To whom it may concern

My name is Vilde and I am writing on behalf of Gaymer, which is an activity subgroup/project of the non-profit organization FRI Vestland in Norway. It is a local chapter of <u>FRI - organization for</u> <u>gender and sexuality diversity</u>. As the name implies, it works for queer rights in Norway. Gaymer is a collaboration between FRI Vestland and a game youth center called <u>Spillhuset Bergen</u>, and aims to provide social meeting places for queer people interested in games (pc-games, console games, board games, and roleplaying games) along with advocating for representation, and with time also (hopefully) facilitating panels talking about queer characters, gamers, and creators. Maybe even facilitate the creation of a queer e-sport team at some point.

From July 25 to August 11 2024, there will be a games festival in Bergen, called Bergen Spillfestival aimed at youth and families with children. Gaymer has been lucky to receive free venue spaces in the city centre to hold a queer mini game festival within <u>Bergen Spillfestival</u>. The festival is visited by a few thousand each year, and has venues both indoors and outdoors. One of the indoor venues I would like to create is a small gallery showcasing art of queer characters in games, and if possible do this along with infographics from the GLAAD 2024 game report [1].

This is where you come in. I came across your work while I was researching what queer gaming characters exist, and what characters are loved by the queer gaming community. I think showcasing art of your game characters showcases parts of the broad diversity of queer spaces and presentation. This would be an opportunity to showcase your art to a wide audience, help with representation, and give someone the opportunity to identify with your art. I would need your explicit permission to showcase some of your art with queer characters from you as part of the art exhibition. I believe that showcasing your art in the gallery would get a lot of positive reaction from the public and there would be no significant risk to you. I therefore wanted to ask if you are interested in a collaboration as part of the queer gaming art exhibition, for example by giving me permission to print out a selection of high-resolution images of your favorite queer gaming characters?

After the festival, the pieces would be donated to either Spillhuset Bergen, a different youth center called Forandringshuset, libraries, the local hospital, or a queer archive at University of Bergen called Skeivt Arkiv. Donating to Skeivt Arkiv would allow us, and possibly others, to reuse the pieces for later galleries.

Would you be interested in and available for a digital meeting or a phone call, to discuss this project further?

This is a non-profit initiative and we would be very grateful for your support.

With hope

Vilde Fonn Dretvik (she/they) Board member, and principal responsible for Gaymer FRI Vestland FRI - Foreningen for kjønns,- og seksualitetsmangfold Strandgaten 6, 5013 Bergen

Websites of organizations mentioned: Spillhuset Bergen: <u>https://www.spillhusetbergen.no/</u> Foreningen FRI: <u>https://foreningenfri.no/</u> Bergen Spillfestival: <u>https://www.bergenspillfestival.no/</u>

[1] 2024 GLAAD Gaming Report: The State of LGBTQ Inclusion in Video Games | GLAAD