

24 June 2022

Ready, set, get curious: *Curiosity Brisbane* opens today

Today marks the first of 17 colourful days of *Curiosity Brisbane* featuring outdoor artworks, interactive installations, conversations and workshops by world-class artists for visitors to explore during Brisbane's winter holidays.

A key pillar of World Science Festival Brisbane, *Curiosity Brisbane* will transform the city's cultural heart from 24 June to 10 July with 20 large scale artworks across South Bank Parklands, the Cultural Precinct, Brisbane Botanic Gardens and the CBD over an exhilarating five-kilometre trail.

Acclaimed artists from across Australia created these artworks blending science, innovation and art in exciting and thought-provoking ways to encourage visitors to consider some of the most pressing issues facing our planet, future, and society.

Queenslander's Georgie Pinn's seven-metre-tall sculptural head **OHCE/ECHO** poses the question of whether machines can teach us to be better humans and EphemeralLab's augmented reality trail of **CurioCreatures** asks what the wildlife of Brisbane will look like in thousands of years.

Carol McGregor's **Acknowledging Place** creates a space to sit and reflect, considering an Aboriginal perspective of caring for Country.

Other *Curiosity Brisbane* artworks include collaborations between sound artists, lecturers, engineers, interface designers, a First Nations Poet, herpetologist, climate change social scientist and more.

Through the *Curiosity Schools Challenge*, six Queensland schools have also contributed to the *Curiosity Brisbane 2022* program including Boonah State High School, MacGregor State High School, Isis District State High School, Lota State School, Blackall Range Independent School and Dalby South School who have created their own installations or collaborated with *Curiosity Brisbane* artists.

Curiosity Brisbane is proudly presented by Queensland Museum Network as part of World Science Festival Brisbane and was rescheduled after flooding events impacted its planned delivery in March this year.

Queensland Museum Network CEO Dr Jim Thompson said he was looking forward to seeing visitors inspired by science beyond the walls of Queensland Museum.

"Queensland Museum Network's core purpose is to connect with communities and tell stories that inspire, enrich and empower," Dr Thompson said.

"We do this every day in our network of museums across Queensland, including Queensland Museum at South Bank. It's fantastic to see that connection and inspiration come to life through the *Curiosity* artworks in Brisbane's great outdoors."

FEATURING

Minister for the Arts Leeanne Enoch said *Curiocity Brisbane* was a new feature of World Science Festival Brisbane.

“Curiocity weaves science, innovation and art together in way that invites visitors of all ages and levels of scientific or artistic know-how to explore the unique artworks,” Minister Enoch said.

“These artistic *curiocities*, created by a diverse collection of imaginative minds, will provide plenty of hands-on elements, engagement and opportunities to meet with selected artists.

“The Queensland Government supports *Curiocity Brisbane* as part of our commitment to connect Queenslanders with art and science.

“Events like Curiocity help to grow our state’s reputation as a leader in delivering exciting events, growing employment opportunities for artists and arts workers and boosting cultural tourism.”

Brisbane artist, academic and *Curiocity Brisbane* Curator Jay Younger said that today’s opening day was highly anticipated by the artists who were eager to see their artworks on display for the public to start exploring.

“Seeing the installations come to fruition on site across South Bank and the CBD has been so rewarding for the artists, particularly after the original *Curiocity Brisbane* event was postponed in March this year due to flooding,” Jay Younger said.

“The artists have been working on these concepts and installations for at least 9 months and for some this is the largest engagement with the public to date. Bringing the artworks out into the public realm is the ultimate reward.

“The feedback, questions and reactions from *Curiocity Brisbane* visitors is what makes the event truly thrive.”

Tourism and Innovation Minister Stirling Hinchliffe said winter in Brisbane and Curiocity were a perfect visitor combination.

“Curiocity’s creative mix of art and science and Brisbane’s warm winter weather are always popular with visitors from across Queensland and Australia,” Mr Hinchliffe said.

“Last year, Curiocity contributed more than \$3.65 million to Brisbane’s visitor economy which is great news for accommodation providers, restaurants, cafés and the city’s world-class tourist operators.

“It’s terrific to see Curiocity continue to grow as one of the Queensland capital’s premier visitor events.”

Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said *Curiocity Brisbane* was a perfect opportunity to explore some of the inner city’s renowned locations with the kids, given the event coincided with school holidays.

“With artworks popping up in spots like South Bank’s Streets Beach and the Cultural Precinct, *Curiocity Brisbane* is a great excuse to get outdoors and experience some of the best of Brisbane during these winter months,” Cr Schrinner said.

"From our riverside hubs to lesser-known laneways, visitors and locals can also enjoy the city's restaurants, cafés and bars along the way.

"This celebration of science and art also reflects Brisbane's reputation as a thriving innovation hub and contemporary city, offering vibrant cultural experiences like this to visitors and locals alike."

Keep up to date with *Curiosity Brisbane* news and World Science Festival Brisbane program information by subscribing for updates at worldsciencefestival.com.au

CURIOCITY BRISBANE 2022

Artworks and Artists

BOTANICAL GARDENS, GOODWILL BRIDGE, South Bank and CBD

- *City Symphony* - QMF and Textile Audio
TRAIL Sites located at City Botanic Gardens, Goodwill Bridge, Queensland Gardens and Queen Street Mall.
- *CurioCreatures (QR code- Collect them all)* - Alinta Krauth & Jason Nelson (EphemerLab)
TRAIL Collect all 15 across South Bank, the Goodwill Bridge, and Queen Street Mall

SOUTHBANK

- *Mirage Project (Iceberg)* - David Burrows & Australian Antarctic Program
- *OHCE/ECHO* - Georgie Pinn with guest creators MacGregor State High School
- *Sounding Tides* - Erik Griswold & Rebecca Cunningham
- *The Wandering Birds Have Returned to the River (Even Bernice)* - Seth Ellis & Michelle Vine with guest creators Lota State High School
- *Amphisonic* - Panos Curos
- *The Origins of Art I and II* - Maria-Fernanda Cardoso
- *DE-CAY-dence* - Donna Davis
- *Communing With Robots* - Peter Thiedeke
- *In the Air* - Priscilla Bracks & Gavin Sade (Music: Greg Jenkins and Gavin Sade)

CULTURAL PRECINCT

- *Baidam Tithuyil* - Brian Robinson
- *Acknowledging Place* - Carol McGregor
- *Soft-Body Adapters* - Kellie O'Dempsey
- *CURIOCITY EcosysSTEAMs* – Dalby South State School
- *TIMEE22* – Isis District State High School
- *Luminous Threads* - Kirsten Baade
- *93% Human / Breathwork* - Helen Pynor
- *Self-talk is our superpower!* – Blackall Range Independent School
- *Cooyinnirra in Flames* – Boonah State School

For further information, images or interviews please contact:

Nat Ogbourne, Aruga
E: nat@aruga.com.au / M: 0437 836 649

Queensland Museum media team – media@qm.qld.gov.au
Kylie Hay | M: 0434 565 852
Christine Robertson | M: 0417 741 710

QUEENSLAND
MUSEUM
NETWORK

PRESENTS

World
Science
Festival
Brisbane

IT'S LIVE!
in Queensland

CURIOSITY
BRISBANE

MEDIA RELEASE

We acknowledge the First Peoples – the Traditional Owners of the lands where we live and work, and we recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islanders continue to play within the World Science Festival Brisbane and Queensland community.

World Science Festival Brisbane 2022 is presented by Queensland Museum Network with support from Queensland Government and Strategic Partners Tourism and Events Queensland and Brisbane Economic Development Agency.

ABOUT WORLD SCIENCE FESTIVAL BRISBANE (WSFB) | worldsciencefestival.com.au

Queensland Museum Network holds exclusive licence to host World Science Festival in the Asia Pacific – the only global extension of this initiative, and WSFB has attracted more than 800,000 attendances and \$36 million into the Queensland economy since 2016. WSFB reinforces Queensland's position as a knowledge economy and ignites new and challenging discussions about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) so that more and more people experience the value, impact and wonder of science.

ABOUT CURIOSITY BRISBANE | 24 June – 10 July 2022

Since 2019, Curiosity Brisbane has sparked inspiration and innovation, transforming our city into an interactive place to "explore, create and play". Curiosity Brisbane showcases physical and digital installations for visitors to discover and explore and in 2022, is delivered as part of WSFB, presented by Queensland Museum Network.

FEATURING

CURIOSITY
BRISBANE

brisbane
australia

QUEENSLAND
MUSEUM
NETWORK



Queensland
Government