

25 September 2017

Celebrate the arts and sciences at State Library

State Library of Queensland (SLQ) is helping young people and families engage with the arts and sciences in a meaningful way by hosting a free, family-friendly Fun Palace event on Saturday 7 October.

For one day only, SLQ will be transformed into a dedicated wonderland of scientific enquiry and creativity as art and science collide.

This year's SLQ Fun Palace will feature an intriguing presentation by well-known science broadcaster and author Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, an explosive performance by Street Science, and a host of activities, workshops, and demonstrations.

Visitors can expect to get hands-on with a range of innovative technologies, expanding on the highly popular *Digital Futures Lab* interactive exhibition.

Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy Leeanne Enoch said Fun Palace is a true celebration of art, science, innovation and discovery, and offers a world of opportunity for Queensland's younger generation.

"Queensland is moving into the information economy and it is essential that young people have access to and are participating in creative and scientific pursuits," Ms Enoch said.

"Fun Palace offers young people a chance to try their hand at a range of art and science-related activities in a family-friendly, community-led environment, and provides an opportunity to see what sparks their interests and gets them excited."

Fun Palace is a global movement, held annually on the first weekend of October, which encourages everyone to be an artist and a scientist for a day by interacting with a range of fun and informative activities and performances.

The first worldwide Fun Palaces were held in October 2014, when 138 venues, locations, communities and groups created their own local events.

State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald said SLQ is excited to be part of the worldwide Fun Palace movement for the third year in a row.

"The Fun Palace concept is about working with our communities to get people excited about and engaged in the arts and sciences.

"The event encourages people of all ages, with a particular focus on children and families, to get hands-on and minds-on with a range of artistic and scientific disciplines such as ecology, coding, engineering, writing, illustrating, and more," Ms McDonald said.

SLQ will host its Fun Palace on Saturday 7 October from 9.30am to 2.30pm. Entry and all activities are free and open to the public.

Interviews and images available upon request.



Media enquiries

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SLQ is proud to be a Fun Palace Maker in Fun Palaces happening around the world.

Dr Karl Kruszelnicki appears by arrangement with Claxton Speakers International.