



THE DREAM MACHINE

ANNUAL REPORT 21-22

Dream Machine SCIO

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Message From The Chair

At the Dream Machine, we strive toward positive change in our world. Our refusal to accept the status quo brings about our desire for radical change from the bottom up. The world of 2022 has been punctuated by a pandemic and then war. Such global events pile on top of the existing problems Glasgow already faces that loom over our everyday lives, like the cost of living, mental health pandemic and addiction crisis. These issues have caused the people of Glasgow's general wellbeing to deteriorate alarmingly. We at the Dream Machine propose taking this challenge on by protecting wellbeing and helping Glasgow relax, play and create. We will do this by giving Glasgow's communities a space that allows people of all creeds, faiths, sexes, sexualities, races and social-economic classes to meet and bond over creativity and enjoyment—allowing for creative expression for all within an accepting, safe and welcoming social setting.

Message From The Chair

We know how important creativity is for humanity to thrive. It is not a luxury but a survival necessity. We endeavour to democratise it in various forms at a time when funds for creative industries have been repeatedly cut, even though these industries are the fastest growing within our economy. We at the Dream Machine know how important it is to arm ourselves with creativity when addressing the complex problems of modern life. We hope to foster this powerful tool that creative problem solving can be within the individuals of our communities. In doing this, we will push creativity forward using our Dream Room and venue space. Our unique sensory room the Dream Room allows unlimited potential digital outcomes for its communities within a fully accessible environment while our renovated venue space will allow for performances to continue again. We look forward to making meaningful progress in achieving our goals over the next year by starting to support our communities once more.

Charity Trustees

Skylar Ridewood: His background is within the visual arts, design and research. He is responsible for project management and hiring out of our venues at the Dream Machine. He hopes to use my role to share and nurture creativity in all its forms throughout Glasgow and Scotland.

Matt Lygate: Has been a creative entrepreneur, musician, artist, and events and social project manager for over a decade across Glasgow. Six years ago, he transformed a derelict building in the Barras into a thriving community hub. Today The Dream Machine and The Space are both growing stronger despite the challenges of Covid. With his roots in DJing, the electronic music scene and the third sector community in Glasgow, he is a pioneer in using music, art and creativity in their truest form as social tools for transformation, integration and actualisation.

Stepan Zatkulak: Has been an active member and volunteer for Dream Machine since its inception over 8 years ago. Stepan has a such a wide array of skill sets in DIY, building management and design, he has been an incredible asset for the projects over the years and a foundational member of the team.

Background

Dream Machine SCIO has just reached its one year anniversary and what a year it has been. Formed in partnership with its sister organisation Dream Machine CIC, the new charity was formed specifically to focus on how to support the community through creativity using our founding principles of helping more people 'Relax, Play and Create'. The organisations work in sync with the CIC focusing on managing the physical space we rent, paying bills, maintenance and repairs as well as running the technology that powers the Sensory Immersion 'Dream Room' as well as any profit making activities while the newly formed SCIO charity can focus solely on developing strategic projects that benefit the community in profound and unique ways. The newly formed board of trustees with its wide reaching expertise inherit the surplus made by the CIC from the previous year and have a mandate to use those resources to provide maximum value to the community, helping the most amount of those in need to overcome stress, anxiety, isolation and the effects of poverty through our creative programs. This model allows the charity to really specialise in project delivery without having to be bogged down by building maintenance and so on.

Background

The SCIO and the sister CIC both reside at 257 London Road where we have built The Dream Room and Dream Lab, Glasgow's first and only fully immersive sensory space with 4 sided projections, ambisonic sound, customisable lighting, padded and heated flooring as well as break out workshop spaces. This unique space formed the centre of our planned activities.



Structure, governance and management

Dream Machine SCIO has a constitutional document registered and approved by OSCR, (the Office of the Charity Regulator in Scotland).

1. The organisation's purposes are:

1. to prevent and relieve poverty through

- tackling its underlying causes - addressing self-esteem, mental health issues and social isolation by providing a space to relax, play and create; and
- providing support and training to improve skills and increase employability;

2. to advance education by facilitating free certified learning courses, a range of workshops, mentor programs as well as incubators and providing resources for self-directed learning;

3. to advance the arts and culture by

- Providing a platform for performances and exhibitions by artists and musicians, bringing the arts to a new audience, and providing accessible classes in the arts and music for the community; and
- Providing facilities and platforms especially for the sensory arts and AV technologies pushing the forefront of new multimedia and giving space for performances and exhibitions that don't fit stereotypical venues;

Structure, governance and management

4. To promote equality and diversity by

- helping to rebalance the music and arts industry through arts and training programs specifically aimed at, run by and platforming more women, people of colour and people with different abilities; and
- Advocating for those not represented equally in the music and arts industry by promoting performances and exhibits by people who face more barriers to access due to their gender, ethnicity or disability.

5. to advance citizenship or community development by engaging with individuals and groups in the community to identify and address need for activities whilst promoting and providing opportunities for volunteering activities, increasing social inclusion and active citizenship; and

6. the advancement of health through

A program working with academics in specialist fields to research the impact and efficacy of art therapies, music programs, relaxation of stress and more.

Delivering assessed and researched programs of activities that continually improve and add literature to the scientific understanding of health and wellbeing and its relations to the arts and music;

7. to advance and promote other similar charitable activities and purposes as the trustees deem appropriate.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

The charity wishes to have as diverse a board as possible with as much representation of the communities it serves as possible. The board currently consists of 5 persons all of whom have engaged with Dream Machine CIC over the years in one way or another. We wish to expand and diversify the board particularly in terms of gender and ethnicity especially as projects are up and running. However as a small startup charity we are currently focused on building a strong foundation with rigorous checks and balances in place to ensure best practice from the outset. We believe once the charity has more exposure and is working with more groups and individuals, we will be able to build a growing and more diverse board. We also plan to launch an advisory board with even broader representation. This advisory board will be populated by members of the actual communities we serve and will act as the driving force for new innovation, checking we are delivering what we intend and helping the people that we can as efficiently as possible.

Objectives and Activities

Our initial year was a period of research and development with a focus of establishing a strong foundation upon which to build our initial funded projects.

- Development

We have been lucky enough to work with ... who consulted and advised us on building our business plan for the coming years ahead. Through that work we have developed our Trustee recruitment process, Policies and Procedures, and a plan for our initial projects.

- Board Recruitment

Once the founding members had developed their recruitment process and identified what skill sets we were looking for, we launched our initial board recruitment drive which successfully found 3 new potential board members.

- Fundraising

With our initial launch project decided, we have begun the hard work of fundraising for it. However we have some fantastic support to audit our applications and we have begun reaching out to funders for meetings to discuss what is possible and likely in our first year and application. With this in mind we have developed a strong fundraising strategy.

Financial Review

(Please see appendices at the end of this report with Independently Examined accounts for the year).

Despite the many challenges brought by the effects of coronavirus pandemic and the current cost of living crisis, financially the charity has a strong head start thanks to the initial funding from its sister Dream Machine CIC organisation with an initial £28k startup grant. In our first year we have barely spent any of this as our focus has been initial setup and development. There is a consensus there is a need to hold onto reserves especially given the incredible volatility of the current world with energy prices soaring beyond belief and the general cost of survival increasing monthly.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

All reserves of the organisation are used to support the activities in the community. We have reviewed our reserved and designated funds position to be prudent and better reflect the financial position of the SCIO:

A baseline £10k of reserves has been decided upon for now as a necessary cushion given the economic climate. A further fund of £10k is held in reserve as saving for a potential new property that may be required in the future.

Details of any deficit

The charity has no deficits.

Future plans

Our initial funded project will focus on working with three third sector partners to deliver a series of sensory immersive experiences for their client groups. Working with refugee children, young people with sensory impairments as well as the elderly, we will co-develop our initial offerings of sensory immersion experiences in our Dream Room to cater for the specific needs of each group to help them relax, play and create more.

On top of this we plan to:

- Hire a new communications and networking manager
- Run a Dream Machine Relaunch festival
- Develop a series of regular public events open all year round
- Further develop our connections with the community both directly and through other organisations
- Expand and reinforce our volunteer and intern programs offering accredited programs
- Continue our search for a new building we may be able to buy securing our future stability
- Develop a mobile Dream Machine that can bring some of the elements of sensory immersion experiences to those who cannot come to us e.g. residents in a care home.

SIGNED



Chairperson

11/15/2022

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THE DREAM MACHINE

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RELAX

Expand your world with the Dream Machine

PLAY

CREATE
