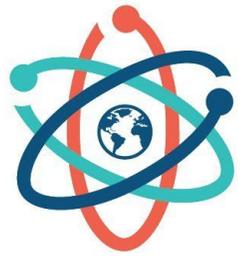


PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

March for Science
London
22 April 2017



Stars of comedy and science march in London

On Saturday 22nd April, comedians, BAFTA winners and notable scientists will join thousands of people marching through the streets of London in the name of science.

Starting from the iconic steps of the Natural History Museum and the Science Museum, March for Science, London will pass some of the capital's great scientific institutions such as the Royal Society and culminating in a rally in Parliament Square.

Leading the march and addressing the crowds at the rally will be:

- Robin Ince, comedian, writer and broadcaster
- Dr Brenna Hassett, bioarchaeologist and author
- Dr Francisco Diego, astronomer and broadcaster
- Dr Suze Kundu, materials chemist and science communicator
- Jon Butterworth, professor of physics
- Angela Saini, author and science journalist
- Pete Etchells, science writer and senior lecturer in psychology
- Dr Andrew Steele, chair of Science is Vital
- Heydon Prowse, BAFTA winning director, writer and comedian

London has long been a global centre for the advancement of scientific thinking and The London March for Science is part of an international movement with over 500 marches globally, that recognise the need to preserve the productive and diverse research partnerships in the UK and around the world. We understand that the most effective way to protect science is to encourage the public to value and engage with it.

Story Sylwester, March For Science London organiser, said:

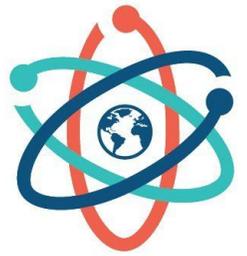
We are delighted that these incredible speakers from science, journalism and entertainment are supporting the march, with many more adding their supporting online. We hope that people will be inspired by them to be curious and find out more about science and the issues it faces, and to continue to stand up for science long after the march is over.



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Hosting the rally will be Bafta winning satirists Heydon Prowse and a number of speakers have told us why they are taking part in the march.

Dr Brenna Hassett, Bioarchaeologist and Author, Trowelblazers, said

"There has never been a more critical time for scientists to show up and be seen."

Jon Butterworth, Professor of Physics said

"International science is a wonderful example of what we can achieve when we work together with mutual respect."

Angela Saini, Science journalist, author & broadcaster said:

"I'm supporting the March for Science because I want good evidence to be better valued. Rigorous scientific research is what produces facts. And facts make for a healthy society."

Pete Etchells, Writer & Senior Lecturer in Psychology said:

"Science isn't just for scientists – it's for everyone. That's why we all have a duty to stand up and fight for it."

Dr Suze Kundu, Materials Chemist, University of Surrey and Science Communicator said

"Why am I marching? Because in this day and age it isn't OK that leading officials can simply reject evidence-based science such as climate change or child immunisation, leaving the public powerless to change these decisions.

I am marching because our battle is for more than securing science funding. It is about engaging the public in our research so that they understand their role in funding and directing the scientific research that has such a great impact on all of our lives, and empowering them to be critical and sceptical about science in the media."

Dr Andrew Steele, Chair of Science is Vital, computational biologist, Francis Crick Institute said

"Science has built the modern world, creating new technologies, protecting the environment and saving lives. The Science March is about showing our support for research, researchers and lovers of science around the world, and telling our political leaders that Science is Vital!"

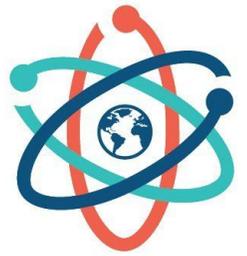
Further speakers to be announced



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Notes to editors

- The march will begin to assemble outside the Science Museum on Exhibition Road, Kensington, London SW7 2DD, from 11am. The nearest tubes are South Kensington, Gloucester Road and Knightsbridge.
- The march will set off from 12pm and head down Kensington Road, along the route above to the rally point at Parliament Square. The rally will begin in Parliament Square at approximately 2pm and will finish by 3:30pm.
- A minutes silence will be held for the victims of the Westminster attack at 2:40pm to mark the moment of the attack one month on.
- Further speakers to be announced and timing subject to change. Speaker photographs available on request.
- The Cosmic Shamble Network is the official legacy partner of the March for Science, London. The Cosmic Shambles Network creates and curates podcasts, digital content and live events for people with curious minds. People who want to find out more about our universe through science, art, history, philosophy, music, literature. Photos, videos and podcasts will be available after the march at cosmicshambles.com
- For more information, contact Vanessa Furey on 07834 164 018 or VanessaFurey@gmail.com
- Official website March for Science: London - sciencemarch.london, Twitter - [@LDNsciencemarch](https://twitter.com/LDNsciencemarch), Facebook event - facebook.com/events/1699660986990593/ and gofundme fundraising page - gofundme.com/science-march-for-london

