

## MEDIA RELEASE

# Sydney Science Trail Opens Today

## Science Brought to Life in Free, Interactive, Online Event Series

Presented by the Australian Museum and Royal Botanic Garden Sydney



Sydney, 13 August 2021: Science will be under the microscope when the [Sydney Science Trail](#) opens today with a world class line-up of events and scientists celebrating the power of science, and the power of connecting through science.

One of the nation's largest free, online science events, the Sydney Science Trail is hosted by the Australian Museum and the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney as part of National Science Week, from 13 August - 13 September, 2021.

Now in its second year, Sydney Science Trail showcases the role science plays in shaping our lives – especially during the COVID-19 outbreak, which has seen the event move online again. The 2021 theme is **Food: Different by Design**, which aligns with the United Nations International Year of Fruits and Vegetables

The packed online program features something for everyone including inspiring virtual talks with leading scientists, on-demand activities such as plant and soil regeneration, design competitions, virtual tours, films, quizzes, interactive games, at home science and more.

Highlights include:

- Join the [Arludo](#) team and guest scientists as they uncover the science and technology behind your favourite food through games, including [The Cake Town Calamity](#), and [Quokkapocalypse](#).
- Hear from film legends, [Jay Katz & Miss Death](#) and scientists as they debunk the science in popular movies in a live virtual event, [Reel Science](#)
- Log into the Science of Rockets website and complete a design challenge in 30mins. Sketch a prototype or concept to make the world a better place. Then, join a live chat with Aerospace engineers to discuss your design.
- Who believes we'll get to Mars? Hear from some of the brightest minds such as Professors Sarah Brough, Iver Cairns, and Susanna Guatelli about space weather, astronaut protection and whether we'll ever make our [Mars aspirations a reality](#).
- Connect with leading educators such as [Emily Calandrelli](#), host of Netflix hit series, Emily's Wonder Lab, and [Corey Tutt](#), founder of Deadly Science and 2020 Human Rights hero.
- Go behind the scenes with the AM's palaeontology team and investigate the collection and the latest technologies used to identify fossils.
- Hear from food and health expert [Professor Johannes le Coutre](#) in conversation with food reporter and journalist Joanna Savill as they explore the [future of food](#).
- Learn about soil and plant regeneration with RGB scientists and plant a Wollemi pine.

- Join in the [science trivia for the whole family](#), where you and your family can test your scientific knowledge against other families across the city.

Sydney Science Trail is a partnership of the Australian Museum and the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, supported by funding from ANSTO, Inspiring Australia NSW as part of National Science Week, University of Technology Sydney, Macquarie University and City of Sydney.

Sydney Science Trail is proudly supported by ABC Radio Sydney and the NSW Government Department of Education – DART Connections.

Learn more and register: <https://www.sydneysciencetrail.net.au/>.

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### **About the Australian Museum**

The Australian Museum (AM) was founded in 1827 and is the nation's first museum. It is internationally recognised as a natural science and culture institution focused on Australia and the Pacific. The AM's mission is to ignite wonder, inspire debate and drive change. The AM's vision is to be a leading voice for the richness of life, the Earth and culture in Australia and the Pacific. The AM commits to transforming the conversation around climate change, the environment and wildlife conservation; to being a strong advocate for First Nations cultures; and to continuing to develop world-leading science, collections, exhibitions and education programs. With more than 21.9 million objects and specimens and the Australian Museum Research Institute (AMRI), the AM is not only a dynamic source of reliable scientific information on some of the most pressing environmental and social challenges facing our region, but also an important site of cultural exchange and learning.

### **About the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney**

The Royal Botanic Garden Sydney is Australia's oldest living scientific institution, beginning its life in 1816. The Garden encompasses 30 hectares and is the oldest botanic garden in Australia, home to an outstanding collection of more than 27,000 plants from around the world. The Garden is also a part of the Australian Institute of Botanical Science. The Institute consists of the physical and virtual scientific collections, research, services, and facilities, and of course, staff at the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan, and the Blue Mountains Botanic Garden Mount Tomah. The Institute is one of the nation's premier botanical research organisations and helps to ensure the survival of plants and build more resilient ecosystems for future generations.

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