

Somewhere partners with University of Edinburgh for new LGBTQ+ Collaborative Doctoral Award

Edinburgh-based LGBTQ+ social enterprise [Somewhere EDI Community Interest Company](#) ('Somewhere') is delighted to announce their role as Partner Organisation and Partner Supervisor for [Cultural Geographies of LGBTQ+ Entrepreneurship in Scotland](#), a brand-new LGBTQ+ focused Collaborative Doctoral Award with the University of Edinburgh, funded by the [Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities \(SGSAH\)](#), through the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

Recruiting now with an application deadline of 15th June, the CDA starts in October 2020 and is open to UK-based students. The research is inspired by Somewhere's [existing culture and enterprise projects](#) and in line with the organisation's vision as a connective platform for LGBTQ+ business owners and arts practitioners. It will focus on the cultural geographies of LGBTQ+ spaces and places across Scotland, on LGBTQ+ business owners, their communities and the places they produce, and on the networks of practice they create.

Building on Somewhere Founder Kathryn Pierce's existing research into LGBTQ+ entrepreneurship (to be published by Emerald Publishing next year), the Somewhere MBA LGBT+ Scholarship programme and the organisation's Somewhere at the Fringe project, [the Doctoral Award](#) will examine and explore specific places of cultural entrepreneurship, focusing on ownership and organisation as well as on their use and consumption.

In line with Somewhere's vision to support and connect Scotland's LGBTQ+ enterprise community, the CDA will also seek to create a typology and archive of queer spaces, including temporary places such as Scotland's existing LGBTQ+ arts and community-focused festivals, including SQIFF, Pride events and the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Somewhere Founder and CDA Partner Supervisor Kathryn Pierce, said "We jumped at the chance to co-design this hugely important piece of LGBTQ+ research and to co-partner with the University of Edinburgh School of Geosciences. Not only does it offer a chance for the chosen applicant to explore and understand often-hidden networks of connection, it will raise the visibility of LGBTQ+ spaces by quite literally putting LGBTQ+ cultural enterprise on the map."

"With the 2021 census on the horizon, issues around appropriate and authentic capture of LGBTQ+ related data is a very current conversation, and we are so pleased that this new and dynamic research opportunity will connect directly with LGBTQ+ communities, to fully understand and explore the importance of queer cultural practices and enterprises across Scotland."

Academic Supervisor **Professor Tim Cresswell from the University of Edinburgh**, said: "This is a wonderful opportunity for a doctoral student to twin the academic tools of cultural geography with such an energetic and innovative partner as Somewhere. The partnership will give the student access to the considerable expertise in matters of LGBTQ+ entrepreneurship that only an organisation like Somewhere can provide."

Director of the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities, **Professor Claire Squires** said: "We are delighted to offer an Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)-funded Collaborative Doctoral Award to this creative research partnership between Somewhere and the University of Edinburgh for their project Cultural Geographies of LGBTQ+ Entrepreneurship in Scotland. Not only will this research encourage and establish links that will have long term benefits for the collaborative partners, it will also provide benefits to the wider society in terms of understanding the cultural spaces and places that connect LGBTQ+ communities and their role in facilitating community identities. We look forward to seeing how the research progresses."

Links:

<https://somerwhereedi.org/doctoral-award>

<https://www.findaphd.com/phds/project/cultural-geographies-of-lgbtq-entrepreneurship-in-scotland/?p121688>