



MEDIA RELEASE

SUPERSTARS OF STEM FUNDED FOR STRATOSPHERIC SUCCESS

FRIDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2022

The Australian Government has today announced a further \$2 million investment to advance women in STEM through Science & Technology Australia's game-changing [Superstars of STEM](#) program.

This powerful investment in Australia's STEM leadership talent will enable 120 more brilliant and diverse women in STEM to turbo-charge their media profiles and career success over the next four years, helping to inspire the next generations of girls and young women into these crucial fields.

STA thanks the Australian Government and Science Minister Melissa Price for the announcement of this crucial investment in Australia's science, technology, engineering and maths talent.

Since 2017, this world-leading program has fast-tracked the profile and careers of 150 brilliant Australian female scientists, smashed gender stereotypes about what a scientist looks like, and inspired tens of thousands of school children to consider studying STEM.

An evaluation report highlighting [the astronomical success of the program](#) is being launched today.

Science & Technology Australia CEO Misha Schubert said the Superstars of STEM program was "starting to powerfully 'shift the dial' on women's under-representation in STEM and deliver more equity and diversity of scientists in public life."

"We know it's hard to be what you can't see. By nurturing these diverse visible role models of women in STEM - in the media, in public leadership and in our schools - this program powerfully shows girls and young women that STEM is for them."

"At its heart, the Superstars of STEM program is about brilliant women scientists lifting each other up to be visible public role models and inspire our next generations into these crucial careers."

The evaluation report was launched today by twin events with Science Minister Melissa Price at

Western Australia's Pawsey Supercomputer facility, and an online national event with the Australian Government's Ambassador for Women and Girls in STEM Professor Lisa Harvey-Smith.

The evaluation report of the program's impact from 2019 to 2021 shows more than 21,000 Australian school students have been inspired by school visits and talks by the Superstars of STEM.

The program has stratospherically elevated the profile and fast-tracked the careers of Superstars, reaching cumulative media audiences of 83 million people through more than 4000 media appearances from July 2020 to June 2021.

The Superstars of STEM program is funded by the Australian Government's Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, and is an initiative of Science & Technology Australia.

Science & Technology Australia is the not-for-profit peak body for the sectors, representing more than 90,000 scientists and technologists across Australia.

STA CEO Misha Schubert and several Superstars of STEM are available for interviews.

Read the Hon Melissa Price MP's media release [here](#).

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