

Press release

KlarText Prize for Science Communication awarded

The Klaus Tschira Foundation awards a prize to six researchers who have written a generally understandable article about their doctoral thesis.

Heidelberg, October 10, 2019. A laboratory to be placed on a centimeter-sized chip, chemical compounds that prove the authenticity of "Manuka honey" or virtual simulations that could improve therapeutic approaches for people with anorexia - these are just some of the topics that the winners of the Klaus Tschira Foundation's KlarText Prize for Science Communication have dealt with. In their doctoral theses, six young scientists have devoted themselves to very different questions and have each written an article about them in German - a text that is also intended to draw the attention of non-scientists to what is currently happening in research. Today, Thursday October 10 at 4:00 p.m., these six scientists will each be awarded the KlarText Prize in the Old Aula of the University of Heidelberg.

The Klaus Tschira Foundation will award the prize for the 17th time. In 2019, 162 scientists submitted articles in the categories biology, chemistry, geosciences, computer science, mathematics, neurosciences or physics. A jury of scientists and journalists selected the best contributions in three stages. In mathematics the jurors were unable to agree upon a winning entry, since no entry fulfilled the criteria.

The 2019 winners are as follows:

Biology: Katrina Meyer, winner entry "Verirrte Proteine" (Lost Proteins), received her doctorate at the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine in Berlin.

Chemistry: Jana Raupbach, winning entry "Süße Fälschung" (Sweet Counterfeit), received her doctorate the TU Dresden.

Geosciences: Ludwig Luthardt, winning entry "Als Chemnitz am Äquator lag" (When Chemnitz was on the equator), received his doctorate at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg.

Computer Science: Andreas Grimmer, winning entry "Das Labor auf dem Chip" (The laboratory on the chip) received his doctorate at the Johannes Kepler University Linz.

Neurosciences: Simone Behrens, winning entry "Ich weiß ja, dass ich dünn bin" (I know I'm skinny), received her doctorate at the Graduate School of Neural and Behavioral Sciences and the International Max Planck Research School Tübingen.

Physics: Oliver Müller, winning entry "Galaktisches Karussell" (Galactic Carousel), received his doctorate at the University of Basel.



"The KlarText Prize for Science Communication is a special project of the Klaus Tschira Foundation; it was the first project the foundation started on its own. With this prize, Klaus Tschira wanted to promote dialogue between researchers and the public. This is still one of the foundation's fundamental goals today," says Beate Spiegel, Managing Director of the Klaus Tschira Foundation.

As in previous years, the winners will each receive 5000 euros prize-money. The Klaus Tschira Foundation invites all applicants, not just the winners, to a two-day science communication workshop in Heidelberg. The winning entries will be published on the day of the award ceremony in a popular science magazine enclosed in the ZEIT. Experienced science journalists have once again edited the contributions of the KlarText winners in close collaboration with them.

The application round for KlarText 2020 will start at the beginning of December, 2019. The deadline for submissions is February 28, 2020.

Photos of the prize winners will be available to download on October 10, from 7:30 p.m. at <https://www.klartext-preis.de/meldungen/>, the winning entries will be available from 4:00 p.m. at www.klartext-preis.de

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