



AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award 2015 (CDA Studentship)

"The Arts of Integration: Scottish policies of refugee integration and the role of the creative and performing arts."

Overview of the Project

In Scotland, integration of asylum seekers and refugees occurs from day one. This is the primary integration policy in Scotland and differs from the policies in the rest of the UK. This policy has been the subject of a number of research studies in the social sciences over the last three years. Findings from these studies have shown the creative and performing arts, and opportunities for self and collective expression, in communities, to be a significant and valued element in the experience and process of integration. No study has yet focused on the distinctive nature of the use of the creative and performing arts in integration, how they operate in different communities, what the methods and organizing principles might be, how different cultures are able to collaborate through the creative and performing arts despite considerable differences in language and culture and in assumed ways of organising performance.

This project investigates the use of the creative and performing arts in the work of community integration for refugees in Scotland. It also proposes to compare the generally supportive policies of integration in Scotland with countries where policies are less favourable or even hostile, including the rest of the United Kingdom and prospectively Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand.

The student will review existing research on the use of the arts in communities for community development and community cohesion (including work of the AHRC Connected Communities theme) especially with regard to multicultural communities. The review will be applied to the context of refugee integration in Scotland by undertaking a study within communities where policies which promote the use of the arts for integration purposes are being implemented. This will involve work during the Refugee Week Scotland Festival as well as with arts programmes co-ordinated by the Scottish Refugee Council (<http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/>).

The project student will contribute findings to key areas of policy, notably to the New Scots Integration Strategy, launched in 2013 and which will reach its midpoint review towards the end of the project. In addition the project will develop a best practice guide to what works in using the creative and performing arts for promoting integration. The core idea and policy of 'integration' together with the use of the arts will be subject to review and critical study, so that it is not simply an assumed societal good, but is evaluated fully. The project student will work closely within the Scottish Refugee Council, as the project partner, and with researchers at the University of Glasgow's Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNet) (<http://www.gla.ac.uk/gramnet/>).

A key focus of activity will be Refugee Week Scotland and other International Days of Observance will also provide a focus for observation, description and participation throughout the course of the project and notably in the field work phase. Major outputs will include a best practice guide on what works in arts based integration with refugee communities and local communities, including policy and practice guidelines for arts, communities, social services, creative industries.



Supervision team

Professor Alison Phipps (University of Glasgow)
Dr Gareth Mulvey (University of Glasgow)
Suzi MacIver (Scottish Refugee Council)
Gary Christie (Scottish Refugee Council)

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the same academic and residence eligibility criteria as any AHRC doctoral research student. Students must have settled status and have been in the UK for the three years preceding the start of the award. Please see the RCUK terms and conditions TGC 6 for further information: <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/RCUK-prod/assets/documents/documents/TermsConditionsTrainingGrants.pdf>

Both full-time and part-time students are eligible to apply.

The Award

The scholarship will run for a maximum of three years full-time (or 5 years part-time) commencing on September/October 2015 and will provide:

- annual maintenance equivalent to the RCUK rate plus an enhancement of £550 per year – £14,607 for 2015/16
- fees at the standard Home/EU rate
- research support grant of £200 per annum
- expenses of up to £1,800 per year from the project partner
- Scottish Graduate School of Arts & Humanities training and development courses

How to Apply

All applicants should complete and collate the following five pieces of documentation then **attach to a single email** and send to lauren.roberts@glasgow.ac.uk by **12 NOON GMT on WEDNESDAY 22 JULY 2015**.

A. Academic Transcript(s)

Full academic transcript(s) from previous studies (undergraduate and postgraduate).

B. 2 references

On official headed notepaper and signed by referees.

References given to candidates in sealed envelopes should be opened, scanned and attached to the application email.

References can also be emailed direct to lauren.roberts@glasgow.ac.uk by referees via their official email address; clearly labelling the reference e.g. "John Smith XX Scholarship Reference"



Applicants currently studying for a PhD at the University of Glasgow should include a reference from their current supervisor.

C. Copy of CV

1 page maximum

D. Research Proposal

A brief 2-page document addressing your contribution to the proposed research project. Proposals should be no longer than 1500 words, excluding references etc. References bibliography etc. should be separate from research proposal i.e. on a different word document. **Any proposal over 1500 words will not be considered.**

E. Completed application form

Any application which fails to meet the above requirements will not be considered.

Selection Process

Applications will be ranked by a selection panel and applicants will be notified of the decision on their application by **MONDAY 27 JULY 2015**. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to attend a short Skype interview on **THURSDAY 30 JULY 2015**.

All Studentship awards are subject to candidates successfully securing admission to a PhD programme within the College of Social Sciences. Successful scholarship applicants will be invited to apply for admission to the relevant PhD programme after they are selected for funding.

Informal Enquiries

Please direct informal enquiries to Prof Alison Phipps (alison.phipps@glasgow.ac.uk). General advice regarding eligibility can be sought from Lauren Roberts (lauren.roberts@glasgow.ac.uk).