

Press Release

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Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)

AGYA Exhibit at the Science Ship MS Wissenschaft

AGYA Picks up the Pace on Board of the MS Wissenschaft

The Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) embarks on the Science Ship MS Wissenschaft with an exhibit about recent research projects of AGYA Principal Investigator Prof. Dr. Verena Lepper and AGYA Co-President Dr. Mahmoud Abdel-Hafiez at a large-scale research facility – the synchrotron. Visitors can immerse themselves in the research process at the synchrotron and perform simulated test series on millennia-old papyri and future super materials.

AGYA is excited to go on tour with the German science ship MS Wissenschaft! As part of the Science Year 2022, the swimming science center will house the exhibition “Nachgefragt!” (engl. “Participate!”), travelling through Germany between May – September 2022. AGYA will be on board exploring the exciting research possibilities of synchrotrons with an interactive exhibition station “Jetzt geht’s rund – bei AGYA!” (engl. “AGYA picks up the pace”). Visitors will be able to learn about particle accelerators and run different test series with an interactive synchrotron simulation.

Discover the secret of millennia-old papyri and explore future super materials

The AGYA exhibit focuses on the interdisciplinary and international science cooperation within a large-scale research facility – the synchrotron. Visitors are invited to follow AGYA Principal Investigator and Egyptologist Prof. Dr. Verena Lepper as well as AGYA Co-President and Physicist Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Abdel-Hafiez in conducting research on millennia-old papyri and materials of the future, such as graphene. By means of an interactive media station, visitors can screen folded papyri and thus make the hidden writing visible or identify the ideal conditions for the future material graphene for its use as a superconductor.

Innovative science communication across borders and disciplines

“Science is complex and manifold”, states AGYA Principal Investigator Prof. Dr. Verena Lepper. “All the more, appropriate formats are needed to convey scientific information and results to a wider audience and to make knowledge accessible in an innovative way and from a fresh perspective – for example by translating scientific content into visual art. The AGYA exhibit at MS Wissenschaft employs various media to convey the interdisciplinary research process to the visitors by combining an interactive screen station with a large-scale map and exhibition showcases.”

AGYA Co-President Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Abdel-Hafiez adds: “Verena and I are guiding as uniquely designed comic avatars through the story of research in the synchrotron: starting with the idea and research question to the actual experiments in the synchrotron, and finally communicating the results to the scientific community and beyond. We are accompanied by the AGYA Djinn who comprehensively explains the complex large-scale research facility, the synchrotron.” The illustrations are realized by artist and illustrator Albertus Tyasseta who has a broad expertise in visual science communication.

MS Wissenschaft – Science for society

Since 2002, the MS Wissenschaft goes on tour during the summer months throughout Germany. The exhibition "Nachgefragt!" (engl. "Participate!") in the Science Year 2022 is an initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) together with Wissenschaft im Dialog (WiD). The exhibition was officially opened on May 3, 2022, in the presence of Judith Pirscher, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, and can be visited in Berlin at Schiffbauerdamm until May 8, 2022. From there, it will travel to 30 other cities in Germany. All upcoming stations of the MS Wissenschaft can be found here: <https://ms-wissenschaft.de/de/ausstellung/tour-2022/>

Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)

The Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA) is based at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW) in Germany and at the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT) in Egypt. It was established in 2013 and is the first bilateral young academy worldwide. AGYA promotes research cooperation among outstanding early-career researchers from all disciplines who are affiliated with a research institution in Germany or any Arab country. The academy supports the innovative projects of its members in various fields of research as well as in science policy and education. Currently, 60 members – Arab and German scholars in equal number – realize joint projects and initiatives. AGYA is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and various Arab cooperation partners.

Further information: <https://agya.info/>

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