

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIO31690  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 100348

**Drake Music Project (Northern Ireland)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2024**

**MJM McLOUGHLIN LLP**  
Chartered Accountant  
54 LISBURN ROAD  
BELFAST  
BT9 6AF

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# Drake Music Project (Northern Ireland)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

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# Drake Music Project (Northern Ireland)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024

#### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Drake Music Project (Northern Ireland)

**Charity registration number** 100348

**Company registration number** NIO31690

**Principal office and registered office** Unit 5c RDC Win Business Park  
Canal Quay  
Newry  
County Down  
BT35 6PH  
N. Ireland

#### The trustees

Mr I Boylan  
Ms P Forker  
Ms E Farrell  
Ms M Doyle

**Accountants** MJM McLOUGHLIN LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
54 LISBURN ROAD  
BELFAST  
BT9 6AF

# **Drake Music Project (Northern Ireland)**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF DRAKE MUSIC PROJECT (NORTHERN IRELAND)**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

#### **Structure, governance and management**

During the twelve months of this financial year, we at Drake Music Project Northern Ireland have witnessed a consolidation of our tutor team, an increase in participant numbers and requests for workshop delivery, and also an increase in our research impact, coupled with international interest in our work.

We have been involved in weekly workshops, taster sessions, short series, and year long composition workshops, delivered by a strong and professional team of assistive technology tutors and musicians, very well consolidated after the negative impact that Covid 19 had on the numbers of tutors we had available on our roster for activities.

We have delivered workshops, ensemble tasters, performances and sharing sessions across Northern Ireland. While our work was concentrated on our studio spaces in Newry and Belfast, we have delivered many more activities to residential centres in their own bespoke spaces, with equipment travelling with tutors from the North Coast to the heart to Co Armagh for scheduled workshops.

With demand for workshops for teenagers with mental health, physical disabilities and also autism increasing year on year, this year we also have witnessed an increased demand for workshops and developmental classes for people with acquired brain injury, and we are very energised with the increase in demand, and requests for longer and longer series of workshop sessions with Brain Injury Matters and also The Brain Injury Trust, and also with Headway, as we have staged workshop series across Northern Ireland in daycentres and activity centres for these very focused organisations.

An invitation to present our work in conference and seminar sessions in Bengaluru India has witnessed an increase in interest for our research and outcomes across Europe and into the USA. Our CEO presented to audiences in excess of 750 people, all with interests in empowerment, equality and inclusion. We continue to develop these partnerships and are working in research with the Psychology Dept of Christ (deemed to be) University Bengaluru to audit and measure the impact and outcomes of our composition and performance workshops for people with physical and learning disabilities. We are working in conjunction with this partner for an approach to the British Council to bring access technology and learning to groups in the Bengaluru district, planning to plant seeds for future access workshops and inclusive opportunities for people with all natures of different abilities in the region and beyond.

Fundraising for this year has decreased in terms of direct income, as we, like so many others in the charity sector have had to deal with a decrease in available funds post Covid. We have been able to use some of our funds carried forward from the previous year, for continued delivery and expansion of our services. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, BBC Children in Need, the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, the Radcliffe Trust and our many funders and supporters for their funds, encouragement and support for our work throughout this year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire artistic team of associate tutors at Drake Music NI, all our senior associates, Level 1 tutors and our regular inducted new trainees for their very professional delivery and enthusiasm for inclusion and empowerment in our music sessions and workshops. We are very grateful to all who continue to offer their availability to the Project, and we need and will continue to build capacity in our associate team in order to cope with the increase in demand for our services.

## **Drake Music Project (Northern Ireland)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF DRAKE MUSIC PROJECT (NORTHERN IRELAND)**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

Lastly, I want to extend my gratitude to the Trustees of Drake and its CEO, Dr. Michelle McCormack, for her unwavering dedication, perseverance, integrity, and exceptional abilities. Her leadership has been vital in advancing our Associate Musicians and overcoming the challenges posed by Covid. This has enabled our musicians with disabilities to engage in music making, fostering their integration into creative communities and enriching their social, work, and home lives.

The trustees' annual report and the strategic report were approved on 10th October 2024 and signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Boylan', written in a cursive style.

Mr Ian Boylan

Chair of the Board of Trustees

Drake Music Project Northern Ireland