



SambaYaBamba

Annual Report 2021/22



In December 2020 SambaYaBamba became a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). This marks a major milestone in our 20-year history – one that we hope puts us on track for another successful 20 years at the heart of Scotland's vibrant street and carnival music scene.

As a charity our purpose is to advance arts and culture by furthering knowledge, enthusiasm, and skills in Brazilian music, street music and associated arts. We'll do this by offering people of all ages and abilities opportunities to:

- Learn Brazilian music, street music and associated arts;
- Develop the skills and knowledge needed to perform on the street and on stage;
- Diversify and improve their skills, collaborate with other performers, and experience and enjoy high quality Brazilian and street music performances by artists from around the world.

Our hopes of hitting the ground running at the start of 2021 were scuppered by a second Covid-19 lockdown from January to March. As an organisation that thrives on people learning and playing together in person this presents a challenge to say the least. The dedication and determination of our organisers, players and tutors meant that other than periods of full lockdown we adapted our approach and continued to run safe, accessible activities for adults and young people. We

know only too well the wellbeing benefits that music groups deliver – and through constant checking and rechecking of restrictions we were able to achieve this as much as possible. We even called our lockdown tune 'Wiggly Jigsaw' as a fitting description of negotiating this complex puzzle!

The first post-covid gig for the SambaYaBamba adult band was Hamilton High Street in August 2021 – the beginning of a wonderful relationship which continued through the year and has seen us perform in the town several times since, including a Christmas appearance with Santa and his reindeer! Other highlights include a return to the West End Festival and joining our Youth Street Band at the Paisley Road Festival.

In September it was an honour to be invited by The Global Alliance of Territorial Communities to join them for the COP26 march through the streets of Glasgow. It was amazing to be part of something so significant once again. Let's hope the summer of 2022 will see the long-awaited return of festivals and gala days to allow us to get back in front of audiences across Scotland.

Getting back to business – Hamilton in Aug 2021



SYB Youth Band

Our Youth Street Band has also had to deal with the challenges of Covid – but we still welcomed 24 new members in 2021/22. This talented group of young musicians continues to bring a vibrant carnival sound to streets, parks and public spaces. Gigs included a return to Kelvingrove Bandstand – one of our very first gig venues; bringing a carnival atmosphere to Paisley Road West Festival; welcoming 100 cyclists from Great Ormond Street Hospital to Glasgow for COP26; and joining Greta Thunberg and other youth leaders and climate activists from around the world at the COP26 Youth Climate Strike at in George Square!

Another challenge was having to change the venue for activities through 2021/22. We were no longer able to use our regular rehearsal spaces, so our brilliant Youth Band team quickly built new contacts and relationships to keep rehearsals running - first at Glasgow the Caring City in Govan, then briefly at Bullwood in Spiers Wharf, before finding a more permanent base at the Clutha Trust. While indoor meetings were restricted we ran woodland drumming sessions open to non-band



members. These were a great way to ease anxieties about meeting in groups following the restrictions.

A Youth Band highlight of 2021 was taking part in Enough is Enough - a musical response to COP26 organised by [Oi Musica](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t01g-gfvJbk). Working with 200 young people from youth street bands across the UK were part of an amazing Youth Carnival Collaboration to share a message on climate action with world leaders - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t01g-gfvJbk>



Building skills, confidence and participation is at the heart of our youth band activities, so we're delighted that;

- 2 young people completed the 2021 Global Grooves Future Leaders programme - the only one of its kind in the UK.
- Six young people now play in the adult performing band
- one of our youth band members is a charity trustee.

We will continue to encourage and enable Youth Band members to take up unique creative development opportunities in the UK and around the world

Bring the carnival - SYB Youth Band



Adult Workshops

Our adult beginner's workshops also continued through ongoing covid-19 disruptions, with group members citing the mental health benefits of creative activity as a good reason to keep the sessions going. Weekly drop-in workshops ran outdoors from April to September, and then moved indoors once restrictions were eased. Once back inside the workshops focussed on Rio Carnival samba – offering participants the opportunity to learn the skills and techniques that are at the core of our eclectic musical palette. The beginner's group – performing under the name 'Pure Bangin' – played gigs at Queens Park Band Stand and The Rumshack - a great opportunity for the group to show off their new skills to friends and family.

To take make sure a wider range of people can join our youth and adult activities we created an Inclusion Officer role this year. We now have 5 young asylum seekers / refugees, and 7 participants with a physical or learning disability in the Youth Street Band. A pay it forward scheme raised almost £500 from band members to offer free adult workshop spaces to new Scots participants. 14 new Scots took part, with some continuing through the block to take part in Pure Bangin' gigs and invite their friends to come along and enjoy these performances. This success has encouraged us to seek funding to continue to offer free spaces to new Scots in 2022.

Supporting Participation

At the start of 2021 we secured funding from Creative Scotland to run a small grants scheme - one of just 18 organisations in Scotland selected to distribute funding to artists. This was an amazing opportunity to break down funding barriers and work with freelance artists and tutors to bring to fruition a host of creative ideas to engage young people in new arts activity. From to Aug 2021 to March 2022 we supported 11 music education projects across Scotland – from making woodland instruments in Glasgow to Boomcoustics in Clydebank, Carnival Adventures in Peebles to beginner trombone in Easterhouse. We're hugely excited by the potential for this approach to funding new work by artists working with young people.

"Having experienced the small grants fund process with multiple organisations I'd say that the way SambaYaBamba delivered the

information to practitioners and reduced as much friction as possible really made the funding incredibly accessible and low stress unlike every other experience of applying for funding I've ever had."

In March 2022 we launched [Drums & Brass Total YAAASS!](#) – a crowdfunder for our Youth Street Band. Our initial target was £5k in donations matched by £5k from funding partners. We raised a phenomenal £46,948 from 301 supporters in less than 30 days – almost 75% of what's needed to run the Youth Band for a full year! What an incredible response. Huge thanks to everyone that supported our campaign – and to our funding partners National Emergencies Trust, Creative Scotland, and BA Better World Community Fund who matched individual donations.

Under the bridge – socially distanced rehearsal



Future Plans

In 2022/23 we aim to add dance to our Youth Street Band programme. We want to develop a unique opportunity for young people to learn carnival-street style dancing alongside a live band. The first of its kind in Scotland!

Building on our fantastic small grants projects in we are exploring the potential to develop outreach projects for young people.

As our adult and youth participation continue to grow we will continue to look for rehearsal space that would allow us to operate all our activities from one venue. Ensuring our activities are accessible to adults and young people from across greater Glasgow makes this a considerable challenge.

Statement of accounts to March 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Receipts			
Grants	86,071	92,660	178,731
Gross trading receipts	5,360	-	5,360
Total receipts	91,431	92,660	184,091
Payments			
Payments relating directly to charitable activities:			
Gross trading payments	2,836	-	2,836
Grants and donations	6,761	82,660	89,421
Governance costs:			
Independent examiner's fees	500	-	500
Total payments	10,097	82,660	92,757
Net receipts	81,334	10,000	91,334
Transfers (from)/to funds	-	-	-
Surplus for year	81,334	10,000	91,334

Thanks to:



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