

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Stacie Fasola (617) 457-5418  
Despina Gakopoulos (617) 457-5502  
[newsmedia@roadscholar.org](mailto:newsmedia@roadscholar.org)

### ROAD SCHOLAR'S ARTS-FOCUSED LEARNING ADVENTURE GETS RAVE REVIEWS DURING LGBT HISTORY MONTH

*The not-for-profit organization is now offering new dates in the summer of 2019*

BOSTON (October 22, 2018) – LGBT History Month is a month-long annual observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. In 2018, Road Scholar offered a new program aboard the Queen Mary 2 that explored the triumphs and challenges of the LGBT community in the London arts scene.

*Into the London Arts Scene: A Gay Perspective on Queen Mary 2* began as a transatlantic voyage aboard Queen Mary 2. Popular Road Scholar lecturer and theater expert Giles Ramsay explored the perspective of gay men and women and their influence within London's extensive theater scene. The program explored the lives of some of the world's most renowned authors, actors and playwrights — Christopher Marlowe, Oscar Wilde and Noël Coward — and how they walked a precarious tightrope to balance their private desires against contemporary sensibilities.

“Men and women from across the country enrolled in this ground-breaking program,” said James Moses, President and CEO of Road Scholar. “Several of those participants reached out to me personally, to say how impressed they were with the lecturers, the educational rigor and the camaraderie amongst the participants. Because of their enthusiastic response, we’ve added additional program dates for this LGBT-focused learning adventure, hoping to expand the reach of these programs.”

Road Scholar participant John Bekeney described the adventure as a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

“This program combined a bucket-list Transatlantic Crossing on the Cunard Line’s iconic QM2 with an immersive cultural experience in London,” John said. “Theatrical producer Giles Ramsay’s knowledge of the theater was as entertaining as it was encyclopedic. The program is unsurpassed and the camaraderie of the LGBTQ participants superb. A lively daily LGBT happy hour with QM2’s other LGBTQ passengers was the icing on the cake.”

Another participant, Marianne Morgan, shared a heartfelt story about this program being the first opportunity for some individuals to be themselves and relax.

“Many baby boomers in the LGBT community have lived either closed lives or have been discriminated against in some manner in our personal or professional life,” Marianne said. “For some in this recent trip, it was the FIRST time they were able to travel and ‘be themselves,’ and be supported and not ostracized.”

Enrollment is now open for departures in 2019. To learn more, please visit the website:

<https://www.roadscholar.org/find-an-adventure/22997/into-the-london-arts-scene-a-gay-perspective-on-queen-mary-2>

**About Road Scholar**

Road Scholar is the nation's largest educational travel organization for adults – a true university of the world. This not-for-profit educational organization offers 5,500 extraordinary learning adventures in 150 countries and 50 states. Road Scholars are immersed in a variety of educational activities, enlisting renowned faculty and experts who offer insider access not available to most individuals. Dedicated to making educational travel available to everyone, Road Scholar offers financial aid for those who otherwise could not participate in its programs.

Road Scholar educational adventures are created by Elderhostel, the not-for-profit world leader in educational travel for adults since 1975. To learn more, please visit [www.roadscholar.org/press](http://www.roadscholar.org/press) or check our blog at [blog.roadscholar.org](http://blog.roadscholar.org).