

24 October 2019

Double the fun at World Science Festival Brisbane 2020

Science will make great chemistry in Queensland when the fifth World Science Festival Brisbane returns in March 2020 with double the fun and science for visitors of all ages.

Hosted by Queensland Museum, World Science Festival Brisbane 2020 will kick off in Brisbane from 25 – 29 March and will focus on the theme of ***Extremes and Adaptations***.

Queensland Museum CEO Dr Jim Thompson said the festival continues to grow bigger every year and 2020 won't disappoint with bold, new and exciting programs for visitors of all ages.

"Through a compelling program of signature events, conversations, and cinema the program will allow audiences the chance to explore the diversity of nature, the miracle of human existence and ingenuity, physics, and the mind-blowing promise of space," Dr Thompson said.

"We have also expanded the popular *Street Science!* event for 2020, which will now include four jam packed days of science activities, and added many more regional event programming powered by World Science Festival Brisbane thinking.

"Science plays a major role in people's lives — regardless of where they live — and it's great to know visitors to Brisbane and our regional communities will be able to engage with leading scientists and teachers during the festival," Dr Thompson said.

Minister for the Arts and Minister for Science Leeanne Enoch said the Queensland Government has proudly supported the Queensland Museum in delivering World Science Festival since 2016.

"This year's festival took Queensland by storm and the extended regional program for 2020 will give more Queenslanders the opportunity to participate in the wonders of science, and help make Queensland leader in science, technology, engineering and maths," she said.

"This is the largest regional program ever produced in the festival's history and it will offer a range of great experiences with hands-on opportunities, a family-friendly street science program and stargazing activities.

"There will be a record number of regional events taking place next year starting with Chinchilla in February, Gladstone in March, Toowoomba in April, Townsville in May and September, and Ipswich in June and November.

"This year's festival saw record attendances, and all regional areas experienced a growth in attendances. With next year's extended program, we expect this will grow even further.

A recent report conducted by PwC Australia to understand the impact of World Science Festival Brisbane 2019 found 94 percent of attendees were more excited about science and STEM learning after visiting the festival.

World Science Festival Brisbane is supported by the Queensland Government through Tourism and Events Queensland and features on the It's Live! in Queensland events calendar, worth \$800m to the state's economy in 2019.

Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said Brisbane was proud to host the only extension of the World Science Festival outside of New York.

“Major events like the World Science Festival Brisbane profile our city as an Asia Pacific hub for science and innovation, while growing our reputation as an appealing tourism and events destination,” Cr Schrinner said.

“Brisbane’s non-stop calendar of events inject more than \$150 million a year into Brisbane’s economy, attract interstate and international visitors, and deliver a boost to our local tourism, hospitality, retail and service industries.”

World Science Festival co-founder and international physicist Professor Brian Greene will also return to Brisbane in 2020

A full program of events will be announced in early 2020.

For more information visit www.worldsciencefestival.com.au

EVENT	DATE
World Science Festival Brisbane	25-29 March 2020
Regional Program	
World Science Festival Brisbane Regional Program Chinchilla	28 – 29 February 2020
World Science Festival Brisbane Regional Program Gladstone	20-21 March 2020
World Science Festival Brisbane Regional Program Toowoomba	6-20 April 2020
World Science Festival Brisbane Regional Program Townsville	15-16 May 2020 19 September – 5 October 2020
World Science Festival Brisbane Regional Program Ipswich	27 June – 12 July 2020 27-28 November 2020

-ENDS-

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