

EDI
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SCIENCE FESTIVAL

Going Global



Sat 4–Sun 19 April
2026



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk

BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

Thanks to our 2026 Festival supporters

Principal Funding Partners



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'Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known.'

Carl Sagan

If you are reading this, that 'somewhere' may already be close. The Edinburgh Science Festival returns, and in your hands is not just a programme, but an invitation: to look outward, inward, and forward with curiosity and courage.

This year's theme, *Going Global*, reflects the truth that science has always been an ambitious shared human story. A tapestry woven across continents and centuries, stitched with questions, experiments, failures, and breakthroughs. Discovery rarely happens in isolation. It travels, carried forward by many hands.

That global story lives here in Edinburgh. In our universities, labs, hospitals, studios, companies, schools, and cultural spaces. In questions asked in many accents. In teams drawn from across the world, working side by side.

During our 2026 Festival, you can encounter that story firsthand. Hear from **Helen Sharman**, the first British astronaut, whose journey highlights the power of international collaboration for scientific exploration. And join the nation's favourite wildlife photographer **Hamza Yassin**, as he shares his insights into the natural world.

Step into a newly commissioned artwork by **Dr Gayle Chong Kwan** in the National Museum of Scotland's Grand Gallery – a work that uncovers scientific histories and invites us to look again at what we think we know, and who gets remembered.

And bring the family to our *Science Festival Favourites* – a selection of our best-loved immersive workshops and hands-on activities, hosted this year at the National Museum of Scotland.

The Edinburgh Science Festival exists because of collaboration. We are deeply grateful to all our sponsors and supporters who share our belief that science belongs at the heart of public life, and who help us make these experiences open, accessible, and exciting. And to our partner venues across the city: thank you for opening your doors and showcasing Edinburgh as a place where science is everywhere.

Sagan reminds us that something incredible is waiting to be known.

That 'somewhere' is not only a distant galaxy. It is here. In this city. In this moment.

Welcome to the 2026 Edinburgh Science Festival.

EDINBURGH SCIENCE FESTIVAL – GOING GLOBAL

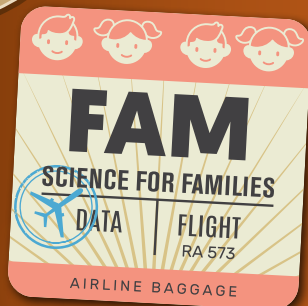


Name
Hassun El-Zafar
Role
Director and CEO
Organisation
Edinburgh Science
Country
Scotland
Signature



How to Explore the Festival

We're Going Global at this years' Festival. To help you navigate our world of awesome events we've separated this programme into four sections:



Science for Families [p.6-29]

From hands-on workshops to explosive science shows, we have everything you need for the perfect family day out this Easter.



Science for Adults [p.31-46]

Join us as we explore the cutting-edge of science! Hear from experts as they share the latest discoveries, technology and research shaping the world that we live in.



Science Nights Out [p.47-49]

Enjoy science in a relaxed enviroment with our adults-only Science Nights Out. Grab some friends and enjoy private art viewings and Planetarium screenings.



Science and Art [p.50-53]

Explore science through exhibitions that combine breathtaking photography, thought-provoking artwork and cutting-edge research.

How to Book Online

sciencefestival.co.uk

If you experience any issues while attempting to make an online booking, please email the Box Office at **boxoffice@scifest.co.uk**

Phone

0131 553 0320

Thu 12 Feb – Fri 4 Apr

9.30am–1pm

2pm–4.30pm

(Mon–Fri)

Sat 4–Sun 19 April

9.30am–5.30pm (Mon–Sat)

10am–5pm (Sun)

In Person

During the Festival, you can visit our Box Office counter at the National Museum of Scotland.

Ticketing Information Groups

We welcome groups and discounts may be available depending on the event and the size of the party. Please call the Box Office on **0131 553 0320** to discuss your needs.

Concessions

Unless otherwise stated, concessions are available to pensioners, the unemployed and disabled persons, with a complimentary ticket available for personal assistants, which can be booked through our Box Office.

Refunds

All Science Festival tickets are non-refundable, except in the event of a cancellation.

Transaction Fee

Festival bookings are subject to a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee. Prices listed in this brochure include this fee. Free events are exempt from this charge.

Support Edinburgh Science

Please consider adding a donation to your purchase and help us deliver science related activities to community groups and schools around Scotland.

Edinburgh Science Foundation – Registered Charity
No. SC003790

Accessibility at the Festival Venue Facilities

On each venue page you'll find the following symbols which indicate the facilities available:

-  Wheelchair access throughout
-  Sensory Backpacks
-  Ear defenders
-  Elevator
-  Ramp access
-  Accessible toilet
-  Changing places toilet
-  Lowered counters
-  Hearing loop
-  Exhibition transcripts
-  Assistant dogs welcome
-  Low lighting
-  Café
-  Packed lunch area
-  Water available
-  Cloakroom
-  Baby changing
-  Parking
-  Mobility scooters and wheelchairs available to book in advance

Find full venue details, including addresses, at **sciencefestival.co.uk/venues**.

If you have specific access requirements, need to book a wheelchair space or require a personal assistant ticket, please call our Box Office on **0131 553 0320** or email **boxoffice@scifest.co.uk**

For information about accessibility provisions across the Festival, visit **sciencefestival.co.uk/accessibility**

BSL Interpreted

P.38 **Hamza Yassin's Adventures in Nature**
SUN 12 APR | 3PM | USHER HALL

P.51 **BSL Tour: Herbiology**
SUN 19 APR | 2PM | ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

AI Captioning

To increase the accessibility of our events, we're introducing AI captioning to a number of our talks and discussions.



supported by



CIRRUS LOGIC®

Edina
Trust



Science Festival Favourites

MON 13–SUN 19 APR
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND,
CHAMBERS STREET, EDINBURGH, EH1 1JF

This year we're excited to bring some of your favourite workshops and shows to the National Museum of Scotland. Due to considerable repairs required to the lift in the City Art Centre, we're unable to run our family hub as in previous years, but families can enjoy a day of hands-on science fun with our Science Festival Favourites programme.

Kids can play the role of scientist as they *Dig Up a Dinosaur*, solve a crime in *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* or make slime to take home in *Splat-tastic*. The whole family can enjoy *Mini-Medics: The Body Show* and *The Rocket Show*, and explore our free *Tech Decoded* drop-in activities.

Cirrus Logic

Cirrus Logic is proud to support the Edinburgh Science Festival as it provides hands-on opportunities to explore how science, technology, and creativity can shape the future for all. cirrus.com



CIRRUS LOGIC®

Edina Trust

The Edina Trust aims to improve primary school science education for children around the UK and is delighted to support the high-quality, inspirational learning opportunities that Edinburgh Science Festival delivers.

Edina
Trust

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Dig Up a Dinosaur

ACTIVITY | AGES 5+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 2,
EVENT SPACE

MON 13–SUN 19 APR | 10.15AM, 11.15AM,
12.15PM, 2.15PM & 3.15PM | 45 MINS
£9.50*

Ready to uncover dinosaur
remains in our dig site?
Millions of years ago, dinosaurs
ruled the Earth – millions of
years later, it's time to find out
all about them!

Presented by Edinburgh Science

CSI: Crime Scene Investigation

ACTIVITY | AGES 8+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, STUDIO 2
MON 13–SUN 19 APR | 10.15AM, 11.15AM,
12.15PM, 2.15PM & 3.15PM | 45 MINS
£9.50*

A crime has been committed;
can you help us solve it?
Become a forensic scientist,
study the crime scene and find
the evidence. Can you solve
the mystery and help us catch
the criminal?

Presented by Edinburgh Science

Splat-tastic

ACTIVITY | AGES 5+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, STUDIO 1
MON 13–SUN 19 APR | 10.15AM, 11.15AM,
12.15PM, 2.15PM & 3.15PM | 45 MINS
£9.50*

Get your goo on! Be creative
with chemistry and design
your own smelly slime to take
home. Test its thickness and
stickiness under the extreme
conditions of our 'Splat-o-
meter'.

Presented by Edinburgh Science

Access to the bookable workshops are for children only. Accompanying adults must be present outside the workshop for the duration. There will be limited viewing for parents and careers.





Tech Decoded

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

HAWTHORNDEN COURT

MON 13–SUN 19 APR | 10AM–5PM

DROP-IN

FREE

Join us for a pop-up Science Festival extravaganza as we explore technology from AI to coding. Get hands on discovering how the internet works and create your own electrical circuits while exploring the science behind machine learning. Part of the Association for Science and Discovery Centres' *Demystifying AI* project.

Presented by Edinburgh Science
Supported by



Association for
Science and
Discovery Centres



UK Research
and Innovation



Science and
Technology
Facilities Council

seebyte

Mini-Medics: The Body Show

SHOW | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

AUDITORIUM

TUE 14 & WED 15 APR

10.30AM, 12PM & 2PM | 45 MINS

£13.50/£9.50*

Welcome to our Teaching Hospital – don your mask and join Doctor Watson and Nurse It-Better on their rounds to discover how your body works and how to keep it healthy. In this fast-paced and interactive family show, help our medics diagnose and treat their patients while they explore the human body. It's time to scrub up and become a Mini-Medic!

Presented by Edinburgh Science

The Rocket Show

ACTIVITY | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

AUDITORIUM

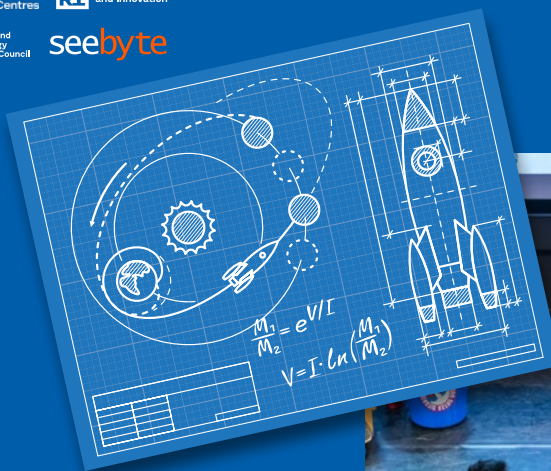
SAT 18 & SUN 19 APR

10.30AM, 12PM & 2PM | 45 MINS

£13.50/£9.50*

Join our backyard scientist and discover what it takes to build a rocket fit for space. In this explosive family-friendly adventure, delve into rocket science as we explore forces, test materials, and prepare for launch. So strap-in, countdown, and blast-off for a show that's out of this world.

Presented by Edinburgh Science



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Edinburgh Science in the Community

Edinburgh Science in the Community

We believe that the wonders of science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) are for everyone and should be a joy for anyone who engages with them. However, we're acutely aware that accessing these experiences is difficult for some, who may be held back by financial barriers or long ingrained negative associations with science. It is part of our mission as an education charity to see an end to these barriers and prevent them from forming in the first place.

Mini Science Festivals

Last summer we returned to Craigmillar Library and Wester Hailes Library to deliver two vibrant Mini Science Festivals – free, one-day events which are always the highlight of our Community work. With hands-on science activities, interactive shows and immersive storytelling sessions, the Mini Festivals are designed to truly bring science to life for families – particularly those who may not always feel that science is for them.

We were delighted to welcome over 600 visitors to the Mini Festivals, and can't wait to build on these partnerships in 2026.

Science Festival Favourites School Visits

This year we're hosting three special open days for local schools.

Around 900 school children, many of whom wouldn't have the opportunity to visit with their families, get to experience these activities for free.



Our community work and Science Festival Favourites school visits are supported by

Baillie Gifford™ **Edina Trust**

• EDINBURGH •
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

Edinburgh Airport
Where Scotland meets the world

Our Catalysts and those that wish to remain anonymous



Support Our Charitable Work

We are one of Scotland's largest science education charities, bringing the wonder of science to thousands of children and communities for over 35 years.

Throughout the year we bring unique science experiences to schools and communities across Scotland for free, championing the fact that STEM is for everyone.

Please consider adding a donation to your ticket purchase and help us continue this vital work.

Edinburgh Science Foundation – Registered Charity
No. SC003790



**National
Museum of
Scotland**

**OPEN 10AM-5PM
CHAMBERS STREET, EDINBURGH, EH1 1JF**

**FOR EVENING TALKS & DISCUSSION EVENTS,
ENTER THROUGH LOTHIAN STREET DOORS**



One of Edinburgh's most iconic buildings, the National Museum of Scotland houses treasures from around the world, all under one roof.

Enjoy explosive family shows, inventive workshops and fun drop-in activities throughout the day, and join us in the evening for our programme of talks and discussions for adults and young people [p.30-46].

SCIENCE UNDER THE LENS



**EXHIBITION | ALL AGES
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
GRAND GALLERY**

SAT 4-SUN 19 APR | 10AM-5PM | DROP-IN | FREE
Scotland has an acclaimed history in scientific and medical discoveries, but there are more to these narratives that meets the eye. A hidden history revealed when explored under the lens.

Join us in the Grand Gallery of the National Museum of Scotland as we use art and hands-on exploration to delve deeper into Scotland's scientific history.

The Great Instauration

The Great Instauration (2026) is an installation of large-scale fantastical sculptures and print created by artist **Dr Gayle Chong Kwan**, which will be on display in the Grand Gallery. Commissioned for the 2026 Edinburgh Science Festival, the installation explores science as a culturally embedded process shaped by social history, power, and omission.

Engaging with multiple collections and museums, Dr Chong Kwan has been exploring the history of the scientific canon and the advent of the Scientific Enlightenment. Dr Chong Kwan's research includes scientific instruments, Scotland's historical connections with slavery, the botanical origins of medicine, infirmaries, and contemporary community gardens in Edinburgh.

In this new work, Gayle connects exploitative and extractive histories, the scientific gaze, root growth, geological strata, and fantastical forms. The title refers to Francis Bacon's 17th century text on the scientific method, but this time as a call to restore and renew perspectives on the complex histories of science.

Presented by Edinburgh Science
Supported by



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

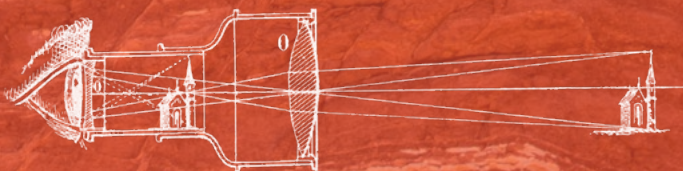
Developed with support from Creative Scotland
through the Scottish Government's
Festivals Expo Fund



Hands-on Exploration

Visitors can experiment with some of the instruments which inspired the research behind the art installation, make your own versions to take home, and play with the science of light. Younger visitors can use art to tell their own science stories, exploring how light works, and the power of story in sharing information.

The National Museum of Scotland team will be hosting family experiences throughout the Festival – visit nms.ac.uk for up-to-date details on activities.



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk **BOOKING HOTLINE:** 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Giants

EXHIBITION | ALL AGES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

SPECIAL EXHIBITION GALLERY 1

SAT 31 JAN – MON 14 SEP | 10AM–5PM

SEE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND WEBSITE
FOR PRICING

Meet the colossal creatures that lived after the dinosaurs in a family exhibition of epic proportions.

Through life-sized 3D sculptures, skeletons, fossils, and hands-on experiences, discover ten enormous but often overlooked giant creatures. Meet the largest land mammal to have walked the Earth, the largest shark to have swum the oceans, and *Titanoboa cerrejonensis*, the world's largest ever snake.

How were they able to grow so large? What advantages did their size offer? And why did they eventually face extinction?

Exhibition designed and produced by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

Presented by National Museums Scotland

Image: © RBINS /Jodie Mann



Hands-On DNA: From Barley to Daffodils

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND | GRAND GALLERY

SAT 4 APR | 10AM–5PM

FREE | DROP-IN

Scientists from The James Hutton Institute and The University of Dundee invite visitors to get hands-on with the building blocks of life. This interactive experience brings cutting-edge plant genetics out of the lab and into the festival. Extract DNA, explore how genes shape visible traits, and discover the hidden diversity of barley and heritage daffodils. Suitable for all ages, this session offers a fun, accessible insight into real-world genetic research and discovery.

Presented and supported by



Science for Families



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Future Voices: The AI Ethics Podcast

ACTIVITY | AGES 11-15

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4

SAT 4 APR | 11AM & 2.30PM | 2 HOURS
£7.50*

Is AI taking our jobs? Could humans face extinction one day? Join us to debate AI ethics and record your very own podcast using professional recording equipment! Take part in the discussion, challenge ideas, and record a podcast capturing your views, insights, and bold predictions about our AI-driven future.

All participants must be accompanied by an adult, and lone adults cannot participate

Presented by APRIL AI Hub and The University of Edinburgh



The Quantum Zone

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND | HAWTHORNDEN COURT

SUN 5-SAT 11 APR | 10AM-5PM | DROP-IN | FREE

Enter *The Quantum Zone* and explore the exciting research and innovation academia, industry, and government across the UK are undertaking into quantum technologies. Get hands-on with activities that showcase the core concepts behind quantum science and learn how quantum concepts and components are used to build different technologies. From healthcare to climate, explore how quantum technology is currently impacting our daily lives.

Presented and supported by



National Quantum
Computing Centre

Adventures Inside Your Brain

SHOW | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

MON 6 APR | 11AM | 1 HOUR

£13.50/£9.50*

Join *Inside Your Brain* authors

Prof Caswell Barry and **Lucy Ann Unwin** for an interactive

trip through brain science history. We'll be busting some brain myths, getting a hands-on feel for brain texture, and meeting some neuroscience legends. We'll also be enlisting volunteers to help to crack the code our brain uses when we decide to move, conducting a chorus of human neurons for a STEM take on pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey – or more accurately: grab-the-banana-with-the-simulated-robot-arm!

Presented by Thames & Hudson





Once Upon a Lab

ACTIVITY | AGES 5+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, STUDIO 2
MON 6 APR | 11AM, 2PM & 3.30PM
1 HOUR | **£7.50***

Join author and illustrator duo **Lucy Doyle** and **Kelly Zou** for a lively storytelling session of *Maeve's First Science Experiment!* Together, we'll act out the story, make predictions and follow Maeve's curious adventures. Then we'll bring the story to life with the bubbling experiment featured in the book to try your own colourful reactions and discover how curiosity, creativity and teamwork turns messy moments into discoveries.

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Marine Monsters

SHOW | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM
MON 6 APR | 2PM | 1 HOUR
£13.50/£9.50*

We need your help to create Edinburgh's very own Marine Monster! Join Marine Biologist and YouTuber **Dr Elizabeth Mills** to celebrate the weirdest and most wonderful sea creatures that you can find on Scotland's shores. In this interactive show, you will learn how species move, feed, and protect themselves. Then vote on your favourite ways to combine together and bring to life a new monster. An hour long show full of fun facts, underwater videos, chaotic costume changes, and laughs!

Presented by MarineMumbles

Sick Day Detectives

ACTIVITY | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, STUDIO 1
TUE 7 APR | 11AM, 2PM & 3.30PM | 1 HOUR
£7.50*

Do you know what makes someone sick? Is it bad weather? Germs? A weak immune system? In this interactive workshop, we use play and storytelling to learn about the science of cause and effect. Join our team of *Sick Day Detectives* as we investigate how our friend Alex ended up with a cold.

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by The University of Edinburgh





Zebrafish: A Splash of Science and Art

ACTIVITY | AGES 5+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, STUDIO 2

TUE 7 APR | 11AM, 2PM & 3.30PM | 1 HOUR

£7.50*

Dive into the world of zebrafish research in this interactive and creative workshop. Discover why these little fish are so big in science – from their unique characteristics to how they help solve scientific puzzles. Meet the experts and discover the range of roles involved in working with zebrafish. Create a zebrafish-themed piece of art, which will join our art shoal at The University of Edinburgh's Institute of Genetics and Cancer!

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Body Defenders: The Germ-Fighting Game!

ACTIVITY | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, STUDIO 1

WED 8 APR | 11AM, 2PM & 3.30PM

1 HOUR | **£7.50***

Put on your lab coat to explore the hidden forces that keep us healthy! In this hands-on workshop, we experiment with how immune cells stick, squeeze, and slurp their way to defeat infections. Through exciting experiments, real microscope videos, and creative challenges, you'll uncover the amazing mechanics behind your body's defences – and take science into your own hands!

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Science is Magic!

ACTIVITY | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, STUDIO 2

WED 8 APR | 11AM, 2PM & 3.30PM

1 HOUR | **£7.50***

Science is Magic uncovers the astonishing biology behind everyday life. With glowing reactions, disappearing colours, and hands-on bio-illusions, this show makes science fun, surprising, and completely unforgettable.

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

ONLINE BOOKING:
sciencefestival.co.uk

BOOKING HOTLINE:

0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per order £1.50 transaction fee





Tackling Food Security: One Potato at a Time

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

HAWTHORNDEN COURT

WED 8 APR | 10AM-5PM | DROP-IN

FREE

Potatoes are good for more than just chips – they could hold the key to food security around the world! Explore the various varieties and attributes potatoes can have, and how these are important for growers and markets around the world. Learn how new varieties are created, and the important role this vital research plays in world health. From tackling challenges such as climate change to disease, see how advancements in technology and research are helping support everyone's favourite carbohydrate!

Presented and supported by



The James
Hutton
Institute

Giants in the Kitchen: Big Science, Up Close

SHOW | AGES 7+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

AUDITORIUM

WED 8 APR | 2PM | 1 HOUR

£13.50/£9.50*

Step into the world of giants with *Great British Bake Off* stars **Dr Josh Smalley**, 2023 finalist and science communicator, and Edinburgh's own **Peter Sawkins**, 2020 winner. From towering dinosaurs to amazing modern-day giants, they explore the science behind baking inspired by colossal creatures – including a dinosaur cake created live on stage! With hands-on experiments and microscope images that reveal the secrets of these giants up close, they show how thinking big can be fun and full of surprises.

Presented by Josh Smalley and Peter Sawkins

One Day. One Play. One Prompt.

ACTIVITY | AGES 11-18

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

AUDITORIUM

THU 9 APR | 10AM | 5 HOURS 30 MINS

£26.50*

Are you a musician, actor, dancer, comedian, magician, or any kind of creative performer? Join our AI-powered day-long workshop and help create a brand-new show from concept to curtain call in just one day! Collaborate with fellow creatives and AI tools to build an original performance, and by 3.30pm, you'll be taking the stage in the Auditorium of the National Museum for a live public show! Experience how human creativity and AI innovation can come together to craft something truly one of a kind, all in just six hours. Not a performer? We're also welcoming people interested in hosting, stage management, production and backstage roles to be a part of bringing the show to life behind the scenes. Ticket includes lunch. Presented by APRIL AI Hub and The University of Edinburgh



ONLINE BOOKING:
sciencefestival.co.uk
BOOKING HOTLINE:
0131 553 0320

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The University of Edinburgh works to connect science and society to make the world a better place. Their programme of workshops, discussions and exhibitions throughout the Festival showcase the cutting-edge research taking place in the city.

Children can enjoy hands-on workshops at the National Museum of Scotland [p.13–16] and meet real life scientists at Dynamic Earth [p.23].

Adults can enjoy a range of discussions at the Bayes Centre [p.30–45], from identifying what's real with AI in *Truth, Trust and Trickery in the AI Age* [p.43] to the joy our animals bring us in *Why We Love Our Pets* [p.32]. Don't miss the *Tam Dalyell Prize Lecture* [p.44], the yearly prize awarded by the University of Edinburgh for Excellence in Engaging the Public with Science.

Explore the intersection of art and science with their exhibitions that provide new ways to understand MRIs, data and chemistry [p.51–55].

300 Years of Edinburgh Medical School

2026 marks the 300 year anniversary of the Edinburgh Medical School, leading Edinburgh's role in shaping public health and modern medicine. See the stories of some of the people who shaped the School's past and present with the *Faces of Edinburgh Medical School* outdoor exhibition [p.51], and hear about the research behind kidney transplants in *Transplantation Through Time* [p.41].



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH





Have a wild day out at Edinburgh Zoo!

With world-class attractions and roar-some animals, you and your family will make memories to last a lifetime.

This Easter, get up close with some of the zoo's most incredible animals in family shows and unique workshops.

OPEN 10AM-6PM

**134 CORSTORPHINE ROAD, CORSTORPHINE
EDINBURGH, EH12 6TS**



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk

BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Easter Egg-splorer Trail

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

EDINBURGH ZOO

MON 4-SUN 19 APR | 10AM-6PM

DROP-IN

**£2 + EDINBURGH ZOO ADMISSION,
BOOKED SEPARATELY**

Can you find all the eggs? Join us this April to egg-splode our family friendly easter trail at Edinburgh Zoo. Complete the trail and win a prize!

Presented by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

Spring Explorers

ACTIVITY | AGES 6-12

EDINBURGH ZOO

TUE 7-THU 9 & TUE 14-THU 16 APR | 10AM

3 HOURS | **£23.50***

Join our Discovery and Learning team in an active and engaging three hour session that aims to deepen nature connections for younger audiences through visiting our animals and unique spaces here at Edinburgh Zoo.

Presented by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland



Creature Connections

SHOW | ALL AGES

EDINBURGH ZOO

TUE 7, THU 9, TUE 14 & THU 16 APR

11.45AM | 30 MINS

&£6.50* + EDINBURGH ZOO

ADMISSION, BOOKED SEPARATELY

Join our expert animal experiences team for an exclusive engaging and fun animal antics show. This captivating display allows our animals to showcase natural behaviours and instincts that make them truly remarkable.

Encounter some of our extra special residents, including playful pygmy goats, enjoy the thrill of birds soaring overhead, and have the chance to join in the action yourself!

Presented by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

Wild Discovery Day

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

EDINBURGH ZOO

SAT 11 APR | 11AM-3PM | DROP-IN

FREE WITH ZOO ADMISSION,

BOOKED SEPARATELY

Join us for themed talks, games and crafts to celebrate the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's global conservation work. April is a busy month with dedicated global celebrations for pygmy hippos, flamingos, Pallas's cats, penguins, and more!

Visit the Discovery rangers at our pop-up hub on Penguin lawn and learn more about the animals in our care with fun and exciting activities. Here you can chat to our rangers and volunteers to learn more about your favourite animals from across the world!

Presented by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

Around the World Evening Tour

TOUR | ALL AGES

EDINBURGH ZOO

ACCESS VIA MEMBERS GATE

EDINBURGH ZOO CAR PARK

FRI 17 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

&£11.50*

Join us for an exclusive guided tour of the zoo after closing led by one of our Discovery and Learning rangers. Enjoy an early evening tour as you learn amazing stories about the ambassador animals living here at Edinburgh Zoo, the care they receive, and the conservation work carried out by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland.

From the rainforests of South America to the Highlands of Scotland there are so many unique species found across the globe. Many of these iconic animals are at risk of extinction and need our support now more than ever. Come along for a continent hopping extravaganza and find out how you can help!

Presented by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland





Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh is a world renowned centre for plant science and education, with a vision to build a better future for plants, people, and the planet.

Visit the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh for interactive family activities and exhibitions for all ages.

OPEN 10AM-5PM
JOHN HOPE GATEWAY, WEST GATE,
ARBORETUM PLACE, EH3 5NZ

EAST GATE, INVERLEITH ROW, EH3 5LP



Don't miss the *Herbology* and *Earth Matters* exhibitions [p.51-52] running throughout the Festival.

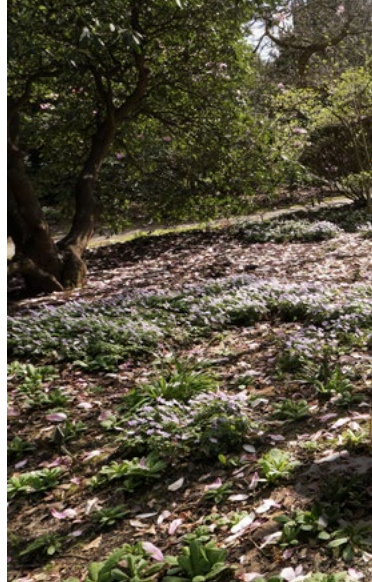
**ROYAL
 BOTANIC
 GARDEN
 EDINBURGH**



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk

BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Easter Trail

ACTIVITY | AGES 3+

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

JOHN HOPE GATEWAY

FRI 3 - SUN 12 APR | 10AM-4PM

DROP-IN | £3

This Easter explore our vibrant Edinburgh Garden as it bursts into life! Discover the beauty of our flowering plants in a fun and interactive way. Follow the map and complete the activity booklet to earn your edible sweet surprise.

Presented by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh





World of Wonder

ACTIVITY | AGES 3+

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

JOHN HOPE GATEWAY

SAT 18 & SUN 19 APR | 12PM-4PM

DROP-IN | **FREE**

Take part in hands-on activities as we explore the incredible diversity of plants from around the world and those in our Living Collection. Learn fascinating facts about our Palm House renovation progress through crafting and immersive VR headsets. Enjoy family-friendly experiences that bring the wonders of nature to life. Perfect for all ages – come curious and leave inspired!

Presented by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Plant Passport

ACTIVITY | AGES 5+

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

JOHN HOPE GATEWAY

SAT 18 & SUN 19 APR | 12PM-4PM | DROP-IN | **FREE**

Get ready for your journey around our planet with scientists from the Botanic and discover the surprising variety of crop plants from around the world. The Botanic's Herbarium contains 3 million plants in its collection; learn about some unusual ones you may never have heard of and be amazed at how they are used.

Presented by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh





Celebrate James Hutton's tercentenary at Dynamic Earth! Edinburgh's only Science Centre and Planetarium tells the extraordinary story of planet Earth – its origin, history, and its place in the Universe – through exhibitions and events.



**10AM-6PM [LAST ENTRY 4PM]
HOLYROOD ROAD, EDINBURGH, EH8 8AS**



Adults can also enjoy classic dinosaur movies and guided shows in the Planetarium [p.48-49].

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk
BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



An Egg Hunt Across the Ages

TRAIL | ALL AGES

DYNAMIC EARTH | EXHIBITION GALLERIES

SAT 4-SUN 19 APR

FREE WITH DYNAMIC EARTH ADMISSION

Add an adventurous egg trail to your Dynamic Earth admission. Travel through time and scour our exhibition to find out all about different kinds of eggs and the creatures that lay them: from corals and dinosaurs, to penguins and catsharks. Grab your free egg trail map at Dynamic Earth when you visit this April!

Presented by Dynamic Earth

Jurassic Juniors Storytelling

ACTIVITY | UNDER 6S

DYNAMIC EARTH | DISCOVERY BASES

MON 6-FRI 10 APR | 10.30AM & 1.30PM | 45 MINS

£9.50* | FREE FOR ACCOMPANYING ADULT

Join us at Dynamic Earth for a 'roar-some' storytelling session. Can you do a dinosaur stomp? Do you know your T-Rex from your Triceratops? Budding palaeontologists will love this session where we get crafty and let out our inner dinosaur!

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by Dynamic Earth





Astronaut Training

ACTIVITY | UNDER 9S

DYNAMIC EARTH | OZONE

MON 6-FRI 10 APR | 10.30AM, 12.30PM & 2.30PM | 45 MINS

£11.50* | FREE FOR ACCOMPANYING ADULT

Calling all budding astronauts! Come and join us at Dynamic Earth for a session that will get you ready to head to space! Your astronaut training will include exciting space activities: from rocket launches to zero gravity. Once it's complete, you'll boldly go into Dynamic Earth's Pop-up Planetarium for a trip to the stars like no other!

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by Dynamic Earth

Hutton in Edinburgh

TOUR | ALL AGES

DYNAMIC EARTH | MEET AT STRATOSPHERE

TUE 7-THU 9 APR | 2PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS | **£17.50***

Step into the 1700s and walk through Edinburgh's landscape with philosopher James Hutton and his famous Scottish Enlightenment companions, exploring Hutton's theory of a dynamic Earth. Born in Edinburgh in 1726, with interests in agriculture, chemistry, medicine and natural science, Hutton is regarded as the founder of modern geology. Join theatre maker **Jane Westhead** and geologist **Angus Miller** in this engaging walking theatre show.

Presented by Dynamic Earth and the Edinburgh

Geological Society

Image: Amanda Robbins



University of Edinburgh: 7 Days, 100 Scientists

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

DYNAMIC EARTH | STRATOSPHERE

TUE 7-MON 13 APR | 10AM-4PM | DROP-IN | **FREE**

7 days, 100 scientists. Meet the University of Edinburgh scientists working to better understand our world and how to tackle the greatest challenges of our time. From the microscopic to the vastness of the Universe, medicine to robotics and supercomputing, there is something for everyone. Visit the Science Festival website to explore the full daily line-up.

Presented by Dynamic Earth and The University of Edinburgh

Journey Into Space Storytelling

ACTIVITY | UNDER 6S

DYNAMIC EARTH | DISCOVERY BASES

MON 13-FRI 17 APR | 10.30AM & 1.30PM | 45 MINS

£9.50* | FREE ACCOMPANYING ADULT

Get ready to blast off in this space-themed storytelling session! Get your hands on some meteorites, discover the smell of the Moon and find out what astronauts do when they need the toilet, plus lots more exciting activities in a session that's out of this world!

All children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults cannot participate without a child

Presented by Dynamic Earth





British Geological Survey: Planet Power

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

DYNAMIC EARTH | STRATOSPHERE

WED 15 APR | 10AM-4PM | DROP-IN

FREE

If you love crystals, volcanoes, fossils or anything in between, join us at Dynamic Earth for a day of activities with the British Geological Survey – the experts who specialise in knowing what's happening in the earth beneath us. Have a conversation with a volcano expert, a deep sea mapper, or a space weather forecaster. See some amazing displays and have a go yourself with hands-on activities to help you discover more about the secrets of the Earth.

Presented by Dynamic Earth and
British Geological Survey

Meet the Marine Scientists

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

DYNAMIC EARTH | STRATOSPHERE

THU 16-FRI 17 APR | 10AM-4PM

DROP-IN

FREE

Join the Scottish Association for Marine Science at Dynamic Earth! Take part in activities exploring ocean currents around the world and take a deep dive into how our climate relies on, and is influenced by, the ocean. You'll discover the impact the ocean has around the world and meet the marine scientists working in physical oceanography driving this cutting-edge research.

Presented by Dynamic Earth
and the Scottish Association for
Marine Science

Meet the Scientists:
Heriot-Watt
University &
Edinburgh
Napier University

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

DYNAMIC EARTH | STRATOSPHERE

FRI 17 APR | 10AM-4PM | DROP-IN

FREE

Meet the researchers from Heriot-Watt University and Edinburgh Napier University that are using cutting-edge technology and expertise to address some of the challenges 21st century society faces. From robots and AI to health, nature and design, come and get hands-on with activities and demonstrations that are helping mend the world around us.

Presented by Dynamic Earth,
Heriot-Watt University, and Edinburgh
Napier University



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk **BOOKING HOTLINE:** 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Planetarium: Family Films

FILM | ALL AGES

DYNAMIC EARTH | PLANETARIUM

SAT 11–SUN 12 & SAT 18–SUN 19 APR | 10AM | £9.50*

Kick off your day at Edinburgh Science Festival with a visit to Dynamic Earth's Planetarium for some roar-some films! Enjoy a Jurassic journey with your little explorers in this one-of-a-kind cinema experience.

Presented by Dynamic Earth



The Land Before Time

SAT 11 APR

Join Littlefoot the Apatosaurus and his prehistoric pals as they make an epic journey to find a new home in this heart-warming classic.



Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs

SUN 12 APR

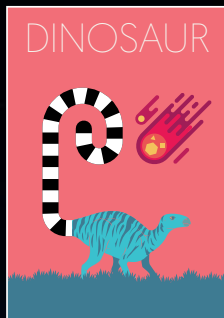
Our favourite ice-age adventurers must save Sid the Sloth from a hidden prehistoric world where dinosaurs still roam.



The Good Dinosaur

SAT 18 APR

In a world where dinosaurs and humans co-exist, a dinosaur and his human friend embark upon a perilous journey to find their way back home.



Dinosaur

SUN 19 APR

As the meteor strikes Earth, a brave dinosaur and his unlikely group of lemur friends travel across dangerous terrain to find a safe haven.





You'll find Science Festival events all over the city and in some of Scotland's picturesque locales. The ultimate science days out – right on your doorstep!

Some of these events take place outdoors – please ensure you are dressed for the Edinburgh weather, including a warm coat and waterproof shoes.



The Rocks of Roslin: Swamps and Streams

TOUR | AGES 12+

ROSLIN GLEN COUNTRY PARK

SAT 4 APR | 10AM | 3 HOURS

£3.50*

The rocks of Midlothian once provided limestone for agriculture, stone for building and coal for power. They were formed in huge tropical swamps, where rivers meandered towards a distant sea to the west. Come along and see the record of past warmer climates, in a landscape formed by ice in some of the coldest conditions the Earth has known.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Visit the SS Explorer

TOUR | AGES 18+

SS EXPLORER

SAT 4, TUE 7, SAT 11, TUE 14, SAT 18 | 12PM

1 HOUR 30 MINS

FREE, BOOKING REQUIRED

The SS Explorer remains as the UK's very last steam sidewinder trawler and is also the last steam ship to be registered in Leith, where she now resides. She is Scotland's first purpose-built Fisheries Research Ship and studied fish stocks, fishing practices, and equipment. This research played a crucial role in the development of our fishing industry technology and our understanding of the seas and their ecosystems. Come for a guided tour of her laboratories, cabins, and wheelhouse! Visit **theexplorer.scot** for access information.

Presented by SS Explorer Preservation Society





Flying High

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF FLIGHT

CONCORDE HANGAR

MON 6–FRI 10 APR

FREE WITH ADMISSION

Learn about the Scottish inventions that made international travel possible with fun family activities. Explore the rest of the museum during your visit. Find out more about how aeroplanes fly in our family-friendly, interactive gallery, Fantastic Flight.

Presented by the National Museum of Flight



Edinburgh Theoretical Physics Walking Tour

TOUR | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

OLD COLLEGE QUAD, SOUTH BRIDGE

SAT 4, SUN 5, SAT 11, SUN 12, SAT 18 & SUN 19 APR | 3PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£3.50*

Discover Edinburgh's storied history of theoretical physics. This tour will guide you through the nooks and crannies of beautiful Edinburgh, highlighting places associated with extraordinary physicists who have called the Scottish capital home. You'll learn personal anecdotes about physicists whose names you'll recognise, as well as others who are less famous but no less interesting. Hear about their fascinating life stories and world-changing science in small groups led by physics lecturers and PhD researchers from the University.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Global Glider Technical Challenge

10AM–4PM | DROP-IN

Use craft materials to build an aircraft without an engine. How far will yours fly? This family activity is suitable for all children over 36 months.

Science Show: Scottish Success or Flying Failure?

12PM, 2PM & 3PM | 10 MINS

Find out about Scottish inventors from 16th century to today. From John Damian Falcus to Sir Robert Watson Watt, some changed the way we fly while others faded into obscurity. Can you tell which is which?

Invention Trolley

10AM, 1.30PM & 3PM | 1 HOUR

Get hands on with inventions and learn more about Scottish engineering creativity.

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk **BOOKING HOTLINE:** 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Wee, Poo, Snot!

SHOW | ALL AGES

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH & ONLINE

TUE 7 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

FREE | BOOKING REQUIRED

Join us at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh for a fun-filled, interactive medical show for all ages. **Dr Suzie Edge** will be our guide as we venture into the soggy, stinky and sticky world of wee, poo, and snot! Along the way we'll meet the experts – the doctors who deal with urinary systems, digestive systems, and respiratory systems. Prepare to get involved and learn all about your wee, poo, and snot!

Presented by Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Getting Bugged Down

ACTIVITY | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

JOSEPH BLACK BUILDING, KINGS BUILDINGS

THU 9 APR | 7PM | 2 HOURS | **£13.50/£11.50***

Peatbogs are a fascinating, unusual ecosystem which store twice as much carbon as all forests globally. Get your hands dirty with University of Edinburgh scientists researching these weird, wonderful and vital ecosystems. Discover why UNESCO has designated the world's largest area of blanket peatland bog, Scotland's Flow Country, a World Heritage Site alongside the Great Barrier Reef and the Grand Canyon. And what do enzymes and magnets have to do with peaty bogs? Come along and find out!

Presented by The University of Edinburgh



AI for All: Designing Responsibly 2026

EXHIBITION | ALL AGES

EDINBURGH FUTURES INSTITUTE | CANOPY

FRI 10 APR | 10AM-4PM | DROP-IN | **FREE**

Natural Language Processing (NLP) is an area of AI that underpins technologies we use every day, including personalisation systems, voice assistants, translation tools, and generative AI, such as ChatGPT. These technologies have huge potential – but how do we ensure they are fair, accountable, and transparent? Join us for our annual drop-in festival of exhibits, hands-on activities and opportunities to meet the next generation of researchers sharing their work and ideas of how we design and build a more responsible future.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

The Algorithm Adventure

ACTIVITY | AGES 10+

PANMURE HOUSE

WED 15 APR | 2PM | 2 HOURS | **FREE**

Ever wondered how your favourite apps seem to know what you like? Step into the world of AI and algorithms to uncover the secrets behind your social feeds and game recommendations! Through fun, hands-on activities and robotic interaction, you'll explore how technology shapes what we see and do online. Discover the hidden tricks behind data and learn why algorithms are so powerful. Get ready for an exciting adventure into the tech that powers your everyday life!

Presented by Heriot-Watt University

Around Edinburgh



Wonders of Space Family Festival

ACTIVITY | ALL AGES

ARCHERFIELD WALLED GARDEN

FRI 17 APR | 10AM AND 1PM | 3 HOURS

£4.50*

Dive into hands-on space-themed activities and uncover the fascinating science behind our solar system at Archerfield Walled Garden and meet some of our Heriot-Watt scientists showcasing their ground-breaking research. Perfect for all ages, this celebration of earth and beyond promises an educational and fun-filled experience. Be sure to also embark on a captivating tour of the solar system along the Dirleton Solar Walk, stretching from Archerfield Walled Garden to Dirleton Village.

Presented by Heriot-Watt University

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk

BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Save the date!



Edinburgh International

Children's Festival

30 May – 7 June 2026

What to expect at the Festival:

- ★ 15 visually stunning theatre, circus and dance shows
- ★ Inspiring performances to stimulate young minds
- ★ Sat 30 May: Free Family day at the National Museum

Programme announced 25 March

www.imagine.org.uk



EDINBURGH
THE CITY OF SCOTLAND



Scottish Government
Riaghaidas na h-Alba
gov.scot



You can find a complete listing of all our adult events, including our science nights out, on [p.59].

Big Ideas, Small Prices

Early Bird Tickets

Save £4 per ticket on our talk and discussion events at the National Museum of Scotland and The Bayes Centre if booked before Sunday 1 March. Call the Box Office or book online using the code **EARLYBIRD26**.

Talks for Teens

Aged 12-18? Enjoy the wonders of STEM for less with £5 tickets available for all talk and discussion events at the National Museum of Scotland and The Bayes Centre.

Thu 2 April

Opening Gala: First Women of Science

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

CENTRAL HALL

THU 2 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£27.50/£24.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

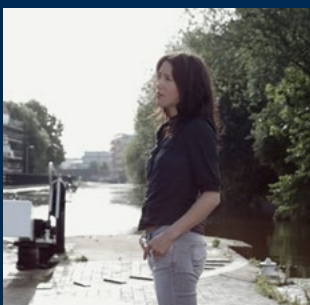
Scotland's past is filled with amazing women who changed the scientific path of history forever. However, they were rarely recognised in their time. Missing from the pages of their own research, denied the roles that were rightfully theirs and their ideas claimed by others.

Now Scotland feels like it is thriving, women have stepped into the role of First Minister, Astronomer Royal for Scotland, and President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. How proud the Edinburgh Seven, the first women to try and study medicine in Edinburgh, would be of the progress that has been made.

But has that progress been enough? Hear from those who have been 'the first women' in Scotland as they discuss what it truly means to be the heard voices in a history of hidden voices. Has society really changed that much?

Hosted by former First Minister **Nicola Sturgeon** in conversation with a panel including Astronomer Royal for Scotland **Prof Catherine Heymans** and author of *The Edinburgh Seven* **Janey Jones**.
Presented by Edinburgh Science





Sat 4 April

Exclusive Viewing: The Great Instauration

DISCUSSION | AGES 18+
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

SAT 4 APR | 6PM | 2 HOURS

£21.50/£19.50*

 AI CAPTIONED

For the 2026 Edinburgh Science Festival artist **Dr Gayle Chong Kwan** has created a new art installation, *The Great Instauration*, hosted in the Grand Gallery of the National Museum of Scotland. This installation explores science as a culturally embedded process shaped by social history, power and omission.

Join us for a unique evening celebrating the installation. Enjoy an after-hours viewing of *The Great Instauration* followed by a fascinating in-depth discussion of the process and background with the artist, alongside some of the experts who assisted with the research for the piece.

Ticket includes a welcome drink.



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot
Developed with support from Creative Scotland
through the Scottish Government's
Festivals Expo Fund

Mon 6 April

Arctic, Antarctic... and a Dash of Mars

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

MON 6 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

 AI CAPTIONED

Join **Dr Niamh Shaw**, ESA Champion in Space Education and fellow of The Explorers Club on a warm and witty journey from the Arctic to Antarctica... with a playful dash of Mars. Shaw has completed two Mars analogue missions, taken part in field expeditions in Botswana and the high Utah desert, joined a leadership voyage to Antarctica with 100 women obsessed with climate action, and most recently spent time on an international artist residency around the Arctic Circle.

In this uplifting, human talk, Shaw shares the moments behind her global adventures. Through stories of scientists and artists collaborating across borders, she shows how going global helps us reconnect with what truly matters.

Presented by Dream Big Space & Science Communications



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Why We Love Our Pets

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM

MON 6 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR

£13.50/£11.50*

Why do we love our pets so much? Join psychology and human-animal interaction experts for an evening uncovering the science behind our love for pets. From evolutionary ties, to brain chemistry, to attachment and wellbeing, discover how pets make us happier, healthier, and more connected. Through surprising insights, stories, and interactive moments, you'll walk away with a deeper understanding of the joy and health our furry friends bring.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Positive Tipping Points: How to Fix the Climate Crisis

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

AUDITORIUM

MON 6 APR | 8PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

How do we get out of a climate crisis of our own making? From **Prof Tim Lenton**, the scientist who first identified climate tipping points, take an optimistic look at how we can all play a part in triggering positive tipping points to avoid the worst dangers to our future climate. Once a tipping point gains momentum it can become self-propelling – things like the climate justice movement and the rise of electric vehicles are great examples of positive tipping points which are gaining momentum and making a difference.

Presented by University of Exeter and Oxford University Press



Image: ChatGPT

Tue 7 April

(AI) Life Begins at 50

ACTIVITY | AGES 50+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

LEARNING CENTRE LEVEL 4, SEMINAR ROOM

TUE 7 APR | 11AM | 2 HOURS

£7.50*

Join our AI-focused workshop designed especially for adults aged 50 and over. Led by friendly AI academic researchers, this session introduces the latest technology in a clear, hands-on way. Enjoy fun games, interactive activities, and real conversations about how AI can support everyday life. Participants will also have access to mentorship, helping you become confident, informed, and empowered in the AI and digital world.

Presented by APRIL AI Hub and The University of Edinburgh

P.23 Hutton in Edinburgh

2PM | DYNAMIC EARTH



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Wed 8 April

**Tackling Food Security:
One Potato at a Time**

10AM-5PM | NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

Hutton in Edinburgh
2PM | DYNAMIC EARTH

**Bake It Global: The Science of
Scotland's Food & Drink**

SHOW | AGES 18+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

WED 8 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

Join two *Great British Bake Off* stars on a mouth-watering, science-fuelled tour of Scotland's iconic exports. **Dr Josh Smalley**, 2023 finalist and science communicator, teams up with Edinburgh's own **Peter Sawkins**, 2020 winner, to delve into the science behind whisky, salmon, raspberries, and more. Expect interactive demos, live bakes, and a festival-packed experience that shows just how Scotland's flavours go global!

Presented by Josh Smalley and Peter Sawkins



**The Future of Water:
Working in Tune with Nature**

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND | AUDITORIUM

TUE 7 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

What happens when the world's most essential resource starts to behave in unexpected ways? Managing water sustainably underpins health, food, energy, and urban resilience. However, human activity and climate change are reshaping our natural water cycle, creating global challenges of too much, too little, or too polluted water.

Join Arup's Global Water Lead **Dr Mark Fletcher** who will blend real-world stories with hopeful possibilities in this exciting exploration of how we can work more in-tune with nature to restore balance, build resilient communities, and rethink our relationship with water and the natural worlds.

Presented and supported by

ARUP

Stitch and Fly

ACTIVITY | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM

TUE 7 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£13.50/£11.50*

The humble fruit fly has helped scientists unravel more of life's secrets than you might expect. Join us to discover how biologists use them to explore how hormones affect the functioning and growth of our bodies. Get a glimpse into what it's like to study these tiny creatures through hands-on activities and turn science into art by cross-stitching your own science inspired pattern to take home. No previous cross-stitching experience needed!

Presented by The University of Edinburgh





The Future of Livestock Farming

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM
THU 9 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR

£13.50/£11.50*

From avian flu-resistant chickens to livestock resilient to climate change, gene editing offers a more precise way to build on centuries of traditional breeding. This emerging science could enhance animal health and mitigate the global impact of farming. Join scientists, ethicists, and industry experts to explore how this technology works, what proposed UK laws could mean, and how it could shape the future of food. Ask questions and get the facts.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Fri 10 April

A Crack in Everything

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

FRI 10 APR | 2PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

Once black holes were considered so ridiculous, they were beyond the realms of even science fiction. Now we know they play a crucial role in the Universe and may even explain why we are here. Award-winning writer **Marcus Chown** tells the story of how black holes came in from the cold and presents the latest discoveries, which include black holes more massive than theoretically possible and the mysterious Little Red Dots, which may be supermassive black holes being born.

Presented by Marcus Chown



Rocks Uncovered: A Geological Walk with Vojta Hybl

TOUR | AGES 18+

DYNAMIC EARTH

MEET AT LEARNING BASES

FRI 10 APR | 5.30PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£11.50*

Join nature illustrator, author and educator **Vojta Hybl** for a hands-on exploration of Edinburgh's local geological landscape. Beginning with a short walk through Holyrood Park, Vojta will guide participants to discover the fascinating rocks beneath their feet. The journey will then continue at Dynamic Earth, where Vojta will delve into the stories rocks can tell us about the Earth's greater story, sharing insights from his new book, *Rocks: A Guide to the Stones Around Us and the Stories They Tell*. Whether you're an aspiring rock hunter, a geology enthusiast or simply looking to understand Edinburgh's landscape more deeply, this is the perfect event for you!

Presented by Dynamic Earth

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Fame Lab

Famelab

cheltenhamsfestivals.com/famelab



Sat 11 April

Edinburgh Conservation Film Festival 2026

FILM | AGES 9+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

SAT 11 APR | 2PM | 2 HOURS

£13.50/£11.50*

The Edinburgh Conservation Film Festival is a celebration of conservation stories from around the world that will inspire, engage, and inform you about some of the many projects helping to protect the world's biodiversity, in Scotland and around the globe. Come and discover some of the many projects and people who are helping preserve global biodiversity. The films will be followed by a panel discussion about the role storytelling plays in inspiring environmental restoration and protection, and a prize-giving ceremony for the winning films.

Presented by Edinburgh Conservation Film Festival

FameLab UK 26 – Scottish Finals

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

FRI 10 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£17.50/£13.50*

Join us for the ultimate evening of quick-fire science as we host the Scottish Regional Finals of FameLab UK 2026. Scotland's best new voices in science, technology and engineering will each have just three minutes to convey a scientific concept to you and our expert panel of judges, before a winner is chosen to represent Scotland at the final of FameLab UK. Packed with FameLab's 3 C's – Content, Clarity, and Charisma – this will be an unmissable night of fun, facts and fabulous entertainment. Get ready to make some noise!

Presented by Edinburgh Science and Cheltenham Festivals

Health or Hype: AI in Biomedicine

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM

FRI 10 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£13.50/£11.50*

AI isn't just writing text and generating images – it's transforming how we treat diseases and understand the human body. In this interactive event, discover how researchers are using AI to detect tumours, make sense of rich health data, and reveal new insights into the biology of complex diseases. Join the conversation on how we can harness this powerful technology safely and for good.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Space Journal: The Art and Science of Cosmic Exploration

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

SAT 11 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR
£17.50/£13.50*

 AI CAPTIONED

The universe is alluring and mysterious. A place of wonder and terror. We know it's under no obligation to make sense to us, and yet...

Space Journal is a visual celebration of our perception of the cosmos, and our efforts to reach it, from the seventeenth century to the present day. Presenter, science writer and podcaster **Dallas Campbell** weaves together priceless archival memorabilia, revolutionary experiments, and spectacular scenes to map both real and potential encounters with our celestial backyard. From Galileo's shopping list to speeches annotated in President John F. Kennedy's own hand, from *The War of the Worlds* to *Space Invaders*, Campbell sets out the radical thinkers and doers who have launched us towards the final frontier.

Presented by Thames & Hudson

Bad Influence – How the Internet Hijacked Our Health

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

SAT 11 APR | 8PM | 1 HOUR
£17.50/£13.50*

 AI CAPTIONED

As NHS waiting times increase and face-to-face GP appointments decline, influencers have stepped into the breach. Award-winning broadcaster and expert medical journalist **Dr Deborah Cohen** presents an urgent and thought-provoking examination of the way healthcare is being shaped by social media, the role of big tech in modern medicine, and the commodification of our health.

Presented by Oneworld Publications

Sun 12 April

Science Festival Church Service

TALK | AGES 12+

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL

SUN 12 APR | 11AM | 1 HOUR | **FREE**

The Lord Provost of Edinburgh and the Minister of St Giles' Cathedral warmly invite you to the annual church service celebrating the Edinburgh Science Festival. This year's featured speaker is **Dr Shoaib Ahmed Malik**, Lecturer in Science and Religion at The University of Edinburgh. With a background in Chemical Engineering and Theology and Religious Studies, he stands at the crossroads of science and religion.

Presented by Edinburgh Science and St Giles' Cathedral

Hamza Yassin's Adventures in Nature

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

USHER HALL

SUN 12 APR | 3PM | 1 HOUR (DOORS OPEN 2PM)

£36.50 - £18.50*

 BSL INTERPRETED  AI CAPTIONED

Everyone's favourite wildlife cameraman returns to the Festival to share stories from his adventures!

Join wildlife cameraman, author and TV presenter **Hamza Yassin** in conversation with science presenter **Siân Bevan**. Having been born in Sudan, Yassin moved to the UK as a young child and now lives on the incredible west coast of Scotland where he is often found high up in the mountains filming his beloved eagles.

Yassin will be sharing stories of unique experiences and adventures as a wildlife cameraman and you will be able to meet him afterwards at a book signing.

Presented by Edinburgh Science



An Evening with Astronaut Helen Sharman

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

USHER HALL

SUN 12 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 25 MINS (DOORS OPEN 6PM)

£51.50 - £33.50*

 AI CAPTIONED

Join Britain's first astronaut for a thought-provoking evening of stories from space!

In this special event join **Helen Sharman**, the first British astronaut, as she shares her unique, personal experiences from her historic 1991 mission aboard the Mir space station. Hear about some of her training, blasting off on a Soyuz rocket, and what it's like to live and work in space including conducting science experiments.

In conversation with Earth scientist and former BBC presenter **Dr Hermione Cockburn**, Sharman reflects on the evolution of space exploration – from Tim Peake's International Space Station mission to private space companies – and the growing international diversity in space programmes.

Presented by Edinburgh Science



Edinburgh Medal Address: Mania, Genius, and Character

TALK | AGES 18+

CITY CHAMBERS | COUNCIL CHAMBER

MON 13 APR | 6PM | 2 HOUR

£26.50/£21.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED



Each year *The Edinburgh Medal* is presented to those who have made a significant contribution to the wellbeing and understanding of humanity through the sciences. This year's recipient is **Kay Redfield Jamison** PhD, world-renowned clinical psychologist recognised for reshaping global perspectives on mood disorders and their treatment, reducing stigma and expanding public understanding of mental illness.

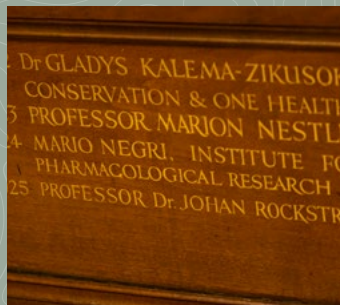
As Dalio Professor in Mood Disorders, Professor of Psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and co-director of the Johns Hopkins Mood Disorders Center, Dr Jamison's work blends rigorous science with human insight. Her contributions have helped to define bipolar disorder (formerly known as manic depression) as a distinct biologically driven illness and to influence the widespread use of lithium in its treatment.

Dr Jamison is the co-author of the standard medical text on bipolar illness, recognised by American Association of Publishers as the most outstanding book in biomedical sciences. Her memoir, *An Unquiet Mind: A Memoir of Moods and Madness* – an exploration of her own experience of bipolar disorder – brought international acclaim for its honest and compassionate portrayal of the illness which, along with her works, has helped to shift public attitudes towards mental health.

Her many distinguished honours include a University of St Andrews Honorary Doctor of Letters, election as a Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a MacArthur Fellowship, and major international awards in psychiatry and mental health.

The Edinburgh Medal is awarded by a representative of the Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh, with a Vote of Thanks from **Prof Robert Crawford**, University of St Andrews.

The Lord Provost's office and Edinburgh Science invite ticket holders to celebrate with the Medallist at a City Chambers drinks reception following the ceremony.



Previous Recipients

- 2025 Prof Johan Rockström
- 2024 Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research
- 2023 Prof Marion Nestle
- 2022 Dr Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka
- 2021 Prof Heidi Larson
- 2020 Sunita Narain
- 2019 Christiana Figueres
- 2018 Prof Cordelia Fine
- 2017 Prof Peter Piot
- 2016 Kevin Govender & IAU
- 2015 Mary Midgley
- 2014 Prof Mary Abukutsa-Onyango
- 2013 Prof Peter Higgs & CERN
- 2012 Dr James Hansen
- 2011 Prof Carl Djerassi
- 2010 Sir Alex Jefferies
- 2009 Prof Jonathan Beckwith
- 2008 Prof Chris Raxley
- 2007 Dr Richard Horton
- 2006 Prof James Lovelock
- 2005 Prof Colin Blakemore
- 2004 Prof Steven Rose
- 2003 Prof Wang Sung
- 2002 Dr Lise Kingo
- 2001 Sir John Sulston
- 2000 Prof Lynn Margulis
- 1999 Prof Jocelyn Bell Burnell
- 1998 Sir David Attenborough
- 1997 Prof Amartya Sen
- 1996 Prof Richard Levins
- 1995 Sir John Crofton
- 1994 Prof Manuel Patarroya
- 1993 Prof Wangari Maathai
- 1992 Prof Heinz Wolff
- 1991 Prof Jane Goodall
- 1990 Prof Stephen J Gould
- 1989 Prof Abdus Salam



Are We Alone? What Faith Says About Extraterrestrials

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

MON 13 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

The discovery of extraterrestrial intelligence would raise significant questions for people's faith. Would it challenge core religious beliefs such as human uniqueness or the idea that humans are made in the image of God? Could non-human beings be spiritually gifted, morally superior or closer to God than us? Join **Dr Shoaib Ahmed Malik**, Lecturer in Science and Religion at The University of Edinburgh, in a lively and interactive event that explores how Islam and Christianity engage these tensions. Expect debate, big questions, and active audience participation – curiosity is strongly encouraged.

Presented by Edinburgh Science



Licence to Stress

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM
MON 13 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS
£13.50/£11.50*

In a world of constant pressure, your body deploys a secret agent to keep you safe: the stress hormone cortisol. A biological asset so effective, its power has been harnessed medically for over 70 years. Yet when pushed too far, this trusted operative can go rogue, sabotaging your health. Join **Dr Mark Nixon** and his team for an evening of scientific espionage to unmask and disarm this double agent.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh



Tue 14 April

Sink or Swim: How the World Needs to Adapt to a Changing Climate

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

TUE 14 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

Heatwaves, wildfires, hurricanes, and flooding caused by climate change are already hitting people and nature and this is just the start. How can we manage the hard choices facing us on migration, food, nature, and conflict in a rapidly warming world? **Susannah Fisher** tells the story of the tough choices that lie ahead, and looks at ways we can still have a liveable planet. The choice is in our hands. Will we choose to sink or swim?

Presented by Bloomsbury



Transplantation Through Time

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM

TUE 14 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£13.50/£11.50*

The UK's first successful kidney transplant was performed in Edinburgh in 1960 and research here continues to contribute to this life-saving field. Hear from transplant surgeons, clinicians, and scientists as we explore how organ donation and transplantation work today, the obstacles that patients and clinicians still face, and emerging approaches that could help more people in the years ahead. This event takes place as part of the Medical School's 300-year anniversary.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Dissected From History

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

AUDITORIUM

TUE 14 APR | 8PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

Join **Cat Irving**, Human Remains Conservator at Surgeons' Hall and **Sophie Giggins**, Senior Curator of Biomedical Science at the National Museum of Scotland to discover the hidden stories of some important historical figures. People who changed the course of science, medicine and anatomy but were overlooked in their time for a range of reasons including gender and background. From dissection to taxidermy, these tales will take you on a global adventure.

Presented by Edinburgh Science



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk

BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



lumo

Lumo is a proudly innovative rail operator, championing science and helping to drive a low-carbon future. Operating fully electric trains, Lumo is the only company that connects Glasgow, Falkirk and Edinburgh with North East England and London in both a sustainable and affordable way.

Scotland isn't just part of Lumo's route; it's part of the company's DNA. From showcasing local talent and supporting local businesses to promoting greener travel and expanding its network, Lumo is proud to be a growing part of Scotland's success story.

Looking to the future, Lumo is preparing to launch a groundbreaking new service that will link Stirling with destinations including Lockerbie, Carlisle, Preston and London. The route will bring affordable, open-access travel to even more communities.



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@lumotravel

Wed 15 April

Jane Goodall: A Life of Impact

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH | MCEWAN HALL

WED 15 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£26.50-£19.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

Celebrate the extraordinary life and legacy of Jane Goodall, PhD, DBE – Founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and UN Messenger of Peace – whose groundbreaking research and community-led conservation work transformed our understanding of chimpanzees and the natural world. Her lifelong commitment to science and environmental protection – recognised with the prestigious Edinburgh Medal awarded by the City of Edinburgh Council and presented by Edinburgh Science at the 1991 Edinburgh Science Festival – continues to inspire generations of scientists, activists and changemakers around the world.

This special event explores Jane Goodall's enduring impact, from scientific innovations to world-leading conservation efforts across Tanzania, Uganda, the Republic of Congo, the DRC, South Africa, and Senegal, supported by 30 Jane Goodall Institutes. It also highlights *Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots*, her global youth programme empowering young people to become involved in hands-on projects that benefit animals, people, and the environment.

Audiences will hear personal reflections, view images and video from Goodall's career, and will have the opportunity to submit questions for a concluding Q&A. The panel includes **Dr Anthony Collins**, whose 55 years working alongside Goodall in Gombe, Tanzania offer an unparalleled perspective, and **Jasmina Georgovska**, Director of Outreach at the Jane Goodall Institute UK.

Presented by Edinburgh Science

Dr Jane Goodall with Gombe chimpanzee Freud. Image: Michael Neugebauer

42 | Science for Adults

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Modern Medicine: Menopause

DISCUSSION | AGES16+

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

WED 15 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR | £6.50*

Join GPs, podcasters, authors and researchers **Dr Claire Phipps** and **Dr Sarah Glynne** as they explore their menopause specialism. Dr Phipps and Dr Glynne will expose some menopause myths and uncover what the menopause is, what it feels like, and what therapies are out there. Have your questions answered by these menopause experts.

Presented by Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Nature's Architecture

ACTIVITY | AGES12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH | JOSEPH BLACK BUILDING, KINGS BUILDINGS

WED 15 APR | 6PM | 2 HOURS

£13.50/£11.50*

Explore the microscopic world in the chemistry research laboratories at The University of Edinburgh. You'll discover how the microstructure of shells and bones determines their strength and resilience, and where animals can survive and what they can do. Try your hand at using an electron microscope to see these fascinating structures for yourself, and meet the researchers working to understand how organisms control the creation of these intricate crystals.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Truth, Trust, and Trickery in the AI Age

ACTIVITY | AGES12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH | BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM

WED 15 APR | 6.30PM | 2 HOURS

£6.50*

Can you seek out what's true in today's tsunami of AI slop? Generative AI is prompting an information crisis as fakes and fiction flood social media and chatbot hallucinations pollute our news streams. We'll help you navigate this new frontier of video, image and language generation. In our interactive workshop you'll learn from the BBC Blue Room about the latest tools and techniques and tackle dilemmas as a journalist in our pop-up newsroom.

Presented by BRAID, BBC R&D, and The University of Edinburgh

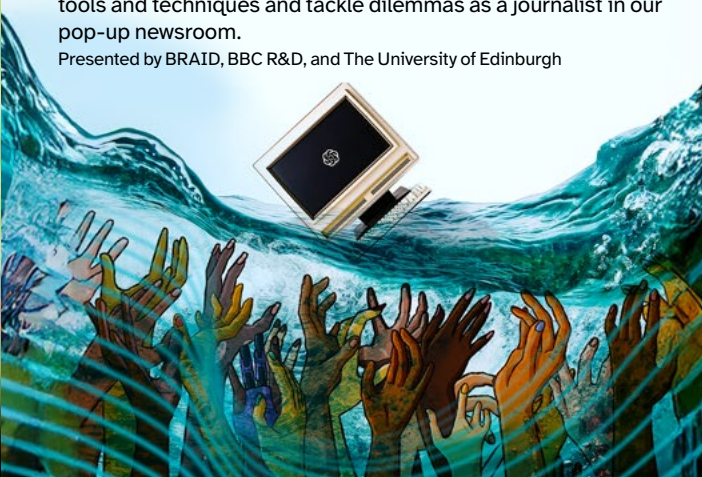


Representation remains vitally important in the world of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and the Edinburgh Science Festival are proud to champion the achievements of women in science and science communication.

We are delighted that over 60% of the artists and speakers taking part in this year's Festival identify as women.

We strive to promote, encourage and inspire the next generation of women in STEM by showcasing amazing women in a series of panel events and discussions. Here are just some highlights from the programme:

P.50	Opening Gala: First Women of Science THU 2 APR 7PM CENTRAL HALL
P.37	Bad Influence – How the Internet Hijacked Our Health SAT 11 APR 8PM NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
P.38	An Evening with Astronaut Helen Sharman SUN 12 APR 7PM USHER HALL
P.41	Dissected from History TUE 14 APR 7PM NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
P.42	Jane Goodall: A Life of Impact WED 15 APR 6PM MCEWAN HALL





Thu 16 April

Tam Dalyell Prize Lecture

TALK | AGES 18+

OLD COLLEGE, SOUTH BRIDGE

PLAYFAIR LIBRARY

THU 16 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

FREE

Scotland is often portrayed as politically distinct from the rest of the UK, an idea underpinning devolution. On core values, Scots frequently look similar to voters in the rest of the UK. **Prof Ailsa Henderson** explores why perceptions of difference still matter and shows how assumptions of uniformity, including about British national identity and our shared past, have wider implications for the state. She has been awarded The University of Edinburgh's Tam Dalyell Prize for Excellence in Engaging the Public with Science in recognition of her work on measuring public attitudes in Scotland and the union.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

PALaEoScot: New Approaches to Scotland's Oldest Archaeology

DISCUSSION | AGES 18+

AUGUSTINE UNITED CHURCH & ONLINE

THU 16 APR | 6PM | 2 HOURS

FREE

Explore the latest evidence for Scotland's ice age people, along with their continental connections, the landscapes they encountered, and the fearsome beasts they shared their world with. **Prof Kate Britton** FSAScot will present the latest results of the PALaEoScot (People, Animals, Landscapes and Environments of Late Glacial Scotland) project, a European Research Council-selected, UK Research and Innovation-funded project. The lecture will be preceded by a short presentation by an early career researcher and followed by a Q&A. In-person attendees are welcome to stay after the lecture for a drinks reception.

Presented by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Fri 17 April

P.19
Around the World
Evening Tour
6PM | EDINBURGH ZOO



AI: The Final Frontier

TALK | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

FRI 17 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR 15 MINS

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

Join our mission to explore how robotics and AI are transforming space science, seek out new ideas and new approaches, and to boldly challenge everyday assumptions about technology and our understanding of the universe. Through interactive discussion we will investigate the role AI plays in interpreting the cosmos and uncover how it can act as the 'brain' supporting complex space missions. We will examine the importance of robots in going where no one has gone before, and highlight some of the Italian scientists in Scotland working on topics such as human-robot interaction, autonomous vehicles, AI chatbots, and more.

Presented and supported by



Interacting (with) Galaxies

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM

FRI 17 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£13.50/£11.50*

Despite the vastness of space, most galaxies will experience collisions. These mergers are complicated and understanding them benefits from new approaches to data representation. With the opportunity to interact with galaxies using several senses, we will hear, touch, and see models and measurements of interacting galaxies. Learn about the technology that is powering this discovery space by working with data experts and engineers to improve representations of galaxies, enabling a fuller understanding of the important stage of galactic evolution.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh



The Science of Origin

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
AUDITORIUM

FRI 17 APR | 8PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

CC AI CAPTIONED

Join **Prof Dame Lorna Dawson** of The James Hutton Institute and international experts for an interactive event exploring the science of provenance. Learn how scientists determine authenticity and link objects or people to places, including crime scenes. The panel will discuss organised crime, murders, illegal mining, conflict minerals, gold trading, wildlife crime and the fossil trade. Speakers include specialists from The James Hutton Institute, AHK Group, the Brazilian Federal Police, the University of South Wales and Bologna.

Presented and supported by





Sat 18 April

Doing Science on the Roof of the World

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND | AUDITORIUM

SAT 18 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

 AI CAPTIONED

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) threatens global health when bacteria stop responding to antibiotics. In remote Himalayan regions of Nepal, yaks are vital for local livelihoods, yet crossbreeding with cattle – where antibiotics use is common – may help spread resistant germs. Join an international team from the Research Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology in Nepal and The University of Edinburgh to explore this urgent issue, its implications for yak milk safety, and the challenges of conducting science in the Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest) National Park. The researchers from Research Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology will be joining live from Nepal by video link.

Presented by Edinburgh Science



Bloody Powerful: The Taboo-busting Guide to Periods, Menopause and Everything In-between

DISCUSSION | AGES 16+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND | AUDITORIUM

SAT 18 APR | 8PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

 AI CAPTIONED

Dr Brooke Vandermolen has taken the internet by storm as ‘The OBGYN Mum’, smashing down taboos and debunking myths about overlooked and misunderstood areas of women’s health and medicine. Join Vandermolen for a very special event in which they navigate the biggest myths, misinformation, and medical jargon about female health, and show how the internet is making it harder than ever to find accurate information you can trust. The event is open to all genders including boyfriends, husbands and partners as the discussion aims to demystify female health issues for a broad audience!

Presented by Cambridge University Press





Exclusive Viewing: The Great Instauration

DISCUSSION | AGES 18+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

AUDITORIUM

SAT 4 APR | 6PM | 2 HOURS

£21.50/£19.50*

For the 2026 Edinburgh Science Festival artist **Dr Gayle Chong Kwan** has created a new art installation, *The Great Instauration*, hosted in the Grand Gallery of the National Museum of Scotland. This installation explores science as a culturally embedded process shaped by social history, power and omission.

Join us for a unique evening celebrating the installation. Enjoy an after-hours viewing of *The Great Instauration* followed by an in-depth discussion of the process and background with the artist, alongside some of the experts who assisted with the research for the piece.

Ticket includes a welcome drink.

Presented by Edinburgh Science

Supported by



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Developed with support from Creative Scotland
through the Scottish Government's
Festivals Expo Fund

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Planetarium Lates: Pink Floyd's The Dark Side of the Moon

FILM | AGES 18+

DYNAMIC EARTH | PLANETARIUM

THU 9-SUN 12 APR & SAT 18-SUN 19

6PM & 7PM | 50 MINS

£21.50/£19.50*

Pink Floyd's The Dark Side of the Moon planetarium experience is back! Experience a mesmeric and immersive show with breath-taking views of the Solar System, set to the official 1973 album in spectacular surround sound. Over half a century after its launch in a planetarium, this truly is a unique way to experience this iconic album.

Presented by Dynamic Earth

Wildlife on the Rocks

DISCUSSION | AGES 18+

EDINBURGH ZOO | MEMBERS GATE ENTRANCE

FRI 10 APR | 6PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£16.50*

Join us for an exclusive evening talk where you will hear all about the latest conservation research from leading experts at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland! Learn about the science behind protecting endangered species and discover how genetics research and fieldwork generate conservation action across the globe.

From international partnerships on some of the most elusive small cats in Central Asia and wildcats in Scotland, we'll be showcasing a selection of animals we're conserving, what makes them both extraordinary and important to save, and the people working to help them. Ticket price includes an alcoholic or non-alcoholic welcome drink.

Presented by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee



Planetarium Lates: Prehistoric Pictures

FILM | AGES 18+

DYNAMIC EARTH | PLANETARIUM

THU 9-SUN 12 APR | 8PM | £16.50/£14.50*

Settle in for a movie night like no other, underneath Edinburgh's night sky! Enjoy classic films inspired by the creatures that roamed the Earth over 65 million years ago.

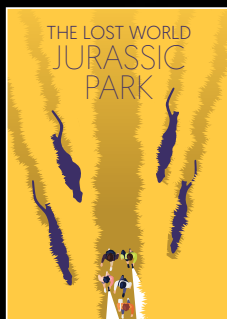
Presented by Dynamic Earth



Jurassic Park

THU 9 APR

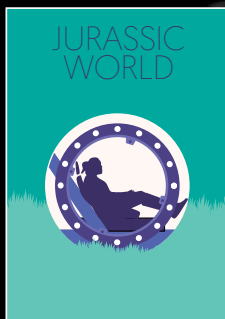
Join Alan Grant and Ellie Sattler on this classic adventure as they come face-to-face with the prehistoric creatures of *Jurassic Park*.



The Lost World: Jurassic Park

FRI 10 APR

In this high-energy sequel to the original film, our unwilling heroes take on a new island of Jurassic giants.



Jurassic World

SAT 11 APR

Join a new group of humans as they face the threat of genetically engineered dinosaurs in this new imagining of a Jurassic theme park.



Godzilla (2014)

SUN 12 APR

Humanity faces the awakening of ancient monsters, leading to an epic battle for survival against the colossal Godzilla.

Stargazing Late & Live

SHOW | AGES 18+

DYNAMIC EARTH | PLANETARIUM

SAT 18 & SUN 19 APR | 8PM | 45 MINS | £16.50/£14.50*

Immerse yourself amongst the stars as our resident astronomers guide you across the cosmos, delving into their favourite sights to see along the way. Gaze up at Edinburgh's night sky, visit distant worlds and view space through the lenses of state-of-the-art telescopes. Don't miss out-of-this-world insights and stunning imagery in Edinburgh's only Planetarium.

Presented by Dynamic Earth

AIRLINE

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SCIENCE
AND ART

Giants

EXHIBITION | ALL AGES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

SPECIAL EXHIBITION GALLERY 1

SAT 31 JAN – MON 14 SEP | 10AM–5PM

SEE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND WEBSITE FOR PRICING

Meet the colossal creatures that lived after the dinosaurs in a family exhibition of epic proportions.

Through life-sized 3D sculptures, skeletons, fossils, and hands-on experiences, discover ten enormous but often overlooked giant creatures. Meet the largest land mammal to have walked the Earth, the largest shark to have swum the oceans, and *Titanoboa cerrejonensis*, the world's largest ever snake.

How were they able to grow so large? What advantages did their size offer? And why did they eventually face extinction?

Exhibition designed and produced by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
Presented by National Museums Scotland
Image: © RBINS





Herbology

EXHIBITION | ALL AGES

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

JOHN HOPE GATEWAY GALLERY

FRI 13 FEB–SUN 28 JUN | 10AM–5PM | DROP-IN

FREE

Step into the Botanic's green pharmacy. Founded as a physic garden in 1670, the Botanic's history is rooted in the growth and use of herbs for medicinal purposes. This year, we celebrate 20 years of our contemporary herbology course and the enduring healing and cultural power of plants. Presented by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Spotlight Talk: Herbology

TALK | ALL AGES

JOHN HOPE GATEWAY GALLERY

THU 9 APR | 2PM | 30 MINS

FREE | BOOKING REQUIRED

Join this free introduction to *Herbology*, in which one of the knowledgeable Botanic's volunteers shines a light on their favourite aspect of this exhibition.

Presented by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

BSL Tour: Herbology

TOUR | ALL AGES

JOHN HOPE GATEWAY GALLERY

SUN 19 APR | 2PM | 1 HOUR

£6.50*

 **BSL INTERPRETED**

Join us for a British Sign Language (BSL) tour of the exhibition *Herbology*, led by **Trudi Collier**.

Presented by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh



Faces of Edinburgh Medical School

EXHIBITION | ALL AGES

THE MOUND PRECINCT | FRI 20 MAR–SUN 26 APR

PORTOBELLO PROMENADE | WED 29 APR–SUN 14 JUN

DAILY | DROP-IN

FREE

For the past 300 years, Edinburgh has been at the heart of public health – its students and alumni have shaped modern medicine. Today, Edinburgh Medical School trains healthcare professionals and research scientists to respond to the health challenges of our time, and is home to one of the strongest research communities in the world. This outdoor exhibition tells the story of the people who have shaped Edinburgh Medical School's past and present.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh



ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Earth Matters

EXHIBITION | ALL AGES

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

INVERLEITH HOUSE

FRI 20 MAR–SUN 1 NOV | 10.30AM–4.30PM | DROP-IN

FREE

See soil through art. *Earth Matters* marks 300 years since the birth of James Hutton, the Edinburgh-born geologist, farmer and thinker who revolutionised our understanding of the ground beneath us. Inspired by Hutton and subsequent trailblazers, 30 artists delve into this living ecosystem to reveal its brilliance, beauty and fragility.

Presented by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in partnership with Design Exhibition Scotland



Spill the Tea Tour: Earth Matters

TOUR | ALL AGES

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

INVERLEITH HOUSE

SUN 5 APR | 10.30AM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£9.50/£7.50*

Join this guided tour of *Earth Matters*, led by a member of the Botanics' Creative Programmes team. Explore the exhibition, go behind the scenes and chat about all you've seen with a special cup of tea.

Instagram Live: Earth Matters

ONLINE | ALL AGES

ONLINE

THU 16 APR | 9AM | 30 MINS

FREE

Overlooked and undervalued, the earth beneath our feet is more than just dirt. In fact, soil is globally important. It feeds us and regulates our climate. The top metre contains twice the carbon of all living plants, including trees. Join **Dr Max Coleman** on the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Instagram account (@rbgedinburgh) for a livestreamed look at the inner workings of soil.

Spotlight Talk: Earth Matters

TALK | ALL AGES

ROYAL BOTANIC

GARDEN EDINBURGH

INVERLEITH HOUSE

FRI 17 APR | 2PM | 30 MINS

FREE, BOOKING REQUIRED

Join this free introduction to *Earth Matters*, in which one of the knowledgeable Botanics' volunteers shines a light on their favourite aspect of this exhibition.



Modern Alchemy

EXHIBITION | ALL AGES

EDINBURGH PRINTMAKERS

FRI 3 APR–WED 28 JUN | 10AM–6PM | OPEN WED–SUN

FREE

Modern Alchemy is an exhibition highlighting the dialogue between art and science. Working in the laboratory, artist **Susan Aldworth** explored the similarities and differences in processes between chemistry and art and was able to bring this experience into her printmaking. The exhibited prints are the result of a series of conversations about science, touching on fundamental chemistry knowledge and sustainable chemical production.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh Printmakers, and ASCUS Art and Science



Modern Alchemy: Behind the Scenes of an Art-Science Collaboration

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

EDINBURGH PRINTMAKERS

THU 16 APR | 6.30PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£13.50/£11.50*

Join us for an evening conversation between artist **Susan Aldworth** and scientist **Dr Amanda Jarvis**, hosted by Edinburgh Printmakers. We will discuss their collaborative experience, the overlaps between scientific and artistic process, and how sustainability shapes both research and art. Audience participation via questions for the panel members will be encouraged.

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Designing Global Data Interactions

EXHIBITION | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

INSPACE, CRICHTON STREET

SAT 4-MON 6 APR | 10AM-5PM | DROP-IN

FREE

Join Masters students from the Institute for Design Informatics at The University of Edinburgh and explore global interactions with data, technology, and people. The exhibition will explore the human (and beyond human) challenges of global technologies in the world, and how data might be used as material to engage, connect or critique current and future issues.

Students have designed a series of creative responses investigating global and societal challenges by designing with environmental, community, bodily, and global data. They are creating a space where experiential embodied interactions provoke global thinking and connect human experiences, where design fiction meets current issues, and where the digital, virtual, and artificial merge to prompt new approaches to complex global landscapes. Visitors can expect to explore societal challenges through embodied, virtual and playful interactions.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh

Sphaerosymphony: The Music of the Air

EXPERIENCE | AGES 12+

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

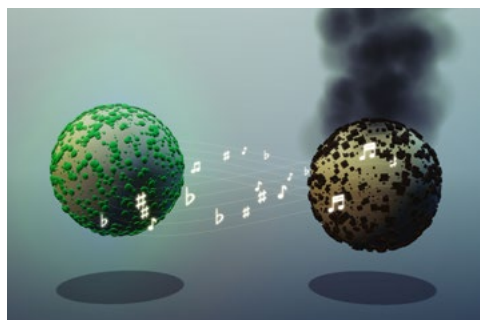
BAYES CENTRE, BAYES THEOREM

THU 16 APR | 7PM | 1 HOUR 30 MINS

£13.50/£11.50*

Take a deep breath and listen to the air itself. Sphaerosymphony transforms real-time air quality data from cities around the world into an immersive visual and musical experience. A dynamic 3D sphere glows, pulses, and resonates in response to measured atmospheric changes. Presented by creative technologist **David Oxley** and **Piera Morlacchi**, Associate Professor at The University of Edinburgh, this evening blends science, art, and imagination.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh



Between Glass and Magnetic Fields

DISCUSSION | AGES 12+

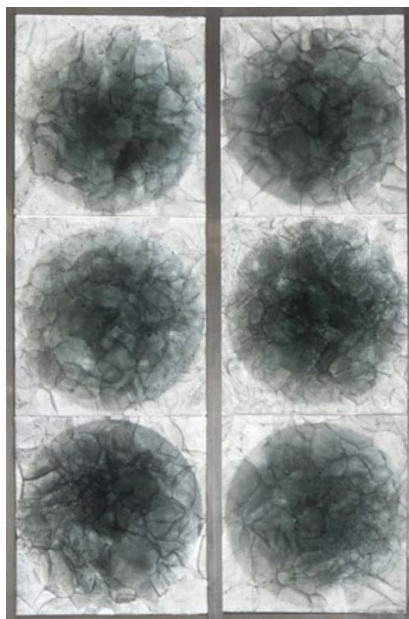
THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH | INSPACE, CRICHTON STREET

THU 16 APR | 4PM | 2 HOURS

FREE

Between Glass and Magnetic Fields is an interactive talk, accompanying an art installation by **Gregory Alliss**, emerging from his time as Creator in Residence for STEAM Imaging VI: Resonant Connections through Design and Data, at the Fraunhofer MEVIS Institute for Digital Medicine. This project combines design thinking with medical data science through glass art and immersive installations. Come along and meet the artist and scientists, to experience hands-on creative playful representation of complex Magnetic Resonance Imaging software technologies, through remote live imaging at the MR lab in Germany.

Presented by The University of Edinburgh



Artist Tour: Dr Gayle Chong Kwan

TOUR | AGES 18+

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND | GRAND GALLERY

FRI 17 APR | 2PM | 1 HOUR

£17.50/£13.50*

Join **Dr Gayle Chong Kwan** for a guided tour of her artwork, *The Great Instauration*, as she speaks through the artistic, material, and research processes that underpin the commission.

Dr Chong Kwan's practice brings together social history, ecology, and speculative research, often working with archives, foraged materials, and collaborative methods to explore the intersections of science, culture, and lived experience. During the tour, Dr Chong Kwan will reflect on how research informs her making, tracing the journey from investigation to experimentation and final form.

This tour provides insight into how contemporary art can operate as a site for inquiry, bridging scientific thinking and creative practice, and opening up new ways of understanding our relationships to place, environment, and knowledge production.

Presented by Edinburgh Art Festival



Developed with support from Creative Scotland through the Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund

ONLINE BOOKING: sciencefestival.co.uk BOOKING HOTLINE: 0131 553 0320

*Listed price includes a once per-order £1.50 transaction fee

Edinburgh Science in Schools

Our commitment to delivering inspirational science education extends throughout the year. Beyond the Festival, our primary and secondary school programmes provide positive, engaging experiences in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for pupils across Scotland.

Primary Schools

Each spring our *Generation Science* team hits the road, taking our touring programme of science shows and workshops into primary schools across Scotland. Covering topics like chemistry, electricity, and climate change, our science communicators bring the excitement and energy of science to classrooms from Shetland to Selkirk.

In 2025 we reached over 18,000 pupils – and thanks to our amazing supporters, 63% of visits were delivered for free.

Secondary Schools

In 2025 we proudly marked the 10th anniversary of *Careers Hive*, our annual skills and careers event designed to help young people understand the amazing opportunities available in STEM. Nearly 2,000 pupils attended the free, interactive event, taking part in hands-on activities to explore their skills and strengths, and speaking with early-career STEM professionals about their career journeys.

Over the last decade more than 21,500 young people have benefited from our distinctive vision: a world where STEM careers are accessible, appealing, and engaging for all.

We're able to deliver these incredible programmes thanks to the generous support of our funders [p.58].

If you're a teacher or parent who'd like to find out how your school can get involved, visit edinburghscience.co.uk/schools for more information.

Be the Change:

Become a Catalyst

Our mission is to inspire, encourage, and challenge people of all ages and backgrounds to explore and understand the world around them. If you share this vision, you could become a Catalyst, one of our dedicated supporters whose philanthropic gifts help make our work possible.

Catalysts support our year-round work, making science accessible to school pupils and community groups, and inspiring the next generation of innovators and change-makers. Catalysts can see behind the scenes of our work, receive special ticket offers, and attend exclusive events – all while making a real difference.

For more information on becoming a Catalyst, visit edinburghscience.co.uk/individual-giving

With thanks to our Catalysts:

Benefactors: David Milne, the Nimar Charitable Trust

Patrons: Brendan Dick, Edina Trust, Dr Simon Gage, Dr Richard Kimberlin, Dr Chris Masters, Martin Ritchie, Ian Wall

Innovators: Dr Janet Brown

and those who wish to remain anonymous.



Programming for the Planet

The global climate crisis is accelerating, and the world is looking to science and technology to find solutions. As a science education charity, we are – and always have been – committed to platforming the scientists, innovators, and thinkers who can help us work towards a better world and care for the one we're living in today.

Spotlight on Climate

P.32

Positive Tipping Points: How to Fix the Climate Crisis

MON 6 APR | 8PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

P.33

The Future of Water: Working In-tune with Water

TUE 7 APR | 6PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

P.40

Sink or Swim: How the World Needs to Adapt to a Changing Climate

THU 14 APR | 6PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

Playing Our Part

We work hard to be as sustainable as possible running the Science Festival. Many of the materials, sets and artwork that you will see throughout the Festival are reused year-on-year to eliminate waste. Where we create new exhibitions, we use recycled materials or materials we know can be repurposed and this programme is printed on FSC accredited paper from a responsible source. We have implemented policies that discourage internal UK flights by both staff and our Festival guests, and we encourage travel by bike and bus throughout the Festival.

Climate Leadership

Real change requires commitment from those with real power. Since 2019 we've been bringing together senior leaders from business, government and academia at our *Climate Co-Labs* to generate real solutions to complex climate problems.
edinburghscience.co.uk/climate-colabs

Climate in Schools

We deliver two climate and sustainability themed workshops as part of our *Generation Science* programme. *Our Changing Climate* and *The Green Machine* are curriculum-aligned STEM workshops that link climate change to real-world solutions and future careers. Both workshops are delivered in schools across Scotland, and remain popular with teachers and pupils.



Climate Funding Partners

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THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL



VATTENFALL

Thanks to our 2026 Schools Programme Supporters

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Drone Hill Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund
Nadara Auchrobert Wind Farm Community Fund

Our Catalysts and those who prefer to remain anonymous

Edinburgh Science Festival at a Glance					
Date	Time	Event	Type	Theme	Page
Thu 2 Apr	7PM	Opening Gala: First Women of Science	Discussion	Society & Culture	30
Sat 4 Apr	6PM	Exclusive Viewing: The Great Instauration	Discussion	Arts & Design	31
Mon 6 Apr	6PM	Arctic, Antarctic... and a Dash of Mars	Talk	Environment & Nature	31
	7PM	Why We Love Our Pets	Discussion	Environment & Nature	32
	8PM	Positive Tipping Points: How to Fix the Climate Crisis	Discussion	Climate & Sustainability	32
Tue 7 Apr	11AM	(AI) Life Begins at 50	Activity	Tech & Innovation	32
	2PM	Hutton in Edinburgh [also Wed 8–Thu 9 Apr]	Tour	Environment & Nature	23
	6PM	The Future of Water: Working in-Tune with Nature	Talk	Climate & Sustainability	33
	7PM	Stitch and Fly	Activity	Environment & Nature	33
Wed 8 Apr	10AM–5PM	Tackling Food Security: One Potato at a Time	Activity	Environment & Nature	33
	6PM	Bake It Global: The Science of Scotland's Food & Drink	Show	Society & Culture	33
	7PM	Your Language-Learning Superpower	Activity	Society & Culture	34
Thu 9 Apr	6PM & 7PM	Planetarium Lates: Pink Floyd's The Dark Side of the Moon [also Fri 10–Sun 12 & Sat 18–Sun 19 Apr]	Film	Arts & Design	48
	7PM	Drift	Show	Climate & Sustainability	34
	7PM	The Future of Livestock Farming	Discussion	Environment & Nature	35
	8PM	Planetarium Lates: Jurassic Park	Film	Arts & Design	49
Fri 10 Apr	2PM	A Crack in Everything	Talk	Physics & Maths	35
	5.30PM	Rocks Uncovered: A Geological Walk with Vojta Hybl	Tour	Environment & Nature	35
	6PM	Wildlife on the Rocks	Discussion	Environment & Nature	48
	7PM	FaMeLab UK26 – Scottish Finals	Talk	Society & Culture	36
	7PM	Health or Hype: AI in Biomedicine	Discussion	Mind & Body	36
	7PM	Planetarium Lates: The Lost World: Jurassic Park	Film	Arts & Design	49
Sat 11 Apr	2PM	Edinburgh Conservation Film Festival	Film	Environment & Nature	36
	6PM	Space Journal: The Art and Science of Cosmic Exploration	Talk	Space	37
	8PM	Bad Influence: How the Internet Hijacked Our Health	Talk	Mind & Body	37
	8PM	Planetarium Lates: Jurassic World	Film	Arts & Design	49
Sun 12 Apr	11AM	Science Festival Church Service	Talk	Society & Culture	37
	3PM	Hamza Yassin's Adventures in Nature	Discussion	Environment & Nature	38
	7PM	An Evening with Astronaut Helen Sharman	Discussion	Space	38
	8PM	Planetarium Lates: Godzilla (2014)	Film	Arts & Design	49
Mon 13 Apr	6PM	Edinburgh Medal Address: Mania, Genius and Character	Talk	Mind & Body	39
	6PM	Are We Alone? What Faith Says about Extraterrestrials	Talk	Society & Culture	40
	7PM	Licence to Stress	Discussion	Mind & Body	40
Tue 14 Apr	6PM	Sink or Swim: How the World Needs to Adapt to a Changing Climate	Discussion	Climate & Sustainability	40
	7PM	Transplantation through Time	Discussion	Mind & Body	41
	8PM	Dissected from History	Discussion	Mind & Body	41
	8PM	Dissected from History	Discussion	Mind & Body	41
Wed 17 Apr	6PM	Jane Goodall: A Life of Impact	Discussion	Environment & Nature	42
	6PM	Modern Medicine: Menopause	Discussion	Mind & Body	43
	6PM	Nature's Architecture	Activity	Chemistry	43
	6.30PM	Truth, Trust and Trickery in the AI Age	Activity	Tech & Innovation	43
Thu 16 Apr	4PM	Between Glass and Magnetic Fields	Discussion	Arts & Design	55
	6PM	Tam Dalyell Prize Lecture	Talk	Society & Culture	44
	6PM	Palaeoscot: New Approaches to Scotland's Oldest Archaeology	Discussion	Environment & Nature	44
	7PM	Sphaerosymphony: The Music of the Air	Experience	Arts & Design	54
Fri 17 Apr	6PM	Around the World Evening Tour	Tour	Environment & Nature	19
	6PM	AI: The Final Frontier	Talk	Tech & Innovation	45
	7PM	Interacting (with) Galaxies	Discussion	Space	45
	8PM	The Science of Origin	Discussion	Society & Culture	45
Sat 18 Apr	6PM	Doing Science on the Roof of the World	Discussion	Environment & Nature	46
	8PM	Bloody Powerful: The Taboo-Busting Guide to Periods, Menopause and Everything in-Between	Discussion	Mind & Body	46
	8PM	Stargazing Late & Live [also Sun 19 Apr]	Show	Space	49

YOUR TICKET TO EXPLORE A WORLD OF SCIENCE

EDINBURGH SCIENCE FESTIVAL

4-19 APRIL 2026



BOOK NOW

sciencefestival.co.uk