

SCIENCE

GALLERY

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STORIES

STUDENT
EXPERIENCE

TESTING ONE, TWO, THREE: SCIENCE GALLERY MELBOURNE PARTNERS WITH UNIVERSITY AND LOCAL RADIO STATIONS TO PROMOTE STUDENTS

Science Gallery Melbourne partnered with the School of Journalism at The University of Melbourne to give students a platform to create and design their own podcast and radio segment.

WHO?

- ▶ Ryan Jefferies, Head of Programming at Science Gallery Melbourne
- ▶ Louisa Lim, Lecturer at School of Journalism
- ▶ The University of Melbourne
- ▶ All The Best Radio
- ▶ FBI Radio

WHAT?

In 2017, Ryan Jefferies and Louisa Lim set up an initiative to engage students in a cross-disciplinary activity, while helping them develop their practical skillset and portfolio. Collaboratively, they presented journalism students with Science Gallery Melbourne's exhibition PERFECTION, and asked students to develop a short 5 minute podcast relating to the theme.

In both 2017 and 2018, 225 journalism students created podcasts as part of the programme. The topics were diverse, spanning from biohacking our bodies into perfection, to robotic baristas in Melbourne. The top 30 podcasts were featured in the gallery during PERFECTION and were also published on Science Gallery Melbourne's website.

Last year, the project evolved into a partnership with two local radio stations, All The Best Radio and FBI Radio. All The Best Radio offered mentorships to some of the top journalism students, helping them create a radio segment that was later broadcasted on air, while FBI Radio featured some of the students' podcasts on their show.

Individually, there was great success behind the student's pieces. Podcast contributor and journalism student, Dilpreet Kaur won first place for Audio Journalism in the Ossie Awards, for her piece on the unfair pressures of eurocentric beauty standards. Similarly, Silvi Vann-Wall, was the runner-up with her piece in the Wheeler Centre's national podcasting competition, 'So You Think You Can Pod'. The idea that she pitched was for a podcast called 'Chronically Chill', which explored the reality of living with a chronic illness. The inspiration for this idea was based on her piece she previously did for Science Gallery, and she will be given support from the Wheeler Centre to further develop and grow her idea. Alex Alvaro, who did an extraterrestrial piece about 'Life on Mars', was given a coveted place on ABC's cadetship scheme, and will start work at the ABC bureau in Canberra very soon.

WHAT THEY SAID?

'Working with Journalism students through the Faculty of Arts at The University of Melbourne is an excellent example of how Science Gallery can bring learning and teaching to life. It is fantastic for Science Gallery to have content created by a diverse group of students who reflect our target audience. We loved having our themes explored from new angles, and to hand over our topics to young voices.'

- Lee Casey, Head of Communication and Engagement at Science Gallery Melbourne

WHAT WERE THE BENEFITS AND IMPACTS?

- ▶ Student Engagement
- ▶ Communication Skill Development
- ▶ Inspiring Creativity
- ▶ Career Advancement
- ▶ Creating Cross-Disciplinary Connections



Some of the top podcasts featured on Science Gallery Melbourne's website



PERFECTION at Science Gallery Melbourne

LINKS

Listen to featured podcasts here:

<https://perfection.sciencegallery.com/all-events/podcast/>

All The Best Radio station:

<http://allthebestradio.com/>

Sources: Science Gallery Melbourne's website, interview with Lee Casey
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