



ANNUAL REPORT

2025



WHO WE ARE

Inspiring Australia Queensland (IAQ) is working now to meet the challenges of our future, contributing to the Australian Government’s vision for an Australian society engaged in and enriched by science.

Founded in 2010, we are a vital link in Australia’s science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) ecosystem, a crucial pillar in the national Inspiring Australia strategy to improve the communication, appreciation and understanding of scientific knowledge in Australia.

The Inspiring Australia network is a collaboration between federal, state and territory governments and host organisations. It comprises local leaders who work with all levels of government, business, community groups, formal and informal educators to increase STEM engagement through strategic planning, networking, providing grants and coordinating activities to support the development of scientifically engaged communities for the benefit of Australia’s future.

We aim to:



Increase community engagement with the sciences, through activities and events.



Increase positive public sentiment and awareness of the contributions and achievements of Australian scientists and innovators.



Improve communication between Australian scientists, the general public, businesses and governments.



Enhance focus on building skills and capability in STEM and digital literacy in Australian schools and communities.



Increase engagement and participation of a diverse range of Australians, especially those historically under-represented in STEM.



We do this through two main programs:

National Science Week (NSWk)

NSWk provides opportunities to acknowledge the contributions of Australian scientists to the world of knowledge. NSWk has been conducted annually since 1997 as a collaborative celebration of science and technology. It highlights Australian science and provides opportunities for the community to participate in science engagement activities.

IAQ facilitates diverse and inclusive Queensland-based activities and grants that increase interest in Australian science, improve critical engagement with key scientific issues, spark inspiration and elevate the value of science as perceived by the public, particularly among historically underrepresented cohorts.

Targeted Science Communication (TSC)

TSC empowers underrepresented groups in STEM through direct community engagement, influential networking, and strategic resource allocation. IAQ funds an annual schedule of statewide STEM activities and supports 6 Regional STEM Hubs, from Cairns to Longreach, to foster grassroots collaboration and citizen science.

Our IAQ ambassadors serve as relatable role models and expert communicators who inspire the next generation of innovators. By delivering hands-on talks, workshops and community events across the state, they humanize science and bridge the gap between complex research and local communities.

Dr Ariel Marcy, Dr Christina Zdenek, Adj Assoc Professor Corey Tutt at the the book launch of 'Deadly Reptiles'.

Inspiring Australia Queensland acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Custodians and first scientists, makers, and innovators of this land; and their continuing connection to Country. We pay our respect to the Elders past and present.

Front Cover Image: Stylised image of an atom

QUEENSLAND SCIENCE

This year has been another successful year for Inspiring Australia Queensland, and I congratulate them, and their partners of scientists and educators who are proactively engaging the community in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

This annual report highlights the array of activities delivered by Inspiring Australia Queensland to raise awareness about the importance of science and the achievements of Queensland's scientists. I was fortunate to see the work first of the Inspiring Australia Queensland Ambassadors in Longreach to launch National Science Week in Queensland as part of their tour through ten regional Queensland towns.

It is crucial the wider community acknowledge the indispensable role science plays in shaping our wellbeing, environment and economy. Inspiring Australia Queensland's programs contribute to cultivating a society that not only values science but also recognises its profound contributions to our everyday lives.

Through strengthened science communication and engagement, we empower individuals to meaningfully participate in scientific conversations that influence our world. This work is especially critical in an era where misinformation threatens public trust in science, underscoring the need for a united effort to champion evidence-based knowledge.

This year I commissioned Griffith University to identify best practice for community science engagement. As a result, a report has been published on the Queensland Chief Scientist website for scientists and educators to use the findings to guide their future initiatives. I encourage anyone interested in science engagement to consider the Best Practice Principles of Community Science Engagement Programs recommendations to maximise efforts.

As we approach 2026, we are excited to continue collaborating to engage Queenslanders, promote science, and foster a deeper appreciation for its role in building a healthier, more sustainable and innovative future for all.

Professor Kerrie Wilson

Queensland Chief Scientist
Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation



What an exciting year 2025 has been, especially with the global spotlight on quantum physics as we celebrated the UN International Year of Quantum Science and Technology. This marks 100 years since the foundational breakthroughs in quantum mechanics, and throughout the year we have reflected on how far the field has come. From early theoretical insights to everyday applications, quantum physics now powers technologies we rely on daily such as mobile phones, diagnostic imaging, GPS and lasers. We are now entering the [third quantum revolution](#) which promises even more transformative advances.

At Inspiring Australia Queensland (IAQ), our mission is to deepen public understanding of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, especially areas that may seem abstract or complex, and to highlight their real-world impact. In Queensland, we have worked across the state to spark curiosity and excitement about science and its possibilities. A standout moment was the National Science Week Travelling Launch, which brought scientists and science experiences to communities across central and western Queensland. I encourage you to explore the [highlights of this launch](#) which showcase the vital role IAQ plays in connecting science with regional communities.

It has been a pleasure to collaborate with fellow Reference Group Board members and Dr Anita Milroy to deliver such a dynamic program in 2025. I look forward to another inspiring year ahead.

Dr Christine Williams

Chair, Inspiring Australia Queensland Reference Group



Our work at IAQ is fundamentally about making STEM not just accessible, but relevant and exciting for every Queenslanders, especially those in regional, rural and remote areas.

This year, our targeted science communication grants included the development of the 'Ssslap' card game, created to increase awareness and dispel myths about snakes, and a free Quantum Careers Poster. We don't just talk at people; we create engaging experiences. This principle is at the heart of our major outreach initiatives. Our annual National Science Week Launch is a great example of this; we journeyed through Central and Western Queensland, making stops in towns like Longreach, Winton and Birdsville. Seeing a local student in Boulia, after meeting one of our IAQ ambassadors and NASA interns, declare their dream of becoming an astronaut is a measure of our impact.

This regional focus is also driving systemic change. I am particularly proud of our efforts to establish and support Regional STEM Hubs across the state. These hubs act as local nerve centres, fostering collaboration between schools, local councils, businesses and scientists. Most recently, we worked to support the establishment of a new hub in Longreach, Western Queensland. By empowering local leaders and providing seed funding, we are building a sustainable, grassroots STEM ecosystem that will continue to inspire the next generation of regional scientists. This community-led approach is how we ensure Queensland's scientific future is inclusive and robust.

Dr Anita Milroy

Senior Project Manager, Inspiring Australia Queensland

INSPIRING AMBASSADORS



With students in Boulia, National Science Week 2025

DR CHRISTINA ZDENEK

2025 has been an exciting year for me as an ambassador for Inspiring Australia Qld. I was so fortunate to continue this role from 2024 because this enabled me to follow through with a large project that just kept growing: creating a professional snake-education game in tabletop card form for widespread distribution across Australian schools and homes.

I'm proud to report that, with the support of IAQ, I was able to collaborate with an excellent team consisting of a professional game designer (Dr Ariel Marcy), an Indigenous Knowledge consultant (A/Prof Corey Tutt from Deadly Science) and an Indigenous artist (Ben Williams). After months of development, including playtesting in rural, remote and regional schools, we were able to submit a complete game to the Oi Oi Oi Aussie Games awards, taking First Prize!

We're also pleased to report that we have interest from a game publisher, Genius Games, so the next phase of development is to take the game through to publication. [Until then, we have a print-and-play game available for free use anywhere in Australia.](#)

The National Science Week travelling launch to rural, remote and regional Qld was a trip of a lifetime, honestly. The connections it fostered, the STEM education achieved and the big kilometres travelled during a beautiful 'boom' desert year full of flowers all contributed to it being incredibly memorable. Our team included a quantum physicist, aeronautical engineer, palaeontologist and ecologist. This combination gave kids a wide array of intrigue during our community events, making for a fantastic time for adults and kids alike. What a privilege it was to travel to these remote towns and learn from so many community members.



Longreach School of Distance Education National Science Week 2025



Sunrise on 'Big Red' before our Birdsville School National Science Week event.



Panel awarding 'Ssslap' with an Oi Oi Oi Best Tabletop Game Award.

LUIS VILLEGAS AGUILAR

With budding scientist Chanusha in Longreach



Hi, I'm Luis Villegas Aguilar, a quantum physicist from Griffith University. In August this year, I had the incredible opportunity to travel through Central Queensland along with three other amazing scientists – Anita, Christina and David – as part of the National Science Week Travelling Launch. For me, as a quantum physicist, this was a very special experience. 2025 marks the United Nations International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, a global celebration of a field that explores the world of incredibly small particles like atoms, electrons and photons (the single particles of light). It was a great

privilege to visit these communities and share the groundbreaking science happening across labs like the one I'm part of in Queensland.

I was particularly impressed by the curiosity and brightness of many of the students we met along the way. It was truly inspiring to see their enthusiasm, and with any luck, we have sparked an interest in them to pursue a career in STEM. A Year 6 student from Longreach State School even asked if photons had mass! I was blown away by the deep thought behind such a question. I was also delighted when our student ambassador, Chanusha, asked me to demonstrate Planck's constant. (We have left a Planck's constant kit in each community library we visited, free for access and exploration). I am confident that students from these regional, rural and remote communities will contribute to the scientific advancements happening right here in our own state.

DAVID CORPORAL



(Far right) With fellow Ambassadors talking all things science on ABC Radio, Western Queensland, Longreach

As a Mechanical Engineer, NASA Intern and proud Eastern Arrente man, I was delighted to be an Inspiring Australia Queensland Ambassador on the travelling launch for National Science Week 2025. It was such a fantastic program to be involved in. No matter where we went – anywhere from the town of Longreach with about 3,000 people down to the small towns out in central West Queensland of 300 people or so – there was always a genuine curiosity and a want to engage with us scientists and a want to understand who we were. And then equally from us to these towns, we wanted to share our curiosity and what it is that drives us.

I strongly believe that having that shared understanding of both the community and as well as what it is that a scientist does is so important for building a thriving community. As we look around the world, we see that there is a growing anti-intellectualism movement and there is a growing distrust in society. Being able to be out in our communities

and show that we are working to make the world better is something that I think can't be understated. That trust in science is crucial for the foundations of a thriving community.



NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

National Science Week (NSWk) 2025 was held from 9 to 17 August 2025.

To mark the commencement of National Science Week 2025, Inspiring Australia Queensland (IAQ) executed a first-ever Travelling Launch, taking science out of metro centres and into the heart of regional communities. Spanning thousands of kilometres, the tour bridged the geographic gap between 10 central west Queensland communities, ensuring that scientific innovation resonated with the unique agricultural and environmental landscapes of regional Queensland.

A cornerstone of the 2025 launch was the strategic partnership with the Country Universities Centre (CUC) RAPAD in Longreach. This collaboration leveraged the CUC's local infrastructure to connect isolated communities with world-class research. A significant highlight was the special visit by the Queensland Chief Scientist, Professor Kerrie Wilson. Her engagement with Longreach residents underscored the state's commitment to regional STEM, highlighting how fields from quantum technology to biodiversity are essential to the future prosperity of the outback.

The travelling team was led by three Inspiring Australia Queensland Ambassadors who translated complex concepts into hands-on community experiences. These included David Corporal – an Eastern Arrente man and NASA intern who shared his journey in aerospace – as well as Dr Christina Zdenek, who used a "Snake Wheel of Fortune" to transform public perception of reptiles, and Luis Villegas-Aguilar, a quantum physicist who utilised interactive demonstrations to make the "invisible" world of quantum mechanics accessible for all ages.

By relocating science from the classroom to the community, the program successfully built science capital across the state. When people met ambassadors at dinosaur digs in Winton or under the dark skies of Western Queensland, STEM transitioned from a textbook subject to a tangible career path. This initiative fostered authentic two-way engagement, provided relatable role models for First Nations and rural youth and established a community-wide culture of inquiry that extended far beyond the duration of the tour.



Above: Mayor Tony Rayner, Liza Cameron and Professor Kerrie Wilson in Longreach for the travelling launch. STEM kit courtesy of QCoal Foundation Grant.



Australian Age of Dinosaurs, Winton



Pop up STEM talks at the Blackall Historic Woolscour



IAQ Ambassadors with Traditional Owners, the Rowlands Family, Birdsville



Inigi Elder, Suzanne Thompson 'Turraburra', Barcaldine



Record-Breaking Engagement

National Science Week 2025 set a new record with 2,594 events registered across Australia, demonstrating the growing appetite for science engagement nationwide. Accessibility remained a cornerstone of the program, with 90% of events offered free to attend and 60% taking place in areas ranked in the lowest 30% for socio-economic advantage. The most significant growth was seen in Brain Break Morning Tea participation, which rose by 58%, from approximately 79,500 participants in 2024 to 125,500 in 2025. This remarkable increase reflects the program's success in reaching schools and communities across the country.

Queensland's Outstanding Contribution

In 2025, Queensland hosted a record-breaking 397 National Science Week registered events, representing an increase of 24% from 2024 and 69% from 2023. This significant growth has occurred while the Inspiring Australia Queensland initiative has been hosted by The University of Queensland, highlighting the impact of strong institutional support on STEM engagement across the state. Of this year's events, more than 80% were free to attend, over 40% were Brain Break Morning Teas and 83 were public events. This reflects the national trend, with Brain Break Morning Tea participation rising substantially in 2025.

Queensland's regional reach also expanded considerably, with events held as far north as the Cape York Peninsula in Bamaga and the Torres Strait Islands including Thursday Island, west to Boulia, Birdsville and Mount Isa, and south to the Gold Coast. This geographic diversity demonstrates Queensland's commitment to ensuring that STEM engagement opportunities are available to all Queenslanders, regardless of location or socio-economic background, and reinforces the state's position as a national leader in science communication and public engagement. Three Queensland National Science Week events received significant federal funding in 2025: Tech Meets Nature Showcase: How Technology Advances Wildlife Outcomes (Gold Coast), the Gladstone Art Science Innovation Festival and Nature's Blueprint: Science, Regenerative Design and Sustainability (Magnetic Island).

Through the National Science Week Queensland Committee's SEED grant program, Inspiring Australia Queensland directly funded 14 events with more than 2,400 people directly engaged. The impact of IAQ's support extended beyond the formal grant program, with an additional nine events receiving support from the initiative. These included the engaging "Cheese and Chats: How One Fossil Redefined Humanity," two space-themed activities at the Brisbane Children's Hospital School and the UQ Alumni Regional Roadshow in Cairns, which brought science to far north Queensland audiences.



Reef Bioblitz with Reef Ecologic Cairns



Space meets the Queensland Children's Hospital School



Above: Pyjama Foundation National Science Week event at QUT, snakes, frogs, coral, fossils, technology and more!



STEM Girl Power in the regions

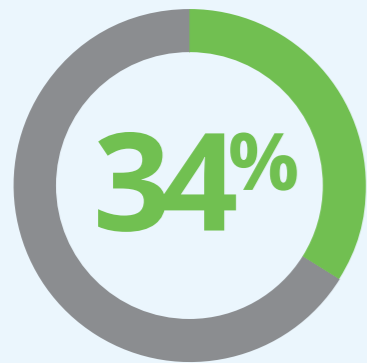


Shark attack! Brain Break Morning tea at UQ

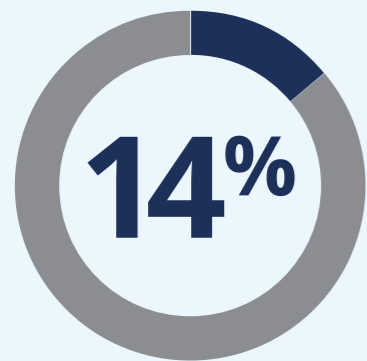


Pharmacy Lab Experience

FAST FACTS

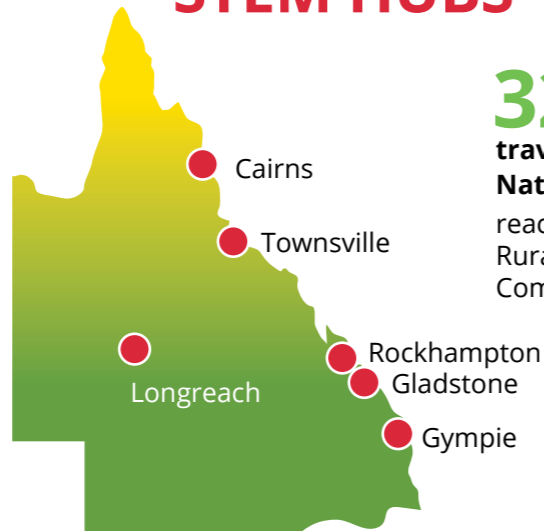


More than **1 in 3** Australian households were aware of **National Science Week** in 2025, the highest number to date!



14% of Australian households had someone participate in **National Science Week** event in 2025 (up 2%)
=3 million people!

6 REGIONAL STEM HUBS



Over **3200KM** travelled during **National Science Week** reaching 12 Regional, Rural, Remote Communities

UQ GIVING DAY

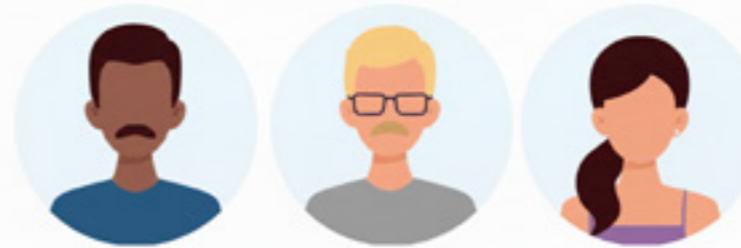
helping to reach more Queenslanders

IAQ FUND

Tax deductible donations



More than **397** **National Science Week** events registered in Queensland with over **40,000** people engaged



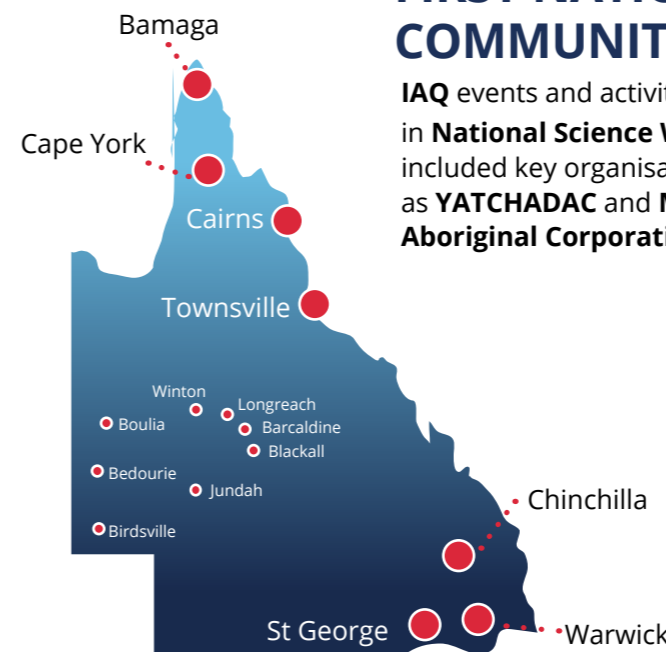
THREE IAQ AMBASSADORS

Engaging Queenslanders in contemporary research, including Quantum Physics, Mechanical Engineering and Wildlife Ecology

Reciprocal STEM engagement with

FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES

IAQ events and activities in **National Science Week** included key organisations such as **YATCHADAC** and **Mithaka Aboriginal Corporation**.



~3000 **SUBSCRIBERS**

to the **IAQ** newsletter



IAQ IMPACTS

INSPIRING

Queenslanders to pursue careers and study with STEM

INCREASING

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Capital in Queensland

AMPLIFYING

STEM role models from underrepresented groups

ACTIVATING

regional, rural and remote science and STEM organisations

CONNECTING

Queenslanders with opportunities for diverse and inclusive careers in STEM

PARTNERING WITH PURPOSE

with national and state governments, industries, businesses, universities, researchers and communities

INSPIRING STEM HUBS

From the Reef to the Stars: Fueling Queensland's Future in STEM

Regional STEM hubs across Queensland are transforming how communities engage with science, turning abstract concepts into hands-on experiences that bridge the gap between regional education and global innovation. By fostering collaboration between local schools, industry and researchers, these hubs ensure that geographic distance is no longer a barrier to scientific literacy. From the coast to the red dirt of the outback, these initiatives are cultivating a homegrown workforce ready to tackle the challenges of the future.

The impact is most visible through flagship community events that bring STEM to life in unexpected ways. In the north, the Townsville STEM Hub hosts its biennial STEM Faire – a massive celebration that brings thousands to the Riverway precinct for live science shows and hydrogen technology demonstrations.

The Gympie Regional STEM Hub has seen similar success with its STEAMzone Twilight STEM Market. Now in its second year at Rainbow Beach, the event has exploded in popularity, with attendee numbers now exceeding the town's local school population. The market attracts scientists from across the state to showcase diverse career paths, from marine conservation to astrophysics. This year's crowd-favourite, "50 Ways to Die in Space," offered a thrilling look at astrophysics, proving that even the most complex science can captivate a community when brought to life under the stars.

A major highlight for 2025 was the Gladstone Art Science Innovation Festival, led by national grant winner Dr Rebecca Cunningham. This festival explored future climate scenarios through a "low-carbon" picnic of future foods and showcased Gladstone's leadership in decarbonisation and seagrass restoration.

This momentum is now moving inland with the establishment of a new Western Queensland STEM Hub. This initiative marks a significant step in regional connectivity, partnering with organisations such as the Country Universities Centre (CUC) RAPAD Longreach and the world-renowned Australian Age of Dinosaurs in Winton. By leveraging the region's rich palaeontological history and the educational infrastructure of the CUC, the hub is uniquely positioned to transform the outback into a centre for discovery. It connects remote students with high-level science – from digital connectivity tools to land management – ensuring that the innovators of tomorrow are supported regardless of their postcode.



Townsville STEM Faire 2025



50 Ways to Die in Space @ Rainbow Beach STEAMZone Science Market



Dr Christine Williams opening Soapbox Science in Queen Street Mall, Brisbane



Science in the Brewery CQ STEM Hub, Gladstone



Gympie STEM hub STEAM Zone Twilight Market, Rainbow Beach

Quantum Careers Poster – A collaboration with Careers with STEM. L-R: Dr Christine Williams, Prof Halina Rubinztein-Dunlop, A/Professor Jacqui Romero, Nandana TR



TARGETED SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

From exploring Quantum Careers to becoming your favourite Australian snake, our experts have you covered.

In addition to National Science Week events, a series of Targeted Science Communication (TSC) Grants were awarded to projects that translated high-level research into culturally resonant and accessible formats. These grants focused heavily on diversifying the face of STEM, with a specific emphasis on Women and Girls in STEM, Careers in STEM and First Nations Led Projects. From sharks in Cairns to drones with the Brisbane Murri School, the grants were diverse, inclusive and engaging.

To celebrate the UN Year of Quantum and to address the growing demand for a skilled technical workforce, a Quantum Careers Poster was developed in collaboration with Careers with STEM and the AIPS. This resource was designed to demystify the quantum sector, mapping out diverse career pathways for students and showing that the future of computing and sensing is within their reach. Simultaneously, the art of science communication received a modern makeover through the Future Science Talks: Comedy Edition. This initiative focused on training female scientists to use humour as a tool for engagement. By mastering stand-up comedy, these researchers were empowered to break down academic barriers – making complex topics relatable and inspiring more women and girls to take up space in the scientific community.

A major highlight of the grant program was the success of Ssslap!, an award-winning snake education game. This project represented a deep collaboration between Dr Christina Zdenek, Dr Ariel Marcy, Associate Professor Corey Tutt and renowned Indigenous artist Ben Williams. By blending ecological science with First Nations storytelling and artistic perspectives, the game offers a culturally safe and exhilarating way for people to learn about snake safety and biodiversity. The project has already received an award for its ability to weave traditional knowledge with modern gaming mechanics to create a lasting educational impact.

And finally, an exciting cinematic collaboration. A new film project featuring the Noosa Film Academy and students from Ficks Crossing School is currently in production. This initiative – which explores the intersection of digital media and environmental science – will be included in the 2026 Annual Report, showcasing the power of storytelling in the next generation of STEM leaders.



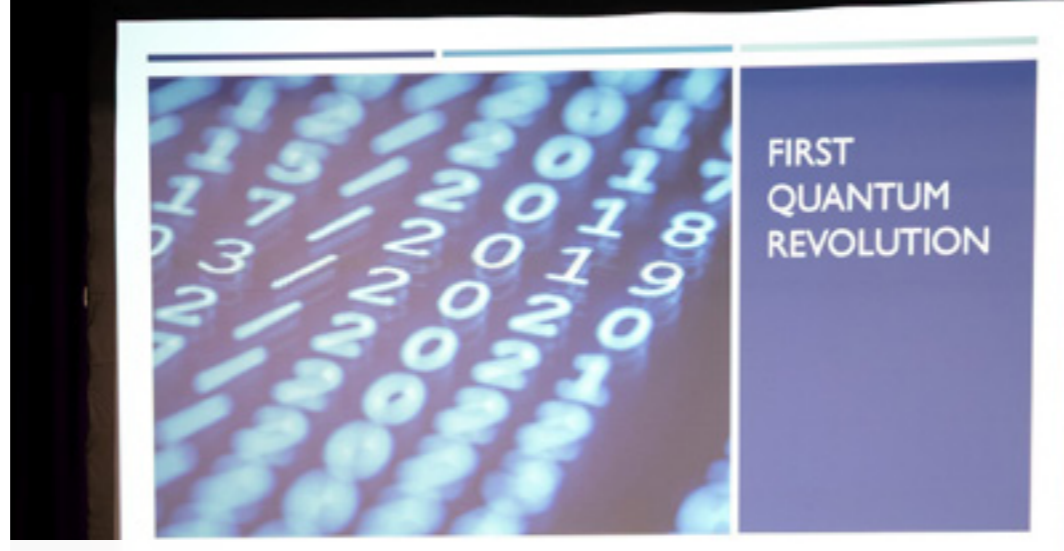
Future Science Talks - Brisbane Comedy Festival



Wildlife Biologist Dr Mariel Familiar Lopez in Cairns



Murri School student learning about drone safety and autonomous flying



OUR AUDIENCES

We have a clear ambition to engage all Queenslanders in STEM.

In addition to University researchers at all stages of their career, and the community at large, we proactively seek those who might otherwise miss out on opportunities to engage with science are included, specifically:

- First Nations people
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) people
- Women and girls
- People living in regional, rural and remote areas
- People living with disability
- People from low socio-economic backgrounds
- Neurodiverse people
- LGBTIAQ+ people
- People facing age-based discrimination



Inspiring Australia Queensland continues to bridge the gap between research and community through initiatives that empower communities, educators and students alike. Our work is aligned with Australia's National Science and Research Priorities.

An annual highlight is the collaboration with the UQSchooolsNet Engaging Minds in IT program. This year, we provided high-impact professional development using drone challenges to demystify IT concepts and safety for the classroom. Similarly, IAQ supported the Engaging STEM workshop – a collaboration between DETSI and the Queensland Chief Scientist – which brought together Queensland universities to focus on collaborative approaches to fostering science capital and [best-practice engagement](#). This year, our reach extended to the [2025 Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Assembly in St George](#), where Dr Wade Naylor and Dr Anita Milroy were invited to brief 22 mayors and CEOs on the UN International Year of Quantum and the specific opportunities quantum computing offers regional and remote communities.

The state's commitment to diversity is reflected in the support of programs championing women and girls in STEM. The Women in STEMM Strolls at UniSC created informal networking environments for professionals and students, while the UNIQ You Day of the Girl breakfast highlights the program connecting female students with industry role models. These efforts are complemented by the Department of Education's STEM Girl Power Initiative, which prepares Year 10 students to return to their communities as STEM Student Ambassadors after immersive training with world-class researchers. Together, initiatives such as these ensure that gender and geography do not limit a student's ability to pursue a high-tech career in Queensland.



Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Mayors, with Senator Susan McDonald (Day 2)
Image courtesy WQAC





Community STEM Fair In Jundah, led by the Mithaka Aboiriginal Corporation, Windorah, Jundah and Stonehenge Schools

INSPIRE QUEENSLAND

Partnering with purpose: activating and amplifying

At IAQ, we achieve remarkable results with limited funding thanks to our dedicated volunteers who energetically work to ensure their communities have ample opportunities to engage in STEM activities and events. However, we aim to extend our reach to traditionally under-represented groups and, to do so, we need your support.

Our mission is to increase funding to bolster our capacity to support the numerous volunteers and volunteer groups across Queensland. This is where businesses and organisations can make a significant impact. By partnering with IAQ, you can take the lead in advancing science engagement and participation in Queensland while highlighting the outstanding scientific achievements in our state.

Industry partnerships with IAQ can support multi-year initiatives and achieve mutual objectives – such as inspiring diverse audiences to pursue career opportunities in STEM and filling crucial job roles across Queensland. Each partnership is unique and IAQ can tailor benefits to meet your organisation’s strategic needs, ensuring a robust return on investment (ROI).

Together, we can foster job readiness and build a future where everyone has the opportunity to thrive in STEM careers. Your support will help equip the next generation with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in a rapidly evolving job market.

Partnering with IAQ is easy and there are three main ways to get involved. As a financial sponsor or donor, you directly support critical programs that inspire the next generation of STEM leaders. Volunteering your time in a local STEM hub or on a National Science Week committee provides hands-on support and a tangible impact in your community. Finally, as an ambassador – whether a post-doctoral researcher, doctoral candidate or student – you can champion our mission and help amplify our efforts.

Each role is essential and offers personal and professional rewards, from enhanced community presence to the satisfaction of making a meaningful difference. Join us in fostering a future where everyone has the opportunity to thrive in STEM fields. Your involvement will not only benefit IAQ but also contribute to a brighter, more innovative future for all.

Sponsor benefits include – but are not limited to – branding on all newsletters, website, annual report and special events, as well as invitations to exclusive Queensland STEM networking events.



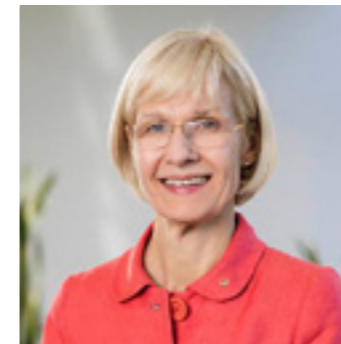
Through the visionary support of The University of Queensland, IAQ is empowered to drive real change. UQ doesn’t just provide us with a home; they’ve established a tax-deductible fund that allows everyone in our community to play a role in our mission. While every gift makes a difference, your generosity travels twice as far on our Annual Giving Day. On this special day, UQ matches every dollar you give, effectively doubling your impact and your legacy.

THANK YOU

To our sponsors and collaborators, who enrich and uplift Queensland communities



OUR HOST



As the host of Inspiring Australia Queensland (IAQ) for the past 3 years, The University of Queensland (UQ) actively supports the national and state strategy to bring science into the heart of our communities. By connecting researchers with the public, we ensure that people across Queensland – from our largest urban centres to regional hubs – can engage with the science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) innovations that are shaping our future.

This partnership is also consistent with The Queensland Commitment – UQ’s major strategic initiative, which is focussed on breaking down educational barriers and creating opportunities for communities across our great state.

Through IAQ’s programs and statewide STEM Hubs, we support access to science for under-represented cohorts, including First Nations peoples and regional students. Our ultimate goal is to inspire a new generation of problem-solvers to embrace STEM – and consider further study and future career opportunities in STEM fields.

Our partnership with Inspiring Australia is founded on a shared commitment to collaborating with local communities across Queensland to co-create solutions that have a positive societal impact. In that sense, it’s a partnership that exemplifies UQ’s mission, to deliver for the public good through excellence in education, research and engagement with our communities and partners.

Thank you to the many volunteers, sponsors, institutions and community groups who tirelessly champion these efforts across the state. I am looking forward to seeing how IAQ continues to build on its many successes in 2026 and beyond.

Professor Deborah Terry
Vice-Chancellor and President, The University of Queensland

2025 FUNDING PARTNERS





Inspiring

AUSTRALIA *Queensland*

www.inspiringqld.com.au

✉ inspiringqld@uq.edu.au

 @inspiringausqld  @inspiringqld  @InspiringQld  @inspiring-australia-queensland

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