

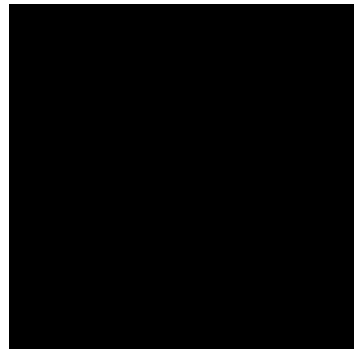
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**TEDxQUT** is an independently organised event under a TED license. We proliferate the TED ethos by providing a community-based platform for the sharing of unique ideas, the development of curiosity, and inciting a deeper engagement with the world.

In 2022, we introduced the TEDxQUTSalon events to provide opportunities for the university community to engage with TEDx in a more casual format. These events allow us to deep dive in a specific topic - we have held Salons on Tea, Social Enterprise, Disability, Still Life Drawing, Sexual Relationships, and more.

We continue to ensure that education outside of academia remains accessible to the wider community. Creating an inclusive and accessible community is a core element of our work here at TEDxQUT. At the end of 2022, we were awarded the Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Inclusion and Diversity Excellence.

2024 has been an impactful year for community-building, developing meaningful relationships and sustaining meaningful connections with speakers, attendees, and event contributors.

We hope you enjoy TEDxQUT 2024 and wish you a day filled with awe and curiosity.

**Montana White and Claudia Steiner**  
TEDxQUT Co-Directors

# acknowledgement of **country**

We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we gather, the Turrbal and Yuggara people.

We recognise that these lands have always been places of teaching, learning, and ideas sharing. We acknowledge the important role First Nations people play in our community and pay respects to elders past, present, and emerging.

TEDxQUT acknowledges that all voices are important in creating transformative change.



# about the theme



## ILLUMINATE: Shaping a Brighter Future

Queensland University of Technology is proud to host its tenth TEDxQUT annual event.

Join us for day of transformative talks and conversations which incite forward-thinking, ethical and community-focused discussions, and inspire our next generation of thinkers and doers.

With these ideas and topics, we can ignite change and encourage current and future generations to shape a brighter future.

*Logo design by QUT Student  
David Huynh*





# 2024 event program

## Session One

9am – 10:20am

### Event welcome

Erin Xu and  
Olivia Martini

### What if AI could help children speak without words?

Shreya Rajeevan

### Education for a 21st century world: Teaching a generation of expert designers

Dr Nick Kelly

### Filmmaking is changing: Here's why that's a good thing

Hetal Singh

### Dignity and decision making: Voluntary Assisted Dying for those with dementia

Charlotte  
Collier-Vickers

### Poetry reading

Francesca Testa |  
QUT Literary Salon

**Morning tea** 10:20am – 11:05am

# Session Two

11:10am – 12:15pm

**Bluey: the children's show...for adults?**

Sarina Peterson

**Not just news: how sensationalism is exploiting tragedy**

Hannah Moon

**When neighbours unite: leadership lessons from a crisis**

Brian Luckins

**P\*rn performers are the secret to revolutionising p\*rn literacy**

Dr Zahra Stardust

**Lunch** 12:15pm – 1:25pm

# Session Three

1:30pm – 2:15pm

**Dance performance**

QUT Rhythm Avenue  
Dance Society

**How can we design universities for the age of AI?**

Oliver Kele



**Junk media: revealing the state of our information diets**

Emma Dyson

**The art of healthy hustle**

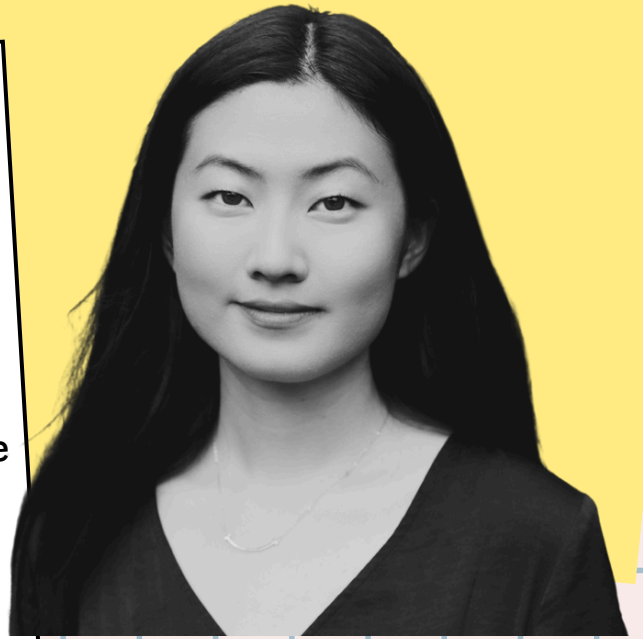
Nicky Miklos-Woodley

**Afterparty** 2:15pm – 3:30pm

With music from Nathan M.T.

# event MCs

Erin is a QUT student, advertising account manager, and entrepreneur. Yet, her favourite titles are storyteller and solution-maker. Whether supporting clients in uncovering authentic brand stories, or helping business owners streamline operations through her data-quality business, Erin truly believes in the power of stories and solutions. She is excited to bring passion and energy to the MC role at TEDxQUT, empowering extraordinary speakers and facilitating inspiring conversations that resonate with diverse audiences.



**Erin Xu**



**Olivia Martini**

Olivia is a savvy journalist with a passion for communication, currently in her third year of a Bachelor of Communications (Journalism). She strives to work in the broadcast media industry. When she's not studying, Olivia is teaching communication skills to primary school students and helping to create the next generation of confident communicators. As co-MC for TEDxQUT, Olivia hopes to bring gravitas to the ideas of the speakers, while keeping the event engaging, thought-provoking, and sometimes playful!

# speakers



**Brian Luckins**

Brian Luckins is a current Master of Business student here at QUT, and brings with him a extensive knowledge as a Change Leader in the Travel Industry for over 15 years, focusing on innovation and the human impact of change. Namely, he has led teams through challenges like Covid and the Global Financial Crisis in Australia and abroad. Recently, Brian united 180 local families facing an unprecedented home zoning proposal which would have had devastating economic and social consequences for the community. Brian wants to show the potential for effective leadership both in the workplace and community, using empathy and unleashing the potential in others.

Charlotte Collier-Vickers is a QUT graduate with a Bachelor of Biomedical Science and a Master of Health Management, currently working as a healthcare manager. With a strong foundation in biomedical science and health management, Charlotte is deeply passionate about bioethics. Her primary area of focus includes Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) and improving the quality of life for individuals with dementia. Through her work and advocacy, Charlotte strives to bring about positive change in the healthcare system and aims to ensure ethical practices are upheld.



**Charlotte Collier-Vickers**

Emma Dyson is currently in her fourth year of completing a Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical) at QUT. She is passionate about using engineering to make positive change with Australia's power industry and hope to inspire others to do the same. In her spare time, Emma enjoys supporting local live performance, art and music. Emma is excited to share her ideas about how the medium of information watch, read and listen to inform how we see the world.



**Emma Dyson**



**Hannah Moon**

Hannah Moon is a QUT student of a Bachelor of Communications (Journalism). She has been involved in a myriad of public speaking forums since the age of 12, notably collecting the winning title of Lion's Youth of the Year public speaking winner at the 2021 Victorian State final. Hannah brings her passion to the TEDx stage and asks us to challenge our perceptions on what it means to be a conscious journalist, bringing attention to the human element behind event news story produced.



**Hetal Singh**

Hetal Singh is currently studying a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Film, Screen and New Media) with QUT. She is currently working on an unreleased film project as a post-production specialist and particularly enjoys romantic-comedy and mystery films. Hetal has been following the ever-changing trends and nature of internet culture for years and is passionate about sharing her discoveries at TEDxQUT this year. Currently, Hetal has been enjoying the works of director Greta Gerwig as well as closely following the creators behind streaming service Dropout and the animation studio Fortiche Studios.

Dr Nick Kelly is an Associate Professor of Design Science, who studies the role of design in education and cognition. He has been a design educator for over a decade and is the author of over 100 scholarly works including the co-authored book "Online Learning Networks for Preservice and Early Career Teachers and Teachers' Emotional Experiences" (forthcoming). He has been a chief investigator in the "Thriving in Vertical Schools" project since 2021, partnering with public schools, architects, and builders to investigate ways that schools might be more inclusive spaces of thriving.



**Nick Kelly**

Nicky Miklos-Woodley has been immersed in sales and leadership for over twenty years. She is fueled by an insatiable curiosity about human behaviour, leading her to develop a unique, people-centered approach to business. Her early hustle habits cause a significant burn out in 2012, forcing her to reexamine her relationship with work, life and leadership. Author of recently released "Healthy Hustle," Nicky has run successful coaching businesses since 2015, is an accredited eDISC Profiler and Level 3 NLP Practitioner. Nicky is on a mission to contribute to a new era of business and leadership that values humanness, champions smart growth, and cultivates a culture of "healthy hustle."



**Nicky  
Miklos-Woodley**



**Oliver Kele**

Oliver Kele is a Data Science student at QUT with a passion for all things AI. He is firm in his belief generative AI is here to stay, and aims to champion a student's perspective on its use in universities. When he's not using ChatGPT as a learning tool for his assignments, Oliver enjoys working out and descending down YouTube rabbit holes. Above all else, Oliver loves to learn, and is keen to challenge his (and everyone else's) perspectives.



**Sarina Petersen**

Sarina is a student of Law and Behavioural Science (Psychology) at QUT and works as part of the in-house legal team of one of Queensland's largest not-for-profit organisations. She is most interested in social psychology and human behaviour - particularly, the way that these interact and influence one another. Sarina is a fond viewer of the Brisbane-produced cartoon "Bluey" and is enthusiastic about analysing its enormous worldwide appeal and cultural impact - particularly its impact on adults.

As a young social activist, Shreya Rajeevan volunteered at local orphanages. Shocked by how communication barriers left children unable to express basic needs, she was moved to find a way to help children communicate independently. Now a pediatric speech pathologist, researcher, and mentor, Shreya specialises in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), and learning disabilities, with her clients. Her fascination with technology led her to a unique perspective of using artificial intelligence for non-speaking children. She aims to research and advocate for affordable AI tools, expanding communication access for children from low-income households.

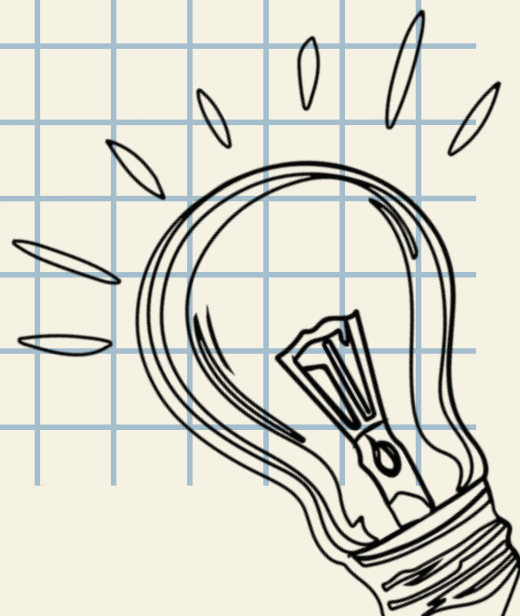


**Shreya Rajeevan**



**Zahra Stardust**

Dr Zahra Stardust is a rainbow-haired, textile-loving artist and scholar. Her book *Indie Porn: Revolution, Regulation and Resistance* builds on her 15 years as a professional undresser, award-winning stripper, pole dancer and porn star. With an international research portfolio spanning sex worker activism, LGBTQ+ health, sexual rights and sextech, she brings a cultural and media studies approach to sexual health. She is a Chief Investigator in the QUT Digital Media Research Centre and is passionate about somatic sex education, intimacy coordination and maximalist fashion.



# performers



## Francesca Testa

We present this performer in collaboration with the QUT Literary Salon.

Francesca started writing poetry in 2014 as a therapeutic way of processing emotions. Since then, she's built upon that skill, performing in various places throughout high school, and now, in university. She studies Information Technology and works in the corporate IT industry. Francesca has also recently taken up studying poetry formally at university in Poetry and Poetics and hopes to improve her poetry with this newfound knowledge.



## QUT Rhythm Avenue Dance Society

QUTRADS is a vibrant dance society dedicated to celebrating the art of movement through Hip Hop, Contemporary, Bollywood, and Commercial styles. They aim to create an inclusive environment where dancers of all skill levels can come together to learn, grow, and express themselves.



## Nathan M.T.

Blending folk and indie pop sensibilities to create his own brand of singer-songwriter bliss is Nathan MT, a multi-instrumentalist out of Brisbane. Inspired by the sounds of Jack Gray and The 1975, Nathan combines live looping with intricate melodic lines to deliver his signature sound.

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## the TEDxQUT team

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