



**QUEENSLAND  
MUSEUM**



# World Science Festival Brisbane

Chinchilla Regional Program

31 March & 1 April 2017

## MEDIA KIT

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



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# ABOUT

## WORLD SCIENCE FESTIVAL NEW YORK

World Science Festival takes science out of the laboratory and into the streets, parks, museums, galleries and premier performing arts venues of New York City and beyond.

The festival brings together great minds in science and the arts to produce live and digital content which presents the wonders of science and the drama of scientific discovery to a broad, general audience.

It boasts discussions, debates, theatrical works, interactive explorations, musical performances and major outdoor experiences.

The annual week-long New York festival launched in 2008 and has collectively drawn more than a million and a half visitors, with millions more viewing the program online.

World Science Festival is a production of the World Science Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organisation with its headquarters in New York City.

# WORLD SCIENCE FESTIVAL BRISBANE

World Science Festival Brisbane was held for the first time in 2016, presented by Queensland Museum.

World Science Festival features some of the world's greatest thought leaders to Queensland, showcasing local scientists and performers from the Asia Pacific region and they also host some of the brightest and best from previous events in New York.

Queensland Museum secured World Science Festival Brisbane for six years in an exclusive licence agreement with World Science Festival in New York.

World Science Festival Brisbane is an annual celebration of science, technology, engineering, maths and the arts and is held during March every year in Brisbane in the Cultural Precinct.

Each year, Queensland Museum will also grow the regional festival program and this year it will go to Gladstone, Toowoomba, Townsville and Chinchilla.

It features local scientists and performers from around Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia, as well as having the opportunity to host the brightest and best from previous events in New York.



# 2016 HIGHLIGHTS + KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

A spider named Brian, a stage production celebrating Einstein's life and infinity swings were just a few of the activities at Brisbane's inaugural World Science Festival.

Some of the world's best thinkers attended Brisbane's festival including Emmy award-winning actor Alan Alda of M\*A\*S\*H fame, World Science Festival co-founder Brian Greene, Nobel Laureate Brian Schmidt and 'Her Deepness' Sylvia Earle.

They discussed and debated latest discoveries and breakthrough in topics ranging from deep space to deep oceans, the search for alien life, the link between madness and creativity, the ethics of sports science, technological innovation and our changing world.

Professor Brian Greene also had a spider named after him.

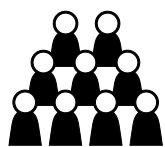
*Dolomedes briangreenei* is a new species of the *Dolomedes* genus (water spiders). The new spider is endemic to Queensland, found around Brisbane, and uses vibrations on the surface of the water or 'waves' to navigate and find prey.

More than 87,000 people attended events at the Cultural Precinct over the five-day festival.

In addition to Brisbane-based events, more than 3,000 Darling Downs and Townsville residents enjoyed World Science Festival Brisbane regional programs.

## THE NUMBERS

Almost  
**65,000**  
visits to Queensland  
Museum during  
the festival



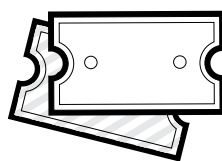
More than  
**120,000**  
people experienced  
World Science  
Festival Brisbane  
in 2016

More than  
**240**  
VOLUNTEERS

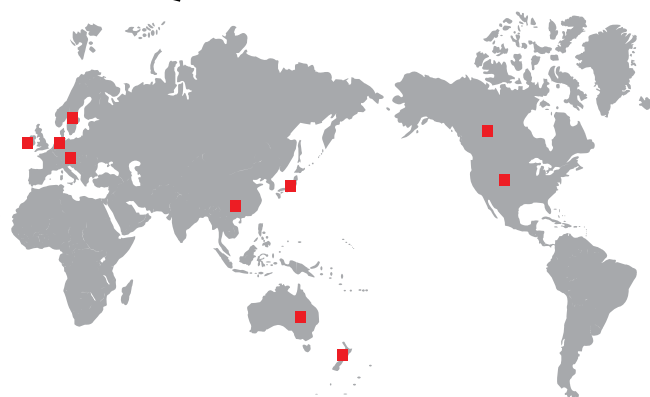
More than  
**900,000**  
webpage  
views



**5.5 million**  
digital campaign reach



More than  
**90**  
EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



featuring **247** participants from **10** countries



## TURTLES

Turtle hatching was a huge drawcard during the 2016 festival.

In an Australian first, the eggs were incubated, watched and timed to hatch on a certain date so the public could witness turtles hatching during World Science Festival Brisbane.

Queensland Museum Vertebrate Curator Patrick Couper and Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's internationally renowned turtle biologist Dr Colin Limpus oversaw the project in 2016.

Crowds flocked to Queensland Museum to watch the Flatback and Loggerhead turtles hatch before their very own eyes.

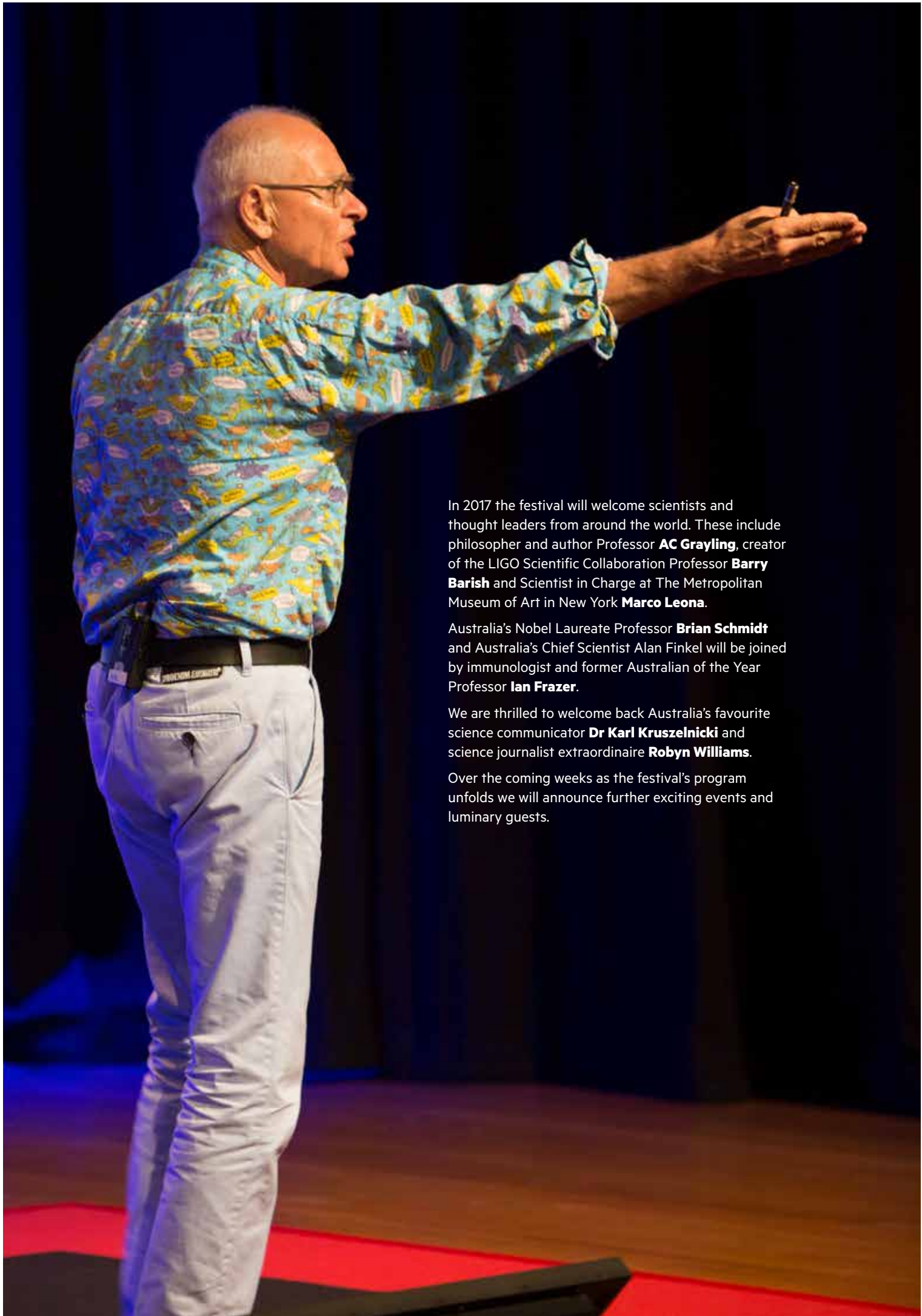
After the turtles hatched, they were taken to Yeppoon and released offshore, while the remaining hatchlings were taken to Underwater World on the Sunshine Coast and were fitted with transmitters. This enables scientists to track their movements when they are later released.

Turtle hatching is a collaboration between Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, SEA LIFE Mooloolaba and Queensland Museum. It has been made possible with support from Aqua One, SEA LIFE Trust ANZ and James Cook University. This project has received official approval by Queensland Museum Animal Ethics Committee.

## 2017 GUEST CURATOR PROFESSOR AIDAN BYRNE



Professor Aidan Byrne was recently appointed as Provost and Senior Vice-President at The University of Queensland, where he will provide leadership in strategic, academic and administrative management. Professor Byrne joined UQ after four years as CEO of the Australian Research Council, one of the country's peak funding bodies for scientific research and innovation. These executive positions follow 30 years in science research and academia, framed by a PhD in nuclear physics and most recently as Dean of Science and the Director of the Australian National University College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences.



In 2017 the festival will welcome scientists and thought leaders from around the world. These include philosopher and author Professor **AC Grayling**, creator of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration Professor **Barry Barish** and Scientist in Charge at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York **Marco Leona**.

Australia's Nobel Laureate Professor **Brian Schmidt** and Australia's Chief Scientist Alan Finkel will be joined by immunologist and former Australian of the Year Professor **Ian Frazer**.

We are thrilled to welcome back Australia's favourite science communicator **Dr Karl Kruszelnicki** and science journalist extraordinaire **Robyn Williams**.

Over the coming weeks as the festival's program unfolds we will announce further exciting events and luminary guests.

## REGIONAL PROGRAM

The festival's regional program in 2017 will again provide Queensland communities the opportunity to get involved locally in the *World Science Festival Brisbane*. Programs designed to engage community members in stimulating and inspiring experiences, will be unique to each location, and will offer a selection of STEM-related activities such as discussions with leading scientists, workshops, hands-on activities or visual displays.

Community Events associated with the WSFB Regional Program 2017 will be delivered into four regional locations:

**Gladstone 4 March**

**Toowoomba 17 March**

**Townsville 26 March**

**Chinchilla 1 April**

Explore the full program at  
[worldsciencefestival.com.au](http://worldsciencefestival.com.au)





# 2017 WSFB CHINCHILLA REGIONAL KEY PROGRAMS

## STUDENT DAY

Student Day,  
Friday 31 March 2017

**Location:** Chinchilla Cultural Centre,  
68–86 Heeney Street

**Time:** 9am–3pm

**Attendees:** 200 students from the Southern  
Queensland Country Region, Years 7–9

In two sessions spread over the day, 100 students (per session) will arrive to experience an event specifically dedicated to school engagement. Each session will include opportunities to interact with artefacts, marvel at exhibition displays and experience some practical hands-on science demonstrations. Students will also have the opportunity to speak with industry professionals from STEM-related fields. In small groups, students will engage with scientists and industry professionals from a variety of science practices to discover the wonder, awe and inspirational career pathways available in STEM.

Sessions run from 9am – 12.30pm and 11.30am – 3pm.

### Morning session, 9am–12.30pm:

The students will be split into two groups. Each group will participate in a workshop run by 'Power of Engineering' and swap into/out of 'Speed chat with a Scientist' – an opportunity for students to interact via small group discussion with STEM industry professionals.

All students will then move to the theatre to attend a 60 minute keynote presentation by Dr Catherine Ball before departing.

### Afternoon session, 11.30am–3pm:

All students will begin the event by attending a 60 minute keynote presentation by Dr Catherine Ball then be split into two groups.

Each group will participate in a workshop run by 'Power of Engineering' and swap into/out of 'Speed chat with a Scientist' – an opportunity for students to interact via small group discussion with STEM industry professionals. After both groups have attended all workshops, event concludes and students before departing.

### Workshops:

Power of Engineering will provide four x 50 minute workshops suiting students in Years 7 – 9 throughout the day. The workshops are designed as an interactive experience to engage students, introduce them to basic engineering principles and give participants the chance to experience first-hand what a career in engineering is like.

### Speed Chat a Scientist

Groups will rotate throughout the day for an opportunity to learn from STEM Professionals about their industry and the work they do. The sessions are designed to engage and inspire students in following a career path in a STEM-related field.

**Dr Catherine Ball**, Co-creator, World of Drones Congress

**Dr Robert Raven**, Head, Terrestrial Biodiversity & Senior Curator, Chelicerata, Queensland Museum Network

**Dr Scott Hocknull**, Senior Curator, Vertebrate Palaeontologist, Queensland Museum Network

**Joanne Wilkinson**, Geosciences Fossil Preparator, Queensland Museum Network

**Greg Pratt**, Manager of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute

**Madeleine Kersting Flynn**, Biomedical Illustrator, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute

**Associate Professor Jonti Horner**, Vice Chancellor's Senior Research Fellow, Astronomer and Astrobiologist, University of Southern Queensland

**Dr Malcolm Gillies**, Senior Research Fellow, National Centre for Engineering in Agriculture [NCEA], University of Southern Queensland

**Sarah Gallegos**, Electrical Engineer, QGC

**Simon Barker**, Rotating Equipment Manager, QGC

### Additional Speed Chat a Scientist activities

The Wonder of Science Flying Scientist Young Science Ambassadors will be visiting Tara Shire State College and interacting with up to 100 students about study options and career pathways in STEM.

This event is brought to you by Wonder of Science in partnership with the Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist - proudly supporting the Queensland Government's Advance Queensland Initiative.

# COMMUNITY DAY

Community Day,  
Saturday 1 April 2017

**Location:**

Chinchilla Cultural Centre  
68-86 Heeney Street

**Time:**

9am-4pm

From palaeontology to spiders and drones – the Chinchilla Cultural Centre will be transformed when the World Science Festival Brisbane regional program takes over for a supercharged FREE celebration of science!

In March 2017, the World Science Festival Brisbane will once again bring together the world's best thought leaders to produce a stunning program that connects audiences of all ages with the concepts, challenges, discoveries and advancements that are shaping our world.

The Festival's regional program is coming to Chinchilla for the first time on Saturday, 1 April for a FREE community event.

The World Science Festival Brisbane regional program takes science from the lab to the streets, giving visitors an opportunity to meet with a range of science professionals, including a renowned drone expert and 2015 Telstra Businesswoman of the Year, palaeontologists, a biomedical illustrator, arachnologist, biomedical researchers and more! Visitors can also enjoy getting their hands on some seriously fun street science and science experiments, virtual reality, science meets art as well as a free exhibition, workshops and displays.

Explore the full program at  
[worldsciencefestival.com.au](http://worldsciencefestival.com.au)

## Exhibitions and Displays

### Prehistoric Chinchilla



**Speakers:**

Queensland Museum Network Geosciences team:

Dr. Scott Hocknull,  
Senior Curator & Vertebrate Palaeontologist

Kristen Spring,  
Collection Manager

Joanne Wilkinson,  
Senior Preparator

Christina Chiotakis  
Masters Student, Geosciences

**Presentation topic:**  
*Prehistoric Chinchilla*

**Items on display:**

Geosciences fossils and imagery focused on Chinchilla's vertebrate fossil record, including a fossil finding activity and 3-D technology.

**About:**

Visitors will explore some of the fossils found around Chinchilla and discover what life was like 3.6 million years ago. Giant kangaroos, crocodiles, komodo dragons and the strangest marsupials you have ever seen are just some of the mega-beasts you will learn about. Queensland Museum palaeontologists have been collecting from Chinchilla for over 100 years. Help palaeontologists continue this search through ancient sediment in the hope of discovering microfossils belonging to ancient species not yet known. New 3-D technology will allow you to see these fossils in ways never before thought possible. Together, we will be searching for clues as to Chinchilla's Prehistoric Past at the World Science Festival – Chinchilla.

Dr. Scott Hocknull began his palaeontological career at a very young age, publishing his first scientific paper when he was 16 years old. He started work at the Queensland Museum at age 17 and became curator of palaeontology at 22. Scott has discovered and named many new species including the iconic Australian dinosaurs *Australovenator*, *Diamantinasaurus* and *Wintonotitan*.

## Wild State



### **Speaker:**

Dr Robert Raven,  
Head, Terrestrial Biodiversity  
& Senior Curator, Chelicerata,  
Queensland Museum Network

### **Presentation topic:**

*Wild State*

### **Items on display:**

*Wild State* imagery, local specimens,  
Queensland Museum *Rainforest  
Camouflage* and *Arid Adaptations*  
loans kits

### **About:**

Dr Raven has been spider Curator at the Queensland Museum for 30 years and is a spider bite consultant for the Poisons Information Centre. He has named over 400 species of spider including trapdoor, funnel web and tarantula spiders. His present interest is in the larger ground spiders that kill and eat toads including Racing Stripe, Huntsman and Water spiders. Come and get hands-on with Dr Raven and his spiders!

## Testing the sun's UV rays



### **Speaker:**

Sally Gardner,  
QIMR Berghofer Medical  
Research Institute

### **Presentation topic:**

*Testing the sun's UV rays*

### **About:**

Living in the Sunshine State, it helps to know how to be sun-safe. Make your own UV bracelet and watch the beads change colour with exposure to the sun. You'll be able to test what blocks the UV rays the best!

**Not suitable for children  
aged 3 and under.**

## Street Science



### **Speaker:**

Steve Liddell & Tyrone Anderson

### **Presentation topic:**

*Hands-on Chemistry  
'Making Super Bouncy Balls'*

### **Items on display:**

Participants will use a variety of materials to mix and process PVA powders into amazing bouncy balls while getting hands-on with science!

### **About:**

Join the Street Science Team as participants get hands-on whilst mixing and processing a variety of polymers in order to create their very own customised 'Super Bouncy Ball'. Keep an eye out for their exclusive 'Glow in the Dark' colours right here in Chinchilla!

## Power of Engineering



**Speaker:** Katie Jones, Senior Process Engineer at Seqwater, engineering graduates and engineering university students from a variety of disciplines.

**Presentation topic:**

*How can you change the world around you with engineering?*

**Items on display:**

Engineering activities for both children and adults to enjoy. These include LittleBits electrical circuit kits, robotic Lego® and a giant marble maze run! Come and have a talk to our engineers at the booth from Boeing and Seqwater and learn how engineering can be fun!

Come and take part in some small engineering challenges at the Power of Engineering stand.

**Marshmallow Challenge**

Think you've got what it takes to be an engineer? Then come over to the POE stand and participate in the marshmallow challenge. In this construction challenge you'll compete against others to build a tall tower out of only marshmallows and pasta.

**About:**

We engage and inspire young people to create the future and change the world through engineering. We run free, one-day events for school students to demonstrate that they have the power to change the world through engineering. We change the perceptions of high school students in groups typically under-represented in engineering including those who are creatively-minded, female, rural, regional and indigenous.

## Australian Science Innovations



**Speaker/s:** Australian Science Olympiads Ambassadors

**Presentation topic:**

*Australian Science Olympiads*

**Items on display:**

Microscope; prepared slides including plants, insects, and animal tissues; plasma ball and a laser water experiment.

**About:**

Do you have what it takes to be a Science Olympian? Test your speed, precision and hand-eye coordination in a series of tasks designed to see if you have what it takes to be Australia's next Science Olympian. Science Olympians will be on hand to take you through your paces, give hints and tips and share their experience with you. You will hear firsthand what it's like to travel the world and compete as a science student - and learn what it takes to win a medal.

## Art Gallery Workshop



**Speaker/s:** Madeleine Kersting Flynn, Biomedical Illustrator, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute

**Presentation topic:** *Scientific Illustrations*

**About:**

Visitors to the Art Gallery can combine their scientific knowledge and creative skills in an interactive workshop where participants will be guided through an illustration session with QIMR Berghofer Biomedical Illustrator, Madeleine Kersting Flynn.

Madeleine has the privilege of being "behind the scenes" with some of the most brilliant minds on earth and has a love of studying and understanding how living things are put together. Madeleine works on the cutting edge of medical research and technology and has had access to places that are off limits to most - from cadaver labs to 3D imaging facilities.

## VIVE in the Library



**Presentation topic:** *Virtual Reality*

**Items on display:**

HTC VIVE™ headsets

**About:**

Come and experience the exciting world of virtual reality through with HTC's VIVE™ in the Chinchilla Library from 9am – 12pm. VIVE is a first-of-its-kind virtual reality system designed to transport you to another world! Let yourself be visually, physically and emotionally amazed by awe-inspiring characters, sights and sounds.

Paint your surroundings to reflect your individuality with the game Tilt Brush by Google. Tilt Brush lets you paint in 3D space with virtual reality. Unleash your creativity with three-dimensional brush strokes, stars, light, and even fire. Your room is your canvas. Your palette is your imagination. The possibilities are endless. The magic of this activity is that it is appropriate for young (from 6 years) and old!

## Speed Chat with Flying Scientists & Wonder of Science Ambassadors



**About:**

The Flying Scientists program engages rural Queenslanders in Science.

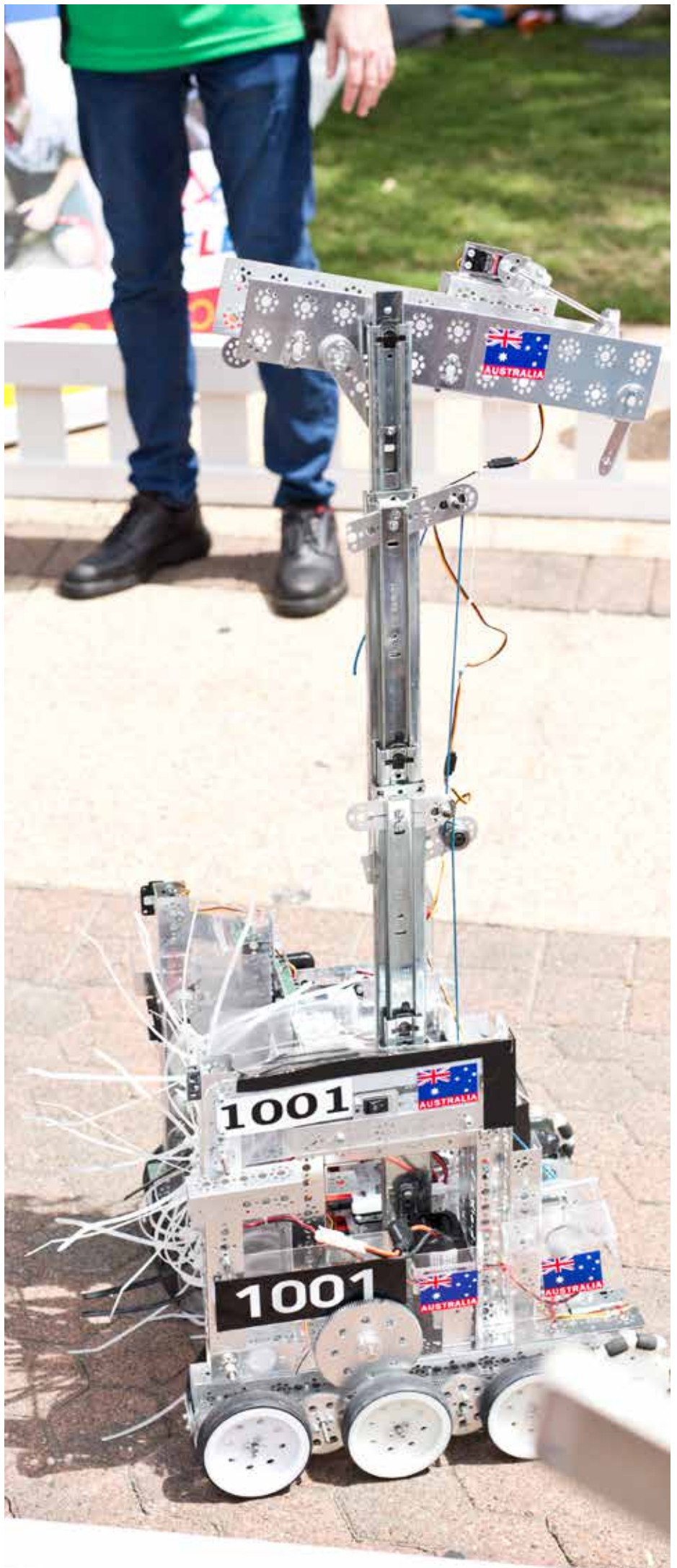
Community members visiting the World Science Festival are invited to participate in small group discussions with some of Queensland's leading scientists.

The interactions will feature study and career options through Science, with the opportunity for community members to ask questions.

# Presentations

Throughout the day, various workshops and presentations will be held in the Wattle Room. Attendance is free, but capacity is limited.

Time	Presentation	Location
9.15am – 9.45am	<p><i>Bugs, Biology and Bodies: The Diary of a Biomedical Illustrator</i></p> <p>Madeleine Kersting Flynn, Biomedical Illustrator, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute</p> <p>Art meets science! Join Madeleine as she takes you on the fascinating, unpredictable and humorous journey that led to her career today as a Biomedical Illustrator.</p>	Wattle Room
10am – 10.30am	<p><i>Local Functional Foods</i></p> <p>Professor Lindsay Brown, Professor of Biomedical Science, University of Southern Queensland</p> <p>Functional foods are defined as foods that can prevent or reverse disease, in addition to providing nutrition. Many of these functional foods can be easily grown and produced on the Darling Downs. Our USQ Functional Foods Research Group investigates the potential of these functional foods.</p>	Wattle Room
10.45am – 11.15am	<p><i>Street Science Show</i></p> <p>Steve Liddell, Street Science</p> <p>Science Steve from Street Science brings his seriously fun and educational science show - perfect for entertaining both kids and adults alike with fiery and explosive demonstrations.</p>	Wattle Room
11.30am – 12pm	<p><i>Spiders of the greater Chinchilla area: the good, the bad and the ugly</i></p> <p>Dr Robert Raven, Arachnologist, Queensland Museum Network</p> <p>Dr Raven has been in Chinchilla over the last month laying traps to collect spiders local to the region in a citizen science activity. Join him in his presentation as he explains common myths, misunderstandings and fun facts about spiders with the chance of discovering a new species!</p>	Wattle Room
12.15pm – 1.15pm	<p><i>Drones for good (and for fun!)</i></p> <p>Dr Catherine Ball, Co-creator, World of Drones Congress</p> <p>Drones can save lives, protect the environment, and help empower communities. This presentation will show what some drones can look like, and how we can use them.</p>	Wattle Room
1.30pm – 2pm	<p><i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research – Relating Science to People</i></p> <p>Greg Pratt, Manager of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute</p> <p>Greg will take you on a journey of how his expertise as a practitioner in the area of mental health have been adapted to a managerial and policy development context, with a focus on the importance of community, family, school, tertiary study and health in the whole-of-life cycle that is humanity through humility.</p>	Wattle Room
2.15pm – 2.45pm	<p><i>Prehistoric Chinchilla</i></p> <p>Dr. Scott Hocknull, Senior Curator &amp; Vertebrate Palaeontologist, Geosciences, Queensland Museum Network</p> <p>Chinchilla was once home to some of the world's most bizarre and amazing creatures. Around 4-3 million years ago Chinchilla hosted a menagerie of giant animals. From huge marsupials with monstrous cheek bones to the origin of the Komodo Dragon, Chinchilla's fossil record is vast and intriguing making the fossils discovered in this region internationally significant. Dr. Hocknull will take you on a tour of these discoveries whilst painting a picture of life in Chinchilla's ancient past.</p>	Wattle Room
3pm – 3.30pm	<p><i>Street Science Show</i></p> <p>Steve Liddell, Street Science</p> <p>Science Steve from Street Science brings his seriously fun and educational science show - perfect for entertaining both kids and adults alike with fiery and explosive demonstrations.</p>	Wattle Room



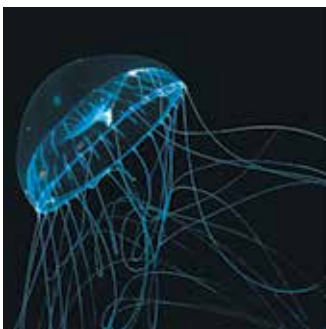
# IMAGES FOR MEDIA USE

World Science Festival Brisbane will be held from 22-26 March 2017 and will bring together great minds in science and the arts during the five-day event.

The Chinchilla Regional Program will be held 31 March & 1 April with a FREE community event held on 1 April.

Below is a selection of images and captions for media use. Additional images are available on request.

Supplied photo credits must accompany publication - image courtesy of Queensland Museum.





# QUEENSLAND MUSEUM NETWORK

Queensland Museum Network (the Network) is the keeping place for the State Collection of more than 1.2 million objects and specimens, valued at more than \$487 million, and more than 14 million research collection items.

The Network has grown since the Queensland Museum was founded by the Queensland Philosophical Society in January 1862, coming under the responsibility of the State Government in 1871 and moving into its first purpose-built premises in 1879.

Today, the Network is governed by the Board of the Queensland Museum (the Board) and includes:

- Queensland Museum (including the Sciencentre) in the heart of Brisbane's Cultural Precinct at South Bank
- Cobb+Co Museum in Toowoomba
- Museum of Tropical Queensland in Townsville
- The Workshops Rail Museum in Ipswich
- Queensland Museum Collections, Research and Loans Centre in Hendra
- Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying in Woolloongabba, Brisbane
- Earth Sciences Museum, The University of Queensland

Over the years, the Network has changed alongside Queensland as it discovers, documents and celebrates the state's natural, cultural and regional diversity.

Through its dynamic network of public attractions, trusted scientific and cultural research, significant collections, and regional and community services, the Network continues to enrich the cultural, social and intellectual life of Queenslanders and visitors to the state.

The Network reaches far beyond the walls of its six public museums, fostering connections with diverse audiences of millions of people each year. It does this through museum visits, events, workshops, talks and lectures, school education kits, online interaction and publications, and continues to be at the forefront in providing successful professional and community support for the collections and museums sector.

The Network is celebrated as a valued cultural and scientific leader, growing with the community to foster a better understanding of our place in the world.

Its scientific and academic researchers are internationally recognised for their expertise in the disciplines of natural and cultural heritage and geosciences.

# MEDIA INTERVIEWS AND CONTACTS

A selection of World Science Festival Brisbane images are available for media use and additional images can be sourced on request.

Supplied photo credits must accompany publication.

Image courtesy of Queensland Museum.

Click here to access the suite of images:

**<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/i7gz1prufh8pu0h/AAATDvze-M1ZJXblj2zNnrQza?dl=0>**

## Queensland Museum

Entry is free

Queensland Museum

Cnr Grey and Melbourne Streets

South Brisbane

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## CONNECT WITH QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

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Twitter: @qldmuseum

Instagram: qldmuseum

## CONNECT WITH WORLD SCIENCE FESTIVAL BRISBANE

#WSFB2017

#WSFBregional

Twitter: @WSFBrisbane

Facebook: facebook.com/worldsciencefestivalbrisbane

Instagram: instagram.com/worldsciencefestivalbrisbane/

YouTube: www.youtube.com/c/WorldScienceFestivalBrisbaneAus

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PO Box 3300

South Brisbane

Queensland

[www.worldsciencefestival.com.au](http://www.worldsciencefestival.com.au)

# WSFB CHINCHILLA PARTNERS

## Strategic Partners

Tourism and Events Queensland

Southern Queensland Country Region

## Community Partner

QGC

## Presented by

Queensland Museum

Queensland Government