



Celebrate Book Week @ JCU

JCU Cairns, Nguma-bada campus, Smithfield – Friday 28 August

A Symphony of Stories

Join us at James Cook University for a special Book Week experience designed to bring stories and Years 9-11 high school students together from across our community. Inspired by this year's international book week theme – A Symphony of Stories – the day explores how narratives work in harmony: how certain character traits, situations and stories, set in motion, can become a wonderful ensemble.

This year's program features Australian author Joel Preston, a Detection Dog Handler by day and by night, writer of *The Old World Saga* – a dark fantasy series weaving together secret agents, mythology, and cosmic terrors.

He studied at JCU before setting off to see the world, teaching English in Japan, trekking to Everest Base Camp, and climbing Mt Kilimanjaro. Those experiences of chasing horizons and testing limits now shape the worlds he builds on the page. Joel writes across genres and mediums, and is passionate about showing young creatives that a "day job" and a creative life aren't mutually exclusive. They can fuel each other!

As well as an interactive workshop led by Joel Preston, high school students will experience a taste of university life.

Places are limited to ensure a high-quality, interactive experience and are expected to fill quickly. We encourage early registration to avoid missing out.

Further information

Scan the QR code for more information and to register your school.

Learn more about Book Week @ JCU from our 2024 event video [here](#).



*Please note that as part of JCU's commitment to support and build the aspirations and confidence of our region's young people, school groups are encouraged to apply for travel subsidies through JCU Outreach.

jcu.edu.au/school-outreach-and-widening-participation/support-and-access-programs/travel-subsidy

Students and teachers are encouraged to come in costume, if committed, but are not required to do so.

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TIME	ACTIVITY
10.00–10.15	Schools arrive and check in
10.15–10.25	Welcome from Associate Professor Victoria Kuttainen, Centre Head, Roderick Centre for Australian Literature and Creative Writing.
10.25–10.55	Kate Mildenhall Author talk
10.55–11.10	JCU Future Students Learn about future study pathways at James Cook University
11.10–11.35	Lunch/informal games
11.35–12.40	Author-led Creative Sessions Hosted by: Joel Preston Part 1: Story and character Part 2: Scene creation
12.40	Closing remarks and awards
13.00	Departure

