



Media Information

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Science for all: Volkswagen helps phaeno Science Center to launch new communication formats linking scientists and audience

- Scientists representing Lower Saxony's research landscape exchange ideas with museum visitors
- Collaboration enables many people to learn more about latest science topics
- Volkswagen underlines the commitment to the home of its production facilities by supporting a pioneering regional project and enabling company experts to join the program
- Two program elements to start in 2021: "Meet the Scientist" and "Science Talk"
- First Volkswagen fellowship for young science talent
- First "Science Talk" addressing "Autonomous Driving" on December 7

Wolfsburg – Reaching the public with scientific topics: this goal is set by many modern scientists and research institutions. Launching two new formats, Volkswagen and phaeno, which is among the leading science museums in the world, expand the dialog between experts and audience.



Keyvisual „Meet the Scientist“

Innovation, Prof. Dr. Markus Maurer from the Institute of Control Engineering at Technische Universität Braunschweig and Alexandra König, specialist for transportation systems at the German Aerospace Center are going to discuss the latest views on autonomous driving. Hosted by Michel Junge, Director of phaeno, and also broadcasted via online stream, the talk will also enable guests to ask the experts their questions.

Presenting postgraduates from Lower Saxon research institutions and their work from December 12 onwards, the jointly developed program „Meet the Scientist“ is going to await phaeno visitors on the second Sunday of every month. As part of the exhibition, young scientists invite guests to learn more about latest research findings and discuss the results at a dedicated research lounge during a whole museum day.

The monthly „Science Talks“ provide experts with the chance to inform about new science and technology research topics. The premiere takes place on December 7 at 7.30 p.m. in the phaeno science theatre, where Nikolai Ardey, Head of Volkswagen Group

Media contact

Volkswagen Communications
Rita Werneyer
Spokesperson Cultural Engagement
Tel: +49 5361 9-79864
rita.werneyer@volkswagen.de



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Keyvisual „Science Talk“

Adding this collaboration to the array of activities enhancing the communication between experts and public in the fields of culture, science and education and improving a broad access to crucial research findings, Benita von Maltzahn, Head of Cultural Engagement at Volkswagen, underlines: "With 'Science for all' we have a common goal, that we pursue in close

cooperation with the phaeno Science Center and research institutions at Volkswagen's home in the Wolfsburg region. Sharing knowledge with people is vital for mutual understanding and fostering solidarity in our life."

Michel Junge, Director at phaeno, appreciates the partnership with Volkswagen as it contributes to phaeno's efforts in providing a regional platform for the exchange of ideas about science and technology: "A science center is a perfect place to put science communication into practice, and it creates a win-win-situation when young scientists meet our guests as non-experts. This gives young researchers the chance to prove the level of comprehensibility when presenting their work, and it allows our visitors to get to know people and their projects, which they would not hear from normally. Talks, lectures and science slams with renowned experts will help us to further focus on the understanding of science."

As an additional premiere, a Volkswagen Fellowship will be granted to a science talent. Extending Volkswagen's education program, which, so far, has consisted of fellowships at different international cultural institutions, a science graduate will become part of the science communication team at phaeno to implement the new communication formats at the museum.

Nikolai Ardey, Head of Volkswagen Group Innovation, emphasizes: "When we at Volkswagen do research on future mobility we always think about the next generation. The 'Science Talk' is a great opportunity to get in touch with these young people. Phaeno shows how much fun it makes when you explore and understand phenomena, and we want to demonstrate that is equally captivating when you engage with future mobility. Our young experts present their latest projects in a way that the entire family gets fascinated. And research specialists from our region take the hot seat, where they are being challenged with questions and thoughts from the audience."

The Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand is present in more than 150 markets worldwide and produces vehicles at more than 30 locations in 13 countries. Volkswagen delivered around 5.3 million vehicles in 2020. These include bestsellers such as the Golf, Tiguan, Jetta or Passat as well as the fully electric successful models ID.3 and ID.4. Around 184,000 people currently work at Volkswagen worldwide. In addition, there are more than 10,000 trading companies and service partners with 86,000 employees. With its ACCELERATE strategy, Volkswagen is consistently advancing its further development into a software-oriented mobility provider.
