

The Gambia88

**MUSIC
AGENCY
COMMUNITY**



ABOUT THE GAMBIA88

Empowering a generation through music and leadership

INTRODUCTION

The Gambia88 is a **nationwide initiative** dedicated to fostering civic engagement, creativity, and social cohesion among Gambian youth. Founded on the belief that music is a universal catalyst for personal and community transformation, the program is built upon three strategic pillars: **Music, Agency and Community**. Through our **student-led approach**, we create after school music clubs that are **autonomous hubs of civic engagement** where students compose original music and lead local community events.

Since its inception in 2024, by the American NGO **88 International** in partnership with the **Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education**, The Gambia88 has established the local association “88 in The Gambia”, and 28 music clubs across all 6 regions of The Gambia. This grassroots infrastructure was activated through interactive, high-impact educational concerts that introduced students to the power of artistic expression.



28

MUSIC
CLUBS

3445

STUDENTS
REACHED

1843

ACTIVE CLUB
PARTICIPANTS

167

STUDENT LEADERS
TRAINED

8

EXECUTIVE
ALUMNI

OUR APPROACH

Fostering agency and building communities through student-led after school music clubs

OUR BELIEF

We believe that Gambian youth has strong potential to be change agents and creators in their communities when using **music for self-expression and development** within a diverse community of leaders. The Gambia88 fosters a safe space for expression, dialogue, community action, and collective music creation, through student-led afterschool clubs.

LEARNING BY DOING

Our pedagogy is centered around **Experiential Learning** and the **Socratic Method**, where students are in the forefront of their learning and are able to reflect upon their experiences. Rather than relying on passive instruction, we emphasize learning by doing through simulations, case studies, peer-led facilitation, reflective exercises, and real-world practice.



Music as a tool for transformation

Music is a universal language and a powerful tool for self-expression, self-actualization and skills development.



Youth agency

Youth have an inherent untapped potential to be catalysts for change and creators of impact in their communities.



Creating communities

Exchanging different musical traditions cultivates respect for diversity and builds strong communities.



OUR IMPACT

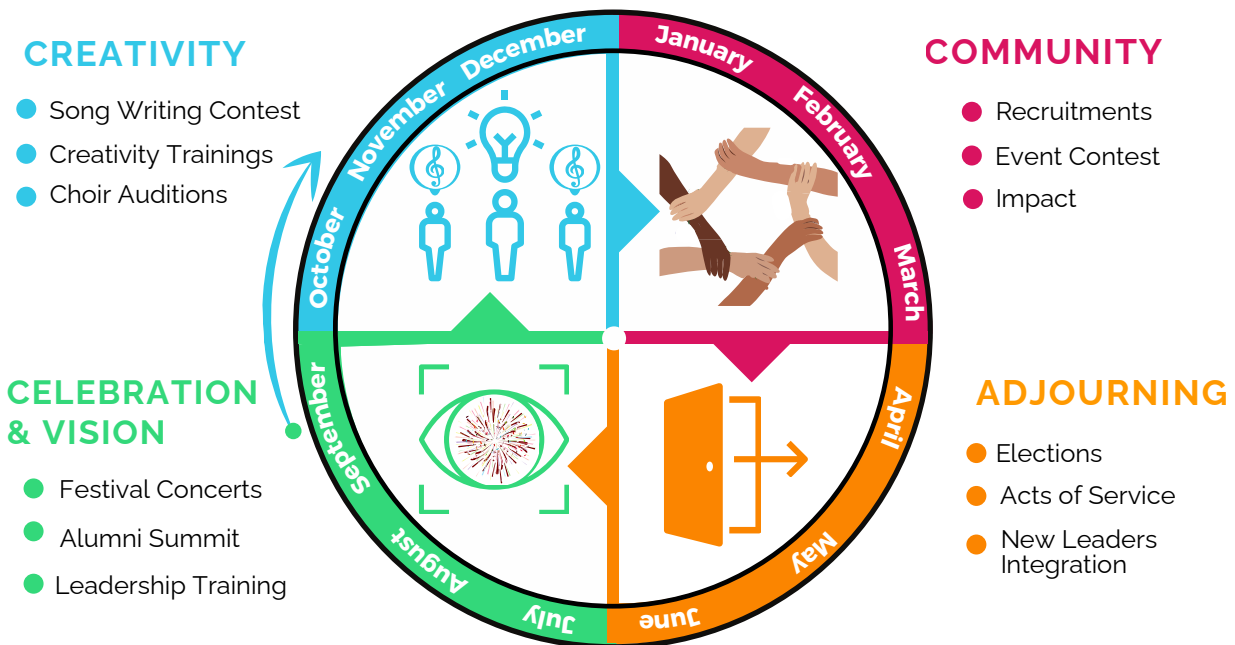
Our program participants have experienced notable growth in key **soft skills**, particularly leadership, adaptability, initiative, and perseverance, which have enabled them to better navigate academic and personal challenges. Alumni also reported high levels of **self-efficacy**, expressing greater confidence in setting and achieving goals, making informed decisions, and managing emotions under stress.

OUR PROGRAM

An Annual Cycle of Activities rooted in youth agency and community impact

THE ANNUAL CYCLE OF ACTIVITIES

Our programming begins implementation at the start of the academic school year, and is split up into four components or 'quadrants': (1) creativity, (2) community, (3) adjourning, and (4) celebration and vision. Each quadrant has various key activities targeting specific goals.



CONNECTED YOUTH

To ensure the sustainability of our programs, The Gambia88 places a significant emphasis on building an **Executive Alumni network**. This network comprises a select group of individuals who have previously participated in our programs. Executive Alumni play a crucial role in club support and management of all aspects of The Gambia88, including media, operations management, community management, etc.

EVENT & SONG CREATION

Students actively engage in crafting songs and organizing events to make a positive impact in their communities. Through this creative process, they not only cultivate their musical talents but also channel their passion towards **addressing social issues and fostering positive change**.

These events become platforms for community engagement, raising awareness, and inspiring collective action.