



We support people of all ages in the Highlands develop confidence, friendship and skills through music and more

TRUSTEES REPORT 2023-24

Rod Shannon - Trustee

Rokzkool Academy (SCIO)

SC049455

www.rokzkoolacademy.org

WHO WE HELP

Young people and families in the Highlands

WHAT WE DO

Building confidence & life skills

HOW

Workshops, holiday clubs & community projects

WHERE

Various locations across the Highlands and Studio 58, Eastgate Centre,

We are a charity based in the Scottish Highlands with big ambitions to help everyone achieve their potential in life, whatever their circumstances or challenges. We aim to bring together all generations and all abilities to share their skills and life experiences.

Through a range of workshops, events, training programmes and community work, we strive to give everyone the motivation, enthusiasm and dedication to follow a path to their goals with a sense of pride and purpose.

Whilst music is at the heart of what we do, we adopt a holistic approach encompassing teamwork, communication, adaptability and leadership – skills crucial not only in creating beautiful melodies but also in navigating the intricate symphony of life.

OVERVIEW

- RokzKool Academy remains committed to cultivating personal growth and well-being through music, art and creativity. This year, we expanded our reach, strengthened our community ties, and achieved milestones in our support initiatives.
- Our programs are designed to empower participants with valuable skills while nurturing their mental health.
- Beyond skill development, we actively contribute to the community by running a number of initiatives to support local people including managing a food larder and supporting disadvantaged individuals.
- Throughout the years, we have partnered with diverse organizations, schools, and individuals so we can provide support at the point of need.
- The programs have positively impacted participants' well-being, confidence, social skills, and communication abilities.
- We were able to support many young people and their families this year through food deliveries, learning new skills and gaining experience through our programme of classes and events.



OUR CORE VALUES

1. Empowerment:

- We believe in the transformative power of music, art, and creativity to empower individuals to take control of their mental and physical well-being.

2. Inclusivity:

- We strive to create a welcoming and inclusive community that celebrates diversity and promotes equality for all individuals, regardless of background or ability.

3. Innovation:

- We are committed to exploring new and innovative ways to use music, art, and creativity as tools for promoting health and well-being.

4. Collaboration:

- We value collaboration and partnership with individuals, organizations, and communities to maximize the impact of our programs and initiatives.

5. Integrity:

- We uphold the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct in all aspects of our work, ensuring transparency and accountability to our stakeholders.

6. Compassion:

- We approach our work with compassion and empathy, recognizing the inherent value and dignity of every individual we serve.

7. Improvement:

- We strive for excellence in all that we do, continually seeking to improve our programs and services to better meet the needs of those we serve.

8. Sustainability:

- We are committed to sustainability, both in terms of our impact on the environment and our ability to support the long-term health and well-being of individuals and communities.

9. Resilience:

- We believe in the power of music, art, and creativity to foster resilience and strength in the face of adversity, helping individuals to overcome challenges and thrive.

10. Fun:

- We celebrate the inherent joy and beauty that music, art, and creativity bring to our lives, and seek to share that joy with others to enrich their lives.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

MARCH

- Merkinch Hall bustling with activities.
- Memorable trip to The Islands and Easter workshops at Phipps Hall.
- A fun outing to Nairn Beach.
- Community gardening projects flourished.
- Supported the Half Marathon by managing a water station.
- Delivered workshops at Holm Primary School.
- Provided a warm space for older ladies at Merkinch Hall.
- Special visit to Auchnagairn House. Saturday Club, volunteers, parents, students, siblings..

APRIL

- Hosted food and bingo sessions for older ladies. Twice weekly
- Organised Easter workshops and more outings.
- Delivered flowers to a care home, spreading joy.
- Managed a water station at the ETAPE event.
- Took ladies for pampering sessions at UHI, Hair and beauty, massage, Nail Salon.
- Received donations from Booker's with a dedicated squad.



SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

MAY

- Participated in the Smithton open day.
- Visited The Buzz Project in Fort William.
- Delivered food hygiene programs and music sessions at Glenurquhart High School.
- Celebrated receiving funds from the Big Lottery.
- Organised a bus trip for older ladies to Elgin. Shopping sight seeing and lunch .
- Community garden continued to thrive – captured stunning photos.

JUNE

- Acquired keys to our new Studio at Eastgate Shopping Centre.
- Participated in the opening of the Tree House project.
- Police Scotland and locality planning
- Enjoyed a day out at Nairn Beach.



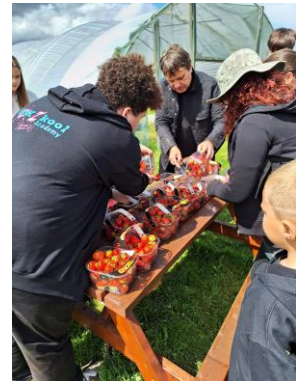
SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

JULY

- Hosted 5 weeks of workshops at Phipps Hall, engaging 25 kids daily.
- Organised trips, including one to Fairburn Activity Centre.
- Supported Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival with 76 volunteers to run our music sessions and support our Guardian Ambassador roles over the festival weekend.

AUGUST

- Performed music at Ballantore for Youth Highland.
- Provided music for an award ceremony at the Townhouse.
- Held a sale at Merkinch Hall and welcomed Lindsay Graham.



SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

SEPT

- Continued work on Studio 58, preparing for launch.
- Donated food boxes to Holm School.
- Played music on the community stage at Eastgate Shopping Centre.
- Returned to Phipps Hall for events and sessions.

OCT

- Supported the Full Marathon with a water station.
- Rescued and restored an old upright piano.



SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

NOV

- Participated in the Duchenne International Conference in Hinkley and jammed with Harry Hill.

DEC

- Began furnishing Studio 58.
- Distributed Christmas presents to local children.
- Hosted a Christmas special at Phipps Hall.
- Collected and distributed fresh vegetables to local families.



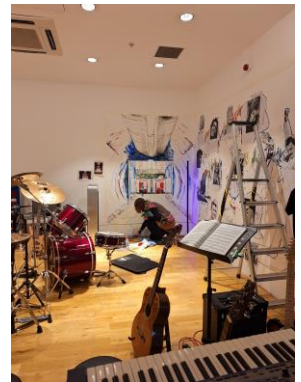
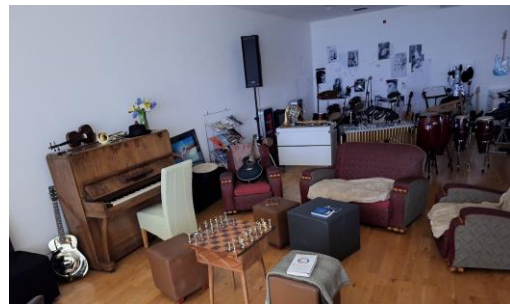
SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

JAN

- Held our first meeting in Studio 58.
- Delivered food to the Fort William Food Bank.

FEB

- Zoe began painting a mural on Studio 58 walls.
- Welcomed visitors from Stratherrick Primary School.



SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

MARCH

- Studio 58 opens with a bang featuring a set by Scooty and the Skyhooks.
- New classes launched in Studio 58.
- Continued activities and programs, reflecting the commitment to community development and support.
- Rod Shannon nominated for 'Volunteer of the Year' at the Highland Heroes Awards.

Charity hits right note

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PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

This year we have continued to reach out to and collaborate with agencies, groups and other charities to ensure we provide support to those who need it.



PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

01/04/23 Through 31/03/24

This year we were grateful to have had financial support from several sources via grants and donations.

INCOME	
Children & Adult Services	£18,159.00
Donations	£2,284.42
Grants	£30,941.00
Students training	£1,380.00
Workshops	£396.94
TOTAL INCOME	£53,161.36

EXPENSES AND DEDUCTIONS

EXPENSES	
Adult Activities	£209.23
Award Function Expenses	£167.70
Bingo & Raffle Prizes	£590.59
Children & Volunteers clothing	£430.98
Children's meals	£828.43
Children's Outdoor Activities	£2,021.52
Delivery of Child & Adult Services	£10,167.00
Energy Costs	£145.40
Equipment	£2,206.25
Food	£6,834.84
Hall Hire	£3,588.21
Health & Safety equipment	£116.09
Insurance	£225.00
IT, wifi, telephones	£3,542.26
Maintenance & Repairs	£633.33
Meeting Expenses	£146.80
Motor	£5,782.99
Office Expenses	£5,144.38
Prizes	£174.23
Professional & legal fees	£450.00
Promotional Goods	£1,029.00
Purchases for Vulnerable Adults	£100.58
Subscriptions	£318.78
Training	£160.00
Travel	£2,398.08
Utilities - Telephone	£127.95
Utilities - Other	£1,056.37
Volunteer Expenses	£8,449.70
Volunteer Outing	£102.00
Volunteer Meals	£2,048.11
Total expenses	£59,195.80
Income - Expenses =	-£6,034.44

The reported deficit of £6034.44 arises primarily due to the opening of an additional venue, which incurred unforeseen start-up costs.

This includes expenses related to volunteer support, operational setup, and enhanced service provisions.

The delay in receiving our permissions for the Studio meant a loss of revenue and introduction of running costs before we were able to open and generate income.

We anticipate this to be a one-time deficit, with future accounts reflecting a more balanced financial position as the new venue becomes fully operational and self-sustaining.



PLANS FOR 24-25

STUDIO 58

This new location will enable us to raise the profile of the charity as we have a prominent location with a lot of footfall. This will also enable us to run a broader range of regular workshops from this convenient central venue which is fully equipped for purpose.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

We will continue to work with other agencies, charities and local organisations to ensure we are best serving the community and increasing our reach.

DEVELOPING OUR STUDENT EXPERIENCES

Our senior students will be involved in the development and running of Studio 58 and we want to empower them to take the lead and help shape the programmes and classes we offer.

EXTENDING OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Once we have settled into the studio space and developed our services, we want to extend the community projects e.g. mentoring, skills-sharing and volunteering opportunities.

EMPLOYABILITY SERVICES

We aim to develop a programme of employability classes to ensure that local people can be supported to find, apply and keep a job to improve their lives. We will utilise the skills and expertise of our team and also link with local businesses to create opportunities for growth.