 weekly classes: including dance, music, drama, visual Arts and performance. Our weekly class schedule for 23/24 incorporated weekly classes in everything from Traditional Irish Dance, Hip-Hop, Contemporary, Ballet, Tap & Jazz Dance, Carnival Dance, Ceili Dance, and many more delivered at all levels for all ages. Our programmes of Music extended in range from Classical Singing and Show choirs to learning instruments in Guitar, Piano, Mandolin, Flute, Fiddle, Tin Whistle, Harp, Accordion, Squeeze Box, Bodhran, Drums right through to a range of innovate digital music and DJing programmes of music, development, editing and production. Our Youth Drama and Musical Theatre programming incorporated, My Frist Dance, My Frist Drama, Arts & Crafts, Derry Youth Theatre, Musical Theatre workshops offering a comprehensive and exciting programme of community arts activities that appealed to our whole community.

April saw the continuation of our spring/summer classes leading to our much anticipated ever popular end of years summer showcases in June, including our dance showcase with over 200 dancers from our World fusion, contemporary and hip-hop classes. September saw the highly successful commencement of our Autumn Timetable of our Arts Reaching Communities Programme which included classes in Young Crafters Academy, Little Stars Drama, Shooting Stars Drama and Shining Stars Drama, My First Dance, Street Beats, Mini Beats Dance, Young Crafters, Discocise, Speech and Drama, World Fusion Dance, Baby Ballet, Contemporary

Dance, Acting Out Youth Drama, Creative Youth Drop In, Traditional Irish Arts including, Traditional Irish Music lessons in Mixed Strings, Tin Whistle, Fiddle, Conversational Irish, Irish Dancing.

October saw our hugely successful participation in DCSDCs Halloween festivities, and our Awakening the Walls showcase Hocus Pocus was the highlight of the whole festival and through the delivery of our various classes with participants from, dance drama, arts and crafts all leading to taking part in DCSDCs city centre parade. October also saw 'I Didn't See That Coming' a play written and directed by Rosalind Patton. An additional 2 plays then followed in the early stages of 2023 plus her New play The Christian Support Group "How Not to Catch the Gay" which also toured to the Dublin International Drama Festival. March saw our participation in DCSDCs St Patrick's Day Spring Carnival Celebrations and NWCIs wonderful Carnival Parade .



# AMELIA EARHART



## The Earhart Art Prize for Female Painters in Ireland

The prestigious Earhart Art Prize, presented by Greater Shantallow Community Arts in collaboration with City of Derry Airport and The National Gallery Art Road Trip, embarked on a journey of creativity. This event commemorated the 92nd anniversary of Amelia Earhart's historic solo transatlantic flight and invited female painters from across Ireland to participate in the inspiring competition.

Participants set their sights on the grand prize of £1,932, symbolizing Earhart's groundbreaking achievement. Additionally, ten honorable mentions earned the opportunity to exhibit their work alongside the winner, gaining exposure and recognition.

Artists let their imagination take flight as they explored themes of female achievement, aspiration, courage, aviation, and flight, inspired by Earhart's pioneering spirit.

The event experienced the intersection of art, history, and innovation, honoring Amelia Earhart's legacy and empowering female painters to reach new heights. City of Derry Airport, The National Gallery Art Road Trip, and Greater Shantallow Community Arts joined in this exhilarating celebration of creativity. Participants unleashed their artistic potential and let their spirits soar with the Earhart Art Prize.



# THE NORTHERN IRELAND EXECUTIVE OFFICE CENTRAL GOOD RELATIONS FUND: OUR SHARED COMMUNITY



Gareth McAlinden  
Good Relations Project Coordinator



## Our Space Your Place

Our Space Your Place is our innovative Good Relations project that utilises the active Engagement in Community Arts as a vehicle for building strong community relations introducing marginalised isolated people from all backgrounds, to a new and welcoming Shared Space bringing our communities together to enjoy the magic and creative experience that the arts can uniquely offer. 144 Participants were introduced to an inspiring programme of weekly arts workshops developing new skills and interests, building new Friendships Resilience. The project involved 12 groups who took part in weekly good relations workshops in oil painting, arts and crafts, singing, dancing, drama, Relax Kids music and movement, musical theatre, and creative writing.

Our Space Your Place 'Our Shared Community, Increased the use of a new Shared Space' at Studio2 in the Ballyarnett DEA /Skeoge area. The area has a major deficit of perceived Shared spaces in which residents, visitors or members of other communities can feel comfortable sharing their religious background or cultural traditions.

The Our Space Your Place initiative has not only met but surpassed its participation targets, engaging 158 participants from April 2023 to April 2024, exceeding the initial goal of 144. The project's success is underscored by its commitment to maintaining a balanced representation across various community backgrounds: 63 participants from Protestant Unionist Loyalist (PUL) backgrounds, 63 from Catholic Nationalist Republican (CNR) backgrounds, and 27 from other backgrounds, including 20 from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities. Covering 100% of the citywide area, spanning post code areas BT48 and BT47 in Derry and Strabane, signifies the project's extensive reach and accessibility. The initiative has catered to a diverse range of age groups, from 2 to 90 years old, ensuring inclusivity across generations. Moreover, the inclusion of individuals, community groups, and schools in activities such as Art, Arts and Crafts, Dance, World Fusion Dance, Singing, Drama, Creative Writing, and Oil Painting has provided a multifaceted approach to engagement and skill development. The involvement of six schools, including Lisnagelvin Primary, St Pauls Primary School, Oakgrove Integrated PS, Holy Child Primary School, St Brigid's College, and Ardnashee College, strategically selected from areas with high levels of



deprivation and sectarian tension, demonstrates the project's targeted efforts to foster inclusivity and bridge divides within communities.

By utilizing strategic online marketing techniques, printed flyers and posters and BBC Radio Interviews the initiative has effectively attracted individuals interested in the arts and Good Relations programs, thereby broadening its audience and enhancing community engagement. Overall, the Our Space Your Place project has successfully created a shared space for socialization, skill-building, and community cohesion, contributing positively to the overall fabric of society.

“Our Space Your Place” serves as a beacon of hope and unity in the Outer North area, embodying the transformative potential of community arts to foster inclusivity and celebrate diversity. Since its inception in 2023, the project has exceeded expectations, engaging 158 participants in a series of immersive workshops designed to explore themes of peace, trust, and creative community building.

Spanning over 14 weeks, each project provided a diverse array of artistic expressions, including arts and crafts, oil painting, singing, dance, drama, and creative writing. Through these activities, individuals from various backgrounds had the opportunity to not only refine their artistic skills but also forge meaningful connections with one another, transcending cultural boundaries and fostering a sense of unity and belonging.

Central to the project's success is its ability to provide a shared space where residents, visitors, and individuals from diverse communities can come together in a welcoming and inclusive environment. By addressing the perceived lack of shared space in the area, “Our Space Your Place” has become a vital hub for dialogue, cultural exchange, and mutual understanding, bridging divides and fostering a sense of community cohesion. Moreover, the impact of “Our Space Your Place” extends far beyond skill acquisition; it has nurtured a sense of empowerment and confidence among participants, instilling in them a deeper appreciation for the value of diversity and inclusivity. Through collaborative efforts and shared experiences, lasting friendships have been forged, enriching the fabric of the community, and leaving a lasting legacy of unity and friendship.

The invaluable contributions of participating groups, including Hand Made Crafts, St Brigid's College, Ardnashee College, Relax Kids, Holy Child Primary School, Oakgrove Integrated Primary School, St. Paul's Primary School, Lisnagelvin Primary School, Tommy's Oil Painting Group, and Pat McArts Creative Writing group, have been instrumental in making “Our Space Your Place” a resounding success. Their dedication, creativity, and enthusiasm have truly made a difference, enriching the lives of all involved and leaving an indelible mark on the community. As we look to the future, “Our Space Your Place” stands as a shining example of the transformative power of community arts in building a more inclusive and cohesive society.





## Children's Drama @ Studio 2

This year, our drama department has continued to be a success with children of all ages attending our regular drama classes here at Studio 2. Each class is carefully crafted and structured to offer quality content which is beneficial to the children to develop social skills, creativity, confidence building and team building skills while having fun along the way.

Our "Little Stars" drama classes, aimed at children aged 3-5, offer young children an introduction to drama and are ideal for getting them started on their drama journey by encouraging them to make friends, use their imagination and express their creativity in a fun and safe environment. These classes use a good combination of drama and game play which is crucial to early years development as through our strategy we encourage social skills, expression of the self, exploration of emotions and characters and increasing confidence in young children. This year our little stars got to take part in two showcases; "The Little Mermaid" and "The Twits." These showcases delighted and entertained audiences of 100+ guests of family and friends who came to see these little stars in their first ever performances which were a great success.

The next stage in our junior drama programme is our "Shooting Stars" drama classes which are aimed at children aged 5-7. These classes aim to uplevel some of the skills developed in the younger classes and to expand these skills further. Kids attending these classes are given the tools to start becoming more comfortable and confident young performers by developing their skills in focusing, reading, music and movement and exploring characters through their acting. Our shooting stars were also successfully involved in two end of year showcases, acting alongside our little stars in "The Little Mermaid" and in their showcase of "Matilda" in a theatre space with 100+ guests.

The oldest of our primary school aged drama groups is our "Shining Stars" drama classes. These classes are for children aged 8-11 where we encourage our drama students to achieve their best by getting them to start thinking about common theatre practices and technique. In these classes we promote confidence and creativity by encouraging the children to come up with ideas and contribute their own creative input into their work to give them their own sense of ownership and responsibility over their projects and performances. Our shining stars are fantastic role models for our younger groups as they've acted alongside them in the end of year showcase of "The Little Mermaid" and in their production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and they used these showcases to their full advantage to use their skills effectively to express themselves and wow the audiences! They also got to take part in their first ever parade on St. Patrick's day and they really enjoyed their experience.



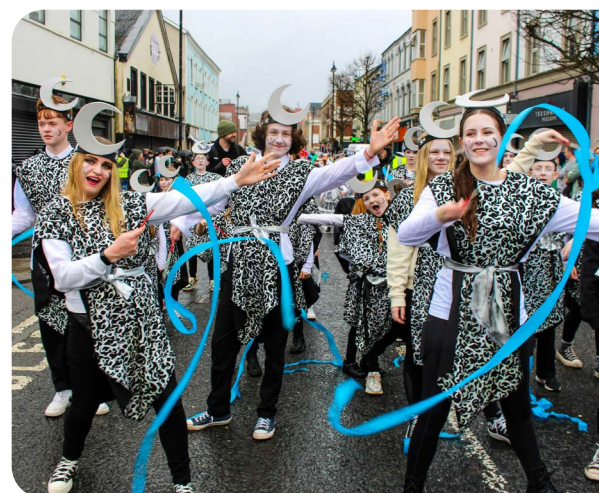
## Youth Drama @ Studio 2

For our seniors we have our “Acting Out Youth Theatre” drama classes which offers our young people aged 11-18 great opportunities to become actively engaged in a number of different projects within the community using their drama and performance skills. Our youth drama group has grown significantly in the past year and we now have 25 members who regularly attend. Through our regular sessions this group has explored skills in improvisation, creating characters, storytelling, stand up comedy, devised theatre, music and movement, mime, acting for screen and acting for stage. Learning these skills has served this group well as they have a well-rounded view of what it takes to be a part of the performing arts industry. Through working on different projects, they’ve gained more insight and understanding of how things work within the industry providing them with the knowledge and experience they need if they want to take these skills into future careers.

During the summer, we had our “Summer of Love” festival which this group got to be a part of with their theatre showcase of “Mamma Mia.” The young people really brought the play to life and delighted audiences with their, acting, singing, dancing and musical theatre abilities bringing a sense of energy and fun to the festival. The show was seen by 100+ audience members which did not phase our young people one bit as they handled it all like true professionals and they enjoyed performing in the production as much as the audience enjoyed seeing it.

Our young people from Acting Out were a vital part of our Christmas event “Twas the Week Before Christmas.” An increase in members joining the group meant that we were able to have two separate performances happening at the event. Half of the members took part in our production of “The Grinch” where our young people got to perform live on stage in this fun filled family friendly show using their acting skills. The other half of our members got to perform in “Santa’s Workshop” where they showcased their musical theatre skills to get audiences into the Christmas spirit. Both these performances ran for a total of 4 nights with 16 shows each being viewed by the public. Our very dedicated cast really committed to their roles showing their time and commitment to their craft which made it a huge success and was an enjoyable experience for all involved.

As well as acting for stage our youth drama group were also involved in the St. Patricks Day Parade this year with the North West Carnival Initiative. The theme of the parade was “darkness and light” and our young people had the challenge of creating characters centred around “moon people.” They did a lovely routine about the moon controlling the tides with some nice blue ribbons using music and movement in the routine to entertain the audiences which lined the streets of Derry.



# DANCE @ STUDIO 2



Our dance department at Studio2 has, once again, remained successful, and attracted children of various ages to our regular dance classes. Every class is tailor-made to provide valuable content that helps children enhance their dancing, social abilities, confidence, and creativity, and develop team-building skills... while having fun! While exploring different dance techniques, from jazz to street dance, ballet, and hip-hop, each child fosters a new panel of expertise, that they will improve throughout time.

The first stage in our junior dance programme is our “My First Dance” dance classes, which are aimed at children aged 3-5. Ideal for a dance introduction and to start their dancing journey, the classes are conducive to making friends, happiness, and an environment where each can grow as an artist. These classes combine dance and gameplay, which has a decisive role in the early years of development. From social skills to self-expression, and confidence building, musical games also allow them to develop a keen sense of hearing and musicality, vital for little dancers.

This year, our little dancers are preparing for a “Willy Wonka” showcase, that will entertain guests of family and friends, who came to see them in their first performance ever.

Our “Mini Beats Dance” dance classes, aimed at ages 5-7, offer young children an uplevel of the skills learned the previous years, build their confidence, and expand their abilities. The young dancers attending these classes are given the tools to start being more comfortable and confident in class, and also when performing. Every class, they are put into small groups of two or three and are given the task to create a small dance of 30 seconds, before presenting it to the class. This team-building exercise is ideal for communication and making friends, learning from each other while having fun, and overcoming stage fright when dancing in front of the rest of the class.

They are also learning some more advanced skills and all the dance positions that are the basics of every dance move and style. Our “Mini Beats Dance” is preparing for a “Willy Wonka” showcase, in a theatre space with 100+ guests. The oldest of our dance groups is our “Street Stars Dance+” dance classes. These classes are for children ages 7-11. These children are the most advanced in dancing, and are encouraged to achieve their best in class, and during their performances. They are learning and mastering skills, that will be beneficial to their dancing and will help them improve even more. It goes without saying that the dance classes are safe





spaces where every child can express themselves with gestures and movements, but also encourage each other.

In these classes, we promote confidence and creativity and give them responsibilities over projects and performances. In just a few weeks, some of them came out of their shell and were able to express their emotions and feelings through dance. Our street stars shined during the Saint Patrick's parade, which was for some of them their first parade and public performance. They overcame shyness and let the music take over while having a great time. Dressed as bunny rabbits for this year's theme 'Out of the Darkness Into the Light', they made the crowd hopping with joy and excitement. Our street stars are also preparing for the "Willy Wonka" showcase, where the dancers will be able to show all their new abilities to their friends and family.



GREATER SHANTALLOW COMMUNITY ARTS

**NEW CLASS**

# STREET JAZZ

WITH LILY BILLECARD

**FREE TASTER SESSIONS**  
 TUESDAY 5.00PM - 6.30PM TEENS AGE 12-16  
 TUESDAY 7.00PM - 8.30PM ADULTS 17+  
 EMAIL GARETH@GSCADERRY.COM TO BOOK

**COME TRY IT OUT! ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**

STUDIO2 UNITS 1-3 FOYLE BUSINESS PARK, 4 BERAGHMORE ROAD  
 SKEOGH, INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, DERRY, BT488SE  
 TEL: 028 71358750 | EMAIL: INFO@GSCADERRY.COM

Community Arts Studio 2

GREATER SHANTALLOW COMMUNITY ARTS

**NEW CLASS**

# HEELS

WITH LILY BILLECARD

AGE 17+

INTRODUCING LILY BILLECARD HEELS DANCE CLASSES

**FREE TASTER SESSIONS**  
 WEDNESDAYS  
 7.00PM - 8.30PM  
 EMAIL GARETH@GSCADERRY.COM TO BOOK  
 COME TRY IT OUT! ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

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Community Arts Studio 2

# YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PLUS

## Supported by EA Youth Service & Department of Communities Engaging many 100s of young people in the Ballyarnett DEA

### Creative Youth Drop In

Our creative youth drop in is held here in Studio 2 every Friday night and is aimed at young people aged 11-17. We offer a range of activities at the drop in with a huge focus on the arts. Every week we open our doors inviting young people in to use our space to engage with activities like singing, arts and crafts, gaming, team building, music and film. Our arts centric approach allows young people the opportunity to express themselves in a creative environment, to share ideas and to nurture and discover their talents. Having drop in with a creative flair offers an enriching environment where our young people thrive in as it fosters personal growth, builds confidence and cultivates a sense of community among these young artists. We even run special events every so often at drop in such as the Halloween youth disco, and also we ran an event for culture night where young people attended a gig here in Studio 2 where they watched other young people perform and came together to support each other and celebrate their peers talents.



### Volunteering

We are very lucky here at Studio 2 that we have such a dedicated team of young volunteers who give up their free time to help out in any way they can in our art, drama and dance classes. These young people always come in with a sense of enthusiasm, passion and tenacity acting as positive role models for the younger children in these classes and contribute to our sense of community we have built here. These opportunities in volunteering are essential for our young people to develop skills which will prepare them for the wider working world when they leave school and we are proud that we can provide a base for them to develop these skills for future career opportunities. The hard work of these young people doesn't go unnoticed and we were delighted to be invited to the EA Youth Engagement Plus Awards this year where seven of our young volunteers were proudly nominated for awards for their contribution to volunteering and youth work here in Studio 2. One of our young people, Brandon, was selected to receive the award for "Unsung Hero" for his contribution to volunteering and we were very proud to support him and all our young volunteers at the event to celebrate and recognise their hard work.



# YOUTH ARTS, REAL YOUTH WORK

## Viral Project

We worked on a project called “The Viral Project” in association with The Department of Justice, to create a short film aimed at young people which addresses the sensitive topic of sending indecent images underage. The aim of the project was to prevent crimes amongst young people so we used this short film as an educational tool to inform them of the potential consequences and risks associated with sharing such content on both a personal level and with the law. Through careful storytelling the film highlights the importance of consent, privacy, and responsible digital behaviour. We premiered the Viral Project film in Brunswick Movie Bowl in June where schools and teachers were among our guests and took part in our Q&A after the film was shown. The Q&A raised some really important topics for discussion where issues could be discussed in the open in a controlled and safe environment to raise awareness and to get young people to think more about these issues that arise with online safety and digital wellbeing. We hope that the Viral Project will continue to open up conversations around this important topic in more schools, community centres and youth clubs as more people will view it.



## Spill the Tae Have Your Say

The success of our “Spill The Tae” youth led podcast from last year developed further into a video podcast “Spill The Tae have Your Say,” where young people used this as a platform to discuss issues that are important to them such as mental health, addiction and acceptance and pride in the LGBTQIA+ community. This project gave our young people a chance to explore these issues while also learning about the exciting world of television production through presenting skills, set design, lighting, sound, editing and filming techniques. The young people used these skills to interview guests on their show and put together 4 short episodes as a means of creating an educational and informative show by young people for young people. The young people involved in the project proudly premiered their episodes in November here in Studio 2 and had a live Q&A with guests who attended the event where the young people could speak for themselves on their experience with this project and give an insight into what they’ve learnt and they hosted the Q&A like true professionals! They also took part in a Halloween special episode of the podcast “Spill The Blood” where they got to show off their creative side and use their talents to create a short spooky horror story to get into the Halloween spirit and had a lot of fun exploring their creativity.



# TBUC/EA YOUTH CAMPS 2023-24



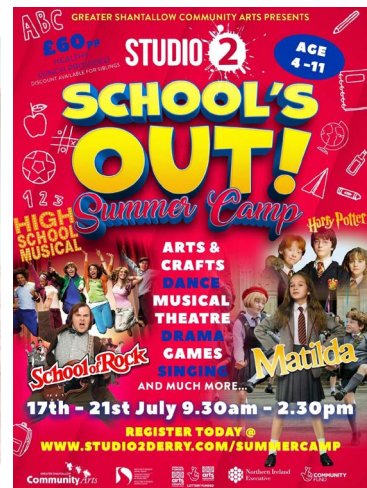
## TBUC/EA Youth Camps 2023-24

**Together Building United Communities for all our Young People**

During 2023/24 Greater Shantallow Community Arts were delighted to have been supported by the NI Executive Offices TBUC Good Relations programme in partnership with the EA Youth Services to be given the opportunity to provide three different and unique innovative TBUC Youth Camps that engaged over 120 young people from all different communities and backgrounds from across our city throughout the year in targeted programmes of intensive good relation, peacebuilding and creative learning and volunteering initiatives that supported their personal learning and social development whilst allowing them specific opportunities to engage in Social Action initiatives that provided our communities with an insight into the positive contribution that our young people bring to our communities. GSCA, TBUC Beyond Limits, Youth Leadership Camp, Summer Creative Volunteers Camp our hugely successful Creative Christmas Youth Volunteers Camp allowed our young people to positively shine brightly in the glow of their amazing achievements and commitment to supporting each other and their communities throughout the year.



# SUMMER CAMPS



## Summer Camp

July saw the commencement of our 2 week summer camps:

1. Under the Sea
2. Schools Out for Summer

Both summer schemes had 100 participants each week. The summer camps were aimed at children aged 4-11 where they took part in a range of activities such as dance, drama, arts and crafts, singing and musical theatre. The children taking part in the summer scheme had such a great opportunity to showcase their skills, make new friends and had lots of fun along the way.

We also ran an extra week of Summer Camps with Margaret Keys in August "Centre Stage Summer Camp." This camp specialised in musical theatre and performance where the children were encouraged to take their skills to the next level through a carefully structured programme where they delighted audience members of family and friends with their drama, singing and musical theatre skills.

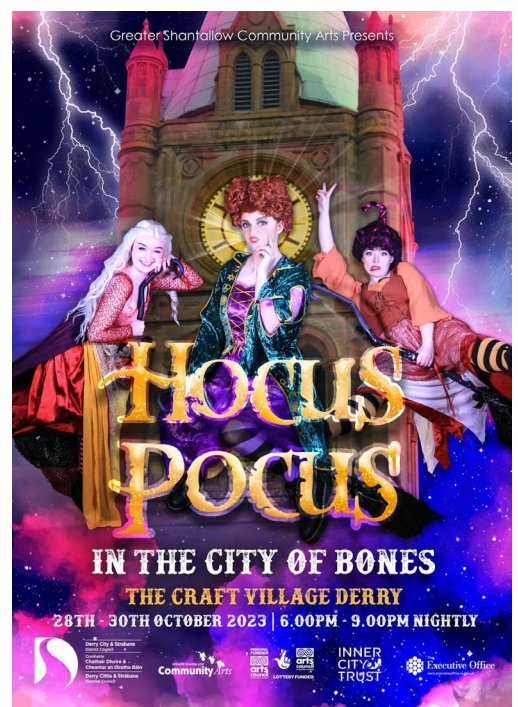


# HALLOWEEN 2024



## Hocus Pocus in the City of Bones

At Halloween we were once again delighted to be working in partnership with DCSDC to bring our show “A Bunch Of Hocus Pocus In The City Of Bones” to the heart of the Derry Halloween festivities in the Craft Village. This piece followed the story of the Sanderson Sisters who had returned to Derry to try and curse the town on Halloween night but their plan backfires, much to the delight of the children in audiences who watched. We teamed up with Rainbow School of Dance who brought their creative input of dancing zombies into the performance which worked splendidly alongside the Sanderson Sisters to create an energetic, spooky and lively atmosphere. Our whole team of artists, actors and crew all came together to put on a blinder of a show which ran repeatedly for 3 nights and entertained the masses as thousands of people gathered to witness and enjoy this spectacular show.



# TWAS THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS



## Festive Fun

Greater Shantallow Community Arts were very pleased to once again bring the festive Christmas season to Studio 2 at our event "Twas the Week Before Christmas." This event took place over 4 days and included lots of activities and showcases which hundreds of families came to watch, take part in and enjoy. Our entire building was transformed into a magical winter wonderland which included Mrs. Claus story telling, posting letters in Santa's workshop, The elves and elf village in a festive musical theatre performance 'Santa's Workshop,' face painting, arts and crafts, hot chocolate and cookies, singing with the Christmas Fairy and our showcase of 'The Grinch.' This family friendly event was the perfect way to get into the Christmas spirit and sharing our space with the public was a joy for us to create and share the magic with children and their families.



# ST PATRICK'S DAY



## St. Patrick's Day Parade 2024

We were thrilled to collaborate with the Northwest Carnival Initiative and Derry City and Strabane District Council for the 2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade. Our participation featured forty talented individuals from Studio 2's dance and drama groups.

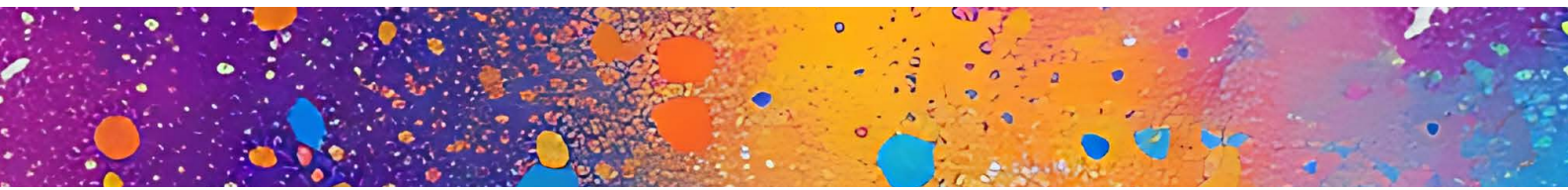
### A Festive Atmosphere

Thousands of spectators lined the streets of Derry, creating an electric atmosphere. Our dancers and actors showcased their skills, delighting the crowd with their performances.

### Memorable Experiences

The parade offered our participants an enriching experience, fostering a sense of accomplishment and community connection. They enjoyed sharing their talents and celebrating their heritage with such a supportive audience. We extend our thanks to the Northwest Carnival Initiative, Derry City and Strabane District Council, and the enthusiastic spectators. The St. Patrick's Day Parade 2024 was a wonderful celebration of art and community spirit, and we are proud to have been a part of it.





# FESTIVAL FUN



## Summer of Love Festival

Greater Shantallow Community arts, in partnership with the DCSDC, were delighted to bring the “Summer of Love Festival” to Studio 2 in August. We had a full programme of events, opened to the public, which included a kids disco, adults 60/70s themed supper dance, craft fair, Mamma Mia showcase and family fun days with magic performances from Parky as well as workshops in dance, art and music. These events were a great success with many families from the community being brought together to enjoy the festivities and to see what community arts is all about. We really enjoyed opening our doors to the public and creating a fun and warm atmosphere where people of all ages could come to enjoy all the fun activities we had on offer.




# COMMUNITY THEATRE AT ITS BEST

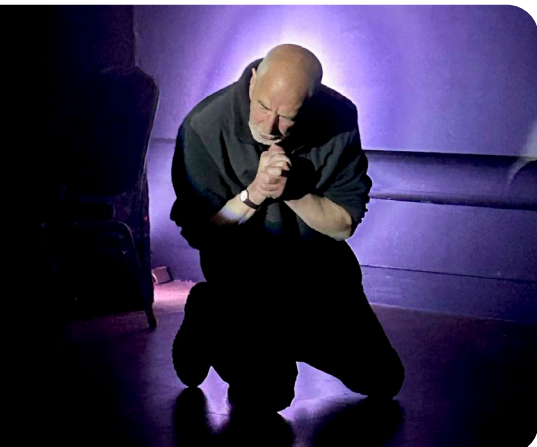
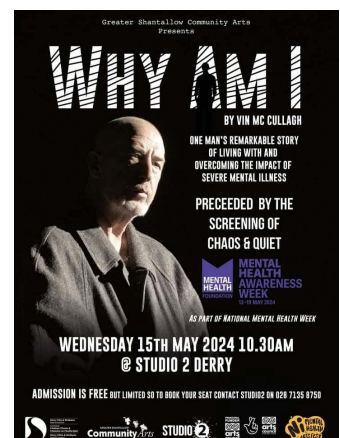
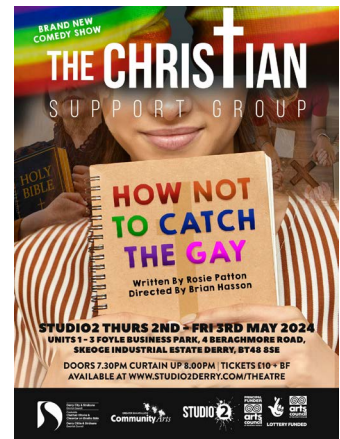
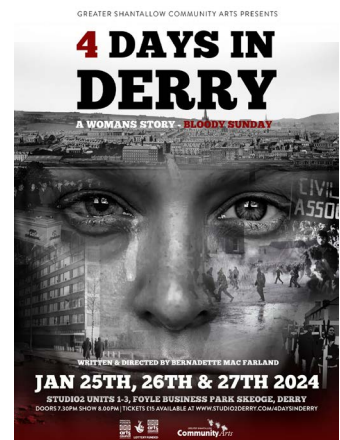
Greater Shantallow Community Arts have been delighted to work in creative partnership with so many outstanding local playwrights, directors and actors through this past year producing and bringing to stage so many theatrical productions of outstanding quality across a widely diverse themes including comedy, drama and issue-based theatre. Autumn saw local acting legends James Lecky and Paul O Doherty coming together to perform the staged a production of “The Best Pints” by Derry playwright Jack Gallagher. This story centred around three characters, friends, in a pub telling each other stories of parenthood, love, loss and addiction. It was a funny but also a touching play and the audience enjoyed the chemistry between the cast members who put on a great show. In January Greater Shantallow Community Arts were delighted to produce and stage the World Premiere of Bernadette Mac

Farland’s epic play “4 Days in Derry” which told for the first time the women’s story of Bloody Sunday. Playing to full houses during its five-day run at Studio2 in Derry and the Alley Theatre Strabane this play offered a very poignant, raw and insightful glimpse into the real-life tragedies of the “silent women’s” experiences as the forgotten victims of Bloody Sunday as told through the harrowing stories of the mothers, sisters, wives and sweethearts lived experience during those unforgettable 4 Days in Derry.

We were also delighted to produce and host Rosie Patton’s second play “The Christian Support Group, How Not to Catch the Gay” directed by Brian Hasson an insightful comedy that addressed the struggle of the LGBTQIA+ community with some Christian religious groups. Following the plays successful debut in Studio 2 it went forward for a five-day run and received great applause at the International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival in May of this year. Another highlight was GSCA’s production of local author and playwright Vin McCullagh’s seminal monologue on the human condition, ‘Why Am I?’ a critically and popularly acclaimed staged to mark World Mental Health Week comprised excerpts from this emotionally lyrical

monologue, performed by the author, and supported by acting great Felicity McCaul and international renowned singer song writer Caolan Mc Laughlin linked by a narrator to set them in context ‘Why Am I?’ was a masterful and compassionate work inspired by the writer’s own mental health journey, from boyhood in Tyrone, to the building sites of London, through a life- changing accident, and the world of psychiatric hospital viewed from his treatment as a patient and also from his subsequent career there as a nurse. Always challenging, insightful, and compassionate it is rich in the hearth language of his beloved Tyrone and in self-deprecating and occasionally dark humour.

Headed by our amazing Head of Community Theatre & Drama, Roma Havery GSCAs Community Theatre Programme looks set to go from strength to strength in the year ahead.



## GSCA welcomed The National Gallery's Arts Road Trip to the Northwest of Ireland

GSCA welcomed The National Gallery's Arts Road Trip to the Northwest of Ireland. At the start of the National Gallery's Bicentenary year of celebration the National Gallery in partnership with Greater Shantallow Community Arts, Derry were delighted to host a two week celebration of the Arts as the NG's first ever Arts Road Trip brought a dynamic programme of Arts Engagement that included New Work Exhibitions, featuring Regional Artists Showcase events and The 2024 International Earhart Arts Prize for Female Artists plus the National Gallery's Travelling Art Studio which visited 10 key locations and venues across the Derry and the Northwest staging a series of creative public art workshops, events and masterclasses across the city and region which engaged many hundreds of residents, local arts centres, schools and galleries, and local communities from across the region. In this the first of 18 visits to different cities across the UK the Art Road Trip offered an inspiring and inventive art studio on wheels, full of high-quality art materials, ideas, and creativity. From May 2024 to May 2025, the National Gallery's travelling art studio will host 200 creative public engagements and work with 40,000 people to bring art and ideas inspired by the National Gallery's collection to the heart of their communities.

Oliver Green Artistic Director of Greater Shantallow Community Arts and Studio2 Derry reflected that GSCA have been delighted to have been working in partnership with Anna and George and all the team from the National Gallery over this past year or more to bring what has been an amazing two weeks of Arts engagement at the highest levels to our city and region. The Art Road Trip team of outstanding artists have brought their inspiring message of the Arts being for everyone into the heart of our local communities here in Derry and have embraced and showcase not only the National Gallery's extensive Art Treasures but brought a clear focus and shown new light on the amazing talent and creativity of our indigenous local artists across the generations.

Mr Green said, we are so proud of all the outstanding artists of all levels who have engaged with the Arts Road Trip, Jenny and Chloe from the NG were amazing and inspiring to the hundreds of children who listened to their stories of how the magic of the arts can unlock the imagination and inspire greatness, as we reflected on our location at the very edge of the UK probably the furthest from the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square yet close to the new world of the Americas and to the European Union, our experience reflects the globalization and realisation that the Arts connects us all and transcends oceans and seas to bring beauty and inspiration to the darkest corners and shines the light of creativity that inspires offering new worlds of imagination and hope. Greater Shantallow Community Arts are so grateful to all our community partners, schools and arts venues who have engaged with the National Gallery's Arts Road Trip over the two weeks in Derry and who have made this such a wonderful experience for all involved and we look forward to continuing that lovely partnership in the time ahead.



# CREATIVE AGEING



## The Art Of Wellbeing

Building on the success of a number of key pilot programmes GSCA delivered upon the objectives of our Recovery to Discovery Social Prescribing Through the Arts programme by working with a wide range of community and statutory partners to deliver life changing Arts engagement opportunities that specifically address the health, well-being and mindfulness of our participants, offering innovative programming that engaged and reduced barriers to participation in the arts whilst allowing participants to explore their creative potential and feel the benefits of the arts impacting on the lives through not only the social engagement but through the creative expression and confidence building that our programme offered to each of our participants.

## Eddie Kerr An Appreciation

It is with truly great sadness that we reflect on the tragic passing of our wonderful, friend and mentor, our teacher and director, the kind and compassionate and truly inspirational Eddie Kerr. On behalf of the whole Arts Sector from across Derry and the Northwest, we offer our heartfelt condolences to Eddies wife Annette and his children Tara, Shane, and Kevin and to all of Eddies extended family and many friends.

No words can convey, the loss so many people will feel at Eddies parting, his was a life well lived, he brought a creativity and imagination to all that he did, alongside his core belief in equality of opportunity and justice for all peoples regardless of race, colour, creed, or social standing. Eddie was an inspiring friend and trusted companion and comrade to so many. His heart was filled with kindness, compassion, and empathy which he shared freely and without gain. His wisdom and understanding and ability to bring joy at the hardest of times to those who needed a hug was renowned.

*He is sadly missed by the whole Studio2 family.*



# CELEBRATING IRISH ARTS



Well it's hard to believe it's that time of the year again as we reflect on another amazing year of enjoying and providing Irish Traditional Arts to our city and region in creative partnership with Greater Shantallow Community Arts at Studio 2. Which means we at C.C.E. Baile na gCailleach take a look over the some of the highlights of the Branch over the past year. In Comhaltas we see ourselves as the custodians of our Traditional Irish music, song, dance, and language and through our Board who oversee the Co-ordination of branch events and governance it enables us through our tutors' volunteers to hold weekly classes in all of the pre mentioned art forms.

It goes without saying none of this would be able to happen were it not for the ongoing support of Greater Shantallow Community Arts board and staff on all levels who assist and support us in too many ways to mention, and always with a smile and good heart thank you to all the Studio2 team it is very much appreciated.

For anyone who doesn't know we teach music in Fiddle, Banjo, Mandolin Guitar, Whistle, Flute Box Concertina with some Ceili Dance and Irish Language classes thrown in for good measure because we can. Classes are for all abilities, so we have participants ranging in age from 6yr to 70yrs and a few slightly older. We find people come along for many reasons, some for company and some for the fun or because they always wanted to play but never had the time for whatever reason. People who learn to play often compete in Feis or Fleadhs others just play for their own enjoyment and sense of accomplishment so I'm sure you can see from this we are an eclectic bunch.



# FLEADH MHÓR DHOIRE



Of course, it can't all be class class class, and we are always invited to play at different public events ranging from when Government Ministers visiting Studio 2 or when we host and enjoy our highly popular Irish Traditional Christmas Session, city wide St Patrick Day Celebrations or festivals feis or fleadh to name but a few, we are so proud of all our branch members and many of our members have been highly successful in fiesanna and County Provincial and All Ireland Fleadhs bringing the magic of Irish traditional Arts to the world which goes to show what practice can do. Off course the highlight of our year was hosting An Fleadh Dhoire Mhore and County Derry Fleadh 2024 which was a massive success and brought our city to life with the sounds of Traditional Irish music filling the Derry Air. We had such a wonderful time and I would like to wish the Derry County Fleadh winners all the very best as they travel forward to compete at the Ulster and All Ireland Fleadh's in the time ahead.



# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE - SHARING A VISION



Greater Shantallow Community Arts (GSCA) was supported by the Dormant Accounts Fund NI delivered by The National Lottery Community Fund to work to address the long-term sustainability of GSCA and through us the delivery of high-quality arts and cultural engagement and provision in the Ballyarnett DEA in the Outer North area of Derry. GSCA in partnership with our city's arts sector has for some time sought to address the deficit of high-quality performance space for artists and audiences in Derry and the Northwest which is integral to the programme delivery and a limiting factor to being able to expand GSCA's and Derry/Northwest's Arts Sector's ambitions for the arts locally and regionally and nationally. On behalf of the communities we serve, GSCA have identified the need for the development of a major Regional Arts Centre to meet the needs of its existing and future cultural offering and ambitions for the growth of the Creative Industries in the Northwest Region. This need is supported by the demand on GSCA's current facilities at Studio 2 Youth & Community Arts Centre (120,000 plus annual users) for creative spaces, usage of external venues for larger events and initial consultations with key stakeholders and the community.

In 2015, DCSDC & the Outer North Neighbourhood Partnership commissioned a strategic masterplan for Ballyarnett Country Park as a strategic framework for the development/regeneration of the Country Park over the next 10 years. The proposal at the time focused on a mixed-use site with sport, leisure, environment and arts and culture all playing a key role in its development/regeneration.

GSCA has now advanced a new vision to deliver upon this Masterplan and has drafted concept design/plans. The concept designs for the Ballyarnett Regional Art Centre includes performance/education/event/studio/teaching/learning spaces and administrative spaces for GSCA, DCSDC, artists, organisations, and tenants.

Following many years of lobbying and GSCA's presentations to DCSDC on December 2023 Derry City and Strabane District Council formally committed to supporting the development of new arts facilities within Ballyarnett Country Park.

GSCA's proposed Ballyarnett Regional Arts Centre will act as a significant asset for not only the GSCA & DCSDC but the Northwest Derry/Donagall Arts Sector and should be seen as a significant arts & cultural asset in terms



of cultural tourism for the City and Region. It will also play an important part in the DCSDC & Outer North NRA Arts and Culture, Regeneration and Tourism Strategy's as it will bring new services and facilities to the region whilst contributing to the visions and concepts of Creative Ireland's Shared Island aspirations and the regional Creative Industries growing aspirations for Virtual, Digital Film and Television Studio Development in the Northwest region acting as a catalyst for the growth of a decentralised creative industries on the Island of Ireland.

# THANKS & APPRECIATION



Thank you



In concluding our 24th Annual Report, our most sincere heartfelt thanks and appreciation must be given to all those who supported us throughout this challenging year.

A year of constant trials made successful, only by the 100% dedication of the countless individuals prepared to contribute and commit their valuable time and efforts to supporting access to the arts for everyone in our community, in particular,

## Our Funders

### The Arts Council of Northern Ireland

Whom has invested not only their monies, but their time, wisdom and support in Greater Shantallow Community Arts over the years as an organisation we aim to make them proud of their investment. The Arts Council AFP funding is our organisations key core support

### Derry City and Strabane District Council

Have been vital supporters over the years and we look forward to that continuing in the years ahead as we service the needs of our citizens and build upon our ambitions to create a new regional Community Arts centre in Ballyarnett Country Park in partnership with DCSDC.

### The Department of Communities & Education Authority Youth Services

Have recognised the value of having community arts partners in delivering key youth interventions for our young people our Youth Engagement Plus programme support provides us with a key youth worker to engage our young people in all the benefits that the arts can bring to their lives.

### The NI Executive Office

Through their support, The NI Executive Office under its Central Good Relations & TBUC Good Relations fund has continued to play a vital role in supporting our organisations aspiration of using the Arts in all its forms to celebrate diversity and to bring people from every section of our community together unlocking the creative potential and confidence of all our citizens and building a real peace through respect for difference something that the arts can do very well.



## We offer our sincere thanks to...

Department of Justice

CINE

Dormant Accounts

City of Derry Airport

Department of Justice

CINE Screen NI

Future Screens Art Work

Dormant Accounts

National Lottery

City of Derry Airport

The National Gallery

The Halifax Foundation for Northern Ireland



## Our Partners Appreciated

GSCA wish to thank all the partner organisations we have worked with throughout 2023 and into 2024, GSCA have been privileged to have had the opportunity to work with so many different arts organisations, schools, community groups and businesses.

## Our Board Members, Our Staff & Volunteers

Without your dedication to the work of Greater Shantallow Community Arts, all we stand for and hope to achieve on behalf of the community we serve I say my most heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

2024 like most years presented some extremely stressful and unpredictable times, to see the sheer dedication and kindness of so many selfless individuals who care passionately about the arts and about the communities we serve you cannot fail to be inspired.

To our board members and volunteers without who's support we would not thrive and our wonderful team at Greater Shantallow Community Arts who bring their skills, creativity and enthusiasm to each day I offer my deepest thanks and appreciation.

'In all that we encounter in 2025 your constant encouragement will ensure that GSCA will go from strength to strength in the time ahead and that our ambition to continue to really CREATE, CONNECT and INSPIRE will be achieved during 2024/25.'

Thank You all  
Oliver Green, Artistic Director  
Greater Shantallow  
Community Arts



**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF BRINGING ARTS TO THE HEART OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES**



**STUDIO 2 Youth and Community Arts Centre**  
 Units 1-3 Foyle Business Park, 4 Beraghmore Road,  
 Skeoge Industrial Estate, Derry, BT48 8SE  
 Tel: 028 71 358750 Email: [info@gscaderry.com](mailto:info@gscaderry.com)

**Kindly Supported By**



**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104604

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# Annual return

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## Greater Shantallow Community Arts

### Independent Examiner's report to the charity committee members of Greater Shantallow Community Arts

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 5 - 11.

#### Respective responsibilities of charity committee members and examiner

As the charity's members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9) (b) of the Charities Act;
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### Basis of Independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65 (9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Our examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as charity members concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

We can confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination as we are registered members of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters 1 - 4 listed above and, in connection with the following Directions of the Charity Commission Northern Ireland; we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

  
**McGroarty Mc Cafferty & Company Limited**  
Accountants and Tax Consultants  
2 Carlisle Terrace  
Derry  
BT48 6JX

Date: 24 June 2024

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104604

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# Accounts

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Charity No: NIC 104604

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

**Accounts**

**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

# Greater Shantallow Community Arts

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## Greater Shantallow Community Arts

### Legal and Administrative Information

**Charity Name** Greater Shantallow Community Arts

**Charity Number** NIC 104604

**Operational Address** Unit 2/3  
4 Beraghmore Road  
Skeoge Ind Estate  
Derry  
BT48 8SE

**Trustees of Greater Shantallow Community Arts** Bobby Kelly  
Philomena Gillen  
Eleanor Plummer  
Lynn McCarron  
John McLaughlin  
Annmarie Kelly  
Ann McKeever  
Maura Ebbs  
Catrina McFeely  
Jim Collins  
Conor Stanley  
Kayleigh Doherty

**Accountants** McGroarty McCafferty & Company Ltd  
Accountants and Tax Consultants  
2 Carlisle Terrace  
Derry, BT48 6JX

**Bankers** Bank of Ireland  
27 Culmore Road  
Derry  
BT48 8JB

## **Greater Shantallow Community Arts Report of The Management Committee**

The Management Committee present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### **Principal activity and objectives**

Greater Shantallow Community Arts (GSCA) seeks the advancement of arts culture & heritage as a community arts organisation that aims to provide direct access to the arts within disadvantaged communities in the Greater Shantallow Area/Outer North region of Derry and to be a conduit to bring communities from “edge to centre” into strategic plans for the arts locally, regionally and nationally. GSCA seeks the advancement of education, citizenship and community development, as GSCA aims to promote artists, cultural activity, grow audiences, increase participation in the arts and provide opportunity for communities and individuals to develop skills and provide showcases for talent using a wide range of art forms. GSCA seeks the advancement of health and the saving of lives by acknowledging the transformative power of the arts to make strategic social interventions to alleviate complex problems such as: social exclusion, isolation, lack of opportunity and poverty. GSCA is committed to equality regardless of cultural background, age, disability, sexual orientation or economic status.

### **Management Committee**

The members of the charity for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees.

The trustees serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Bobby Kelly	Ann McKeever
Eleanor Plummer	Maura Ebbs
Lynn McCarron	Catrina McFeely
John McLaughlin	Jim Collins
Annmarie Kelly	Philomena Gillen
Conor Stanley	Kayleigh Doherty

### **Risk Management**

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the association is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the association, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to the major risks.

### **Financial review**

The financial performance is summarised in the enclosed accounts.

### **Plans for Future Periods**

As Greater Shantallow Community Arts enters its 23rd year of providing vital community arts services to the residents of our city, it is appropriate that we take time to reflect upon the impact of our work to date and how we can continue to service the artistic, creative and cultural needs of our communities in the time ahead. To this end GSCA have implemented a 2year programme of impact assessment, consultation and development of a New Five-Year Strategic Plan and Business Plan to run alongside senior management and board training with development programmes designed to support our organisations sustainability, resilience and growth in the time ahead. This process together with our work with a wide range of strategic statutory and community partners to identify and implement a strategic growth plan that will service the future capital requirements of the delivery of Arts and Cultural provision for the Ballyarnett DEA in which we are based and indeed the Community Arts physical requirements of our city and region offering exciting opportunities to ensure that we progress with a sense of optimism, excitement and confidence in the forward momentum of our organisational objectives.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts  
Report of The Management Committee**

**Members Responsibilities In Relation To The Financial Statements**

The members are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

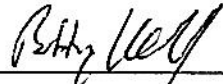
The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the members to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit in the financial year. In doing so the members are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.


The members are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that McGroarty McCafferty & Company Ltd be re-appointed as accountants for the charity for the ensuing year.

By Order of the Management Committee:

Committee Member 

Date: 22 June 2023

Committee Member 

Date: 22 June 2023

## **Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

### **Independent Examiner's report to the charity committee members of Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 5 - 11.

#### **Respective responsibilities of charity committee members and examiner**

As the charity's members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9) (b) of the Charities Act;
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

We have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65 (9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Our examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as charity members concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

We can confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination as we are registered members of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters 1 - 4 listed above and, in connection with the following Directions of the Charity Commission Northern Ireland; we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

*McGroarty, Mc Cafferty & Company Limited*  
**McGroarty Mc Cafferty & Company Limited**  
**Accountants and Tax Consultants**  
**2 Carlisle Terrace**  
**Derry**  
**BT48 6JX**

**Date: 22 June 2023**

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>				
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Grants Received & Other Income	20,375	475,111	495,486	563,874
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>2.</b> 20,375	<b>475,111</b>	<b>495,486</b>	<b>563,874</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
Management & Administration	-	514,837	514,837	544,043
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>2.</b> -	<b>514,837</b>	<b>514,837</b>	<b>544,043</b>
<b>Net Incoming / (Outgoing) Resources</b>	<b>9.</b> 20,375	<b>(39,726)</b>	<b>(19,351)</b>	<b>19,831</b>
Balances brought forward 1 April 2022	68,251	339,955	408,206	388,375
	88,626	300,229	388,855	408,206
Transfer of funds	(23,164)	23,164	-	-
Balances carried forward 31 March 2023	<u>65,462</u>	<u>323,393</u>	<u>388,855</u>	<u>408,206</u>

The above amounts relate to continuing operations of the group.

The organisation has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the results above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented. There is no difference between the net incoming resources for the year stated above and their historical cost equivalents.

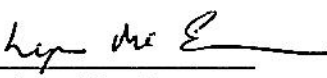
Greater Shantallow Community Arts

Balance sheet  
as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	6		323,393		339,955
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7	32,436		27,600	
Cash at bank and in hand		78,093		58,052	
		<u>110,529</u>		<u>85,652</u>	
<b>Current liabilities (note 8)</b>					
Bank loans and overdrafts		-		6,521	
Other creditors		4,994		6,778	
Accruals		40,073		4,102	
		<u>45,067</u>		<u>17,401</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>65,462</u>		<u>68,251</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>388,855</u>		<u>408,206</u>
<b>Capital account</b>					
Restricted funds			323,393		339,955
Unrestricted funds			65,462		68,251
			<u>388,855</u>		<u>408,206</u>

I approve these accounts and confirm that I have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member

Date: 22nd June 2023

Date: 22nd June 2023

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**1. Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

**1.1. Accounting convention**

The Financial Statements have been prepared 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 Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

**1.2. Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Gifts donated for resale are included as incoming resources within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

**1.3. Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Renovations	-	Not depreciated
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	20% Straight Line

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**2. Income**

	<b>Year Ended 2023 £</b>	<b>Year Ended 2022 £</b>
<b><u>Restricted Income</u></b>		
Department for Communities	9,535	7,053
Department of Education	-	10,707
Derry City and Strabane District Council	37,342	35,496
Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum	2,000	-
The Executive Office	94,094	64,133
Community Foundation NI	3,500	-
Clear Project grant	9,900	13,264
Greater Shantallow Area Partnership	5,332	3,400
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	191,140	263,113
Education Authority	65,233	103,225
The National Lottery Awards for All	10,000	-
The National Lottery Dormant Accounts	15,000	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	10,000
Community Relations Council	-	7,000
North West Youth Services	-	831
Health and Well Being Fund	-	2,652
Future Screens NI	21,919	-
Department For Justice	8,000	-
WHST	2,116	-
	475,111	520,874
<b><u>Unrestricted Income</u></b>		
Donations	20,375	43,000
	20,375	43,000
<b>Total Income</b>	495,486	563,874

**(i) Restricted Funds**

Funds received which are earmarked by the Funder for specific purposes. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the organisation.

**(ii) Unrestricted Funds**

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the company in furtherance of the aims of the charity. In addition funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**2.1 Resources Expended**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Year Ended Total 2023 £	Year Ended Total 2022 £
<b>Management &amp; Administration</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages & salaries	-	167,030	167,030	156,516
Pension costs	-	9,499	9,499	9,247
Programme costs	-	176,604	176,604	247,490
Tutor costs	-	18,525	18,525	19,315
Rent, rates & water	-	49,234	49,234	42,868
Insurance	-	3,637	3,637	3,765
Light & heat	-	34,325	34,325	16,769
Repairs & maintenance	-	19,557	19,557	13,208
Postage, stationery & advertising	-	13,421	13,421	5,368
Telephone, fax & internet	-	4,557	4,557	5,006
Accountancy	-	1,272	1,272	1,296
Bank charges	-	378	378	245
Bank interest	-	-	-	6,385
Sundry expenses	-	235	235	2
Depreciation	-	16,563	16,563	16,563
	-	514,837	514,837	544,043

**3. Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the Period**

	Year Ended 2023 £	Year Ended 2022 £
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets	16,563	16,563
Accountancy fees	1,272	1,296

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**4. Staff note**

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year amounted to 8 (2022 - 9).

The aggregate payroll costs incurred during the year were:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	167,030	156,516
Pension contributions	9,499	9,247
	<u>176,529</u>	<u>165,763</u>

**5. Taxation**

As a charity, Greater Shantallow Community Arts is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its chargeable objects. Accordingly, no tax charges have arisen in the charity.

**6. Tangible assets**

	<b>Renovations</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2022	312,575	85,047	397,622
At 31 March 2023	<u>312,575</u>	<u>85,047</u>	<u>397,622</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2022	-	57,666	57,666
Charge for the year	-	16,563	16,563
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>74,229</u>	<u>74,229</u>
<b>Net book values</b>			
At 31 March 2023	<u>312,575</u>	<u>10,818</u>	<u>323,393</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>312,575</u>	<u>27,382</u>	<u>339,955</u>

**7. Debtors**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants Due	<u>32,436</u>	<u>27,600</u>

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

8. <b>Current liabilities</b>	2023 £	2022 £
Loans and overdrafts	-	6,521
Taxes and social security costs	4,994	6,778
Accruals & deferred income	40,073	4,102
	45,067	17,401

9. <b>Movements in Funds</b>	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Total restricted funds	339,955	475,111	(514,837)	23,164	323,393
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>					
Total unrestricted funds	68,251	20,375	-	(23,164)	65,462
Total funds	408,206	495,486	(514,837)	-	388,855

**Purposes of Restricted Funds**

Restricted grants awarded to the charity is provided to cover the core objects as explained in directors report.

**10. Controlling interest**

Ultimate control of the charity lies with the committee members.

**11. Related Party Transactions**

There were no related party transactions in year under review.

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104604

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# Annual report

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# CREATE CONNECT INSPIRE



23<sup>rd</sup>

Annual Report 29th June 2023  
Greater Shantallow Community Arts

# 23 YEARS OF COMMUNITY ARTS



24  
YEARS



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*Special Thanks To Our Funders*



# THE ARTS IS FOR EVERYONE!



## OUR MISSION

**Greater Shantallow Community Arts (GSCA) is a community arts registered charity whose aim is to provide direct access to the arts within disadvantaged communities in the Greater Shantallow Area/Outer North region and right across Derry while also being a conduit in bringing communities from “edge to centre” and into strategic plans for the arts, both locally, regionally and nationally.**

GSCA aims to promote artists, cultural activity, grow audiences, increase participation in the arts and provide opportunities for communities and individuals to develop skills and provide showcasing for talent using a wide range of art forms.

We also acknowledge the transformative powers of the arts in making strategic social interventions to alleviate complex problems such as social exclusion, isolation, lack of opportunity and poverty.

GSCA is committed to equality regardless of cultural background, age, disability, sexual orientation or economic status.

Our aim is to bring the joy and magic of the Arts into the lives of residents and enhance their health and wellbeing through engagement in the arts at every level



# CHAIRPERSONS REPORT



## Welcome everyone, as Chairperson of Greater Shantallow Community Arts I am overjoyed to present for your kind consideration our 23rd Annual Report.

To begin, I must say how proud I am of the extraordinary progress made during 2022/23, and I'd like to personally thank every team member for their energy, commitment, and consistency in driving our organisation forward, the staff, facilitators, Management Committee and all associates of Greater Shantallow Community Arts who concentrated their energies on ensuring the future of Community Arts.

Never before has Community Arts been so needed within our local communities. GSCA's ambitious 2022/23 programme made a significant contribution to not only the ongoing Covid Recovery process our people needed but also in providing a creative rest-bite to the worries, anxiety and stress felt by so many people as a result of the current economic crisis especially within our targeted communities of the highest social and economic deprivation levels in which GSCA operate and create accessibility to the arts. GSCA's commitment to providing high quality arts facilitators as creative inspires recruited through an annual public call ensured new innovative artists and arts teachers had the opportunity to become part of GSCA's creative vision. Throughout 2022/23, we delivered a comprehensive exciting programme of community arts activities, engaging participations of all ages and all interests in all forms of arts programming that were tailored to their needs, aspirations and individual creativity providing clear avenues for skills development and progression as well as opportunities for creative and cultural expression and showcasing of new talent.

When I reflect upon our achievements, the term togetherness has never been so fitting, particularly in this year filled with

creativity, opportunity, fun and joy, a year in which we at GSCA have been delighted to have played our part in guaranteeing that our community here in the Outer North Area has remained submerged in the cultural and artistic life of our city and that our people's creativity has continued to be unlocked, showcased and celebrated for making a wonderful contribution to our city's cultural calendar through events such as, The Banks of the Foyle Halloween Festivities, St Patrick's Day Spring Carnival Celebrations, T'was the Week Before Christmas, our Creative Youth Drop in, 'Spill the Tae' Podcast, Building a Home for All Project, to name but a few.



As chairperson of GSCA I direct my most genuine gratitude and admiration to everyone who has contributed and supported our efforts throughout this year, and it is with great decorum that I offer this our 23rd Annual Report for your kind consideration. Thank you all for another excellent year, I look forward to continuing to break barriers in 2023 with you all.

**Mr Bobby Kelly**  
Chairperson  
Greater Shantallow  
Community Arts



# BRINGING THE ARTS TO THE HEART OF COMMUNITIES



## Arts Reaching Communities 2022/23

We created a comprehensive exciting programme of community arts activities, offering a blended menu of weekly classes attracting on average 1800 participants of various ages and of various experiences to engage in classes tailored to meet their needs, aspirations, and individual abilities in more than 90 weekly classes: including dance, music, drama, visual arts and performance. Our weekly class schedule for 22/23 incorporated weekly classes in everything from Traditional Irish Dance, Hi-Hop, Contemporary, Ballet, Salsa Dance, Carnival Dance, Ceili Dance, and many more delivered at all levels for all ages, our programmes of Music will extend in range from Classical Singing and Show choirs to learning instruments in Guitar, Piano, Mandolin, Flute, Fiddle, Tin Whistle, Harp, Accordion, Squeeze Box, bodhran, Drums right through to a range of innovate digital music and DJing programmes of music, development, editing and production. Our Youth Drama and Musical Theatre programming incorporated, My First Dance, My First Drama, Arts & Crafts, Derry Youth Theatre, Musical Theatre workshops offering a comprehensive and exciting programme of community arts activities that appealed to our whole community.

April saw the continuation of our spring/summer classes leading to our much anticipated ever popular end of year summer showcases in June, including our dance showcase "Smash Hits" with over 150 dancers from our contemporary and hip-hop classes. September saw the highly successful commencement of our Autumn Timetable of our Arts Reaching Communities Programme which included classes in Young Crafters Academy, My First Drama, My First Dance, Young Crafters, Discocise, Boys Hip Hop, Song Writing with Reeva, Speech and Drama Academy, World Fusion Dance, Baby Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Acting Out Youth Drama,

Creative Youth Drop In, Traditional Irish Arts including, Traditional Irish Music lessons in Mixed Strings, Tin Whistle, Fiddle, Conversational Irish, Irish Dancing. October saw our hugely successful participation in DCSDCs Halloween festivities through the delivery of our various classes with participants from, dance drama, arts and crafts all taking part in DCSDCs city centre parade. October also saw 'I Didn't See That Coming' a play written and directed by Rosalind Patton is currently on stage in Studio 2. An additional 2 plays then followed in the early stages of 2023, 'Good Grief' written and produced by Constance Jordan and 'Clutter' written and directed by Martin O'Brien. March saw our participation in DCSDCs St Patrick's Day Spring Carnival Celebrations, were we transformed Derrys Peace Garden into The Mystical Land of The Fairy People.



# DANCE @ STUDIO2 2021-2022



During 2022/23 dance enabled our participants to live more confidently, connected and aspirational lives. Our many and varied dance classes provided countless opportunities for our participants to not only improve their dance skills but to also nurture their physical wellbeing, improve their creativity and enhance new-found friendships through the social aspirations aspect of our dance classes. Proving ever popular was our Boys Only Hip-Hop classes with Stephen Carlin, Contemporary Dance classes with Ellen Hassan and our My First Dance Classes right up to our senior dance crews with Irena Noonan.

One highlight our hip-hop workshops participants were fortunate to take part in was the outstanding workshops held by the remarkable New York Choreographer Micheal Spencer Philips. Phillips has been a professional dancer for over 22 years and has performed with RIOULT Dance NY, New York City Opera at Lincoln Center, and Merce Cunningham. He has also created numerous choreography commissions for Carnegie Hall and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He also choreographs and directs movement for fashion films and for editorial publications including VOGUE and Harper's Bazaar, SAKS and Zara. To welcome Michael here was a privilege and his dance experience and skills transferred to our participants was exceptional, as he engaged our young dancers to take part in his upcoming project working with the Bloody Sunday Trust to create a site specific dance piece about our human rights and the troubles.

The versatility of Dance was evident in yet another highlight for 22/23 which was, our Amelia Earhart 90th Anniversary Arts Festival 2022 Premier of a wonderful new stage production entitled Amelia's Story. This innovative new musical stage production told the story of Amelia's life from a young country girl growing up in Kansas to her inspiring rise to fame as the First Lady of Aviation inspiring generations of women to reach new heights both metaphorically and physically telling of her arrival in



Derry at the end of historical trans-Atlantic solo flight right through to Amelia's tragic disappearance in 1937 and the legacies she has inspired. This dance production premiered on Sunday 21st May at Studio 2 and featured an exceptional cast of Greater Shantallow Community Arts dancers. This spectacular dance production paid a unique tribute to a moment in history that is exclusive to our city and inspiring to the world.

We had such fun with our end of year dance showcases that took place in June 2022 with My First Dance end of year showcase taking place on 16th June with 75 kids aged 3-5yrs performing in front of their family and friends whilst celebrating a fantastic year of dance. On the 24th of June we showcased our 2nd end of year dance showcase "Smash Hits" with over 150 dancers from our contemporary and hip-hop dance classes coming together in an amazing breathtaking showcase of their skills learned throughout the year.

# EARHART FESTIVAL

Our Festival had the primary aim of promoting our city as the Cultural Destination of Choice and to be part of offering a unique world class visitor experience to all who attended, bringing to life in our city of music and song a celebration of a unique moment in our city's cultural heritage, the 90th Anniversary of Amelia Earhart's (The First Lady of Aviation) historical first ever solo Trans-Atlantic flight by a women, which brought the attention of the world's media to Derry's shores on 21st May 1932 when she landed here in the heart of our local community in Ballyarnett in Gallaghers Field. Our Festival presented here in Derry in the city that welcomed Amelia to our shores some 90 years ago sought to continue her legacy of inspiring future generations of women through the creative celebration of her spirit, deeds, and words.

To this objective we believe that our 2022 Amelia Earhart 90th Anniversary Arts Festival has both achieved and surpassed all our expectations, engaging and inspiring many new generations of citizens, visitors to our city as well as local national and internal audiences who have engaged with our extensive Festival programme of activities and legacy and fringe events.

Through the delivery of our Amelia Earhart 90th Anniversary Arts Festival 2022 programme of events including:

The Earhart Arts Prize which invited female artists from right across Ireland to submit inspirational pieces of art that reflected the spirit and courage of Amelia Earhart. "The Earhart Prize" sought to exhibit these works both publicly and online to international audiences. The Art Competition was curated by renown Irish Artists Joe Campbell, Noelle McAlinden and Tommy Long, with the prize giving Award Ceremony taking place in Derry's Guildhall where Stephen Frazer, Chief Executive of City of Derry Airport presented the winner, Catherine Barron from County Waterford with the Inaugural Earhart Arts Prize for her inspiring painting "The In Between. Catherine made the long journey up form Waterford to accept the prize and to pay her own inspiring tribute to Amelia Earhart continuing legacy. Spoken Word: The Amelia Earhart, Women of Substance, Inaugural Lecture. This event was held in St Cecilia's College on Friday 20th May to an invited and public audience, hosted by Felicity McCaul with Julianne Campbell, award winning author and poet as the main speaker.

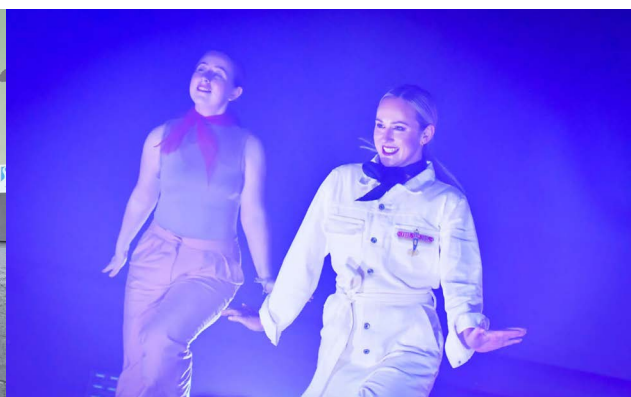
Heritage: The Amelia Earhart, Spirit of the Sky's Aeronautical Display & Fly-pass Tribute, took place on Saturday 21st May 2022 over Derry City Centre and River Foyle with invited participants from Flying Clubs and Aviation Societies from across Ireland and further afield coming together for this public spectacular aerial tribute to Amelia Earhart leadership and courage from her fellow aviators.

Music & Dance: The Amelia Earhart Vintage Ball. This colourful celebration of the music and dance of Amelia's era allowed our city to do what it does best, dress up, sing and dance the night away in a 1920/30s vintage ball, held on Saturday 21st May in the Guildhall, Derry with various artists and performers paying their own special



tributes to the Earhart Legacy.

Cultural Celebration: A highlight of the Amelia Earhart 90th Anniversary Arts Festival 2022 was the Premier of a wonderful new stage production entitled Amelia's Story. This innovative new musical stage production told the story of Amelia's life from a young country girl growing up in Kansas to her inspiring rise to fame as the First Lady of Aviation inspiring generations of women to reach new heights both metaphorically and physically telling of her arrival in Derry at the end of historical trans-Atlantic solo flight right through to Amelia's tragic disappearance in 1937 and the legacies she has inspired. Premiered on Sunday 21st May at Studio 2. Featuring an exceptional cast of dancers and actors, this spectacular stage production paid a unique tribute to a moment in history that is exclusive to our city and inspiring to the world.



# THE NORTHERN IRELAND EXECUTIVE OFFICE CENTRAL GOOD RELATIONS FUND: OUR SHARED COMMUNITY



Gareth McAlinden  
Good Relations Project Coordinator



## Building A Home For All

**Building A Home for All** innovative Good Relations project supported by the TBUC and the Northern Ireland Executive Central Good Relations Fund utilised the active engagement in Community Arts as a vehicle for building strong community relations introducing marginalised isolated people from all backgrounds, to a new and welcoming Shared Space bringing our communities together to enjoy the magic and creative experience that the arts can uniquely offer. 160 Participants were introduced to an inspiring programme of weekly arts workshops developing new skills and interests, building new Friendships Resilience and Bouncing Back from impacts of the Covid Pandemic.

The Building a Home For All Project exceeded its projected target number of 144 participants, engaging 160 participants between April 2022 and April 2023 that had not previously visited Studio2 shared space before for an arts based Good Relations program. While exceeding our projected participant numbers yet still delivering a cross community split of PUL 64, CNR 64, 32 Other with an overall 22 BME. We have completed the project in line with the applications projected budget.

Building A Home For all had 100% city wide engagement from post code areas BT48 an BT47. The project included individuals and groups throughout the Derry and Strabane district aged from 7 years old to 90 years old. Community groups, schools and individual applicants applied to be part of Building A Home for All in subjects including Art, Arts and Crafts, Dance, Musical Theatre, Singing, Drama, Comic Art, Creative Writing and Oil Painting. In total we had four schools engaged in Building A Home for All, these schools included controlled primary, integrated primary, special education and catholic primary.

Lisnagelvin Primary and Oakgrove Integrated are situated in the Waterside area of Derry/Londonderry and Holy Child and Ardnashee College are situated on the City Side. These schools are situated in one of the most deprived areas of Northern



# BUILDING A HOME FOR ALL



Northern Ireland  
Executive

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Ireland with some of the highest rates of sectarian crime along with high racist, homophobic, domestic, and sexual violence rates. Other groups were devised by targeting community groups in both the Waterside and city side and throughout the Derry and Strabane District Council area. We also used strategic marketing online to entice individuals who may have interest in our art forms or Good Relations programs or even just to meet new friends and socialize in a new shared space.

Our Creative Writing group was led by former Derry Journal Editor Pat McArt and encompassed both men and women from a diverse range of age and different cultural and religious backgrounds. We marketed the 14-week Good Relations course through online social media platforms and printed posters. The group shared stories and covered themes of Good Relations which had impacted on their own experiences. The group got on extremely well, and had lunch together after the sessions every week, we experienced lots of fun and laughter with this group that made them become close friends. They all found the shared space environment very welcoming through both the facilitator and staff at Studio2. The group developed a publication for short stories called the Building A Home for All Collection which was launched at our celebration event in February.

Oakgrove Integrated Primary situated on the Limavady Road area of the Waterside and has a high rate of PUL and non or other religious backgrounds and Holy Child Primary School Catholic Maintained Primary School has a majority rate of CNR which is situated in the heart of Creggan took part in Good Relations activities together. These schools are in areas of Derry/Londonderry which suffer from high levels of criminal and paramilitary violence and have high levels of unemployment. The classes were split into four groups of approximately 15, these groups were made up with pupils from both schools mixed. The children had never previously meet and took part in Good Relations projects in Arts and Crafts, Drama, World Dance, Musical Theatre, Circus Skills and Comic Art together over a 14-week period. The children were obviously nervous not only coming to a new space but also mixing with another school. Through our first good relations session we could see friendships being formed right away, the children loved coming to Studio2 every week and got to know each other through the art of good relations. At the end of the project it was great to see the pupils sharing contact information and we are happy to hear that the schools and pupils have remained in touch and hope to work with each other in the future.

The Bud Club / Day Opportunities group is a targeted youth provision service which is full time educationally lead for the development of young people with disabilities from across Derry City and Strabane District Council areas and is made up of people from mixed religious backgrounds and ethnicities. The Bud club were involved in Good Relations Drama, Makaton, and Art classes. The classes were themed on the musical film The Greatest Showman using its music and dialogue to teach the students about the themes of diversity, equality, discrimination,



# BUILDING A HOME FOR ALL

stereotypes, and bullying. The pupils extremely enjoyed their 14-week program at Studio2 during which we recorded a performance of acting, singing and Makaton for them to enjoy after the project was completed. Staff at the Bud Club also commented on how grateful they were of being part of the project and having access to the shared space which had much more scope than their own facility for their pupils. The Bud Club performed a Makaton version of the Song A Million Dreams for our guests at the Building A Home for All Celebration Event.

Our Oil Painting group facilitated by Tommy Long involved a wide range of both men and women from all ages from across the city and district. We advertised for this Good Relations Oil Painting course through our social media platforms. This class proved extremely popular, and its quota was full within a matter of days. The class was a mix of beginners and others who wanted to expand their skill set. All our participants got on extremely well and had a lot of nice words to say about their facilitator Tommy. Some of our participants expressed how grateful they for the course which provided an outlet to get outside of the house and mix with people again after the Covid pandemic. Once the 14-week course finished the participants enquired about how they could keep the class open. With the help of Greater Shantallow Community Arts we were able to continue the course for an extra six weeks which the participants were very happy about. During our Building A Home for All celebration event participants displayed their works of art for everyone to see and discussing their art works with our guests.

Ardnashee college is a state special education school for girls and boys aged 3-19, which provides SEN for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders and learning difficulties. We devised a 14-week Good Relations course of Arts and Crafts and Singing that the students could benefit from. The participants and staff felt comfortable and accepted in this new shared space and were able to interact with Studio2 staff and the pupils from Lisnagelvin Primary School who were also here through the Building A Home For All Project. The project helped the school create artwork that was displayed by the school and they hope to develop further projects that can help develop the students of Ardnashee college.

Lisnagelvin primary school is based in the Waterside area of the city. The majority of the children who attend the school are of a PUL or other religious backgrounds. Lisnagelvin primary school had never previously visited Studio2 for a Good Relations project. We put together a Good Relations program of Dance, Musical Theatre, Singing and Arts and crafts and Comic Art. The children loved coming to Studio2 every week and had a great relationship with all our staff and facilitators. Lisnagelvin also had the opportunity to mix with





students from Adrnashee college who were at Studio2 on the same day. The 14-week program covered the topics peace and trust, conflict and reconciliation, creative community and respect. The children were delighted to perform songs that they had learnt at Studio2 for our guests at our Building A Home For All Celebration event in February. We also had the privilege to visit the school for the Lisnagelvin Primary School Spring Show. At the show the children performed Singing, Dance and Musical Theatre that they had learnt during their 14-week good relations program at Studio2. Staff expressed how much pupils had benefited socially and in confidence through having the opportunity of the Building A Home for All Project and expressed the willingness for another group from the school to be part of projects like this in the future.

The Arts in Minds Group were recruited from mental health community practitioners and online advertisements. The men came from a wide variety of different areas of the city and district and worked on good relations and wellbeing through Art and Art History. The men all suffered from similar health issues associated with dependency, ageing, loneliness, long-term medical conditions, and mental health. The experience in art and social interaction was beneficial to the men's road to recovery and healing.

Our Women's Hand Made Crafts group brought women together from community groups throughout the Waterside and City side of Derry/Londonderry for a 14-week good relations project in Arts and Crafts. Over the weeks the group developed an array of different craft creations from Pot Plant People, Cushions, Embroidery, Toys and Christmas Decorations. These women also gave up their own free time to help decorate our shared space for our Christmas experience and displayed their crafts at our celebration event.

# YOUTH & COMMUNITY ARTS AT ITS BEST



## Creative Youth Drop In

The Creative Youth Drop-in, held every Friday evening at Studio2, is an inspiring gathering that unleashes the artistic potential of young minds. This vibrant event serves as a haven for aspiring artists, musicians, writers, and performers to freely express their creativity and connect with like-minded individuals. Studio2, a vibrant and welcoming space, buzzes with energy as young talents gather to explore their artistic passions. From painting and drawing to photography, poetry, and music, the Creative Youth Drop-in offers a diverse range of activities and workshops that cater to various artistic interests. Participants engage in collaborative projects, share ideas, and receive guidance from experienced mentors who nurture their talents and encourage self-expression. This enriching environment fosters personal growth, builds confidence, and cultivates a sense of community among the young artists, ensuring that the Creative Youth Drop-in remains a cherished and transformative experience for all who attend.



## The Danny Quigley Fund

The Danny Quigley Fund has played a pivotal role in the development of our transformative project, the Spill the Tea Youth Lead Podcast, focusing on mental health and wellbeing. Through the generous support of the fund, we have been able to create a safe and inclusive platform for young individuals to openly discuss and explore mental health topics. With the aid of professionals and individuals with lived experiences, our podcast delves into a wide range of mental health issues, offering insights, advice, and personal stories that promote understanding and destigmatisation. The Danny Quigley Fund has enabled us to purchase new equipment, invite renowned guests, and provide resources and support to our audience. By shedding light on mental health and wellbeing, we strive to inspire empathy, compassion, and self-care among our young listeners, ultimately fostering a society that prioritises mental health as an integral part of overall well-being. The Danny Quigley Fund's invaluable contribution has allowed us to address this critical topic and make a lasting impact in the lives of young individuals.



# YOUTH ARTS, REAL YOUTH WORK

## Viral Project

The Viral Project is an innovative online safety initiative specifically designed for young people, addressing the sensitive topic of sending indecent images. With the aim of educating and empowering youth to make informed decisions, the project encompasses the creation of a compelling video that explores the potential consequences and risks associated with sharing such content. Through careful storytelling and impactful visuals, the video highlights the importance of consent, privacy, and responsible digital behaviour. Thanks to its engaging nature, the Viral Project video will serve as an effective learning tool within schools, facilitating open discussions and raising awareness among students about the potential dangers of sharing intimate images. By incorporating this project into educational curricula, young people will develop the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the digital world safely, protect their personal boundaries, and respect the privacy of others. The Viral Project is a crucial step towards promoting online safety and fostering a culture of respect and responsibility in the digital age.



## Creative Youth Creative Minds

The Studio2 TV Project is a transformative initiative that empowers young individuals by providing them with invaluable skills and experiences in the realm of visual arts and production. This project serves as a platform for young people to delve into the exciting world of television production, fostering their creativity and nurturing their talents. Studio2, a vibrant and dynamic space, becomes a hub of exploration and learning as participants gain hands-on experience in various aspects of television production, including camera operation, video editing, scriptwriting, and directing. Under the guidance of experienced mentors,

young people are equipped with the technical know-how and artistic vision necessary to bring their ideas to life. Through collaborative projects and real-world opportunities, participants not only develop their technical skills but also gain valuable teamwork, communication, and problem-solving abilities. The Studio2 TV Young People Project empowers young individuals, giving them the confidence and expertise to pursue careers in the visual arts industry while fostering a lifelong passion for creative expression.



## Volunteering Opportunities

We have a dedicated team of young people who are involved in volunteering with our regular arts classes here at Studio 2. Our regular volunteers dedicate their free time to come in and help us with our classes in art, drama and dance. These opportunities in volunteering are essential for our young people to develop skills which will prepare them for the wider world of work when they leave school and we are proud that we can provide a base for them to develop these skills for future career opportunities.





## TBUC Camps

This year we were delighted to receive funding from TBUC to complete 4 different camps in musical theatre, young leadership, good relations and volunteering.

### Musical Theatre Youth Camp

Our TBUC Musical Theatre camp allowed our young people to get in touch with their creativity by taking part in workshops for dance, drama and musical theatre. They also had the fantastic opportunity to go on a trip to the Grand Opera House in Belfast to witness a spectacular showcase of a professional show “Chicago” where the young people really enjoyed their live theatre experience. The programme was a big hit with our young people. The participants engaged in a series of workshops centred around good relations and then got to go on a residential to Corrymeela peace and reconciliation organisation where they got to be part of the sense of community that Corrymeela had to offer and engaged with their practices in good relations workshops.

### Beyond Limits Leadership Camp

Our TBUC young leadership programme was a fantastic opportunity for our young people to volunteer and be involved in our summer schemes here at Studio 2. This camp helped provide them with the skills they needed for volunteering which were put to use at our summer schemes acting as positive role models for the younger children who attended. The leadership these young people showed in their involvement with the project was fantastic and really helped build that sense of a community arts centre with their contribution and hard work. As a reward for their hard work we were delighted to have to opportunity to go to an over night residential at Todds Leap where the young people had a lot of fun being involved in a number of outdoor pursuits activities ranging from ziplining, wall climbing, off road driving and more!

### Christmas Dance Camp

The final TBUC camp of the year centred around volunteering opportunities for the young people who got the chance to learn about volunteering practices and helped out at our “Twas the Week Before Christmas” event. Our TBUC participants had a lot of fun being involved in this event as they also had the chance to put their acting skills to the forefront as they volunteered in character as elves around the building to make the event a magical experience for all the children and families that came to visit and helped staff out wherever they could to contribute to the event running smoothly.

# SUMMER CAMPS



## Summer Camp

July saw the commencement of our 2-week summer camps:

1. Fun School Musical Summer Camp and
2. The Greatest Showman Circus and Performance Summer Camp.

Both summer schemes had 60+ participants each week, with a timetable of new skills development of fun filled arts-based activities from, dance, drama, arts and crafts and singing each day with a final showcase on the last day of both weeks where parents and guests were invited and treated to lots of fun and giggles as their young ones got into costume and treated them to the skills and experiences of the past week alongside their newfound friends.





## Children's Drama

Our drama department has been growing and flourishing creatively in the past year with our involvement in numerous projects and classes that we offer here at Studio 2. This year we welcomed a new full time staff member Roma Harvey who has been a great addition to the Studio 2 team using her skills in drama facilitation and youth work to develop our drama department. During this past year, Roma has introduced a new structure to the drama department to create pathways between drama groups so that young people and children can excel at their skills in their drama journey and climb the ladder to being successful, talented and creative young performers.

We offer a variety of drama classes to different age groups with the structure of each class carefully crafted to meet the needs of the participants. We rebranded our children's drama classes for the children who are our "Stars" to reflect upon the journey of a star and mirror how our child stars will also make their journey in drama.

Our "Little Stars" drama classes are aimed at children aged 3-5 and are a great introduction to drama for this age group. These classes encourage children to express their creativity through exploring their imagination, making friends and playing lots of fun drama games along the way. The combination of drama and game play in these classes offer a significant contribution to early years development by encouraging social skills, exploring emotions and increasing confidence in young children. This year our little stars got to take part in two showcases; "The Jungle Book" and "We're Going on a Bear Hunt." These showcases were a great success and we are delighted we got to share their experience of their first performance with 100+ guests of family and friends who came to see their performances.

The next steppingstone in our drama programme is our "Shooting Stars" drama classes for children aged 5-7. This class aims to help children "shoot for the stars" and focuses on developing further skills in confidence building, social skills and expressing creativity as well as uplevelling on new skills. These classes give children the opportunity to progress their drama skills as well as improving skills in focusing, reading, music & movement and becoming more comfortable with performing live for an audience. This allows our participants of the classes to progress to the next level of their drama journey and helps give them the tools they need to start becoming more comfortable and confident with performing. Our shooting stars had a lot of fun showcasing their show "The Gruffalo" for their family and friends in a theatre space in front of 100+ guests and were very successful in telling and performing the story to a live audience.



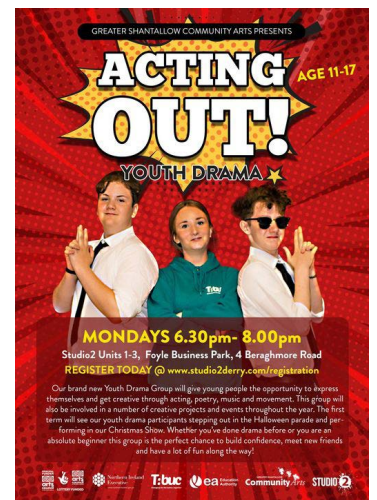
This takes us to the next stage in our drama programme, our “Shining Stars” classes. This is aimed at children age 8-11 and offers children the chance to excel and improve their drama skills with a specially tailored programme to help them achieve their best and “shine bright.” These classes encourage our participants to maintain that level of confidence, social skills and expression of creativity, with an added level of ownership and responsibility over their own work. These classes provide the chance for the children to have a more creative input by encouraging them to come up with their own ideas by creating their own stories and performances in class activities and we give them their own sense of responsibility over their roles by encouraging them to learn lines for roles so that they can take their

performance to the next level when taking part in showcases. By doing this, we provide children with the right guidance and tools to explore their creativity and showcase their skills effectively. Our “Shining Stars are currently working towards their performance of “The Little Mermaid” which they will be performing alongside the “Little Stars” and “Shooting Stars” which will give them a great opportunity to be positive role models for the younger students to show them what they can achieve in the future while showcasing their own skills and shining bright on stage!

## Youth Drama @ Studio 2

Moving on up the ladder in our drama journey, we have our “Acting Out: Youth Drama” group which offers our young people aged 11-18 great opportunities to become actively engaged in a number of different projects using their drama and performance skills. This past year has seen our youth drama participants being kept busy with a number of different projects with varying levels of performance styles. They have had the opportunity to explore their skills in improvisation, creating walkabout characters, acting for screen and acting for stage. For this group, we like to provide opportunities for our young people to gain an insight into how things work within the industry to give them the understanding and knowledge they need if they want to take their experience and skills into future careers.

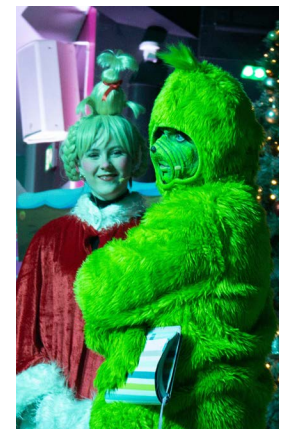
At Halloween, this group had their debut public appearance in the world famous Derry Halloween Parade with the Northwest Carnival Initiative where 15 young people took part. The theme of the parade was “On the 9th Wave” and our young people had the challenge of creating characters for their seahorse creatures and handlers and they did not disappoint! Through devising and rehearsals they explored their sea horse creatures and put their own spin on their characters bringing them to life in the parade.



The next big event to work towards after Halloween was our Christmas event “Twas the Week Before Christmas.” This event involved a short play following the story of “The Grinch” where 13 of our youth drama participants performed on stage for live audiences. This show ran for four nights with a total of 16 shows being viewed by the public. This was a brilliant project for our young people to get their teeth sunk into to explore their performance skills for stage while gaining an insight into the reality of what it takes to run a show and what work goes in both on and off stage. Our very dedicated cast really committed to their roles and schedules making this show a huge success that made it an enjoyable experience for all involved.

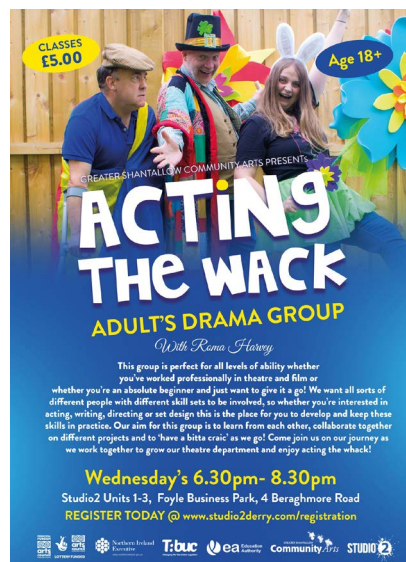
As well as acting for stage, our youth drama group got to dip their toe into acting for screen. We teamed up with the Nerve Centre on their completion of their BFI Film Academy project “Catfish” where 10 of our young people took part in their short film for their film training programme. The young people got to have a lot of fun acting as zombies in the film and had the fantastic opportunity of meeting film maker and makeup artist, Christian Kotey, who most notably did practical SFX makeup for the famous TV Series “The Walking Dead.” The young people got to experience his makeup skills first hand as they were transformed into zombies for the film and gave a terrifying performance!

The skills of our youth drama group continued to develop beyond theatre and film to learning techniques in street performance and walkabout acting. Our St. Patrick’s Day Peace Garden event brought with it the opportunity for our young people to flex their muscles in improvisation and street performance. At our St. Patrick’s day event we had scheduled shows from Margaret McGinley’s Irish dancing group where they told the story of the leprechauns and the fairy people who clashed and had to find a way to make amends. In between the shows, the whole Peace Garden was open to the public where thousands of people came in and interacted with our walkabout characters. We had 6 young people act as leprechauns, gnomes, bunnies, superheroes and Irish Myth legend King Brian to entertain the masses as they explored the peace garden at the fun and vibrant St. Patricks Day festival.



## Adults Drama @ Studio 2

This year we introduced a 12 week adults programme “Acting the Wack” where 12 adults participated in a series of workshops developing skills in drama. Throughout the weeks we looked at a variety of topics such as improvisation, devising, writing stories, stand up comedy, storytelling, acting and directing. Exploring all these topics week by week we were able to create a programme to address different skill sets that individuals in the group had to offer by giving a well rounded insight to different elements of performance and writing for both professionals and beginners. After covering a range of topics, the participants then used these skills to develop their own short pieces of work which were then showcased at the end of the programme where we invited friends, family and fellow creatives to come and watch.



# THEATRE @ STUDIO 2

We've had a very busy year for theatre at Studio 2. With new equipment in lighting and sound we have been able to develop our theatre department further with a fantastic range of shows. We've seen a range of theatre performed in here this past year from comedy and drama to issue based theatre. "Legenderry Theatre" brought us their production of "Two Funny" which brought not one, but two shows to the stage of "The Duck Variations" by David Mamet and "a Bench at the Edge" by Luigi Jannuzzi. These two comedies brought a great nights entertainment leaving the audience in stitches and wanting more.

We teamed up with Sole Purpose Productions for their play "Every Move You Make." This was a piece of issue based theatre about abusive relationships which was aimed at young people to help them identify what signs they should look out for to aid them in forming good and healthy relationships. This one woman show was showcased Studio 2 to an audience of 30 young people who then had a Q&A afterwards to discuss some of the issues that they'd seen displayed in the play. This play was successful in getting the young people to think about some of these issues that might effect them and generated some insightful discussion topics in the Q&A. "The Movers and Shakers" had a great success with their play "Roll Over Play Dead." The play was viewed by 100+ audience members in May with great reception and a standing ovation. Then, by popular demand the play made a return in November to our stage. This play followed the story of a woman navigating the waters of married life in a heart warming comedy where she rediscovers herself. This play was done in aid of the Foyle Hospice in memory of the writer Pat Mulkeen. As a result of the adults "Acting the Wack" drama programme where we showcased snippets of new work, we took one of these new pieces of theatre and developed it further in house in Studio 2 to create the full length one woman show "Good Grief." This play depicted the journey of grief, love and loss to an audience of 50. This play raised awareness on the stages of grief and offered an insight into a true story on how to live with grief and see the beauty in the pain.

We seen a wonderful and innovative combination of horror and comedy in the production of "Clutter" which was staged to on audience of 100+ people here at Studio 2. This play followed the story of two young men and a woman who broke into a house to find a quirky character of a man who had a secret that they're trying to get to the bottom of. The technical aspects of the play using lights and sound really helped lift the horror aspect of the play in combination with comedy to entertain the audience who responded with great delight and a standing ovation to the play.

And finally in our theatre programme for the year we had the privilege of staging "I Didn't See That Coming" to audiences of 100+ members. This new piece of writing followed the story of a woman dealing with the difficulties of coming out as a member of the LGBT community during the troubles centric surrounding of her environment. This play had a great success after its debut at Studio 2 and went on to feature at the Dublin Gay Theatre Festival where it wowed even more audiences.



# CELEBRATING SUCCESS





# CREATIVE AGEING



## The Art Of Wellbeing

Building on the success of a number of key pilot programmes GSCA delivered upon the objectives of our Recovery to Discovery Social Prescribing Through the Arts programme by working with a wide range of community and statutory partners to deliver life changing Arts engagement opportunities that specifically address the health, well-being and mindfulness of our participants, offering innovative programming that engaged and reduced barriers to participation in the arts whilst allowing participants to explore their creative potential and feel the benefits of the arts impacting on the lives through not only the social engagement but through the creative expression and confidence building that our programme offered to each of our participants.



# CELEBRATING IRISH ARTS



## Celebrating and Growing the Irish Arts in the heart of our community

Despite the year that was in it, 2021/22 was an outstanding year for the growth and development of the Irish Arts in our city and region with Greater Shantallow Community Arts together with our partners in CCÉ Baile na gCailleach providing a year long programme of events, classes, projects and programmes that engaged the amazing Traditional Irish arts musicians, performers, writers and poets and in our city and those who wish to learn and develop their skills and knowledge and to experience Irish Traditional Arts at its very best. Highlights of this included the amazing Fleadh Mhór Dhoire 2021 our week-long programme that included some 50 events featuring some of the Ireland most outstanding Traditional Irish musicians and performers. Playing host in the September of 2021 to Fleadh Cheoil Baile na gCailleach four days of workshops concerts and outstanding traditional music sessions and performances was a real opportunity for local Irish traditional artist to engage new audiences and participants in the magic of Irish Arts. Throughout the year we were delighted to host some amazing Trad sessions, encourage new work performances and support and develop new and young Irish arts enthusiasts to learn new skills provide showcasing performances across our city and region ensuring that the Irish Traditional Arts is alive and growing in our city and region.



# HALLOWEEN 2023



Every Halloween, our city comes alive with ancient spirits and souls of the past and this year Greater Shantallow Community Arts were delighted to work in partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council and North West Carnival Initiative in the hugely successful delivery of Derry Halloween 2022, now recognised as Europe's biggest Halloween Festival from the Awakening of the Walled City to the, On the Ninth Wave cultural carnival parade. It was amazing to see our city and in particular our participants come together for a creative showcase that enthralled audiences from all over the world.



# TWAS THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS



## Festive Fun

Greater Shantallow Community Arts were delighted to bring the festive Christmas Season to life this year with a host of events that saw many hundreds of families coming along to Studio 2 to enjoy a spectacular “Twas the Week Before Christmas” interactive children’s experience. With our whole building transformed in a Magical Christmas Wonderland, children were enthralled by our magically North Pole Elf’s village, Mrs Claus Story telling, posting their letters in Santa’s Workshop and enjoy the amazing Countdown to The Grinch Show performances. Over the whole Christmas period we were delighted to ensure children of all ages enjoyed their Christmas experience from taking part in our city’s Christmas Carnival Parade or visiting our amazing Christmas Craft Fair which showcased the wonderful wealth of creative skilled crafters our city is blessed with all our family friendly events brought a time of joy for everyone to experience.



# ST PATRICK'S DAY



## The Mystical Land Of The Fairy People

Greater Shantallow Community Arts were again delighted to be working in partnership with DCSDC and NWCI to bring our city a time of glorious celebration and joy as part of the wonderful St Patrick's Day Spring Carnival celebrations with many hundreds of colourful dancers, performers and creative characters bringing our city centre to life as tens of thousands of our citizens lined our streets in wonderful applause marking the Rebirth & Renewal carnival parade. GSCA were delighted to be given the honour by DCSDC to take centre stage in our city's Peace Garden which we had transformed into The Mystical Land of the Little People & Fairies where are GSCAs amazing team of wonderful dancers, actors and performers enthralled the many thousands of audience's with magically engaging performances throughout the day that had children singing dancing and enjoying an amazing unique St Patrick's Day experience in the heart of our city centre.





# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



Greater Shantallow Community Arts, currently have over 2200 weekly service users and the need for a major new larger fit-for-purpose Community Arts Centre to service the ever-growing needs of our community which is expanding daily is clearly evident. As the only locally based arts organisation that services the needs of the 50,000 plus local residents, there is a real and urgent need for major investment in the Arts Infrastructure in this community to address local expressed need and the creative aspirations of our communities.

GSCA had been given support from the National Lottery's Dormant Accounts Fund to use towards the long-term sustainability of our organisations and the services we deliver and as part of that resource as well as developing a new 5-year Organisational Development Plan we have been looking at the infrastructural creative capital needs of our community to support and encourage the development of the Arts within this region. It is with this identified local need that during 2022/23 GSCA re-engaged with DCSDC to discuss the potential of Ballyarnett Country Park and working with ONNP and the Ballyarnett DEA Growth Partnership director Darren Kirby we re-visited the Ballyarnett Country Park Masterplan which has been developed in partnership and endorsed by council since 2015.

Supported by positive engagements with Stephen Gillespie DCSDC Head of Business & Cultural, John Kerr Arts Development Officer and Coiln Kennedy Head of Council Parks division we have begun the process of consultation and envisaging which considers the development of a major NEW Regional Community Arts, Shared Island Centre as a catalyst project to be located in the historical confines of Ballyarnett Country Park.

GSCA have currently commissioned a new Outline Business Case and Architectural Concept Drawings developed by our consultants with agreement for senior council officers to present this to full council in September 2023. Over the past six months there has been a series of consultative meetings and briefings with key stakeholders, and we are seeing a positive response at this stage to our proposal. We are building on the very successful model of Council Built and Owned and Community Managed facilities which have worked well in the city over the past number of major capital projects that council have been engaged in.

At this stage we are dealing with concept initiatives, but our hope is to encourage widespread support for this initiative based upon identified needs and future aspirations for our sector within this region. We have envisaged a major cross border regional catalyst project that aligns directly to the provision of high-quality arts facilities, that incorporate everything from Television and Film studios and Lotts to outdoor performance space for major Concerts and events as well as all the modern facilities that will service the growth and development of our wide-ranging community arts programme for many years to come. Our hope is that following on from September's Council presentation that permission and direction is given to council officers to go forward and access the resources to carry out a full and detailed Green Book standard 8 Stage Feasibility Study and Business case for a new regional community arts centre. Ballyarnett Country Park is a council owned 132-acre site mostly unused which offers huge potential given its strategic location and size which sits close to the border here in the Outer North area of Derry and would be ideal for a facility of the scale and nature we are proposing.

# THANKS & APPRECIATION



Thank you



In concluding our 23rd Annual Report, our most sincere heartfelt thanks and appreciation must be given to all those who supported us throughout this challenging year. A year of constant trials made successful, only by the 100% dedication of the countless individuals prepared to contribute and commit their valuable time and efforts to supporting access to the arts for everyone in our community, in particular;

## Our Funders

### The Arts Council of Northern Ireland

Whom has invested not only their monies, but their time, wisdom and support in Greater Shantallow Community Arts over the years as an organisation we aim to make them proud of their investment. The Arts Council AFP funding is our organisations key core support

### Derry City and Strabane District Council

Have been vital supporters over the years and we look forward to that continuing in the years ahead as we service the needs of our citizens.

### The Education Authority

Have recognised the value of having community arts partners in delivering key youth interventions for our young people our Youth Engagement Plus programme support provides us with a key youth worker to engage our young people in all the benefits that the arts can bring to their lives.

### The Department of Education

Through the development of our Studio 2 refurbishment project offered us great hope for the future. The confidence that has been expressed in the work that we do is both reassuring and inspiring encouraging us to future develop new and innovative Youth Arts programme that will impact on the health and wellbeing of our young people whilst unlocking their creative potential as we return to a new normal adjusting to the impacts of Covid-19.

### The NI Executive Office

Through their support, The NI Executive Office under its TBUC Central Good Relations fund has continued to play a vital role in supporting our organisations aspiration of using the Arts in all its forms to celebrate diversity and to bring people from every section of our community together unlocking the creative potential and confidence of all our citizens and building a real peace through respect for difference something that the arts can do very well.

## We offer our sincere thanks to...

The Community Foundation of Northern Ireland  
Comic Relief  
Department of Justice  
Acorn Trust  
The Danny Quigley Fund  
CINE  
Dormant Accounts  
City of Derry Airport  
Awards For All  
The Public Health Agency  
Developing Healthy Communities CLEAR  
Charities Aid Foundation  
Northern Ireland Housing Executive

## Our Partners Appreciated

GSCA wish to thank all the partner organisations we have worked with throughout 2021 and into 2022, GSCA have been privileged to have had the opportunity to work with so many different arts organisations, schools, community groups and businesses.

## Our Board Members, Our Staff & Volunteers

Without your dedication to the work of Greater Shantallow Community Arts, all we stand for and hope to achieve on behalf of the community we serve I say my most heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

2023 unlike most years presented some extremely stressful and unpredictable times, to see the sheer dedication and kindness of so many selfless individuals who care passionately about the arts and about the communities we serve you cannot fail to be inspired.

To our board members and volunteers without who's support we would not thrive and our wonderful team at Greater Shantallow Community Arts who bring their skills, creativity and enthusiasm to each day I offer my deepest thanks and appreciation.

'In all that we encounter in 2024 your constant encouragement will ensure that GSCA will go from strength to strength in the time ahead and that our ambition to really CREATE, CONNECT and INSPIRE will be achieved during 2024.'

Thank You all  
Oliver Green, Artistic Director  
Greater Shantallow  
Community Arts



# CELEBRATING 24 YEARS OF BRING ARTS TO THE HEART OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES



**STUDIO 2 Youth and Community Arts Centre**  
 Units 1-3 Foyle Business Park, 4 Beraghmore Road,  
 Skeoge Industrial Estate, Derry, BT48 8SE  
 Tel: 028 71 358750 Email: [info@gscaderry.com](mailto:info@gscaderry.com)



**Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104604

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# Annual return

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## **Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

### **Independent Examiner's report to the charity committee members of Greater Shantallow Community Arts**

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 5 - 11.

#### **Respective responsibilities of charity committee members and examiner**

As the charity's members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under Section 65(9) (b) of the Charities Act;
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### **Basis of Independent examiner's report**

We have examined your charity accounts as required under Section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65 (9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Our examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as charity members concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

We can confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination as we are registered members of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters 1 - 4 listed above and, in connection with the following Directions of the Charity Commission Northern Ireland; we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

#### **McGroarty Mc Cafferty & Compamy Limited**

**Accountants and Tax Consultants**

**2 Carlisle Terrace**

**Derry**

**BT48 6JX**

**Date: 22 June 2023**