

Allegri

Northern Ireland · Charity number 107895

Details

Status Received

Registered 2022-08-16

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

Contact

Address C/O 31-33 Bawnmore Place
Strathfoyle
Derry
Bt47 6xp
BT47 6XP

Phone 07812841550

Email info@allegri.co.uk

Website www.allegri.co.uk

Activities

Purposes: The Organisation is a cross-community arts group established in the UK City of Culture Year 2013 within Derry-Londonderry and is one of the few legacy projects still active. It is a not-for-profit group engaged in arts and community outreach. The Organisation's work consists of a ladies' choir, a children's choir, a community symphony orchestra, a community choir festival and a programme of outreach workshops and projects. In so far as it is charitable according to the law of Northern Ireland, the Organisation is established to raise the standard of arts practice and performance in our city and beyond, removing all barriers to arts participation by creating opportunities for learning, performance and personal development in the arts for young people and adults, and to advance community development through arts engagement projects.

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

How the charity works: Arts, Community development

Who the charity helps: Children (5-13 year olds), General public, Voluntary and community sector, Volunteers, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£78,408	£77,538	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Lisa Gibney		
Maggi Clifford		
Michael Mcdermott		
Mr Paul O'donnell		
Naiomh Ashford		
Nuala Sheerin		

Allegri

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107895

Accounts

Annual Report and Statement of Accounts

For the year ended August 31, 2024



Table of Contents

Achievements and performance	Page 3
Financial Review	Page 8
Accounts to the year ended August 31, 2024	Page 9
Statement of Assets and Liabilities - Year Ended 31 August 2024	Page 10
Notes to the Accounts	Page 11
Reference and Administrative Details	Page 13
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 14
Objectives and Activities	Page 15

Annual Report for the Year Ended August 31, 2024

The trustees of Allegri are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the period September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024.

Our Achievements and Performance

10th	32	222	1289	102,428	£869
year of promoting arts in the Derry & the North West region	concerts & performances	rehearsals/ workshops	participants	in person and online audience	surplus for the year

Allegri is a cross-community arts group established in 2013 within DCSDC, and one of the few remaining legacy projects from the City of Culture year. We have ladies, junior and youth choirs, a community orchestra and manage the annual Every Voice Festival. We also run community outreach activities.

We work to eliminate all barriers to arts participation, harnessing the creativity and self-expression of individuals. We offer access to the expertise and guidance of professional facilitators using arts to promote cross-cultural understanding, empathy and as a means to build positivity and healing.

Our family of choirs meet weekly and Orchestra NorthWest meet monthly to enjoy the benefits of music-making and prepare for regular concerts and performances. 2023/24 was another very successful year. Highlights are described overleaf.

Allegri Ladies had a jam-packed tenth year that kicked off with their Anniversary Concert in the Great Hall, University of Ulster (Magee). The choir then headed off on a fantastic 7 day USA Tour where they performed in the Irish Repertory Theatre in New York, joined friends for a concert at Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, and then travelled to Washington D.C. where they performed at the Residence of the Irish Ambassador. In March, the ladies performed as part of a Dawn Chorus to welcome the Spring Equinox. June was a busy month for the choir as they performed as part of the SIRENSCIRUS Event during the Ulysses YES Festival before performing at the Stand Up & Sing Concert during the Every Voice Festival. The ladies finished out the year with a performance in St. Columb's Cathedral during their Festival of Cloaks in July.



Allegri Ladies pictured following their Tenth Anniversary Concert in the Great Hall, University of Ulster (Magee)

Orchestra NorthWest began the 2023/2024 year with their Autumn Concert of September Symphonies in the Guildhall. The programme featured Dvorák's much-loved Symphony No.8., Peter Warlock's Capriol Suite for strings and Arturo Márquez's Danzón No. 2. They headed to the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh in May with 'Songs from Stage and Screen'. In July the Orchestra joined forces with the Allegri Youth & Junior Choirs to perform Benjamin Britton's Community Opera 'Noye's Fludde'.



Orchestra NorthWest performing 'Songs from Stage & Screen' at the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh

Our **Allegrì Junior & Youth Choirs** had the pleasure of joining the I Giovani Solisti (Connecticut) Chamber Orchestra from Connecticut when they visited the city in April before performing Noye's Fludde with the Orchestra in June. They then enjoyed two exciting weeks of Summer Schemes in August.



Participants pictured with Deputy Mayor Darren Guy following their Summer Scheme Showcase

All groups joined forces once again this year for two sold out **Christmas Concerts** on Sunday 10th December. We welcomed dancers from the Rainbow School of Dance who performed the ballet of 'The Nutcracker' with the Orchestra. The ladies and junior and youth choirs performed a host of Christmas Classics in the second half of each concert.



Orchestra NorthWest, Allegrì Ladies, Junior & Youth Choirs performing their Christmas Concert in the Guildhall

The annual **Every Voice Festival** took place 17th to 23rd June. This year the festival comprised ten events including community concerts, pop-up performances and a Gala Concert, as well as 41 workshops and rehearsals. For this we also created a brand-new pop-up choir 'The Shirt Factory Singers'. There were a total of 1074 participants from 35 choirs and an audience of 21,413 which includes in person and online views.



Come & Sing Workshop in the Guildhall, Every Voice Festival, June 2023



Every Voice Festival Community Concert, June 2023

Allegrì delivered a Rural Engagement Arts Programme funded by Arts Council Northern Ireland with our Musical Director Maurice Kelly working with a range of groups. There were weekly rehearsals with the Eglintones who enjoyed performing in a shared music concert in Ballymena with the Pick Me Up Choir as well as a performance in the Every Voice Festival community concert series. Maurice delivered six singing sessions with DEEDS (Dementia Engaged and Empowered in Derry & Strabane) which lead to a community performance in the Alley Theatre, Strabane and he also delivered a number of workshops with choirs from Limavady Grammar, St Patrick's College, Dungiven and St Patrick's & St Brigid's College, Claudy culminating in a mini-concert tour of all of the schools.

You can watch the REAP schools showcase performances entitled 'In Rural Harmony' [here](#).



Eglintones Choir, St Columb's Hall, Derry



DEEDS Choir Alley Theatre, Strabane



School pupils taking part in the In Rural Harmony project

Financial Review

Financial Performance

Financial performance in the year to August 31st 2024 has been broadly consistent with the trustee's forecasts and expectations; a surplus of income over expenditure of £869 was achieved for the year compared to £12,396 in the year to August 31st, 2023.

The year ended with a general fund balance of £21,760 (compared to £20,891 for the same date last year).

We were recipients of funding from Derry City and Strabane District Council (Community Support Fund, Community Festivals Fund), Arts Council of Northern Ireland (National Lottery Project Fund, Health & Safety and Rural Engagement Arts Programme), Clear Short-Term Funding supported by the Public Health Agency (Western) Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme).

Full income and expenditure listed on page 9.

Allegri

Statement of Receipts and Payments - Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	2024 Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Voluntary Receipts				
Grants	-	48,898	48,898	35,773
Fundraising Activities	926	-	926	3,805
Donations	393	-	393	-
Sponsorship	100	-	100	300
Charitable Activities				
Membership Fees	9,445	-	9,445	11,733
Ticket Sales & Performance Fees	18,647	-	18,647	18,050
Total Receipts	29,510	48,898	78,408	69,661
Payments				
Cost of Charitable Activities	27,596	43,271	70,867	57,265
Asset and Investment Purchase				
Purchase of Equipment	150	6,522	6,672	-
Total Payments	27,746	49,793	77,538	57,265
Net receipts / (payments)	1,764	(895)	869	12,396
Reconciliation 31.08.24				
Cash at bank & in hand 31.08.23	13,041	7,850	20,891	8,495
Surplus / (deficit) this year end	1,764	(895)	869	12,396
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	14,805	6,955	21,760	20,891

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 2 November 2024, and signed on behalf of the board by:



Lisa Gibney
Treasurer



Nuala Sheerin
Chairperson

Allegri

Statement of Assets and Liabilities - Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation				
Cash at bank & in hand 31.08.23	13,041	7,850	20,891	8,495
Surplus / (deficit) this year end	1,764	-895	869	12,396
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	14,805	6,955	21,760	20,891
Bank & Cash Balances				
Bank Current Account	14,805	6,955	21,760	20,891
Cash in Hand	-	-	-	-
	14,805	6,955	21,760	20,891
Other Assets				
Furniture (at cost)	150	7,204	7,354	3,788
Digital Piano (at cost)		3,992	3,992	1,021
Laptop (cost)		1,249	1,249	1,249
AV Equipment (cost)		2,335	2,335	2,200
Grant income due		6,956	776	3,187
Performance fee due	1,295	-	-	-
	1,445	21,736	15,706	11,445
Liabilities				
Music Facilitation	504	1,160	1,664	-
Project Management	-	4,000	4,000	-
Room Hire	100	550	650	150
Performance Fees	300	1,000	1,300	250
Audio Visual	-	1,588	1,588	-
Transport Costs	-	240	240	-
	904	8,538	9,442	400

Notes to the Accounts

Reserves Policy

We have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. We have established a reserves policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be between 3 and 6 months of the expenditure. Budgeted expenditure for 2024/25 is £80,000 and therefore the target is £20,000 to £40,000. The reserves are needed to meet the working capital requirements of the charity and the Trustees are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. The present level of reserves available to the charity of £14,805 therefore falls short of this target level. Although the strategy is to continue to build reserves through planned operating surpluses, the Trustees are well aware that it is unlikely that the target range can be reached for at least 5 years. In the short term the Trustees have also considered the extent to which existing activities and expenditure could be curtailed should such circumstances arise.

Trustees' Expenses

No expenses were paid to any of the Trustees during the year except to reimburse them for purchases made on behalf of the organisation.

Trustees' Indemnity Insurance

No charitable funds have been used to purchase insurance to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

Accounting Policies

Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 permits a charity to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities where gross income in the financial year does not exceed £250,000, therefore receipts and payments accounts and a statement of assets and liabilities has been prepared and presented for the year ended August 31st 2024; this is consistent with previous years.

Income

All Income, including grants is recorded when received. All Expenditure is recorded when paid.

Basis of Valuations

Valuations have been provided for assets held for functional use; where possible the brand new purchase price/replacement cost is given. If this is not readily available a second-hand purchase price is given.

Independent Scrutiny

In the year ended August 31st 2024 gross income did not exceeded £250,000 and therefore, in accordance with the sections 144 & 145 of the Charities Act 2011 no audit or independent examination is required and no such scrutiny requirement is imposed by the organsiation's governing document.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name

Allegrì

Charity Number

NIC107895

Principal Address

31-33 Bawnmore Place
Strathfoyle
Derry
BT47 6XP

Charity Trustees as of 31st August 2023

Nuala Sheerin (Chairperson)
Naiomh Ashford (Secretary)
Lisa Gibney (Treasurer)
Maggi Clifford
Michael McDermott
Rachel Tennis

Banking

AIB (NI) - previously known as First Trust Bank

Meadowbank House
143-145 Strand Rd
Derry
BT48 7TN

Insurance Broker and Underwriter

M Ladbroke Ltd
21B Napier Court
Gander Lane
Chesterfield
Derbyshire
S43 4PZ

Structure, Governance, and Management

Governing Document and Constitution

Allegri is an unincorporated association and is governed by a constitution which was last revised on 30th June 2022.

Allegri is run entirely by its members who pay an annual voluntary membership subscription. As of 31st August 2024, the Society had a membership of 173.

Trustee Selection and Management

The Society is managed by an Executive Committee which consists of all the appointed trustees. A number of the trustees also hold offices within Allegri. These officers are noted in the list of current trustees above. The Executive Committee typically meets on a bi-monthly basis. At each meeting the Treasurer presents the latest accounts which are reviewed against budgets and forecasts; spending is discussed and approved. Officers may authorise some spending, between meetings, within set limits but must ensure such spending is reported at the next meeting. The meetings also offer a forum to review recent activities within our programme and to plan forthcoming events. Correspondence and applications for membership received are considered; in addition, officers report on their areas of responsibility (typically, reports are made quarterly). Further ad hoc meetings are called if required, for example, to plan and manage special events or projects. The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts are approved by the trustees and then presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Objectives and Activities

Allegri is registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (charity no. 107895).

Public Benefits

The direct benefits which flow from the charitable purposes are:

1. To raise the standard of arts practice and performance - including shared learning and development opportunities in a safe and supportive environment; improved singing and musicianship skills, a high standard of music education from professional musicians, facilitators, teachers, conductors; the development of life skills in participants; an opportunity to develop social networks and connect with like-minded people; the improvement in physical and mental health and an opportunity to reduce stress and take time away from the pressures of everyday life; the development of transferable skills in participants; ambition, determination and positive life aspirations; opportunities to avail of accredited training and development; volunteering opportunities in arts administration, facilitation, event management
2. Creating opportunities for learning, performance and personal development in the arts for young people and adults - include the provision of the high quality arts learning and performance experiences; access to musical tuition, masterclasses and workshops from professional musicians; connections with groups, venues and institutions in the UK and Ireland and internationally; the opportunity to experience a wide range of musical styles and periods in our programming; the removal of obstacles - financial, social, cultural, religious or skills-based - for all beneficiaries; the opportunity to perform in high profile civic settings as well as venues which are not traditionally associated with performance
3. To advance community development through arts engagement projects - include the opportunity for individuals to build connections and networks outside their own communities; beneficiaries positively engaging with wider community development initiatives; improved self-image and community pride; new initiatives led by beneficiaries within communities; challenging of preconceptions, prejudices or stereotypes; music projects taking place outside traditional civic venues

These benefits will be demonstrated through:

Purpose 1: Increased quantity of learning & performance opportunities and increased quality in community arts output; diversity in performances; audience numbers and feedback; the esteem in which our work is held & feedback from audiences, press etc, familiarity with our brand and activities in a short time since our inception; beneficiaries who have not gone the traditional music route through childhood; audiences attending performances for the first time in their lives, now feel that it is something relevant to them that they can enjoy; delivery of projects on budget and within agreed timelines

Purpose 2: Surveys; liaison with our network of community workers; monitoring volunteering opportunities created and keeping connections to those who move beyond our activities; Evidence of increased arts provision; engagement on our social media channels;

Purpose 3: New initiatives in project areas; increased membership and interest in our activities
There is no harm arising from any of the purposes of our organisation. We have a number of robust procedures and policies in place (including Child Protection and Safeguarding, Equal Opportunities

and Conflict of Interest policies), to mitigate against any harm which might arise in the future. Beneficiaries are individual members of the ladies and children's choirs and the orchestra (aged 8 upwards), those who take part in our outreach workshops and projects, the general public as audiences who attend our public performances or view our work online.

Our members may benefit from exposure to a wider audience and a positive development of their skills and expertise through performance but this is incidental to the achievement of our purposes. Similarly, our volunteers and trustees may, in the course of their involvement with us, gain benefits including training and development opportunities leading to the acquisition of transferable skills which could be used in settings unconnected to our activities. Any such opportunities are necessary to ensure good governance and management and wholly incidental.

This report was approved and adopted by the Allegri Board of Trustees at a meeting on 14th November, 2024 and signed on their behalf.

Nuala Sheerin
Allegri Chairperson

Allegri

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107895

Accounts

Allegri

Registered Charity No: NIC107895

Annual Report and Statement of Accounts

For the year ended August 31, 2023



Table of Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	Page 3
Trustee's Annual Report	Page 4
Financial Review	Page 7
Accounts to the year ended 31st August 2023	Page 8
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 10

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name

Allegri

Charity Number

NIC107895

Principal Address

31-33 Bawnmore Place

Strathfoyle

Derry

BT47 6XP

Charity Trustees as of 31st August 2023

Rachel Tennis (Chairperson)

Julie McLaughlin (Vice-Chairperson)

Nuala Sheerin (Secretary)

Naiomh Ashford (Treasurer)

Michelle Reid

Aine Gallagher

Maggi Clifford

Banking

AIB (NI), previously known as First Trust Bank

Meadowbank House

143-145 Strand Rd

Derry

BT48 7TN

Insurance Broker and Underwriter

M Ladbrook Ltd

21B Napier Court

Gander Lane

Chesterfield

Derbyshire

S43 4PZ

Trustee's Annual Report

The trustees of Allegri are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the period September 1st 2022 to August 31st 2023.

Our Achievements and Performance - the Year in Numbers

9th	34	224	1197	26,789	£12,396
year of promoting arts in the Derry & the North West region	concerts & performances	rehearsals/ workshops	participants	in person and online audience	surplus for the year

Allegri is a cross-community arts group established in 2013 within DCSDC, and one of the few remaining legacy projects from the City of Culture year. We have ladies, junior and youth choirs, a community orchestra and manage the annual Every Voice Festival. We also run community

We work to eliminate all barriers to arts participation, harnessing the creativity and self-expression of individuals. We offer access to the expertise and guidance of professional facilitators using arts to promote cross-cultural understanding, empathy and as a means to build positivity and healing.

Our family of choirs meet weekly and Orchestra NorthWest meet monthly to enjoy the benefits of music-making and prepare for regular concerts and performances. 2022/23 was another successful year. Highlights are described below.

Allegrì Ladies Choir started their year with a wonderful collaboration with an acrobatic troupe from France Compagnie XY in St. Columb's Park on a beautifully sunny day in August. They took part in the Christmas event in the Guildhall, Derry in December. In February they were invited by Kiamsha Youth Empowerment Organization to record a rendition of 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' in collaboration with a group of local Nigerian students in Derry to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement. On 1st June they hosted and performed in concert with Baylor University Bella Voce Young Women's Choir from Texas, US.



Allegrì Ladies Choir perform in the First Derry Presbyterian Church in June 2023

During the year **Allegrì Junior and Youth Choirs** took part in two sold-out performances of 'Shirah of Bethlehem' in The Playhouse, Derry. They collaborated with St Louis' Children's Choir, Guildhall, Derry. In August they took part in two successful weeks of summer workshops with two showcases for 75 young people.



Allegrì Junior and Youth Choirs at their summer scheme, August 2023

Orchestra NorthWest had a busy and eclectic 12 month programme. This began with 'Songs from Stage and Screen' in a September concert in The Alley Theatre, Strabane. On 20 November they collaborated with the Irish Doctors Choir to present a concert

entitled 'Music and Poetry of Searching and Peace' in the Guildhall. Under the baton of Brian McKay, and in aid of Children in Crossfire, the performance included pieces by Arvo Pärt, Charles Ives and Ralph Vaughan-Williams. Together with the Allegri choirs, they performed two festive sell-out shows of 'The Snowman and Other Christmas Classics in the Guildhall, Derry and the Alley Theatre, Strabane. In April, they performed 'Ready, Set Works!' in the Waterside Theatre, a performance of a selection of GCSE, AS and A2 syllabus set works and listed composers. The programme featured Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 "Eroica" (4th Movement), Brahms' Academic Festival Overture, 'A Tribute to John Williams', 'Dambusters March' by Eric Coates and Mozart's Symphony No. 39 (1st Movement). As well as live performance, there was also commentary on the musical elements, compositional devices and structures of the works as well as engaging discussion of their social and historical contexts. A memorable event in August saw the orchestra perform to an audience of 3500 as they performed with ABBA Arrival from Sweden.



Orchestra NorthWest performing with Arrival from Sweden, Ebrington Square, August 2023

The annual **Every Voice Festival** took place from 11th to 18th June. It comprised 13 events including gala, youth & community concerts, pop-up performances and the delivery of 46 workshops. There were a total of 1197 participants and 18,147 audience members.



Every Voice Festival Gala Concert, June 2023

Financial Review

Financial Performance

Financial performance in the year to August 31st 2023 has been broadly consistent with the trustee's forecasts and expectations; a surplus of income over expenditure of £12,396.37 was achieved for the year.

The year ended with a general fund balance of £20,891.02.

We were recipients of funding from Derry City and Strabane District Council (Good Relations, Community Festivals Fund), Arts Council of Northern Ireland (National Lottery Project Fund, Health & Safety), Ulster People's College, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme).

Full income and expenditure listed on page 8.

Allegri

Statement of Receipts and Payments - Year Ended 31 August 2023

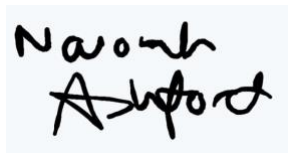
	Notes	2023		2022	
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		£	£	£	
Receipts					
Funding		0	35,773	35,773	59,146
Performance Fees		11,750	0	11,750	1,500
Sponsorship		300	0	300	0
Ticket Sales		6,300	0	6,300	806
Fundraising		3,805	0	3,805	0
Membership & Participant Fees		11,733	0	11,733	8,022
Total Receipts		33,888	35,773	69,661	69,474
Payments					
Room Hire - Rehearsal & Concerts		2,005	8,103	10,108	13,559
Facilitation & Artists Fees		12,270	16,460	28,730	31,120
Videography/Photography		1,185	4,593	5,778	15,828
Marketing/Print		198	474	672	840
Transportation		651	0	651	1,090
Equipment		780	4,925	5,705	7,460
Insurance		870	0	870	474
Bank Fees		168	0	168	241
Storage Unit		1,512	0	1,512	756
Music Hire		611	0	611	0
Uniforms		1,015	0	1,015	696
Hospitality		0	910	910	1,921
Miscellaneous		535	0	535	5,101
Total Payments		21,800	35,464	57,265	79,086
Net receipts / (payments)		12,088	309	12,396	(9,612)
Reconciliation 31.08.23					
Cash at bank & in hand 31.08.22		954	7,541	8,495	18,106
Surplus / (deficit) this year end		12,088	309	12,396	(9,611)
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		13,042	7,850	20,891	8,495

Allegri

Statement of Assets and Liabilities - Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation				
Cash at bank & in hand 31.08.22	954	7,541	8,495	18,106
Surplus / (deficit) this year end	0	0	12,396	(9,611)
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	954	7,541	20,891	8,495
Bank & Cash Balances				
Bank Current Account	13,042	7,850	20,892	8,495
Cash in Hand	0	0	0	0
	13,042	7,850	20,892	8,495
Other Assets				
Furniture (at cost)	0	3,788	3,788	0
Digital Piano (at cost)	0	1,021	1,021	1,021
Laptop (cost)	625	625	1,249	0
AV Equipment (cost)	0	2,200	2,200	0
Grant income due - DCSDC	0	3,187	3,187	1,700
Performance fee due	1,985	0	0	2,000
	2,610	10,821	8,258	4,721

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 20 January 2024, and signed on behalf of the board by:



Naomh Ashford
Treasurer



Rachel Tennis
Chairperson

Structure, Governance, and Management

Governing Document and Constitution

Allegri is an unincorporated association and is governed by a constitution which was last revised on 30th June 2022.

Allegri is run entirely by its members who pay an annual voluntary membership subscription. As of 31st August 2023, the Society had a membership of 174.

Trustee Selection and Management

The Society is managed by an Executive Committee which consists of all the appointed trustees. A number of the trustees also hold offices within the society. These officers are noted in the list of current trustees above. The Executive Committee meets typically bi-monthly. At each meeting the Treasurer presents the latest accounts and these are reviewed against budgets and forecasts; spending is discussed and approved. Officers may authorise some spending, between meetings, within set limits but must ensure such spending is reported at the next meeting. The meetings also offer a forum to review recent activities within our programme and to plan forthcoming events. Correspondence and applications for membership received are considered; in addition, officers report on their areas of responsibility - typically reports are made quarterly. Further ad hoc meetings are called if required, for example to plan and manage special events or projects. The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts are approved by the trustees and then presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Report approved and adopted by the Allegri Board of Trustees at a meeting on 20th January 2024 and signed on their behalf.



Rachel Tennis
Allegri Chairperson

Allegrì

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107895

Annual report

Allegri

Registered Charity No: NIC107895

Annual Report and Statement of Accounts

For the year ended August 31, 2023



Table of Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	Page 3
Trustee's Annual Report	Page 4
Financial Review	Page 7
Accounts to the year ended 31st August 2023	Page 8
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 10

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name

Allegri

Charity Number

NIC107895

Principal Address

31-33 Bawnmore Place

Strathfoyle

Derry

BT47 6XP

Charity Trustees as of 31st August 2023

Rachel Tennis (Chairperson)

Julie McLaughlin (Vice-Chairperson)

Nuala Sheerin (Secretary)

Naiomh Ashford (Treasurer)

Michelle Reid

Aine Gallagher

Maggi Clifford

Banking

AIB (NI), previously known as First Trust Bank

Meadowbank House

143-145 Strand Rd

Derry

BT48 7TN

Insurance Broker and Underwriter

M Ladbroke Ltd

21B Napier Court

Gander Lane

Chesterfield

Derbyshire

S43 4PZ

Trustee's Annual Report

The trustees of Allegri are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the period September 1st 2022 to August 31st 2023.

Our Achievements and Performance - the Year in Numbers

9th	34	224	1197	26,789	£12,396
year of promoting arts in the Derry & the North West region	concerts & performances	rehearsals/ workshops	participants	in person and online audience	surplus for the year

Allegri is a cross-community arts group established in 2013 within DCSDC, and one of the few remaining legacy projects from the City of Culture year. We have ladies, junior and youth choirs, a community orchestra and manage the annual Every Voice Festival. We also run community

We work to eliminate all barriers to arts participation, harnessing the creativity and self-expression of individuals. We offer access to the expertise and guidance of professional facilitators using arts to promote cross-cultural understanding, empathy and as a means to build positivity and healing.

Our family of choirs meet weekly and Orchestra NorthWest meet monthly to enjoy the benefits of music-making and prepare for regular concerts and performances. 2022/23 was another successful year. Highlights are described below.

Allegrì Ladies Choir started their year with a wonderful collaboration with an acrobatic troupe from France Compagnie XY in St. Columb's Park on a beautifully sunny day in August. They took part in the Christmas event in the Guildhall, Derry in December. In February they were invited by Kiamsha Youth Empowerment Organization to record a rendition of 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' in collaboration with a group of local Nigerian students in Derry to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement. On 1st June they hosted and performed in concert with Baylor University Bella Voce Young Women's Choir from Texas, US.



Allegrì Ladies Choir perform in the First Derry Presbyterian Church in June 2023

During the year **Allegrì Junior and Youth Choirs** took part in two sold-out performances of 'Shirah of Bethlehem' in The Playhouse, Derry. They collaborated with St Louis' Children's Choir, Guildhall, Derry. In August they took part in two successful weeks of summer workshops with two showcases for 75 young people.



Allegrì Junior and Youth Choirs at their summer scheme, August 2023

Orchestra NorthWest had a busy and eclectic 12 month programme. This began with 'Songs from Stage and Screen' in a September concert in The Alley Theatre, Strabane. On 20 November they collaborated with the Irish Doctors Choir to present a concert

entitled 'Music and Poetry of Searching and Peace' in the Guildhall. Under the baton of Brian McKay, and in aid of Children in Crossfire, the performance included pieces by Arvo Pärt, Charles Ives and Ralph Vaughan-Williams. Together with the Allegri choirs, they performed two festive sell-out shows of 'The Snowman and Other Christmas Classics in the Guildhall, Derry and the Alley Theatre, Strabane. In April, they performed 'Ready, Set Works!' in the Waterside Theatre, a performance of a selection of GCSE, AS and A2 syllabus set works and listed composers. The programme featured Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 "Eroica" (4th Movement), Brahms' Academic Festival Overture, 'A Tribute to John Williams', 'Dambusters March' by Eric Coates and Mozart's Symphony No. 39 (1st Movement). As well as live performance, there was also commentary on the musical elements, compositional devices and structures of the works as well as engaging discussion of their social and historical contexts. A memorable event in August saw the orchestra perform to an audience of 3500 as they performed with ABBA Arrival from Sweden.



Orchestra NorthWest performing with Arrival from Sweden, Ebrington Square, August 2023

The annual **Every Voice Festival** took place from 11th to 18h June. It comprised 13 events including gala, youth & community concerts, pop-up performances and the delivery of 46 workshops. There were a total of 1197 participants and 18,147 audience members.



Every Voice Festival Gala Concert, June 2023

Financial Review

Financial Performance

Financial performance in the year to August 31st 2023 has been broadly consistent with the trustee's forecasts and expectations; a surplus of income over expenditure of £12,396.37 was achieved for the year.

The year ended with a general fund balance of £20,891.02.

We were recipients of funding from Derry City and Strabane District Council (Good Relations, Community Festivals Fund), Arts Council of Northern Ireland (National Lottery Project Fund, Health & Safety), Ulster People's College, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme).

Full income and expenditure listed on page 8.

Allegri

Statement of Receipts and Payments - Year Ended 31 August 2023

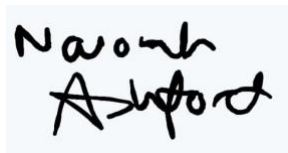
	Notes	2023		2022	
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		£	£	£	
Receipts					
Funding		0	35,773	35,773	59,146
Performance Fees		11,750	0	11,750	1,500
Sponsorship		300	0	300	0
Ticket Sales		6,300	0	6,300	806
Fundraising		3,805	0	3,805	0
Membership & Participant Fees		11,733	0	11,733	8,022
Total Receipts		33,888	35,773	69,661	69,474
Payments					
Room Hire - Rehearsal & Concerts		2,005	8,103	10,108	13,559
Facilitation & Artists Fees		12,270	16,460	28,730	31,120
Videography/Photography		1,185	4,593	5,778	15,828
Marketing/Print		198	474	672	840
Transportation		651	0	651	1,090
Equipment		780	4,925	5,705	7,460
Insurance		870	0	870	474
Bank Fees		168	0	168	241
Storage Unit		1,512	0	1,512	756
Music Hire		611	0	611	0
Uniforms		1,015	0	1,015	696
Hospitality		0	910	910	1,921
Miscellaneous		535	0	535	5,101
Total Payments		21,800	35,464	57,265	79,086
Net receipts / (payments)		12,088	309	12,396	(9,612)
Reconciliation 31.08.23					
Cash at bank & in hand 31.08.22		954	7,541	8,495	18,106
Surplus / (deficit) this year end		12,088	309	12,396	(9,611)
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		13,042	7,850	20,891	8,495

Allegri

Statement of Assets and Liabilities - Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation				
Cash at bank & in hand 31.08.22	954	7,541	8,495	18,106
Surplus / (deficit) this year end	0	0	12,396	(9,611)
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	954	7,541	20,891	8,495
Bank & Cash Balances				
Bank Current Account	13,042	7,850	20,892	8,495
Cash in Hand	0	0	0	0
	13,042	7,850	20,892	8,495
Other Assets				
Furniture (at cost)	0	3,788	3,788	0
Digital Piano (at cost)	0	1,021	1,021	1,021
Laptop (cost)	625	625	1,249	0
AV Equipment (cost)	0	2,200	2,200	0
Grant income due - DCSDC	0	3,187	3,187	1,700
Performance fee due	1,985	0	0	2,000
	2,610	10,821	8,258	4,721

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 20 January 2024, and signed on behalf of the board by:



Naomh Ashford
Treasurer



Rachel Tennis
Chairperson

Structure, Governance, and Management

Governing Document and Constitution

Allegri is an unincorporated association and is governed by a constitution which was last revised on 30th June 2022.

Allegri is run entirely by its members who pay an annual voluntary membership subscription. As of 31st August 2023, the Society had a membership of 174.

Trustee Selection and Management

The Society is managed by an Executive Committee which consists of all the appointed trustees. A number of the trustees also hold offices within the society. These officers are noted in the list of current trustees above. The Executive Committee meets typically bi-monthly. At each meeting the Treasurer presents the latest accounts and these are reviewed against budgets and forecasts; spending is discussed and approved. Officers may authorise some spending, between meetings, within set limits but must ensure such spending is reported at the next meeting. The meetings also offer a forum to review recent activities within our programme and to plan forthcoming events. Correspondence and applications for membership received are considered; in addition, officers report on their areas of responsibility - typically reports are made quarterly. Further ad hoc meetings are called if required, for example to plan and manage special events or projects. The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts are approved by the trustees and then presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Report approved and adopted by the Allegri Board of Trustees at a meeting on 20th January 2024 and signed on their behalf.



Rachel Tennis
Allegri Chairperson

Allegrì

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107895

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Allegri

Charity Number: NIC107895

Financial Year: **1st September 2022 - 31st August 2023**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

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

It is my 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 my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my 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.

My 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 consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

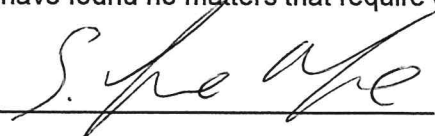
My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

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

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Signed: _____



Name: Sarah Leanne Moore

Address: 26 Primity Terrace

Date: 19.1.2024

I confirm that I have completed an examination of the accounts for Allegri for the period of 1st September to 31st August 2023.

I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination.

The organisation shows a good standard of accurate bookkeeping and banking, and I am content that all financial procedures and transactions are transparent and accurate.

Receipts and invoices are filed appropriately with all payment references recorded.

The band make good use of their bank providers services in terms of internet banking and cheque payments and as such there are full records for all transactions.