

Beatroute Arts

In this Social Impact Case Study, Jenny Reeve, Director of Beatroute Arts gives an insight to how music and the arts are at the heart of community support. (2 Minute Read)



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Culture Counts

On the 16th of March 2020, Beatroute's staff team sat 2 metres apart and took a moment to let the events of the day sink in.

All the forward planning possible on our part could not have foreseen the incoming pandemic and complete rewrite of every community service currently offered by us.

Useful Facts

Participatory arts activities with children improve their cognitive, linguistic, social and emotional development. ¹

81% of people in Scotland attended or visited a cultural event or place of culture in 2018. ²

Participatory art interventions can improve the development of social bonds and a sense of community. ³

The Sector turned on a dime and rallied to the support of communities across the country. For Beatroute Arts, this meant finding the fastest and most inclusive way to bring vital music, arts and holistic services online.

To date, the charity has delivered 517 individual pieces of creative community-led activity (music workshops, arts tutoring and social gatherings). Providing vital tech equipment such as tablets and mobile WiFi for those most at risk of becoming isolated. Bespoke groups and classes that makeup such a meaningful part of their weekly routine.

'Time moves slowly now. Stuck in my humble abode. Me and my guitar' A haiku written by a local young person during their weekly on-

8 & 9 year olds who received weekly group music lessons for 10 months, showed improved sympathy and pro-social skills, provided they had poor social skills to begin with. ⁴

Participative music programmes for people with long term health conditions improved mood, socialisation, confidence, communication and concentration in over half of participants. ⁵

line song-writing workshop with Beatroute. Indeed, time does move slowly now, and for those 'stuck in their humble abodes'

Culture is many things for an area like Balmornock and others like it across Scotland which faces daily the effects of poverty. It is the opportunity for local people to be the driving force of their community's identity. It provides opportunities to define who they are in their own voices.

At Beatroute Arts, we hear people expressing heartfelt gratitude for the free services we provide in the community, as though they were a rarity or a treat and that makes me incredibly sad. A sense of identity, pride of place from a cultural perspective creates waves which are vital to the lives of us all, whether or not we may realise it.

Find out more about Beatroute Arts and the services they provide here:
www.beatroutearts.com/

1 "Creative Health"

APPG (ARTS, HEALTH AND WELLBEING)., 2017

2 "Scotland's People Annual Report 2018"

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT, 2019.

3 "Changing the world through arts & kindness"

PEOPLE UNITED, 2017.

4 "Group Music Training"

SHELLENBERG,E,CORRIGALL,K,DYS,S,MALTI,T, 2015

5 "Participatory creative engagement..."

TAYSIDE HEALTHCARE ARTS TRUST, 2017.