

TEDxExeter: Ideas Without Frontiers

28 March 2014, Exeter Northcott Theatre

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Ideas in Exeter to change the world

TEDxExeter tickets sell out in first week as this years' line-up of international acclaimed speakers prepare to address subjects as wide ranging as poverty, the environment, NHS reform, 3D prosthetics and the Arab Spring. The event, which returns for its third year to the Northcott Theatre on 28th March, extends its reach and breadth with a new 'Ideas Without Frontiers' theme.

The day conference will feature inspiring speakers, performance artists and film. Many people have been introduced to TED through watching TEDTalks online, and there has been a lot of enthusiasm for live TEDx events in Exeter. It's an indication of the quality of the previous two TEDxExeter conferences that tickets for this one, which went on sale in early December, sold out after only a week and more than 3 months in advance of the conference.

TEDxExeter is an independently organised event, licensed by TED (for more information about TED see below). Since TEDx was launched in 2009 there have been over 8000 TEDx events in more than 130 countries, and over 1000 are currently being planned. Part of the draw of TEDx is that feeling of being part of a world wide movement of people who want to discuss ideas worth sharing and see how they can be agents of positive change in their community.

Our conference this year takes place once again at the Exeter Northcott Theatre and will feature local, nationally and internationally renowned speakers including:

Patrick Alley, co-founder of Global Witness

Claire Belcher, wildfire researcher

Karima Bennoune, Professor of Law, champion of untold stories from the fight against Muslim fundamentalism

Ann Daniels, record breaking polar explorer

Ben Eaton, digital and interactive artist, mapping happiness

Sarah El Ashmawy, minority rights advocate

Joel Gibbard, robotics designer

Matt Hayler, digital technologies and cyberculture researcher

Sonia Livingstone, Professor of Media and Communications, expert on the impact of new technologies on children

Simon Peyton Jones, programming language designer and ICT education consultant

Vinay Nair, poverty reduction innovator Allyson Pollock, Professor of Public Health

"Following enthusiastic feedback after our first two TEDxExeter events we are forging ahead with plans for 2014 and have gathered another group of outstanding innovators, activists and performers who are changing the world through their ground breaking work and ideas" said Claire Kennedy, TEDxExeter organiser.

This year our speakers will help us to rethink how to tackle poverty; to consider the significance for our planet of fire, rainforest and the melting Arctic icecap; we will be challenged about the changes in our NHS and the impact on all of us of spending more of our time online. We will be shown cutting edge research on 3D printed prosthetic limbs and will consider the impact of the Arab Spring and of Islamic fundamentalism. If that's not enough to whet your appetite there will be stories, film and music to touch the heart, an expose of corruption in high places and a compelling argument made for why children should learn to program computers.

We are hugely indebted to our sponsors who have shown their commitment to all that TEDxExeter is achieving and all that it stands for, and without whom none of this would be possible. They include:

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On 23 January 2014 all our sponsors, team and interested parties will be invited to the launch event for TEDxExeter 2014 hosted by the elegant boutique hotel Southernhay House whose support is greatly appreciated.

There is more information about the day on our website www.tedxexeter.com <http://www.tedxexeter.com> and you can follow us on facebook <http://www.facebook.com/TEDxExeter> and twitter [@tedxexeter](https://twitter.com/edxexeter)

Notes for editors

For more information about the event, the speakers and performers, please see the TEDxExeter website www.tedxexeter.com <http://www.tedxexeter.com/>. Photos and other images are available on the Press page.

The organiser can be contacted at Claire Kennedy claire@tedxexeter.com <mailto:claire@tedxexeter.com>

About TEDx

x = independently organised event

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organised 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 non-profit organisation devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. Started as a four-day conference in California almost 30 years ago, TED has grown to support those world-changing ideas with multiple initiatives. The two annual TED Conferences invite the world's leading thinkers and doers to speak for 18 minutes on a diverse mix of topics.

Many of these talks are then made available, free, at TED.com (<http://TED.com>). TED speakers have included Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Elizabeth Gilbert, Sir Richard Branson, Nandan Nilekani, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Isabel Allende and former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown. The TED2014 Conference will take place in Vancouver, British Columbia, along with the TEDActive simulcast in neighbouring Whistler. TEDGlobal 2014 will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

TED's media initiatives include TED.com (<http://TED.com>), where new TED Talks are posted daily; the Open Translation Project, which provides subtitles and interactive transcripts as well as translations from volunteers worldwide; the educational initiative TED-Ed; and TEDBooks, short e-books on powerful ideas. TED has established the annual TED Prize, where exceptional individuals with a wish to change the world get help translating their wishes into action; TEDx, which supports individuals or groups in hosting local, self-organized TED-style events around the world; and the TED Fellows program, helping world-changing innovators from around the globe to amplify the impact of their remarkable projects and activities.

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