

# ***ANNUAL REPORT***

## ***All Set Project***

***2023-2024***

Registered with the Charity Commission  
for N. Ireland NIC102212

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## To our Stockholders

The All Set project is an inspirational offering, enabling young people to work with renowned professional artists promoting the traditional arts. The project continues to grow each year, using the strength of developing community links with Ashgrove Community Centre, Maghery Community Hall, ABC District Council, Arts Centres and other cultural organisations.

*Our mission is 'to widen the access and participation in the traditional arts'. We are dedicated to promoting the traditional art forms of dance, music & song, via the outreach programme – Fasttrad.*

*Our commitment is 'to build a reputation in developing the interest amongst our clients as a unique, reliable, professional and attractive service reaching out to all'.*

## Objectives and Activities

### Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in the constitution.

*'The association endeavours to advance education, understanding and appreciation of Irish and Scottish traditional music and dance among people of all ages but in particularly the young in N. Ireland'.*

### Statement of Compliance

'In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries'.

The All Set Project recognises the Arts Council N.I. as its principal funder and realises that other financial support may not be achievable without the full backing of the Arts Council. The All Set Project delivers a front-line service via its outreach programme – FastTrad. The All Set Project relies on grants and the income from fees to cover its operating costs. In setting the level of fees, the trustees give careful consideration to the accessibility of the Fasttrad programme for those on low incomes, families plus pensioners.

### Review of the past year

From Apr. 2023 to Mar. 2024 – FastTrad classes took place in Ashgrove C.C. & Maghery C.H. The classes offered a variety of instrumental tuition to all from 6yrs to pensioners. The catchment area is mainly Portadown, Maghery, Birches, Gilford, Tandragee, Craigavon, Bleary attracting a cross-community representation.

All Set delivered a community relations project- Exploring Musical Traditions via Central Good Relations Programme. This enabled young people to explore the pipe band traditions alongside traditional music. The Halifax Foundation supported a traditional music project in 2 special schools; Ceara & Lisanally. A recording highlighted the engagement of children with profound disabilities participate in music, song, rhythm & dance. The 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the summer scheme took place in July 2023 with support from Esme Mitchell Foundation. A rural arts programme 'Together with Trad' supported by REAP, Arts Council brought the traditional arts to isolated communities. The programme had a positive impact on older people who were energised and uplifted through song, storytelling and music.

## Achievements

Based on 250 participants	% involved	no. activities	no. of participants
People with a physical impairment	16	64	40
Ethnic minorities	10	64	25
Deprived neighbourhoods	20	85	52
LGBT community			
Older people (aged 65+)	26	95	65
Children and young people (aged 0-24)	50	149	125
Offenders / ex-offenders			
Other (adults 25yrs-65yrs)	14	85	35

## FastTrad

The FastTrad outreach programme attracts a mixture of young and older students interested in learning a musical instrument. High quality tuition enabled both rural and urban communities to avail of weekly classes in tin whistle, flute, button accordion, guitar, mandolin, banjo, concertina, bodhran, harp, fiddle and pipes. The FastTrad programme engaged them physically, emotionally and intellectually.

Music instruction often presents financial barriers for low-income families; FastTrad classes are offered at an affordable rate encouraging all backgrounds to become involved. It also accommodates families who are unable to pay the term cost all at once enabling payment throughout the term. A number of students were able to attend classes during the year free of charge. FastTrad is dedicated to enriching lives through music education and performance.

Younger musicians were also involved in assisting tutors at FastTrad classes; some did this through their school schemes i.e. Duke of Edinburgh & Gaisce.



St Patrick's Performance - Mar. 2024 in Rushmere Centre.

The positive effects of engagement in music enables personal and social development due to the enjoyable and rewarding experience of learning an instrument. The quality of the teaching is central to this. We would like to thank all of the artists who delivered the FastTrad music classes: Sean Breen, Ian Carmichael, Mary Fox, Paul McKernan, Patricia Vallely, Gerard Thompson, Emer O'Hara, Caroline Hendron, Jenifer Shiels, Cian McGrory, Marty Breen. Plus the artists who delivered workshops & performances – Len Graham, Lee Lawson, Deirdre Fox, Brenda Casey, Sinead Murphy, Antoin Fox, Nuala Kelly, Ronan Carmichael, Cian McGrory, Nuala Kelly, Shauna O'Keefe, Olive Austin and the younger budding musicians – Meabh Vallely, Analise Whyte, Shauna Carmichael, Catriona Carmichael, Orla McAtamney and Clodagh Lavery.

### **The All Set Project Evaluation Criteria**

The All Set Project delivered successful programmes adhering to its annual marketing plan.

- All Set aims for artistic excellence, providing the means to promote, support and achieve it in a way that benefits the public
- Significant public benefit and broad accessibility based on a sound understanding of all served by the project is clear, measured, and documented. All Set is responsive to the needs of both local and regional communities, actively involving communities in project planning and development, broadening accessibility by identifying and removing barriers, building broader and more diverse audiences with deeper arts experience, encouraging the arts as an integral part of community life.
- Adequate and appropriate planning, including governance, management and human resources as they relate to the project, ensuring accountability.
- Appropriateness of the project budget. All Set ensures sound finances are in place, full accountability for programmes, and a credible and responsible project budget that shows appropriate allocation of resources and appropriate compensation to artists.
- Commitment to traditional arts education and to providing opportunities for meaningful arts learning. All Set delivers specific arts education activities and efforts are consistently made to educate audiences and patrons about the artistic activities All Set provides.
- Commitment to raising public understanding and appreciation of the traditional arts and artists and advocating support. All Set is committed to educating the public, and public bodies, on the value of the traditional arts.
- Leadership in meeting funding priorities and developing and sharing models and best practices. All Set will endeavour to accomplish significant highlights and to share the success of achievements.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

We are a small, highly skilled and enthusiastic team, which has an excellent track record in innovative programmes and overseeing delivery. We enforce the Arts Council's belief that 'art has the ability to reach across boundaries, inspiring, teaching and bringing people together'. The Board of Trustees in its supportive role oversees the running of the organisation. All Set Project would like to thank the volunteers who assist at events throughout the year.

We believe that sharing music with others enhances lives by offering people the best experience and means to express their musical passions. FastTrad is playing a part in enriching lives with the art of music. We endeavour to attract new students over the next few years and develop the interest of traditional music to a wider audience.

The longterm use of the Ashgrove C.C. for the FastTrad programme is very secure going forward and ABC Council are extremely supportive of the FastTrad programme. We thank the staff at the Ashgrove for their continued support.

Alongside FastTrad, other programmes in Special Schools took place plus a community relations programme.

The focus will be on the promotion of FastTrad and we will continue to operate in a safe environment for all students and artists. FastTrad will continue to operate on Mon&Tues at Ashgrove Community Centre and on Thurs. at Maghery Community Hall. Funding opportunities will be explored for care home programmes and rural music programmes. We will continue to expand FastTrad in Portadown and hinterland areas over the next few years. A new link involving Portadown migrant group will be developed. We will seek funding for future summer schemes which can involve our young people enabling them to gain self-confidence and self-esteem through music plus enable older adults to socialize through music.

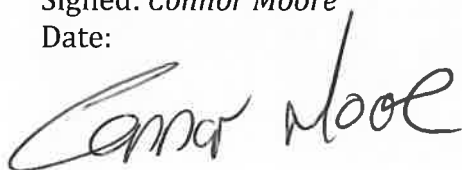
Alongside delivering traditional arts programmes, we will organise a number of fundraising events which can assist in building up reserves for All Set Project.

A special thanks to all the personnel involved in the delivery of FastTrad and the other music programmes. We are very positive and optimistic of the many future opportunities for the organisation and we will assist in making these possible.

Connor Moore Chair

Signed: *Connor Moore*

Date:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Connor Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'C'.

# Financial Summary

## Al Set Cross Cultural Project

### Detailed profit and loss account for the year ended 31 March 2024

All Set Cross Cultural Project

Profit And Loss Account - Expenses Analysis

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024
	£
Expenses	
Accountancy fees	888.00
Artist Fees - CGRF	1,920.00
Artist Fees - Community Foundation	572.00
Artist Fees - Rural Engagement Arts Programme	5,022.00
Artists Fees - FastTrad	17,792.00
Bank charges	53.00
Halifax Foundation Project - Restricted Funding	3,421.00
Instruments	181.00
Insurance	611.00
Manager Fees	19,141.00
Rent	3,932.00
Repairs and maintenance	980.00
Stationery and printing	638.00
Subscriptions	418.00
Summer Scheme	5,670.00
Tanzania School Fundraiser	6,296.00
Telephone and fax	404.00
Trophies	94.00
Wages and salaries	7,268.00
Total Expenses	<u>75,301.00</u>

All Set Cross Cultural Project

Profit And Loss Account - Income Analysis

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024
	£
Income	
ABC Grant Refund	= 642.00
Arts Council Lottery Fund - Restricted Funding	38,858.00
Clearway Summer School Sponsorship	600.00
ESME Mitchell Fund	2,000.00
Fast Trad Enrolments	21,382.00
Fast Trad Shirt Sponsorship	450.00
Rushmere Traders Performance	850.00
Tanzania Fundrasier	6,238.00
Tap Instrument Hire	160.00
TEO CGRF Funding	1,390.00
Total Income	<u><u>71,286.00</u></u>

## Charity Detail

Registered with the Charity Commission for N. Ireland NIC 102212 in June. 2015

## Trustees

The following persons served as board members and trustees during the year Apr 2022-Mar 2023:

### List of Office Bearers & Board Members

Chair - Connor Moore	re-elected Dec. 2022 – member since Oct. 2019
Secretary - Naoimi Allen	re-elected Dec. 2021 – member since June 2017
Treasurer - Dorothy McGarrity	re-elected Dec. 2022 – member since Apr. 2019

### Board Members

Ashley Farrell	re-elected Dec. 2021 – member since June 2016
Siobhan Quinn	re-elected Dec. 2021 – member since June 2013
Aileen Litter	re-elected Dec. 2021 - member since Oct 2018
Danielle McKernan	elected Dec. 2021- member – Dec. 2021
Jen Sheils	elected Dec. 2022 – member – Dec. 2022
Keith Burton	elected Jan. 2024 – new member – Jan. 2024

## Structure, governance and management

### Description

Type of governing document..... Constitution re-adopted 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2014

How the charity is constituted..... Accepted as a Charity by HM revenue & customs (June 2015)

Trustee selection methods..... Proposed by a full member & seconded by another at AGM or when required at Board Meetings. A 3yr rotation in place.

### Policies & Procedures adopted for induction & training

Child Protection Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Health & Safety, Code of Good Practice & Good Conduct, Financial Procedures Policy, Procurement Policy, Safeguarding of Children & Young People Policy, Covid Policy.

### Organisational Structure and any wider network with which the charity works

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees - Chair, Secretary, Treasurer plus Members. A financial sub-committee is also in place. An admin. officer is responsible for the day to day operation of the charity undertaking 10 hrs/wk.

The artistic delivery of all programmes is determined by the charity and is the responsibility of the project manager. The project manager has over 22 years' experience plus is a specialist in traditional dance & music plus facilitation, teaching & performance. Artists on the Approved List of Artists are hired to provide their services as required.

The charity delivers:

- a. Fasttrad outreach programme in Portadown providing music tuition at weekly classes
- b. Music performances within the local communities plus at All-Ireland Fleadhs
- c. Workshops covering song, dance and music

### Public Benefit Statement

The charity trustees have complied with their duty to have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.