

MEDIA RELEASE | 27 February 2017

Apply now to be a speaker/performer at TEDxWellington 2017

Do you have an idea worth spreading? This is your chance to step onto the stage and be a part of the biggest TEDxWellington event yet. Applications are now open for speakers/performers for the Sunday 18 June 2017 event at St James Theatre.

This year's speakers/performers will have an amazing opportunity to share their ideas worth spreading with an audience of more than 1,000 TEDx fans from the creative capital, the wider Wellington region, and beyond (via livestream on the day).

TEDxWellington's past speakers/performers have taken to the stage to share their bold and creative ideas. For many, their success has grown from there.

Marie Fitzpatrick and Nic Murray of Good Bitches Baking spoke at the 2016 event about <u>changing the</u> <u>world with cake</u>, and have been busy ever since: "We've nearly doubled in size, we pulled off an incredible Wellington on a Plate event and self-published a recipe book!"

Dr Shaun Holt, who spread the word about <u>the medical uses of honey</u>, also spoke in 2016 and found the TEDxWellington event to be "a fabulous experience, from the preparation and training to the big day itself."

"My talk has become my professional business card", says Shaun. "I send it to anyone I work with and they can see immediately what I do and my passion for the subject."

TEDxWellington licensee and producer DK is excited to see what this year's applicants have to offer:

"We're always impressed by the quality of applications in our attempt to find, nurture and champion ideas worth spreading. With the previous 40 talks and performances online now getting over 300,000 views, this is certainly an opportunity to accelerate our creative community into a global conversation."

Every previous TEDxWellington event and community salon has sold out, and the 2017 event promises to be a unique and inspiring experience for all involved.

To apply to be a speaker/performer or nominate someone, go to <u>tedxwellington.com/apply</u> and complete the application form. Applications close at 6pm on Wednesday 22 March 2017.

If selected, speakers/performers will take part in a five-week coaching course before taking to the TEDx stage on 18 June. Emphasis will be given to applications from the Wellington region.

Fans can follow TEDxWellington on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> or <u>sign up for emails on the website</u> for news about tickets and other updates.

ENDS

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Check out the short invitational video featuring speakers / performers from the TEDxWellington 2016 event at <u>tedxwellington.com/apply</u>

About TEDx, x = independently organized event

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized. (Subject to certain rules and regulations.)

About TED

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or fewer) delivered by today's leading thinkers and doers. Many of these talks are given at TED's annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, and made available, free, on <u>TED.com</u>. TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Monica Lewinsky, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala,Sal Khan and Daniel Kahneman.

TED's open and free initiatives for spreading ideas include <u>TED.com</u>, where new TED Talk videos are posted daily; <u>the Open Translation Project</u>, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from thousands of volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative <u>TED-Ed</u>; the annual million-dollar <u>TED Prize</u>, which funds exceptional individuals with a "wish," or idea, to create change in the world; <u>TEDx</u>, which provides licenses to thousands of individuals and groups who host local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; and the <u>TED Fellows</u> program, which selects innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.