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"SimplyNano" wins the Building Award 2021

The "SimplyNano" project of the SimplyScience Foundation and the St.Gallen Innovation Society wins the Building Award 2021. The award honors outstanding engineering achievements in construction. The award ceremony took place at the beginning of November with over 600 guests at the KKL in Lucerne.

The award was presented by the Bilding Foundation for the fourth time. An independent jury headed by Prof. Sarah Springman, Rector of ETH Zurich, selected the winners in five categories. The "SimplyNano" project won in the category "Promoting young talent in the field of technology". The award recognizes the convincing concept, the didactically high-quality content, the interdisciplinary character and the goal of promoting girls in technical professions.

Using creativity and curiosity to combat the shortage of skilled workers

The "SimplyNano" project aims to awaken young people's enthusiasm for scientific and technical subjects and their interest in technical professions. In the long term, this can secure the next generation of skilled workers. SimplyNano pursues an integrative approach: experimentation and research-based learning with a technology of the future, arousing enthusiasm among young women and girls and networking teachers and schools with regional companies. This convinced the jury. Clementine Hegner-van Rooden said in her laudatory speech: "Secondary school children are motivated to get to grips with the nanoscale - at the very moment they are choosing a career. On a didactic but very concrete level, this raises awareness of an area that was previously little known at this level and hopefully creates creative specialists for our professional world. Because there is a core of creativity and curiosity in every innovative idea. The future for children."

In use in schools throughout Switzerland from 2025

The "SimplyNano 2" experiment kits are already available in all upper secondary schools in four cantons (AG, SG, AR, AI). The secondary schools in the canton of Zurich are currently being equipped with cases. The learning medium will then be introduced in the cantons of Basel-Landschaft, Basel-Stadt and Solothurn and should be available to all secondary schools throughout Switzerland by 2025. This will make an important contribution to promoting the next generation of technology students in all Swiss schools.

Box: The "SimplyNano 2" learning medium was developed by Innovationsgesellschaft, a St.Gallen start-up, and is published by the SimplyScience Foundation. It is a non-profit foundation that aims to get children and young people interested in scientific and technical topics. The project is free of charge for schools and is funded by the public sector, foundations and companies www.simplynano.ch

Note for editors:

Images of the award ceremony and the SimplyNano project can be downloaded at the following link: <u>https://www.dropbox.com/sh/23dgjoyorkqz3ya/AADUe8Avrq6pwva4OemS88zda?dl=0</u>

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