



## **Science for everyone! At Soapbox Science Munich, women scientists are explaining their research at Odeonsplatz on 23 July**

Science is complicated, dry, out of touch with reality, and always done by white-haired old men? Soapbox Science Munich is convincing us otherwise for the 5th time. On 23 July, 12 women scientists will talk about the latest findings of their research at Odeonsplatz in Munich - standing on soapboxes and without complicated technical terms or lengthy PowerPoint presentations. This year's topics range from astrophysics, material science, or basic neuroscientific research to slime molds, parasites, and rare earth metals. Half of the talks will be in German, the other half will be in English.

Soapbox Science Munich is part of the international initiative 'Soapbox Science'. This initiative aims to get science and research out of the ivory tower and bring it to the people by literally taking science to the streets. Soapbox Science also aims at challenging stereotypical gender roles in the context of scientific careers by increasing the visibility of women scientists and their work in the general public via their talks.

At a Soapbox Science event, women scientists come together in a public square to introduce themselves and their research, while visitors and passers-by can ask questions and discuss with the speakers. Since 2011, around 2000 women scientists worldwide have taken part in Soapbox Science to talk about their research. Over 1000 people visited the Munich Soapbox Science events in 2018 and 2019. Successful online events and smaller 'pandemic editions' took place in 2020 and 2021.

The Munich organising team by now consists of 16 women scientists from nine different countries who work on a voluntary basis to realise the event. Soapbox Science Munich is financially supported by research institutions of the Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich and the Technical University Munich (GSN, LMU Frauenbeauftragte, QBM, SFB 1064, Synergy) as well as by industry partners (Chromotek, MC Services, Smartlab Architects).

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## The programme for Soapbox Science Munich 2022 at Odeonsplatz

**Saturday, 23 July**

### **2 - 3 pm:**

- **Jennifer Yang**, TU Munich: "Health and Cooking: Using Health Belief Model as a Theoretical Framework"
- **Maria Teresa Valdivia Mena**, Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics, Munich: "How to Feed Baby Stars"
- **Prof. Dr. Angelika Harbauer**, Max Planck Institute for Biological Intelligence, Munich: "Smarteres Packen für die lange Reise ins Axon" (How to feed your brain cells)
- **Sophie Gutenthaler**, LMU Munich: "Seltenerdmetalle - Was die Natur für uns bereit hält" (Rare earth elements - How we can use nature's toolbox to our advantage)

### **3 - 4 pm:**

- **Dr. Erzsébet Fanni Tóth**, Sigmund Freud University Vienna: "What your dog can reveal about your grandma's trauma"
- **Dr. Anwesha Banerjee**, Max Planck Institute of Tax Law and Public Finance, Munich: "How narratives may shape our choices"
- **Alexandra Birkmaier**, Fraunhofer Austria Research GmbH, Vienna: "Lebensmittelverschwendung vorbeugen - wie KI-basierte Prognosemethoden eine bessere Planung in Lieferketten ermöglichen" (Preventing food waste - how AI-driven forecasting methods help to improve supply chain planning)
- **Vanessa Luzak**, LMU Munich: "Wie Parasiten sich ständig neu verkleiden, um dem Immunsystem zu entgehen" (How parasites put on a different coat every day to hide from the immune system)
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### **4 - 5 pm:**

- **Dr. Agnese Codutti**, Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization, Göttingen, and TU Munich: "Oh my gut! How gut bacteria influence your life"
- **Dr. Alona Shagan Shomron**, Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Stuttgart: "Materials that could save the world"
- **Dr.med. Lara Maleen Marten**, University Medical Center, Göttingen: „Selten aber schwerwiegend - wie kindliche Hirnzellen gerettet werden können“ (How rare (genetic) diseases can damage the brain – finding common pathways and the way to repair)
- **Lisa Schick**, TU Munich: "Gestaltwandler - Schleimpilze aus der Sicht der Physik" (Shape shifters - slime molds from a physics perspective)