HOT AND BOTHERED

YOUTH SYMPOSIUM 2022
One of the major themes from the 2021 Youth Symposium Boredom Rebellion was the importance of global connectivity: the only way to tackle the big issues in our societies is by sharing resources and coordinating our actions. In 2022, we gathered again in virtual space for HOT AND BOTHERED, It’s Too Hot, But It’s Not Too Late. The climate and biodiversity crises are defining challenges of our time, and with this edition, we set out to celebrate the diversity of young people both in their identities and their approaches to climate action.

In our opening event, Dr Cass Lynch set the tone for the four days, in sharing how embodied knowledge of global Indigenous communities can help to build resilient climate futures, encouraging us to listen deeply, slow down and focus locally.

The Science Gallery Network is committed to continuing to explore the climate crisis with young people, as a significant and ongoing programme strand across all our network members.

I wholeheartedly thank the Science Gallery International executive team, the Youth Symposium committee, and the whole Science Gallery Network who did a wonderful job to produce the event; and all the speakers and mentors for the extraordinary content.

Most of all, a big thank you to the hundreds of participants: the feedback we received, which you can find on p. 9, is a testament of how remarkable the event was for those who attended.

I hope you enjoy reading this report.

Sarah Durcan
Acting Executive Director
Science Gallery International
The HOT AND BOTHERED programme of workshops, performances, and talks focused on one of our global crises, the climate emergency. Whilst acknowledging the seriousness of this theme, the four-day online event aimed to create spaces where young people were empowered to value embodied climate knowledge, generate alternative climate narratives, and find pathways to hopeful futures. The programme harnessed the power of cross-disciplinarity and intersectionality and Science Gallery locations with sessions created and delivered by young people to co-create activist manifestos, understand climate emotions, build climate agency, and much more.

HOT AND BOTHERED was the 2022 iteration of the Science Gallery Youth Symposium - an annual event that gathers advisors, mediators, staff and core audiences of the Network. The event provided the platform to strengthen ties and build relationships, engage with gallery locations, and amplify voices and ideas. Following on from three successful symposia, this year’s programme took place across time zones bringing young people together from around the globe to foster action for climate justice signalling the beginning of the Science Gallery Network’s collaborative conversation around climate. The symposium’s concluding session generated questions that will inspire and guide the climate content in future Science Gallery programming.
YOUTH SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS

Alice White
Ana Prendes
Aswathi Pancha
Breanne Coelho

Caroline White
Claire Farrugia
Eloise Coomber
Floyd Hall

Gabby Capes
Inger van Dijk
Jasmeet Kuar Sahi
Jen Wong
HOT AND BOTHERED IN NUMBERS

12 Participant Countries Represented

Australia  China  Germany  India  Ireland  Kazakhstan
Netherlands  Serbia  Spain  Portugal  UK  US
ATTENDANCE AND REGISTRATION DATA:

Overall, how would you rate the event?

Average: **4.6/5** — 69% of respondents gave us 5 stars

How likely are you to visit a Science Gallery in person?

Average: **4.4/5** — 66% extremely likely likely

“Interesting and Inspiring”

“It was good to see how emotions, art can enable us to understand climate change in new ways.”

“Informative and well-organized”.

“HOT AND BOTHERED was a great experience for me … We compared our daily habits to understand where to improve the best and reduce the worst ones.”
33 SPEAKERS
18 SESSIONS
407 REGISTRANTS

(all x1 session, Climate Emergency Interactive x2 sessions)

REGISTRATION BY COUNTRY:

22% — India
18% — UK
13% — Australia
9% — US
6% — Germany
6% — Ireland
26% — Other countries
Are you currently, or have you previously been, a Mediator or Youth Advisor for Science Gallery?

- 6% — Yes
- 39% — No
- 29% — No, but I want to be in the future!
- 26% — Not answered

We’re here to discuss actionable ways of addressing climate change. Where are you currently in terms of your own approach?

- 10% — I have absolutely no clue to begin
- 10% — I am an eco-warrior deeply engaged in a number of initiatives to tackle climate change
- 20% — I have some ideas about what can I do, but find it challenging to execute any of them
- 20% — Not answered
- 40% — I do a few things already, but I can definitely do more
THE MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

Following on from the success of last year, we once again offered a mentorship programme to our youth facilitators in order to offer guidance and help to refine their ideas.

This year, we successfully matched five different teams with Science Gallery staff and associates, creating lasting connections and important learning experiences for both mentors and mentees.

“The mentorship really helped me understand Science Gallery’s audiences, and helped me shape and develop my initial proposal to fit the overall programme. I really enjoyed the chats with my mentor, and getting a more international perspective of the symposium.”

“My mentor was able to put my worries to rest by reminding me that I cannot possibly prepare for every scenario and reassured me that the efforts I am putting in are sufficient. Overall, I’m really glad I was part of the Hot and Bothered symposium, and will definitely recommend it in the future to other participants/workshop organisers.”
THE SESSIONS

2052: Hot or Not?
Anxiety to Agency
Are you acclimatized?
Bureau of Linguistical Reality
Climate Emergency Interactive
Climate Hack Lab: The Manifesto of Re-Wilded Youth!
Climateria
Embodied Climate Knowledge
Get Started with Climate Visualisations
Interpreting Climate Emotions
Live Local: A Scavenger Hunt For Survival
Our Climate Futures: collaborative climate questions
Plan B/C/D/E
PTownBay MMXXX – Live Playthrough
Remaking your narrative: Climate justice through storytelling
The Disastrous Stakeholder Game
What kind of climate activist are you?
2052: Hot or Not?

Facilitators:

Arjun Yadav, Jyotsna Iyer, Samyukta Prabhu, Snehaja Venkatesh

Extreme heat waves are becoming more common as global temperatures rise. Science Gallery Bengaluru’s Xperimenters group led 2052: Hot or Not?, a speculative workshop on what the Earth might look like in 2052. Through displaying the future visions of the Earth as conceptualised by young adults in India, the Xperimenters facilitated a participatory discussion exploring different facets of climate change, including the state of the environment and how human society shapes and deals with it.

The visual depictions and conversations served as a tool to reflect upon the state of the Earth by 2052 and even reimagine it.
The effects of climate change are far-reaching. From the melting polar ice caps to the wildfires in Australia to the ocean’s acidification, there is no place on Earth untouched by global warming. With so many widespread ramifications, how are we supposed to know where to start to make a difference? How can we have an impact when the problem has an unquantifiable scope? In Anxiety to Agency, associate professor at Emory University Dr. Eri Saikawa introduced her interdisciplinary environmental research, from the source and magnitude of emissions linked to air pollution, ozone depletion, and climate change, to the societal and policy-related implications of these emissions. Through her scientific work, Eri Saikawa provided young people with critical information about the climate crisis, creating a space to cultivate small acts of climate action to transform their anxieties into agency.
Are you acclimatized?

Facilitators:
Michael Fowler, Arabella Knegendorf

How green are you, and how good is your general knowledge of climate change? Would you call yourself a concerned activist or a creature of caution? Through several trivia rounds, TU Berlin’s Architecture student Arabella Knegendorf and Science Gallery Berlin’s Coordinator Michael Fowler invited a global audience to test their knowledge of the climate crisis. The interactive and participatory game allowed attendees to learn more about climate facts and fictions and discover what climate change type they are.
The Bureau of Linguistical Reality is a participatory artwork by artists Heidi Quante and Alicia Escott, working with the public to recognise a collective loss for words to describe the emotions and experiences our species is having as our climate rapidly changes. Recognising that just as new maps will need to be drawn, new experiences likewise need to be codified in language to recognise our new realities collectively.

Asking ‘who gets the agency to define this experience?’, the artists brought their virtual Bureau to this year’s Youth Symposium. Through rounds of conversation and facilitating cross-pollination between fields, the Bureau created a space for young people to identify their un-named feelings and experiences and coined neologisms to discuss them. The Bureau saw the words formed in this process as points of connectivity to further understanding, dialogue, conversation, empathy and action in the world amid the climate crisis.
Co-created by a collaborative group of students and staff at the University of the Arts London, Climate Emergency Interactive consisted of rounds of short films with discussion breaks between the facilitators and the audience. The first round started with an overview of the emergency, rising temperatures and tipping points. They then discussed the climate impact of colonialism, intersectionality and capitalism through scientific facts and climate policy questions. In the last two sections, the facilitators looked at ways to tackle the problem, from political action to lifestyle changes, and highlighted the work of creators addressing the climate crisis in their practice.
Climate Hack Lab: The Manifesto of Re-Wilded Youth!

Artist Beccy McCray led a climate hack lab with King’s College students Joana Alves, Damely Akizanova, Irene Beltran and Jeremy Wong. The hands-on workshop enabled participants to work collaboratively to explore local and global activism through a series of drawing exercises, discussions, performance-based activities, and poetry. Responding to themes such as biomimicry, human mycelium and the rewilding of ourselves and our lands, attendees co-created a collective climate manifesto and a shareable artwork.
In Climateria, students and science communicators Milena Milovanovic and Marija Nedeljković led a workshop on how the climate crisis impacts the evolution of microorganisms. Accompanied by a presentation on state-of-the-art microbiology research, attendees could play with a 3D digital bacterium to understand how bacteria adapt their structure and characteristics to changing climate conditions. In the second part of the workshop, attendees made use of drawing for interactive learning to create their own strain of bacteria, speculating about they might need to adapt to the proposed extreme livable conditions and how humans can learn from their adaptations for survival.
We are surrounded, and arguably bombarded, by data and scientific information about our changing climate - but social change to ensure our planet’s future continues to be a challenge. The climate beliefs and values of global Indigenous communities have been forged out of planetary changes of the past. By embodying this deep climate knowledge, these communities continue to care for their country in a sustainable manner.

How then can embodied climate knowledge help to build resilient climate futures? In this workshop, writer and researcher Dr Cass Lynch explored this question. By drawing on her research into the oral storytelling tradition of the Noongar community — Aboriginal Australian people who live in Western Australia, Cass Lynch provided attendees with key takeaways to better understand their own embodied climate knowledge.
Get Started with Climate Visualisations

In this workshop, participants created their first climate graph to explore the power of visual storytelling to address the climate crisis. Using the programming language R, computer scientist David Curran guided a step-by-step session on how to gather climate data in Governments’ websites, dataset bases, or IPCC reports, how to code to make the graph, and how to share it online with coding and activist communities.
The climate crisis is a matter of power; how do we find ours? If the thought of addressing climate change has left you feeling overwhelmed or anxious, you have a powerful starting point: your emotions. Young climate activist and entrepreneur Maxwell Offerman led a session at the intersection of climate psychology and activism, designed by Gen Z, for Gen Z. Through facilitated discussions on climate emotions and personal narratives, Offered show how it’s possible to harness a new vision of the future and facilitate a shift in mindset (starting with your own): from shutting down, to stepping up.
Live Local: A Scavenger Hunt For Survival

Can you meet your daily necessities in your local area? In this workshop, theatre-makers Amie Taylor and Jennifer Lunn introduced participants to the 20-minute neighbourhood, a model of urban development that creates neighbourhoods where residents can meet most of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk without travelling by car or public transport. Through an interactive website, participants went on a physical scavenger hunt of their local area to discover if their site met all the features of this model. Then, they all returned online to compare their findings, dived into the importance of living and working locally, and debated the possible issues of implementation and accessibility of the model depending on the geographical area.
In the closing session of HOT AND BOTHERED, Science Gallery Melbourne mediator Kenen Machado guided attendees through a reflection on themes, ideas, and perspectives that moved and inspired them throughout the symposium. Sarah Durcan, Interim Director of Science Gallery International; Ryan Jefferies, Director of Science Gallery Melbourne, and Andrea Bandelli, former Director of Science Gallery International, also presented the past, present and upcoming Science Gallery’s exhibitions addressing such important themes like plastic, water and the environment.

The questions that emerged during the session mark the beginning of Science Gallery’s collaborative conversation, and its reflections will guide future Network programming around the climate crisis.
If your city were submerged, how would you act? Based on the prediction that Mumbai will be underwater by 2050, theatre artist Meghana invited participants to an interactive online performance to co-create backup plans for survival underwater. Through rigorous scientific research presented in a humorous way, Meghana inspired the engaged audience to downright fear to tackle the climate crisis and encouraged them not to panic but to act.
Multidisciplinary artist Hwa Young Jung facilitated an interactive live stream of PTownBay MMXXX. Developed in collaboration with young people from Peterborough (UK), PTownBay MMXXX is a board game exploring young people's current and near-future aspirations faced with multiple disadvantages in the current climate crisis. During the symposium, participants interacted with the creators and players, participating in the decision-making and discussing the multifaceted issues presented through the game.
Remaking your narrative: Climate justice through storytelling

How does your race or cultural background influence your feelings towards climate change? Storytelling is a powerful tool to represent your authentic self. However, the climate change narrative often focuses on young people’s movements and is too Eurocentric for people of non-Eurocentric backgrounds to care for it deeply.

In this workshop, Sydney-based climate activists Varsha Yajman and Science Gallery Melbourne’s mediator Tara Keshavarz guided young people to decolonise existing climate narratives. Through discussions and exercises, the session empowered participants to tell their climate justice narratives in a way that felt most authentic to them and ensured they were reflective of their communities’ experiences.
The Netherlands is well known for its ‘polder model’, a process of decision-making based on consensus, of solving problems via dialogue with every party having an equal say. But can we solve problems like climate change with this method? And if so, why don’t you have a seat at the table?

During this interactive game, Science Gallery Rotterdam’s mediators Kayleigh Lemmens and Pragya Jain invited participants to be part of the stakeholders of the ‘Pandemic and Disaster Preparedness Center’; speculate Dutch centre that has an effect on a lot of decision-making on issues like climate change. Through embodying peculiar characters, participants had to defend their assigned values and ideas to have a seat at the table, although they contradicted their personal ones. By pitching, mixing, arguing and compromising, they had to build alliances with others to save Rotterdam from the climate crisis.
What kind of climate activist are you?

Facilitators: Finn Strivens, Eva Oosterlaken

What kind of climate activist are you? In this workshop, designers Eva Oosterlaken and Finn Strivens invited participants to discover their Changemaker Type. Through design thinking exercises, discussions and a challenging quiz, participants were encouraged to find their own way of taking action on the climate crisis.
## HOT AND BOTHERED: EVENT SURVEY

Following HOT AND BOTHERED, attendees plan to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>— join a climate action group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>— Reach out to your political representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>— Share and discuss your climate emotions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>— Choose local resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>— Reduce your consumption and waste</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>— Stay informed of the climate crisis</td>
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70% — of respondents engage with participants in other locations

97% — of respondents would recommend the Youth Symposium to others

Do you have anything else you’d like to tell us about your experience during HOT AND BOTHERED?

“Hot and Bothered was a great experience for me. Climate questions were the best way to communicate starting from one’s own experience to grow together. We compared our daily habits to understand where to improve the best and reduce the worst ones.”

“Informative and well-organized.”

“It was a good idea to have an open call for wider engagement”

“Thought-provoking”