

MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE CIRCUS COMES TO CHINA

BEIJING—Students in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou have been entertained and educated by a group of Australian and Chinese science performers this September. Chinese science centers joined forces with Australia's premier science outreach program to communicate science to Chinese students.

This initiative involved the Shell Questacon Science Circus, a collaboration between Questacon—The National Science and Technology Centre of Australia, Shell in Australia, and the Australian National University.

The Science Circus travels extensively around Australia, visiting students and communities in regional, rural and remote areas. This is the Science Circus's first foray into China in its 25 year history.

Students experienced a bilingual show about the science of electricity and the science of music. Each show comprised staff from Questacon paired with presenters from the China Science and Technology Museum, Shanghai Science and Technology Museum and Guangdong Science Center.

The Science Circus's visit to China was timely, as Questacon's Director Graham Durant explains. "This year marks thirty years since our two countries signed a scientific cooperation agreement. We are pleased that this arrangement now involves science communication and collaboration between Australian and Chinese science centers".

Students learned about the physics of sound, and the fundamentals of electricity during entertaining hour-long shows.

"The Science Circus aims to excite students about science, and hopefully encourage them to associate science with fun," says Tim O'Mahony, one of the Australian presenters.

The Shell Questacon Science Circus is comprised of science graduates studying a Graduate Diploma in Science Communication from the Australian National University. In addition to school visits, the Science Circus conducts teacher professional development workshops and public science displays across Australia.

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To obtain images of the performances, or arrange interviews with the staff involved, please contact: Ben Bravery or Tim O'Mahony, Kexue Communications: info@kexuecommunications.com, +86 13718168728 or +86 13439388329.