

# Year of Chemistry

To celebrate the achievements of chemistry and its contributions to the well-being of humankind, the United Nations has declared 2011 the International Year of Chemistry (IYC 2011). The International Year of Chemistry aims to increase public appreciation of chemistry in meeting world needs, increase the interest of young people in chemistry, generate enthusiasm for the creative future of chemistry and celebrate the 100th anniversary of Madame Marie Curie's Nobel Prize for Chemistry and the founding of the International Association of Chemical Societies.



The International Year of Chemistry will be celebrated throughout Australia this year through a full program of events, tours, exhibitions and functions that will celebrate the art and the science of chemistry. Some of the events organised by The Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) include:  
The Marie Curie Lecture Series: highlighting the important role of women in chemistry.

Travelling Exhibitions: five travelling exhibitions will be on display in each State. The Western Australian theme will be Food and Wine Chemistry.

Global Experiment: highlights the role chemistry plays in issues of water quality and purification. Designed for school participation, the four activities give students an overview of the concepts of acidity, salinity, filtration and solar still water purification.

The Art of Chemistry: a project combining chemistry and art to produce a unique interpretation of each element of the periodic table which will be available for touring, posters and will become a unique web resource.

For more information on IYC 2011 events visit the [Royal Australian Chemical Institute](#) and the site of the [International Year of Chemistry](#). For events in Western Australia, visit [ScienceNetwork WA](#) and the [RSWA Events](#) page.