

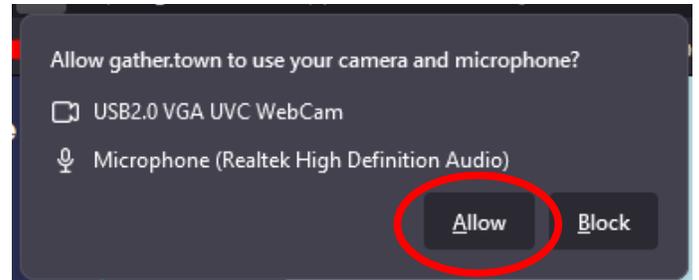
# Brief introduction to Gather.Town

## SQulnT 2021 virtual poster session

### 1. Setting up Gather.Town:

It is strongly recommended to use the Google Chrome browser for Gather.Town. Use a large monitor if possible - this makes it easier to view posters.

Make sure to give Gather.Town access to your microphone and webcam when prompted by your browser (see the screenshot to the right).



For Mac users: go to System Preferences -> Security & Privacy -> (Camera | Microphone) and ensure that the box on the right is checked.

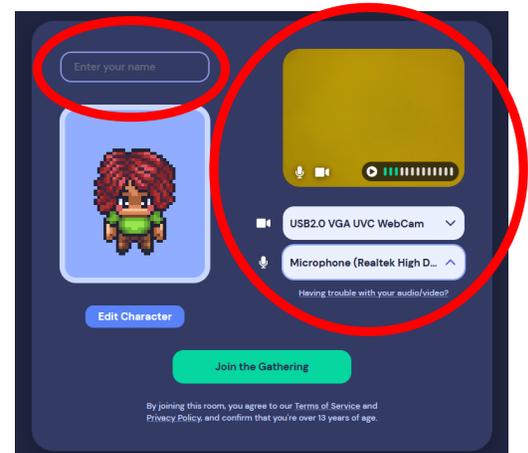
### 2: Joining the SQulnT2021 Gather.Town:

Use the supplied link and passcode to enter the SQulnT 2021 Gather.Town session. **When prompted for an email address, you should use the email that you used to register for SQulnT 2021, as access is restricted.** Following this you will likely be greeted by the window shown to the right (or by an avatar customization prior to the window on the right).

Verify that your webcam and microphone works. You may optionally edit your avatar's appearance. **Remember to enter your name in the field above the avatar**, as this name will be displayed over your avatar's head inside Gather.Town.

**Please use an easily recognizable name, i.e., "John Doe" rather than "JD" etc., so that people may recognize you!**

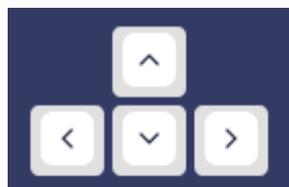
Once you are ready, click the green 'Join the Gathering' button!



### 3: Navigating Gather.Town

Use the arrow keys on your keyboard (or alternatively the W-A-S-D keys) to move your avatar around in Gather.Town.

Gather.Town rooms are connected via clearly marked doorways. Simply walk through these to enter an adjacent room.



### 4: Moving around the map

The first time you enter the SQulnT 2021 Gather.Town, your avatar will appear in the Foyer (see the map on page 3).

From the foyer you should **move North to enter the main lobby**, from which colored footprints point you to the five different (color coded) poster rooms. The main lobby also connects to a lounge and two break rooms for conversation.

## 5. Interacting with posters and objects

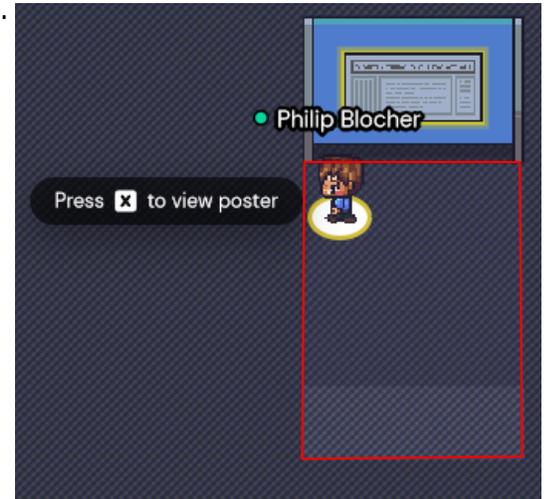
Interactable objects will glow yellow once your avatar is close to them. Press the X button on your keyboard to interact with them.

In the SQuInT2021 virtual conference space, only the poster boards in poster rooms and the poster overview monitors in every room are interactable.

As you approach a poster, a small preview window will pop up with the poster title and presenter name.

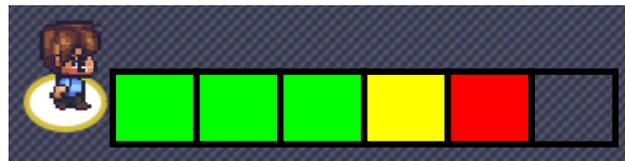
To view a poster, move into the 3x4 tile private space belonging to that particular poster (outlined in red on the picture to the right) and press X on your keyboard to view. Press X again to close the poster.

While viewing a poster, you can zoom in & out by using the buttons on the right-hand side of your screen.



## 6. Proximity-based audio, public spaces, and private space

Audio in Gather.Town is proximity-based, and unless otherwise marked, the floor space in Gather.Town is public. This means that any person within 5 tiles of your avatar will be able to hear you speak and see your webcam. The audio intensity decays with increasing distance from the speaker and cuts off at >5 tiles, the exception being in private spaces (see below).



Floor spaces marked with a darker color (around posters) and by rugs (under sets of chairs and tables) are 'private spaces' (examples below), meaning that only individuals within a particular private space can hear each other. There is no audio intensity decay in private spaces.

**Please move longer conversations (>3min) to private spaces in the poster rooms, main lobby, big lounge, or break rooms. As anyone can enter the private space at any time, sensitive topics should be saved for a later time outside the SQuInT 2021 Gather.Town session.**



Entering a private space will display this message at the bottom of your screen and dim any tiles that are not part of this particular private space:

You have entered a private space

## 7. Locating another attendee

To locate an attendee in Gather.Town, click on the participants icon in the lower left corner of your screen.

Select the name of the attendee you wish to locate, then click 'Locate on Map'.

Follow the indications in Gather.Town to locate the person, then click 'Stop Locating' near the bottom of the screen.

## 8. Chatting with other attendees via text

To chat to an attendee in Gather.Town, press the chat icon (two speech bubbles) in the lower left corner of the screen.

Then select the name of the attendee you wish to chat to in the drop-down menu. This will open a communication channel with them so you can let them know to check out poster X, or to meet you in the lounge for a discussion.

## 9. Leaving Gather.Town

The SQuInT 2021 Gather.Town session will be accessible during October 14-15, so feel to explore the different posters between Zoom sessions. Once you are ready to leave Gather.Town, simply close the browser window. Your avatar will be where you left it when you return later!

## 10. The SQuInT 2021 Gather.Town map

All rooms are connected to the main lobby. Poster rooms additionally connect to adjacent poster rooms. E.g., the orange poster room connects to the main lobby, the red poster room, and the yellow poster room. The lounge and break rooms can be used for conversations.

