

Manifesto – Draft 2

The Queer Culture Hub

Queer is an umbrella term used to generalise different labels and definitions. But what really is Queer Culture? It is dance, music, fashion, art, literature, sports, community, love, activism, and freedom. An open and accepting community with rich history, values, beliefs, and identities. A culture that has been formed out of exclusion and isolation.

Edinburgh being a city filled with multiple universities it is full of young people from a range of backgrounds, but it is also a busy city external from the universities. While the Queer Community is an active part of the city and includes people with all different ages, races, interests and hobbies there is a noticeable lack of a connected community. There is no centre. Despite the presence of various environments where queer individuals may feel accepted, many are still seeking a dedicated hub—a safe, welcoming venue where they can connect and engage with one another. How can we create a reserved space that allows for casual meetings, engages and inspires a community, who often feel pushed out in other spaces?

It is import that this project also takes a responsibility in providing and facilitating health care for Queer people. With standard health care being targeted for the '*norm*' there is a huge lack in resources to care for the specific needs of the Queer Community and the niche problems that they face, in both physical and mental health. The project will offer a separate space for examinations, clinics and counselling.

The design aims create a gay village within a building in the centre of Edinburgh. A daytime haven to connect, explore, and enjoy. A space for groups, individuals, and speakers.