

StarmakerZ

Annual Report

2012



Starmakerz Stage Science Community Project Community Interest Company Annual Report

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From the Directors

Dear Friends,

As a supporter of The StarmakerZ Stage Science Community Project, you are the cornerstone of our present and future success. During 2012, our organization has now grown into a dependable authority within music and arts delivery to the community of Tees Valley, we have an established track record with funding bids and delivery, and our bids have grown in diversity and size as our track record has developed.

Our Youth Action Group was set up to empower our young people to lead Starmakerz and have a say in the direction and future of Starmakerz, our YAG was responsible for our Go Middlesbrough project with their desire to explore musical in a historical context. The power of this group cannot be underestimated and it is helping to develop our young people into stronger, more confident adults.

We have also kitted out our own base with a fully functioning stage with lights and pa system, we have only done this by kind support of UK Steel Enterprises who backed our plans with money to refurbish our stage and bring it back to full working life, this has made a massive difference to our young people giving the ability to run shows and courses from our unique site in the hart of Middlesbrough

Supporters of our cause such as volunteers have remained the lifeblood of our organization over the last year and through establishing links with voluntary development agencies and The Shaw trust we have benefited greatly from the insight of our volunteers, The volunteers have given some of the greatest gifts of all whilst themselves finding a new path of renewed fulfillment and purpose, They have given us friendship, time and support, in order to enrich the lives of so many who are in need of our help.

Thank you, to you all, you are our strength.

Through our own market research we have found through discussion and interaction with community leaders and local community action groups that there is a benefit and need for our stage science community project, our aim is to break through social barriers to enhance community cohesion to allow peoples of the community regardless of background to express themselves through our inter-active creative stage science projects.

Our need for new volunteers continues.

Our role in assisting disadvantaged people in music and creative performing arts through our groundbreaking unique stage science project has never been more in demand. Due to the current economic climate, disadvantaged people particularly individuals from low income families, simply can not afford to splash out on the luxury of music tuition etc, However, Starmakerz will continue to strive and succeed in the delivery of our main objectives which is to deliver our services totally free to the end user, That is why we are constantly in need of funding to secure a foundation for our future success. We recognize that our success should be considered your success as well. It is your belief and support in The Starmakerz stage science community projects that enables us to continue our mission.

With Our Sincere Gratitude,

Thankyou for your continued support.



Background

Starmakerz Stage Science Community Project was born out of two peoples vision to enhance the lives of all peoples regardless of background to enjoy the practical benefits and rewards of learning new skills in the field of music creativity and creative performing arts,

Paul Scott and Adam Sayers combined have over 60 years of experience in performing globally as entertainers, session musicians, music tuition, music and theatre production and have experience in the music and multimedia business realm.

Paul Scott began his musical passion at the young age of five years old, when he was given an old guitar, after developing his music ability over the next few years influenced by guitar gurus, After seven years of study he became a very competent focused player, who at twelve then went on to form a school band, and perform locally, now with his musical roots firmly taken place Paul then at the age of sixteen new exactly his choice of career would be to be a professional musician, At seventeen Paul was accepted to join a multi instrumental duo, playing gigs every weekend all over the uk, performing mini tours in holiday parks and social clubs, At nineteen Paul secured contracts to perform in Germany touring all across the country entertaining the British and American Armed forces, after three years of entertaining internationally Paul took to the seas, performing on cruise ships all over the world.

Adam Sayers started his musical journey learning to play the cello at the age of seven years old with Caroline Dale, now playing with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. At thirteen he took up orchestral percussion, as well as the piano. Alongside this he began writing songs, and an interest in sound recording and music production flourished. At eighteen a career in music lead to a management role in a chain of music retailers, which lead to a chance meeting with Paul.

Musically, the duo excited in one and others talents and became friends and creative partners intertwined in various projects culminating in European tours and a recording deal with Stanley house music recording company in London working with named producers associated with James Brown, George Michael, Lisa Stansfield to name a few, at this time in parallel they both studied adult education and began teaching in various colleges and institutions.

After a fruitful recording and touring career they decided to invest in their own state of the art music and video production company in the North east of England and a few years later a production and promotions company as they were now producing shows for theatres and corporate venues around the world.

In 2010 the new challenge was to put something back into their community, Paul and Adam played a major role in the creation of a local radio station named Community voice FM and once again fueled with a passion, and a belief Paul and Adam drew up plans to create a non profit organisation helping disadvantaged young people to acquire skills in music, drama and creative performing arts to enrich their lives, develop new interests and promote a positive mental attitude to life in general, this is the ethos behind our Starmakerz stage science community project idea being born.

Partnerships

In 2012 Starmakerz has made significant gains in developing partnerships to strengthen our growth to ensure Starmakerz is continuing to expand and reach more of the community to help and develop talent and inspire young people. We have built a strong relationship with Heritage Lottery Fund developing and delivering a year long project throughout 2013, and from this we have connected with North East Film Archive based in Teesside University.

We have strengthened links with the charity Middlesbrough Community Projects a Christian based charity working within Middlesbrough to strengthen communities, and we are looking at some joint bids to develop projects into 2013.

Tees Valley Music Services have supported us with some instruments and we have set in place a strategic partnership to develop services into schools that offer a wider range of services for the end user. We are part of the hub in Teesside and we are leading the free lessons structure.

In 2012 we kept the alliance with Tees Valley Community Music strong and have helped support them with advice, costing's and training for fundraising and bid writing, we continue to work in alignment through our artistic endeavours and as we share accommodation it would seem likely to continue.

Throughout 2012 we strived to reach out into the community to meet up and inspire other CIC's and community groups to offer our services and give advice, we feel that partnerships with the council is also vitally important, we have worked with the council to deliver a community stage at the Middlesbrough MELA festival and through this we are now planning to run some projects into 2013 with Musinc funded through Youth Music and administered through Middlesbrough Council.

Tees Valley Community Foundation have funded us for the second year to offer us the chance to buy portable dance mirrors to expand our roster of services, and we can now offer dance classes as a new area of growth in our Middlesbrough, we feel it is important to build ongoing relationships with funders to develop and sustain long term sustainability.

We have also started to offer advice to other community groups or business startups in the benefits of running as a CIC's this is a free service but we feel that our journey and what we have learnt is invaluable and we can guide and save people time and effort and hopefully money, this we believe is part of what the whole ethos of CIC's are about, and works in alignment with our beliefs.

Projects Summary

Confidence Building Project

We have ran a course to build confidence with young people putting them onto a stage to perform and using the whole journey to build their own self belief and push the boundaries of young people into believing their own potential, we have one girl who started on this course in June 2012 who wouldn't go on stage without her friend on stage as well, and ended the year performing on stage at the Sage in Gateshead, a fully confident performer.

Brass Band and Tuition

We have started a brass band and brass tuition with the help and support of Michael Wiepert who was head of peripatetic teaching in Newcastle. He has devoted his own time and his own personal instruments to develop his brass project into an integral part of Starmakerz offerings. Through this we have built links with Tees Valley Music Services who have offered instruments that we have not already had to hand and support to repair any damaged instruments.

Music Recording

Every Saturday we have been offering free recording to singers in our Middlesbrough Centre, working with Tees Valley Community Music they have gladly offered us free recording time and engineer Rhyno has recorded many songs with singers who could not afford to book a commercial studio, we also mix and create cd's and publish online the finished products to share with their friends and family this has proven to be very popular and we book each session on a first come first served basis.

Guitar Lessons

Through the skills of our directors we offer guitar lessons on a Saturday this course lends instruments to those who do not have any, and spends time developing young people interested in learning guitar as a separate skill or as an add on to other courses. Many singers have started to look at this as an additional skill wish they wish to have.

Interactive Rhythmology

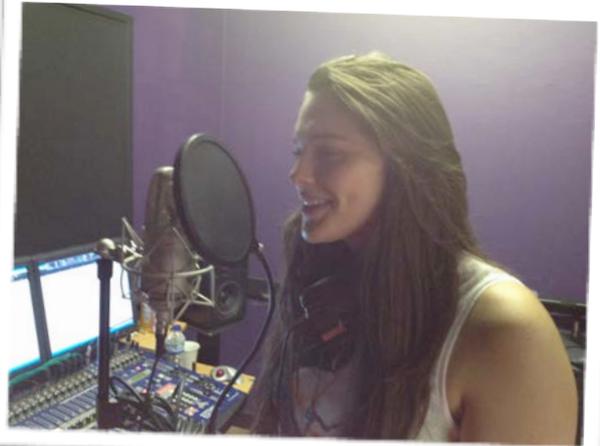
Drumming is a great way to start to introduce non musicians to a whole new world in a fun and exciting way, we use drumming to break down barriers and build confidence. It is very good for any age and any level of person and really works introducing people to music, basic tempo and beat tuition, and is a great gateway course leading interested participants into other aspects of our projects.

Singing and Dancing Classes

We have always had a positive reaction to our dance and singing classes, these have proven to be popular with younger children and we are looking at tapping into local schools within 750 metres of our Middlesbrough base to expand and extend these numbers, and to build stronger links to local education establishments.

Stage Science

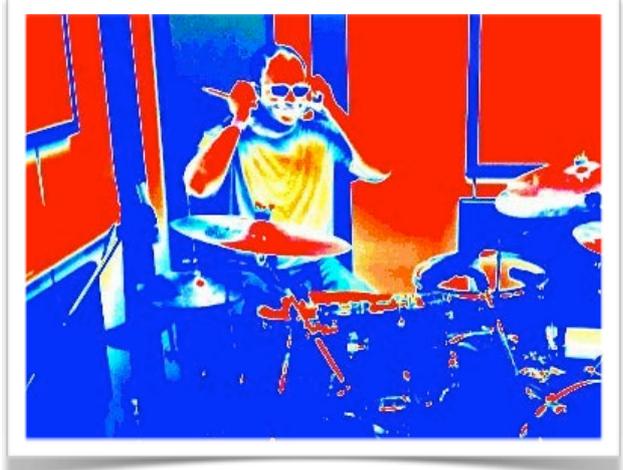
This course looks at the technical side of theatre and making music, this is an important class for all budding musicians to take but has also been taken up by young people who do not wish to perform but want to participate, and learn new skills.





**BRASS BAND
ALL TUITION PROVIDED
INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED**





The Future

2013 is looking like a pivotal year for Starmakerz we have worked for several months with The Heritage Lottery Fund in developing Go Middlesbrough, this will be a major part of our 2013 curriculum and will help to raise our profile in Teesside and offer our services to a broader demographic. The belief that HLF have shown us is fully appreciated, this is a great advancement for us and will open up many more opportunities for Starmakerz.

Through Michael's experience as a teacher we are now looking at offering services directly into schools for taster sessions in brass and recording services, we have built a mobile studio that enables us to go to any location and capture audio in studio quality to create cd's or uploads to the web. We also have access to HD broadcast quality cameras and editing facilities this enables us to look at other interesting projects and develop new project ideas. One of these that we have already began in 2012 but wish to more fully develop is our online teaching facility, we have already created a nine lesson course for beginners brass on line, but we wish to develop many more interesting courses online, this has two main benefits, it can reinforce teaching we already undertake, as well as being a unique, free resource for geographically isolated elearning this is an area we feel can be developed into a valuable resource for many people to use and into 2013 we will be looking to develop partnerships which will strengthen our ability to deliver more online courses.

Our Youth Action Group is primarily focused on leading the direction of new Starmakerz projects and whilst this is important the directors are also looking at other areas of need in the community, one of these we will be focused on in 2013 is LAC, as resources for this sector, as for many is being widely cut. Through one of our directors being a foster carer it has given us a unique insight and contact with the professional agencies dealing within this area, and has flagged up a desperate need for art and crafts and other stimulating endeavours to focus and fulfill young people in the group, and we are looking at innovative ways to inspire and excite them.

Confidence through creativity is always our goal, every child matters and deserves to have inspiration at hand to them, many young people who come through our door are lacking focus, positivity and enthusiasm for life in general, the changes that can be made to a young persons outlook after just half an hour is amazing, and our belief that we can make a difference is constantly being reinforced by the growth and development of our participants, we acknowledge not everyone coming to us is going to be the next international artist but the gains in confidence do ripple out into their wider lives and do lift expectations and create better outcomes for individuals.

As always, we strive to grow, become more widely renowned in our field, and to our peers. Seek out new opportunities and find cold spots to warm up! We have started to work with STASH a local drug dependency organisation to offer support and education to drug users who have been rehabilitated and we feel outreaching to services like this can help all involved to strengthen the path to recovery, independence and self belief in people.

Volunteering is a massive part in what we do, we can only offer some of our lessons and projects because of our volunteers helping and assisting us. We believe volunteering is a good thing to do and we like to encourage some of our older participants to become mentors for our newer members, this we feel is a positive cycle of learning and giving which is most rewarding for all concerned.

Looking further into the future our five year plan is to fully develop our Middlesbrough base, then look into setting up satellite groups and courses in around other suburban area of Tees Valley, possibly Stockton on Tees and Hartlepool, we need to build a pool of teachers and volunteers to facilitate this as the directors currently spend the majority of time on funding and outreach, as oppose to frontline delivery we do not see this as changing significantly in the future as funding is essential to continuing with this project.