



## Music and the youth work approach give Naomi the confidence and skills to become a talented DJ

The Big Music Project recently celebrated the amazing talent Scotland's young people have in the performing arts by holding The Live Event 2018 in Stirling. The Live Event showcased the enormous potential and growth of that young talent over the course of the previous year's work. Naomi is a young performer who participated in The Big Music Project and performed at The Live event; this is her journey.

Before joining The Big Music Project, Naomi experienced significant challenges in her life. She found it difficult to concentrate – she is currently battling various mental health conditions including ADHD – and struggled with her writing skills. At school, she has found it

difficult to learn in large group class settings and became quite disruptive.

Naomi joined The Big Music Project in July 2016, attending her local hub meetings and other programmes that her local YMCA offered. David, her youth worker, identified at an early stage that Naomi had a real talent for DJing and this was an outlet for her ongoing challenges.

Since being involved with The Big Music Project, she has started running her own DJ events under the name of DJ Poodle and has developed some enthusiasm for making it as a professional DJ. This has all come through her enjoyment of music production and her

great network of friends and socialising skills. She has been promoting her events through word of mouth, social media and attending events such as The Big Music Champions Development Day – of which her music was played during the setup of the Open Mic Session.

Naomi has now had the opportunity to promote herself on Utter Radio, telling us,

“ One thing I enjoyed was playing my songs on my radio slot, as it allows me to showcase my own talents

David has been a great support to Naomi, assisting her with marketing, promotion through other music platforms. She now manages her own SoundCloud, constantly discussing potential opportunities and networking with external contacts.

David’s support has enabled Naomi to overcome her challenges in daily activities and

realise her skill and passion in music.

Through the opportunities provided by the Big Music Project and Youth Scotland, Naomi has developed stronger interpersonal and communication skills and learned how she can affect relationships with other people. She has already targeted hosting her own DJ event as a next step, from ticketing, promotion and organising the acts for night!

The Live Event also marked the end of the current programme for The Big Music Project. Over the last 3 years, the programme has helped engage, develop and inspire young people across Scotland and, through music, reached a demographic that other youth work might not have.

Music programmes are a powerful tool for youth work as they help young people learn and develop important competences for a successful life – if you would like to know more about how Youth Scotland can use music as part of a programme, such as iLead Music, part of our iLead programme – get in touch! [www.youthscotland.org.uk/contact-us](http://www.youthscotland.org.uk/contact-us)

## The Big Music Project - impact in numbers:



**13**  
Local Authorities areas reached by The Big Music Project



**6,901**  
people engaged through The Big Music Project and hub activity



**26%**  
increase in employability related to participation through The Big Music Project



**61%**  
of young people designed their own music and creative programme to be delivered in their local community



**170**  
champions aged 14 – 19 years taking part and leading in music and creative activities across Scotland



**770**  
young people have been peer educated through The Big Music Project

