

Music Academy for Rural Youth (MARY)

Reg. nr: 2019/181068/08 NPC



Music Education for All!

ANNUAL REPORT - 2021

Period: 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

Submitted to the Board of Directors



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30 April 2022

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Introduction

This is our 3rd annual report from 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022. This report will cover the following:

- *Our achievements for 2021*
- *Challenges experienced*
- *Feedback from beneficiaries*
- *Partnerships forged*
- *Expansion of the project*
- *Funding and finance*
- *Conclusion*
- *Appendix: List of members*

Introduction

This is our progress report from 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022 in compliance with the provisions of the non-profit company. A financial review detailing our expenses and income is included.

Since our previous report, the lockdown levels in South Africa have been reduced, allowing us more freedom to move and build the organisation. And this is exactly what happened. MARY has since grown with leaps and bounds during this reporting period. Although some challenges still remain, our growth as an organisation is on an upward trajectory, so much so that we have to close requests for membership in the first month of this year.

1. *Our achievements for 2021*

Music training

Grabouw

This project continued in partnership with the local church, Living Word Ministries, who provided free training space. Members received practical musical training with various instruments as well as theory training. Members were trained in various groups over 2 hours each over 4 days per week. Some members dropped out due to concerns over Covid-19 as well as parents who could not make a financial contribution due to being retrenched. Another group of 20 members linked to the *Docks Mission Church* started training February 2022.

Villiersdorp

The project expanded to Villiersdorp, a rural town 1 hour 30 minutes from Cape Town and 30 minutes from Grabouw, our main base. 11 members were trained twice per week by our director, Earl Cornelius. This training only lasted 4 months after it was suspended due to the group not being able to financially sustain the project. We plan to resume training when funding is accessed in future.

Strand

Two groups were training in this community. One group of 20 members are linked to a local church and the other is linked to a pre-school. The first group has been active for more than 1 year already and the second group for 3 months. Training for the second group has also been suspended recently due to lack of finances. The group in Strand is managed by our director, Earl Cornelius assisted by Brenton Cornelius who joined the team in September 2021.

Delft

This group of 20 members started music training in November 2021 and is managed by our director, Earl Cornelius. Training happens once per week on a Saturday.

Gansbaai

This group of 9 members were recruited in December 2021 and started training in February 2022.

Food distribution due to Covid-19

MARY volunteers led by Brenton Cornelius assisted with food distribution in partnership with the Food Relief Alliance of South Africa. Food distribution happened on a monthly basis where an average of 200 children benefited. FRASA also hosted two rural outreaches to Grabouw in partnership with MARY where food distribution took place. MARY members performed live during those events which were hosted on 1 May and 20 November 2021.

Marketing

The director of MARY featured in an online newspaper article of The Argus, a regional commercial newspaper. See the link here:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.iol.co.za/amp/weekend-argus/news/musician-uses-his-craft-to-to-upskill-the-youth-in-his-community-19bf5d50-9311-46df-bfb9-3d49f5c3a35a>

Radio interviews also took place with two MARY trainers, Liano Cloete and Brenton Cornelius on Radio Disa and Infinity FM respectively. Our Facebook page also grew its following. Our members also distributed pamphlets at various events in Grabouw and displayed our banner. Videos of members in training are regularly featured on our Facebook page. We plan to target more

schools during this year as part of our marketing plan. As Covid-19 levels dropped, we also plan more road tours in local communities.

Annual graduation:

Due to the unpredictability of Covid-19 and the 4th wave in December 2021, we decided to abandon a formal graduation and instead settled for a more informal one. Goodie bags were arranged for members and delivered to their homes to minimise physical contact and observe social distancing. 35 members benefited from these goodie bags which were made possible by four individual donors who collectively donated R5000.

2. Challenges experienced

The following challenges were experienced:

Covid-19 – level 3: The Covid-19 levels still had a negative for the first half of 2021. With the easing of the levels things improved more members were able to attend weekly training.

Lack of training space: We occupied a local Moravian church hall for training space which was closed due to concerns over Covid-19 when the new variant emerged. We had to fall back on training from homes in smaller numbers. Later the church Living Word Ministries opened its doors to our members.

Transport: With the increasing interest in our work, our main challenge is transport to travel to the various training locations. We had interest from groups in Worcester (45 minutes from Grabouw) and Gansbaai (1 hour from Grabouw). We are also forced to hire taxis for road tours costing us money. Our trainers currently travel by train and taxi to get to various groups.

Lack of access to data: Due to budget constraints we cannot afford to provide members with their own data for communication purposes. This led to communication breakdowns. We have recently been supported by YoungPeople@Work who offered to loan data modems to two MARY trainers to alleviate our data challenges.

3. Feedback from beneficiaries

Feedback from parents:

“MARY has engaged with young learners from across a range of different backgrounds, specifically those in the rural areas. MARY provides these opportunities to impart in young lives and also to increase interest and love for music. Through their commitment it was evident that these young children are now capable to participate in church groups and organizations. Being part of the MARY family also allowed these children to have a sense of belonging, they become confident, excited, motivated and is able to inspire others around them. Mary also develop leadership skills create access to high-quality music enabling young people to achieve their potential through music. Some of the highlights on this journey is that these children gets the opportunity to travel places and encounter the bigger picture of what is happening in other communities. We are grateful and highly blessed for this opportunity. (Laurel Manuel)

“I am currently highly satisfied with the service MARY provides for my children and I have never known they had such talents. I have no complaints about MARY and I am highly impressed with what my 3 children have achieved. I am a proud mother of MARY students”. (Luzaan Booysen)

3. Partnerships and sharing of resources

During this period, members of MARY performed at various events to create awareness on women and drug abuse. These include Tafelsig Community Action Network on 1 May 2021, Touwsriver 16 June 2021 event in the Karoo, Day of Gratitude of FRASA on 24 September 2021 and Music Festival in Atlantis with the San Michel Independent School on 18 September 2021. All the above performances were hosted free of charge.

Financial and material donations

As mentioned, 4 donors supported our goodie bags during our informal graduation. We were also able to buy an extra acoustic guitar and amplifier. Parents with stable jobs also started to make monthly contributions towards the training of their children. A donation of a drum set was received from Gaston Manuel and a mic and mic stand from Latoya Etto-Fortune. Four parents were voluntary involved in our food relief interventions.

Expansion

Our training also expanded to the various communities as mentioned above such as Villiersdorp, Strand and Delft. We had to close membership in January due to the huge demand from various groups. Docks Mission, a local church group in Gabouw also approached us for music training which started in February. This will be handled by Brenton Cornelius, our new trainer. Liano Cloete was contracted privately by a local NGO called Eagles Nest to train 10 of the members. Group fees enhanced our income generation potential. We will build on this in 2022.

Free music performances

Our members performed free of charge at various events as outlined above.

Free music one day workshop

This was facilitated by our director for about 40 members of Timbers Kleinbegin Centre in Grabouw during their December holiday programme.

Admin fees from trainers

From January 2022 all trainers will pay a admin fee of 10% of fees received from private training as part of income generation strategy. A fee will also be charged for MARY live performances in future. Sound equipment will be hired out at a fee.

Conclusion:

This has been an exciting year for the organisation with lots of prospects for growth which reflects the demand for programmes. It is also heart-warming to witness the visible growth in the members of MARY and the increase in confidence with which they perform at public events.

We wish to thank all our partners and donors, especially King Baudouin Foundation, for their continued support. A special thanks also to all our members, parents and music trainers for their commitment despite challenging conditions during Covid-19. Thank you for your investment in our children and youth.

Thank you
Frank Julie

30 April 2022

Financial overview

1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

Expenses

Item	Quantity	Amount
Music trainers stipend	3 music trainers	146 306
Project management, coordination, planning, marketing, reporting	1 coordinator x 2500 x 12	30 000
Administration and communication, transport		19 780
Music equipment	1 guitar and 1 amplifier	2589.60
Loan from F. Julie	Advance for music stipends	11 000
Cape Town TV membership		1150
Bank fees		5897.09
Total		216 722.69

Income

Parent donations	Include: Grabouw, Strand (2 groups) Villiersdorp and Delft	52 306.15
Individual donations		6750
Trainer commissions		400
Total		59 456.15

Funding received from KBF: 143 783.27 + 59 056.15 (income generated)
= 202 839.42

Less expenses: 216 722.69
= (13 883.27)

Less:
Funding received: 145 555.28 (3 March 2022)
131 672.01 (1 April 2022)

MARY team in action!



Above: Members of MARY busy with weekly music classes in Delft, Grabouw and Strand



Above: Members of MARY busy with weekly music classes in Grabouw, Villiersdorp and a music workshop in progress.



Members of MARY in partnership with FRASA busy with food distribution in Grabouw



Above: Members of MARY during their informal graduation and handing over of goodie bags and certificates



Above: The guitar and amplifier bought from individual donations; Members of MARY performing live at a rural outreach in Touwsriver; 3 members from MARY busy with an audition for a TV Commercial

Grabouw members and age	Strand members and age	Delft members and age	Gansbaai members and age
Petra Loggenberg (9) Reagan Sias (7) Zaskia Du Toit (8) Leehandre Pietersen (7) Carlton Lukas (8) Judy-Ann Van Wyk (9) Monica Willschutt (10) Linathi Appies - 10 Boitomela Appies (11) Vallenne snyders (12) Benwill Jansen (13) Chloe Marais (13) Subaida Pietersen (11) Kerenay Opperman (12) Kaby Lee snyders (12) Jade Presence (12) Kaylin Opperman (13) Tyro Tarentaal (13) Tyther Prins (13) Kabelo Matubatuba (12) Imanje Qluka (12) Thapelo Maketha (12) George Sebybo (12) Fredeline Koen (14) Dominique Goodwin (12) Lerato Van der Walt (13) Tarryn Williems (9) Zadey Snyders (13) Loeloe Kleinveld (7) Rounen Opperman (7) Caylin snyman (12) Genolea Sebybo (17) Delicia Pieterse (10) Alicia Julius (10) Johnnick Williams (8) Ashwill Williams (t4) Faith Williams (16) Gregory Williams (10) Xavier Gelant (9) Annestine Cortjie (11) Zhyron Hendricks (12) Jade Booyesen (17) Jode Booyesen (17) Code Booyesen (10) Yunay Booyesen 10 Mandy de Klerk (7) Roger Hartzenberg (8) Elrick Cupido (8) Cairo Manuel (13) Auden Adams (9) Damiren Morkel (15) keenan Horne (15) Dayard Andrews (10) Joshua Jacobus (13) Peter-John Wentzel (16) Jordan Davids (9) Aden Davids (4) Shaneal Hendricks (18) Quinn Hendricks (8) Lushwayne Bona (13) Jaden Plaatjies (6) Devano Plamtjies (12) Owen Williams (13)	Tawanayasha Chiweua 4 Elijah Daniels (6) Lione Egbougu (3) Adley Mafudza (7) Letwin Magodora (5) Shalom Makarana (7) Tinevimbo Makwerimba (9) Heyden (7) Masego Nyame (12) Ava October (7) Isiphile Qhala (8) Rilev Shumbanete (6) Panashe Tamanikwa 3 Iyanika Tsholoba (4) Ivo Williams (4) Logan Adams (7) Cohen Adendorff (11). Tavonga Benjamin (9) Chikenhere (5) Hyde Skye (10) Nathaniel Joka (8) Waytt Jordaan (7) Mason Maarman 1(3) Shammah Mafanizvo (3) Kavden Makuwe (6) Maseti Chizitelu (9) Linathi Mhlaba(9) Leishan-D Mowers (4) Autumn Paulse (5) Tameekah Pietersen (3) Cee-Jay Pietersen (7) Lemar sauls (11). Nazeer Steenkamp (6) Itai Williams (3) Tatenda Zivengwa (12) Tanaka zivengwa (10)	Shakiera Jason (12) Jade Willemse (12) Keyhano Williams (15) Zach Edwards (12) Skylor Zass (11) Cheslyn Southgate (12) Keenan Klaassen (15) Lukno Jansen (11) Jordan Stain (10) Sarah Jacobs (14)	Amelda Groenewald (42) Julin April (7) Byrone Groenewald (8) Hope Williams (10) Allison Ellis (17) Micae Groenewald (17) Anadine Leonard (17) Kaylia Leonard (10) Gernike Baartman (15)