

PRESS RELEASE

Number 12

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11:00 a.m.

Bavaria's State-Wide "Young Scientists" Competition ("Jugend forscht"): 14 High School Students and Trainees Qualify for National Competition

Munich, March 22, 2018 – For four days, 79 young people from all over Bavaria presented their scientific and technical projects to a specialist jury and the public at the state-wide "Young Scientists" competition in Munich. The eleven best projects were honored today at a ceremony at Munich's "Old Congress Hall". The 14 winning young scientists will represent Bavaria at the national competition in Darmstadt from May 24 to 27.

Following months of preparation, the winners of the eleven Bavarian regional competitions presented their projects at the Deutsches Museum's transport center. The topics ranged from analytical methods to prevent the spread of bark beetles through to the search for heavy neutrinos in kaon decays. The 30-member jury was particularly impressed by the competition's motivating atmosphere: "Beside the technical input, the 'young scientist spirit' is what makes this event so special," said Dr. Monika Christl, head of the Bavarian state competition. "The young people's enthusiasm spreads really quickly. Here, they meet like-minded people, build a network and feel appreciated. That is unbelievably motivating for them to continue."

At this year's ceremony held at Munich's "Old Congress Hall," Auguste Willems (Executive Board Member of Wacker Chemie AG), Prof.

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Wolfgang Heckl (Director General of the Deutsches Museum) and Delia Tietge ('Jugend forscht' foundation) honored eleven research projects in seven categories. "The winning projects show that young people are enthusiastic about science and adept at using technology and IT. That makes me optimistic about digitalization, which is accelerating in all sectors," said Auguste Willems. "WACKER has been supporting the 'Young Scientists' competition for many years now. We are fully committed because we see that the competition provides a major boost to participants and their innovative work."

The winners will represent Bavaria at the national competition in Darmstadt from May 24 – 27.

The winners of the Bavarian "Young Scientists 2018" competition are:**Working World**

Topic: TOM: Total Organisation Manager

Name: Simon Niedt de Matos, Philipp Hohner, Ogün Aksoy

School/vocational training company: Robert Bosch GmbH, Bamberg

BiologyTopic: The Influence of V-A Mycorrhiza on the Mineral Absorption of *Capsicum annuum* (peppers) and *Triticum aestivum* cv. star (spring wheat)

Name: Laura Holecek

School/vocational training company: Gymnasium Alexandrinum Coburg

ChemistryTopic: Energy Production via *Chlorella vulgaris*

Name: Moritz Hamberger

School/vocational training company: Katharinen-Gymnasium Ingolstadt

Geosciences and Astronomy

Topic: Simulation of the Temperature Conditions at the Moon's South Pole

Name: Lukas Rother

School/vocational training company: Otto-von-Taube-Gymnasium Gauting

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Mathematics and Information TechnologyIn this field, **two** first places were awarded:

Topic: Extending Waring's Conjecture

Name: Michael Lantelme

School/vocational training company: Humboldt-Gymnasium Vaterstetten

Topic: Feder – A Programming Language

Name: Fionn Langhans

School/vocational training company: König-Karlmann-Gymnasium Altötting

PhysicsIn this field, **two** first places were awarded:

Topic: The Physics of the Sandglass

Name: Elias Kohler

School/vocational training company: Vöhl-Gymnasium Memmingen

Topic: The Search for Heavy Neutrinos in Kaon Decays

Name: Elisabeth Walter

School/vocational training company: Paul-Pfinzing-Gymnasium Hersbruck

Engineering and TechnologyIn this field, **two** first places were awarded:

Topic: PointCopter – An Innovative QuadroCopter Control System

Name: Jonathan Fulcher, Luis Kleinwort

School/vocational training company: Wirsberg-Gymnasium Würzburg

Topic: Materials Testing System for Elastomers

Name: Noah Dormann

School/vocational training company: Chiemgau-Gymnasium Traunstein

Best Bavarian interdisciplinary project / special award of the Bavarian Ministry of Education, Science and the Arts

Topic: Physical Studies of Archery

Name: Paul Pöller

School/vocational training company: Wernher-von-Braun-Gymnasium Friedberg

Press photos of the presentation ceremony will be available from 3:30 p.m.:www.jugend-forscht-bayern.de/gewinner

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Photos of all participants at their exhibition stands are already available now:
www.jugend-forscht-bayern.de/karte

About the Young Scientists Competition

“Young Scientists” is Europe’s largest competition for aspiring scientists and technologists, and fosters special talents and achievements in these areas. Launched in 1965 by Henri Nannen, the then editor-in-chief of Stern magazine, the competition is being held for the 53rd time in 2018. The organizer of this annual contest is the Jugend forscht e.V. foundation, while the individual regional and state-wide heats and the national finals are held in partnership with corporate sponsors.

WACKER has been a corporate sponsor of the state-wide “Young Scientists” competition in Bavaria since 1998 and organizes this event every other year in Munich in collaboration with the Deutsches Museum.

For further information, please contact:

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The company in brief:

WACKER is a globally-active chemical company with some 13,800 employees and annual sales of around € 4.9 billion (2017).
WACKER has a global network of 23 production sites, 21 technical competence centers and 50 sales offices.

WACKER SILICONES

Silicone fluids, emulsions, rubber grades and resins; silanes; pyrogenic silicas; thermoplastic silicone elastomers

WACKER POLYMERS

Polyvinyl acetates and vinyl acetate copolymers and terpolymers in the form of dispersible polymer powders, dispersions, solid resins and solutions

WACKER BIOSOLUTIONS

Biotech products such as cyclodextrins, cysteine and biologics, as well as fine chemicals and PVAc solid resins

WACKER POLYSILICON

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