



SGSAH Doctoral Internship / Artist in Residence Programme

Guidance for host organisations



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



Scottish Funding Council

Promoting further and higher education

Welcome to the SGSAH Doctoral Internship / Artist in Residence Programme

The Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities (SGSAH) Doctoral Internship / Artist in Residence Programme matches doctoral researchers with industry partners to work on projects that support knowledge exchange, research and the development of new work and ideas.

Placements are paid positions, funded in full or in part by SGSAH, and can add tangible value to a host organisation while developing a graduate student's marketable skills and expertise.

We are interested in working with organisations from any sector that see the benefit of engaging with talented individuals from arts and humanities disciplines.

We will work with you on all aspects of determining the optimal work arrangements and finding the right candidate(s) to ensure that the placement is a positive, productive experience for everyone.

How long is a doctoral internship or residency?

- Internships and residencies are fully flexible and can be set in advance or negotiated once you have identified a suitable candidate. The total length of time involved will normally equate to around three months of full-time work (or 450 hours). This can be shorter if you wish, or you could appoint more than one researcher as a small team for larger pieces of work;
- Examples include:
 - Single block of 12 weeks
 - Multiple shorter blocks
 - Longer less intensive engagement, e.g. one day per week, one week per month
 - Mixture of the above.

What are the costs and requirements?

- Doctoral internships and residencies are funded through the SGSAH with students continuing to receive their PhD stipend as normal, so there is no direct salary, stipend or tax implications for your organisation;
- If the student lives more than 50 miles from the organisation, we encourage a contribution towards their travel or accommodation costs;
- The intern or artist should be provided with work/desk space and equipment if necessary although we recognise at the moment placements are likely to be virtual/blended.
- You will need to identify a suitable mentor for the intern to support their project;
- We expect hosts to be legally constituted with the relevant insurance and health and safety policies in place to support employees and volunteers.

What is a doctoral internship?

- A doctoral researcher will work with your organisation on tasks defined by you, either as one large project, or a series of smaller tasks contributing to a larger outcome. An internship can add tangible value to a host organisation while developing a graduate student's marketable skills and expertise.

Why should I offer a doctoral internship?

- You might be interested in:
- access to specialist knowledge and skills, opportunities to gain fresh insights in particular areas, or different perspectives on problems;
- additional resource to assist with a strategic project;
- increased capacity to undertake projects that might have been on hold/will not otherwise be done;
- opportunities for creating new relationships with universities or developing existing ones further.

What skills can a doctoral intern bring to your organisation?

- Critical analysis
- Problem solving skills
- Written communication skills
- Creative and flexible thinking
- Research methodology and project management skills
- Independence, initiative, self-motivation and commitment
- Specialist knowledge of current developments in their field
- Depending on the applicant, other skills might include archival research skills, foreign language fluency and cultural awareness, public engagement/public speaking experience, event organisation and delivery

What sorts of projects will SGSAAH support?

- A SGSAAH internship should be a challenging role with clearly defined task(s). This could be one large project, e.g. the production of a report; or a series of smaller tasks contributing to a larger outcome.
- We are looking for projects where interns can use their research skills in new contexts. Some interns will be using this as a way of determining whether or not they want to pursue a career in your sector and/or profession, so they will want to gain a sense of how the organisation works more broadly, as well as in their own area. We suggest that an element of shadowing at a strategic level could be a useful part of an internship.
- The sorts of things that we are looking for are:
 - Work that offers a genuine 'something extra' that has a medium- to long-term benefit for your organisation rather than simply a short term 'extra pair of hands';
 - A project which gives the PhD intern ownership/responsibility for some aspects of their work, and potentially the opportunity to present it or explain it to others;
 - The chance to work with a range of people, providing the opportunity to network and build relationships with people at multiple levels;
 - The opportunity to experience client/stakeholder focus and interaction.

What is a doctoral artist residency?

- An artist residency is an opportunity provided by a host organisation for a guest doctoral researcher to work in a new environment, often away from the restrictions and pressures of their everyday lives.
- They support cultural and artistic exchange, nurture experimentation and new ideas, and support research and the development of new work.

Why should I offer a doctoral artist residency?

- You might be interested in:
 - raising the profile of a place, organisation or activity;
 - opportunities for a community to be invigorated through an exchange of ideas and new ways of working;
 - cultivating relationships with artists and arts organisations;
 - promoting a particular art form or practice, encouraging experimentation or facilitating exchange across art forms;
 - increase access opportunities to a specialist facility or resource.

What skills can a doctoral artist in residence bring to my organisation?

- Novel interpretation of a particular time, space, event, area or project;
- Engagement on a different level with a wider public than would have been reached otherwise;
- Access to specialist knowledge and skills, opportunities to gain fresh insights in particular areas, different perspectives on problems;
- Increased capacity to undertake projects that might have been on hold/will not otherwise be done;
- Opportunities for creating new networks with art schools and universities, or developing existing ones further;
- The residency may be the beginning of a longer relationship for the organisation and the artist.

What sorts of projects will SGSAH support?

- A SGSAH residency can take one of two forms, a process based or an outcome based residency. In general, it should set out exciting and challenging questions which will form the basis of a general request without necessarily specifying particular tasks or art forms;
- We are looking for projects where doctoral researchers can use their artistic and research skills in new contexts;
- The sorts of things that we are looking for are:
 - A project which offers the doctoral residency conditions that are conducive to creativity and provide them with context, such as working facilities, connections, audience, etc;
 - A stimulating collaboration between the artist and the host organisation;
 - Ideally, the chance to work with a range of people, providing the opportunity to network and build relationships with people at multiple levels in your organisation and beyond.

Who has SGSAH worked with?

Organisations that have already participated in these SGSAH collaborative programmes include:

Africa in Motion Film Festival	National Trust for Scotland
An Lanntair Arts Centre	NHS
Aproxima Arts	Northlight Heritage
Archaeology Scotland	Orkney International Science Festival
Auchindrain Trust	Orkney Islands Council
BBC Scotland	Paisley Museum
British Council	Poverty Truth Commission
Brora Village	Raise the Roof Productions
Centre for Contemporary Arts	RAJPOT (Refuge for Allies of Justice & Persons from Oppressed Tribes)
City of Edinburgh Council	Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow
Collective Gallery	Royal Scottish National Orchestra
Concerto Caledonia	RSPB
Connect the Dots	Scotland's Futures Forum
Creative Dundee	Scotland's Supreme Courts
Creative Scotland	Scottish Contemporary Art Network (SCAN)
Deveron Projects	Scottish Music Industry Association
Dovecot Studios	Scottish Parliament
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Scottish Sculpture Workshop
Dundee Rep Theatre	Shetland Archive
Edinburgh International Culture Summit Foundation	Stop Climate Chaos Scotland
Edinburgh TV & Film Festival	Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial Life
Edinburgh Museums & Galleries	The Ferret
Fruitmarket Gallery	The List
Glasgow Life	The Scottish Deer Centre
Glasgow Women's Library	Theatre Nemo
Historic Environment Scotland	Tobar an Dualchais
HIV Scotland	TRADtv
Hospitalfield	V&A
House of Illustration	With One Voice
National Library of Scotland	Women's Aid East and Midlothian
National Records of Scotland	