



OCTOBER 2022 - APRIL 2023

MINISTRY OF LIFE EDUCATION CIC

# OUTREACH REPORT



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# **MOL EDUCATION CIC - OUTREACH REPORT 2022/2023**

**B**elow is a description of the activities that the company took part in as part of our outreach programme. These activities were undertaken alongside our standard provision of 4x Full time courses per year in Music and Media and our weekly Monday drop in Health, Wellbeing and Artist Development sessions. We have also been conducting the Levels Up Artist Development Programme in conjunction with Youth Music, that is due to be launched in April 2023.

Each academic year we deliver 2 x BTEC Level 1 Diplomas in music and media and 1x BTEC Level 2 in Music Industry Skills. These 3 courses are delivered from our classrooms in Eastmoors Youth Centre, Splott. We also deliver 1x BTEC Level 1 Diploma in Gaming and Youtube Content Creation from Butetown Pavilion, Cardiff. All these courses are full time with over 596 guided learning hours.

We are on target to deliver over 70 qualifications in this academic year, over 4 full time courses. Our artist development programme is being launched later on in the year, alongside our shipping container studio project. We are still on the hunt for a building to create a music and media college.



## **Summary**

- Wellbeing and Artist Development sessions - 346 attendances, 66 different young people (6 month snapshot) An increase of 97% from the previous 6 month period.
- Continuation of in house occupational therapy service in partnership with Family Pathway.
- Introduction of essential skills sessions for all students on role.
- Introduction of Breakfast Club and Food Fridays.

We would like to thank our sponsors and our partners, namely, Cardiff and Vale College, The National Lottery Community Fund, Youth Music, WCVA, Ministry Of Life Youth Services CIC, Cardiff Youth Service and Cardiff Council for the support.

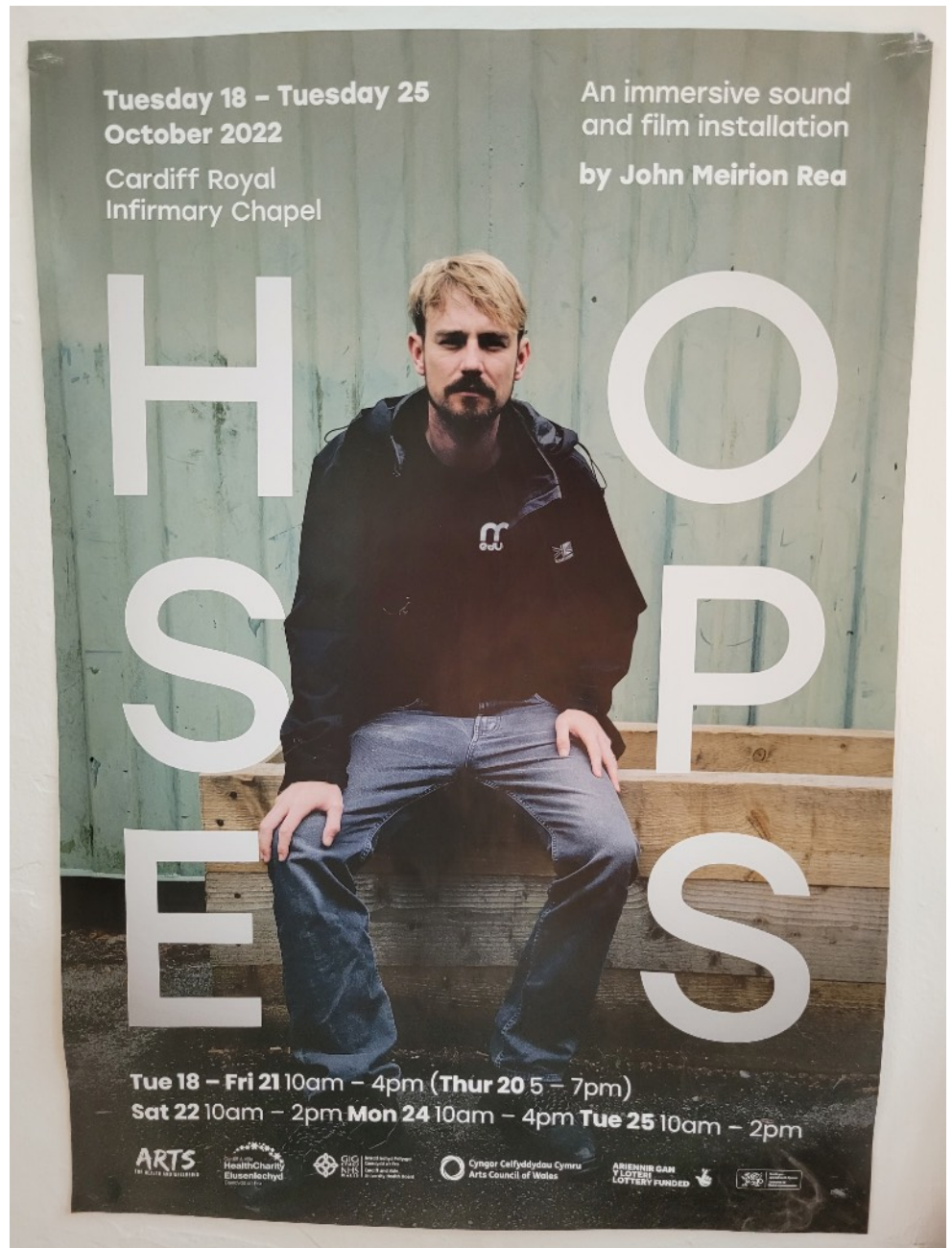


### **Activities Undertaken**

- Visa Meeting - In partnership with Family Pathway we set about tackling the difficult process of trying to obtain a visa for one of our students, who had been waiting for over 2 years. As a result of many phone calls, emails and contacting various help agencies we were able to obtain the visa and our young person was able to get a job to help his family financially.
- Youth Music Awards - As a result of our Levelz Up Artist Development Programme, that is funded by Youth Music, 2 of our project participants were nominated for national awards. We attended the Awards Ceremony in London and although they did not win, it was a wonderful and inspiring event and something that we and our young people are very proud of.
- Music Video Shoot - A music video shoot was organised and involved 5x young people as part of the production team. This involved lighting, makeup, acting, set design and handling live animals. The project was an immense success and the

young people enjoyed being part of a professional production and learned many transferable skills.

- Hospes Art Installation - A local artist called John Rea, was commissioned to create an art installation celebrating the local Cardiff Royal Infirmary and its surrounding areas. He chose to do a piece on our organisation, which included interviews and videos of 6 of our project participants. The installation was then displayed in Cardiff Royal Infirmary and we were invited to the launch. We attended with around 20 young people, who all really enjoyed seeing themselves and their peers in the installation.



- St Davids Hall Trip - CMC - We conducted a trip, along with 7 young people to view the venue for Cardiff Music Conference. The trip was a great success and the young people were able to ask questions about the suitability of the venue for the youth led music conference.
- Meeting with Huw Thomas at County Hall and Local Surgery - Our business development officer, Zippy, met with Huw Thomas (Leader of Cardiff Council, councillor for Splott) about the possibility of us obtaining a building from the

council to create a music and media college for young people in the city. The meeting was extremely positive and he gave his full support for the project. The project is ongoing and we are in communications with the council to find us a suitable venue.

- **Benefits Assistance - Home Visits, Money Advice Service and Job Centre Meetings -** One of our students and their family were going through severe poverty due to disability and not being on the right benefits. MOL education was able to take them shopping on multiple occasions to make sure that they had food to survive. MOL also put money on their gas and electric meters to allow them to get through to their next payment date. We took them to the benefits advice service, food banks, did multiple home visits and helped them to apply for additional benefits. The help is still ongoing.



- **Bowling and Laser Tag trip -** We took 2 groups, totalling 25 young people for a Christmas trip to bowling and Laser tag. The trips were a lot of fun and great bonds

were made between the students and the staff. It was a great way to celebrate Christmas together and everybody enjoyed themselves immensely.

- Christmas Dinner 30 people - To celebrate Christmas we decided to cook Christmas dinner for our students, staff and members of the youth work team that work in our building. The students wrote a shopping list, bought all the ingredients and then proceeded to cook dinner for 30 people. It was an amazing bonding experience and a chance for us all to sit and eat together as a family.



- Music Video Shoot - MOL Education helped to support a project by some of our young people, in which they filmed a professional music video. We volunteered our time and equipment to make the production happen and the project was deemed as a great success.

- Girls I Rate - Get Heard Competition - 2 of our project participants applied to a competition called Get Heard, which aims to aim a spotlight on females of

underground music. We created 2 videos for the artists to enter into the competition and both were featured on the site as a result of their entries.

- Bright Spark Awards Ceremony City Hall - We attended the Bright Sparks Awards Ceremony in City Hall and provided music for the event.
- Meeting with Youth Music - We met with Aja, from Youth Music to discuss the upcoming Levelz Up 2 Project and the success of the last Project. Youth Music have pledged to continue to support the work that we do with regard to artist development and giving people with barriers to entering the music industry funding, performance opportunities and mentorship.
- Presentation to Cardiff Music Board - We were invited to give a talk to the Cardiff Music Board about what we do, with a view to a representative from our organisation joining the board so that we can be involved in shaping music provision in the city.





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- Staff Training - Individual Learning Plan Training / EBS Training - We attended training at CAVC to up-skill in creating bespoke individual learning plans for our students and also EBS training so that the data that we keep on students can be shared with the college to improve our processes.
- CAVC Awards Ceremony - Winning Business Partner of the Year Award - MOL Education were invited to a prestigious awards ceremony at CAVC. This year marks our 10 year anniversary of our partnership with CAVC. We won the award for Business Partner Of The Year 2022.
- Meeting with Media Academy Cardiff - Donating Electronic White Boards - We met with Media Academy Cardiff to discuss future collaborative work. We then donated them 7 interactive whiteboards for their new teaching facility.



- Into Work Christmas Event - We provided music and entertainment for the Into Work Christmas Party and got our young musician volunteers to perform.



- 2x African Drumming Workshops - We booked and facilitated 2x African Drumming Workshops with The Successors of the Mandingue. This was part of our Exploring Music Module.
- Ukulele Workshop - We booked and facilitated a Ukulele workshop for our students as part of their Exploring Music Module.
- Artist Development Project - In partnership with Gugugang Records and TAB Media we supported and facilitated a artists development project, which took place at Eastmoors Youth Centre over the course of 3 months.
- Meeting with Arts Council Wales - We met with the Arts Council Wales Grants Officer to discuss the possibility of them funding the upcoming Cardiff Music Conference 2023. We completed the funding proposal and were awarded £7,400 towards the costs of the event at St Davids Hall in Cardiff.



- Beatbox Workshop - We booked and facilitated a Beatboxing Workshop with Beatbox Fozy, who is a world renowned beatboxer. This was organised as part of the students Exploring Music Module.
- Gamelan Workshop at St Davids Hall - We booked and organised a trip to St Davids Hall to play an ancient Indonesian instrument called a Gamelan. It is possible for 20 people to play the instrument at the same time and the trip was very successful. It meant that the students got to go to a prestigious venue and play on equipment that they would not otherwise had the chance to.
- Music Video Shoot - MOL Education volunteered in the production of a high quality music video production in collaboration with Gugugang Records and TAB Media, involving multiple members of our current cohort of students.
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- Immersed Festival - We attended Immersed Festival in Tramshed Cardiff, which is organised by The University Of South Wales. 4 of our young performers performed to a crowd at the festival and gained valuable contacts and experience in a professional environment.
- Gugugang Records Launch Party - We attended and provided music for the Gugugang Records Launch Party, in which 4 of our young people performed.
- WMC Souls Of Mischief Gig - We were asked by the Wales Millennium Centre to provide acts to support the world famous Souls Of Mischief Gig. We provided 3 acts and they received paid positions on the roster as part of the project. We sent our stuff along to support the artsits.
- T Shirt Printing Training - One of our staff members took part in training put on by Cardiff Youth Service in T Shirt Printing. They learned vinyl cutting and sublimation techniques and as a result the organisation has invested in its own t shirt printing equipment and has since been teaching young people how to create their own deigns and products.

- Cardiff Music Strategy Meeting - A representative from our organisation attended the Cardiff Music Strategy Meeting at Clwb Ifor Bach. The meeting was organised by Cardiff Council to get opinions from industry professionals and stakeholders about how to formulate the Cardiff Music Strategy. We attended to speak up for and champion youth music in Cardiff.
- Levelz Up 2 - We have been successfully awarded funding from Youth Music to run the second round of the successful Levelz Up Project. The project invites application from Young Musicians from South Wales, who have an existing music portfolio to apply for £3,500 worth of funding, a music video and mentoring. The project will choose 4 participants for this round of funding and the project is being launched later on in the year.
- Visa and Housing Support - Speakeasy Law Firm - One of our former students was facing serious issues with housing and immigration issues. We attended meeting with Family Pathway and The Speakeasy law Firm so that he could receive support and guidance.
- Youth Action Group Meeting - MOL Education attended the Cardiff South West Youth action Group Meeting. We took an active roll in the meeting, developing new relationships and solidifying old ones with various third sector and statutory organisation about how we can help young people in the locality.





- Youth Service Gaming Students Presentation - We attended a meeting at Ely Youth Centre to talk to Gaming students about the possibility of joining our full time course as part of the progression routes. We managed to recruit 2 students on to our full time course which began in April.
- Shipping Container Studio Project - As part of our core lottery funding we have developed a plan to install a shipping container in the grounds of Eastmoors Youth Centre and turn it into a top of the range music studio. The aim is to improve the quality of our production, inspire young people with a state of the art space and equipment so that they can make high quality content. The project has £15,000 budget provided but the lottery and is due to commence in August 2023. The project had to be authorised by the council and also have a 3D invective model built to showcase the facilities that have been planned.
- Eastmoors Internet - The internet connection in Eastmoors Youth Centre is poor and in need of upgrading. MOL Education have been fighting hard behind the scenes to

lobby the council into installing fibre broadband into the centre to bring it up inline with other council buildings in the city. As the centre is designated a educational centre and there are a large number of music and media based service users we felt it was a subject of high importance. We are pleased to say that the council have listened and have scheduled in the works to be started in August to install a new internet connection in the building.



- Llanrumney Hall - Easter Music Workshops - Over the Easter Holidays, MOL Educations, CAVC and Llanrumney Hall collaborated on a project, which provided music workshops to young people. The project was very successful and well attended and we will be looking to run a summer project to replicate this later on in the year.
- Purchase of New Equipment - We have been lucky enough to receive £15,000 worth of equipment funding from the National Lottery. We managed to upgrade all of our equipment and invest in new equipment that we can use to enhance the teaching

and learning experience of the young people. This investment has allowed us to upgrade our sound system for outdoor gigs, get our Party Bus wrapped, purchase DJ Controllers and purchase new instruments and software that we would not have otherwise been able to afford. This has made a huge difference to the quality of delivery and opportunities for young people.

- Hired a Part Time Singing Tutor - We met a young person through our open access youth provision session that we run weekly. She was so good that we hired her as our new signing tutor. She is currently in training and is looking at doing a PGCE or music degree in September to up-skill.



- Additional Learning Needs Code Of Practice Training - We attended a session on the ALN Code Of practice. We have a high proportion of learners who have ALN and it was important for us t learn more about the legislation and codes of practice and keep min line with the current processes.



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- Cardiff Youth Service Youth Mentor Partnership - Cardiff Youth Service have Youth Mentors placed in all the schools across Cardiff and use a tier system to identify learners who are at risk of disengaging from education post 16. Our partnership with the Youth Mentors has grown year by year to the point now in which they are recruiting a high percentage of our learners for us. This means that we can concentrate on delivery rather than recruitment and then we are able to target the learners who are most at need. The partnership has been growing from Strength to strength.
- Safe Foundation Barista Training & Global Citizenship - MOL Education invited The Safe Foundation, a local charity, to come down and deliver Barista and Global Citizenship Training to our cohort of students. 8 students completed the training and were awarded certificates.



## **Forward Looking Statements**

MOL Education CIC is pleased to have secured 4 years worth of funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to support its educational activities. We have also strengthened our partnership with Cardiff and Vale College as one of our biggest and longest partners and sponsors. We have also been pledged core funding for 3 years by Youth Music, who have also funded our artist development programme.

We have the highest number of staff, most amount of up to date equipment, most courses, most outreach projects and most students enrolled on courses than we have ever had. Having the financial backing of the lottery has revolutionised the business within the first 6 months of the award. We look forward to the next 3 years and an ongoing relationship so that we can help more and more young people in Cardiff as the business grows.

Our aim is to build our own college. This will allow us to double our capacity and have a home for the organisation in which we can implement our own style, ideas and investment in facilities and projects. We are currently in talks to take over the lease on a plot of land and building in Llandaff Fields in the centre of Cardiff. If this ambitious plan goes ahead, which we are confident it will, then this will be a huge step forward for the organisation.

We are currently targeting Roath Library as a site to develop our school. The site has been dormant since 2015 and we have been in discussion with the council and the Heritage Lottery fund about the prospect of turning the historic building into a state of the art music and media school. Discussions are continuing as we look to realise our ambitions.

We will keep striving for excellence, growth, achievement and innovation to help the young people of Cardiff through the medium of diverse vocational education.

For more information or to contact us please contact:

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MOL Team

